

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter **Date:** January 25, 2010 **Reporter:** DAVID BLITZ **Editor:** LYLE CONNELL

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

February 1 Mary Greenwood, Public Defenders Office

February 8, Marilyn Yajom, "400 years of US History Through Cemeteries"

February 15 Mike Wallace, "Lincoln's Greatest Speeches"

VISITORS AND GUESTS

NINA MOORE welcomed Rotarians with guests including: Roseanne Fairty (EJ HONG) and Eva Momica (BOB SMITHWICK)

OPENING REMARKS



ED DANGLER returned from France to compare the four way test to some offbeat European philosophy including 'don't trust anybody' and 'optimists are fools.'

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Contact BRIAN STEEN to participate in the next Hands-On project this Saturday, Jan. 30th. Trees will be planted on California

Avenue from 9-Noon.

BILL FOGARTY rendered great tax advice to contribute early to the Rotary Foundation. TODD LEWIS made a special contribution to honor his recently deceased father.

GENNY LEAR reminded us to sign up for the next social occasion to see the play

'The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee' to be held at Foothill College on

Friday, February 26th. Rotarians will meet at 6pm for a pre-show light dinner.

HAITI CONTRIBUTIONS

MIKE McMAHON and WALT HAYS SUGGESTIONS:

There are many worthy organizations to which you can direct contributions. We submit the following for your consideration. The Rotary Foundation's DAF (Donor Advised Fund) focused on Haiti is called Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund, a worthy target for medium and long term help for Haiti. They have Shelter Boxes and are in for the long haul. For example, 1 Shelter Box costs 490 GBP or \$800. You can check

http://www.rotary.org/en/MediaAndNews/News/Pages/100113_news_haitirelief.aspx

You can also make a one-time \$5 contribution, through your cell phone bill, to this fund by texting "Rotary" to 90999.

ADDITIONAL HAITI POSSIBILITIES

For the short term consider the following recipients:

1. Rotary District 7020, the Caribbean district, which includes Haiti. Here is their site:

http://www.clubrunner.ca/dprg/dxhome/_home.aspx?did=7020

Also check the daily blog of the Rotary efforts in Haiti by 7020 <http://groups.google.com/jm/group/Rotary-D7020-Haiti-updates>

Send checks to:

PDG Richard W. Harris

Rotary International District 7020 P.O. Box 557

Grand Cayman KY1-1502 CAYMAN ISLANDS

2. Partners in Health, the organization of Dr. Paul Farmer, celebrated in Tracy Kidder's "Mountains Beyond Mountains." They already have a hospital there and have 4 stars from Charity Navigator. Contribute at: <http://www.standwithhaiti.org/haiti>

3. The Red Cross website, <http://www.redcross.org/>, has 3 funds to which you can contribute. You can also make a one-time \$10 contribution, through your cell phone bill, by texting "Haiti" to 90999.

4. Sasha Kramer, who has spoken to our Club a couple of times, is the Director of SOIL, which is directing all current donations to disaster relief. Contribute at www.oursoil.org/donate. Sasha has moved from Cap Haitien to Port au Prince to help in the disaster and has emailed us about her activities.

THE ADVANCEMENT OF CIVIL RIGHTS:

ROB LANCEFIELD shared his memories of growing up in the south and the progress that has been made in the area of Civil Rights.

PROGRAM

JUDITH STEINER introduced her friend and retired Superior



Court Judge LaDoris Cordell to discuss "Blow and Go" (the ignition interlock device program for drunk drivers). In addition to very clearly describing the complexities of being a judge both legally and emotionally, this 'Renaissance Woman' worked with Stanford Law Professor, State Senator and State Assemblyman Byron Sher over many years to enact the California state law that

became the model across the US in the quest to prohibit drunk drivers from operating a vehicle. Her incredible efforts over a ten year period to challenge the system to improve it over continuous obstacles is truly inspiring.

NEARBY MEETING PLACES

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

www.rotarypaloalto.org