

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter **Date:** December 14, 2009 **Reporter:** DAVID NEGRIN **Editor:** LYLE CONNELL

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

December 21: Club Elections & Assembly

December 28: DARK

OFFICIAL GREETERS:

The Official Greeters for today's meeting were MIKE COUCH and JOYCE CUSICK, Greeters Extraordinaire.

OPENERS:

PREZ RALPH called on MIKE McMAHON to lead us all in the Pledge which was, as usual, enthusiastically rendered by all. It was followed by a stanza of "Anchors Away" in "celebration" of Navy's 9th straight win over Army last week.

OPENING REMARKS:



Opening remarks were delivered by JIM KEENE who reminded us about the combined joy of giving and receiving. For most of us, especially Rotarians, there is a need to give, and for almost all of us there is a need to receive. When these acts are realized in a single event, it's ideal.

VISITORS and GUESTS:

Visiting Rotarians and guests were introduced by KATIE SEEDMAN. There were no visiting Rotarians (no doubt all were at their home Club).

Guests (Hosts) were: Wife Ellie (DICK MANSFIELD), Joanne Um, Jorge Gomez, Axel Schmitt and Jose Luis Moscovich (All guests of TOM GRACON and members of today's program team), Wu-Chung Hsiang (VICKY CHING), Guillaume Peters (BRIAN STEEN), Paula Sundas (DARYL SAVAGE and HAL MICKELSON), Elaine Neukermans, & Wife Joan (BOB McCOWAN), Cristina Glenfuegos (BOB SMITHWICK), Jocelyn Villaruz (ANDY COE) and Michael Repka (GINNY LEAR). A GREAT crowd to hear a GREAT program. All were welcomed with enthusiasm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

MIKE COUCH announced that we had achieved our goal, in fact surpassed it, and raised \$27,000 for the Foundation.

VICKY CHING announced a brand new addition to the menu. It's a soup. It went over big, lots of slurping.

KEVIN CURRY reminded us of the holiday party at BRIAN STEEN'S. Hope many attended.

GLORIA HOM announced the Chinese New Year Celebration to be held at Ming's on January 23. Great food and entertainment is promised.

News of CHESLEY DOUGLAS' serious injury was announced. He's on the mend fortunately - call him at home and wish him well.

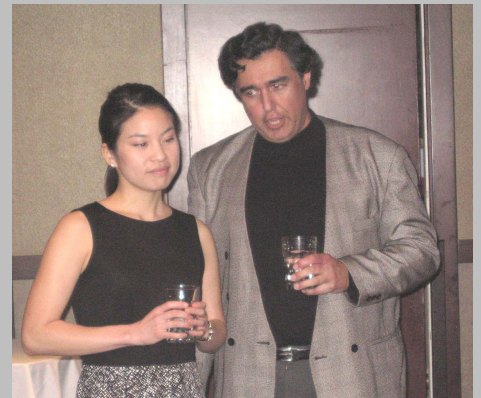
PREZ RALPH led a happy birthday chorus to our five December B'day guys and gals.

THE PROGRAM:



Today's program was introduced by TOM GRACON who, in turn, introduced Jose Luiz Moscovich, the General Director of the West Bay Opera. The program consisted of arias from several currently performed operas and composed by masters Puccini, Verdi, Donizetti and Guonod.

The individual arias were sung by soprano Joanne Um, tenor Jorge Gomez, accompanied by Axel Schmitt on the piano. The program climaxed with a duet, the "Drinking Song" from La Traviata. A wonderful program (no exaggeration).



ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned by 1:40 PM (Great program; no one wanted to leave.)

JOKE OF THE WEEK: A guy who survived mustard gas and pepper spray is now considered a seasoned veteran. Let's save him for next Thanksgiving.

NEARBY MEETING PLACES

[Palo Alto Rotary - Meeting Information](http://www.rotarypaloalto.org)
www.rotarypaloalto.org