



Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

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Reporter: BILL BUSSE

Editor: NICK NICHOLS

Following President RALPH's timely announcement that the "*The Saints Went Marching In*" (A reference to the Super Bowl for those of you who may be non-bowlers) our newly minted member, KATIE SEEDMAN, led the Pledge...

FOLLOWED BY introductions of Visiting Rotarians by another newly minted member, CHAITI CHATTERJEE...to wit:

Bonnie Welling from the Menlo Park Club, where they have an Endowment Fund of well over one mil, and Hal Butts from the Redwood City Club.

Our only Guest was BOB SMITHWICK's escort, Marilyn

"A SWEET DEAL"

was introduced by our illustrious co-chair of this year's Fund Raiser (Coming to a venue near you on April 24th) STEVE EMSLIE. Steve called on our incomparable auctioneer, STEVE PLAYER, to do the honors. The cup cakes were won by Table Number 7 for a bid of \$60 (It was, perhaps, our first 2010 fund raising contribution.) The "*Sweet Ones*" included JOHN KIDD, ROGER SMITH, GLORIA HOM, YORIKO KISHIMOTO, BOB McCOWAN, ELIANE NEUKERMANS, DON MORGAN and our Menlo Park guest, Bonnie Welling.

YOU CAN STILL ATTEND!

GLORIA HOM announced a second Chinese New Year celebration...March 14th at the Palo Alto Women's Club. (I'll bet most of you didn't know the Chinese had two New Years!) Let Gloria know if you can make it...its \$50 a person.

CONTACT GINNY...

If you are interested in joining about 30 other Rotarians and, in some cases, their special friends. What for you ask?...How about a dinner and a spectacular musical in BOB SMITHWICK's auditorium at Foothill College on Friday February 26th. This is a "can't miss" event, folks! The musical is "*The Spelling Bee*." We guarantee that it will be a highly professional and entertaining production. Contact Ginny Lear for details...941-4164.

OPENING REMARKS..."FROM GREEN BAY TO AFGHANISTAN"



GINNY LEAR Opened the Meeting by quoting legendary Green Bay Packers Coach Vince Lombardi on the subject of "*the will to succeed*" and closed by saying "*Vince would be proud of Rotary!*" In what way you ask? This seems hard to imagine, but recently, in Southern Afghanistan, Rotary immunized 2.8 million children as part of the Polio Plus Campaign. Talk about the will to succeed! Way to go Rotary!

BREAKING NEWS...ED DANGLER REJOINS THE PRESIDENT'S CLUB!

Back from another sojourn to Southern France with banners from some of the seven clubs he visited on our behalf. He was rejoining the P.C. as a way to seek absolution for missing so many of our Palo Alto meetings. (Perhaps we should start a President's "Absolution" Club for others who have been absent for whatever reason.)

WE'RE NUMBER TWO!

According to ROGER SMITH our Club Endowment fund is lagging that of Menlo Park's. However, if we all make contributions, we may be able to overtake our friends to the North. ROGER reminded us that endowment fund proceeds go to local charities...ad infinitum. While he was at it, Roger invited Endowment Board members present to stand and be recognized...those included RICK TIPTON, SAM WEBSTER and BRUCE GEE. JACK WOODSON was unable to attend. (The Endowment Fund is an ideal deal folks. *It's a great gift to the future!* ...In addition to considering making a contributing this month, you might also talk to you friendly lawyer about adding Rotary in your will.

Winners of the Celebrity Forum ticket auction (Proceeds to the Endowment Fund) went to CASH ALAEE and JUDITH STEINER.

LUNCH WITH MARTHA KANTER

will precede her presentation at the Flint Center De Anza College on March 18th. As you know, our illustrious past Club Member is currently serving as Under Secretary of Education in the Obama Administration. Lunch starts at 11:45 and Martha's presentation at 12:15; adjourning at 1:30. Contact President Elect MIKE McMAHON for further details. Call 493-7392. You won't want miss seeing Martha and getting the inside information on the Washington scene. The tariff is \$20 a person.

"AMERICAN RESTING PLACE"

MIKE McMAHON introduced today's speaker, Marilyn Yalom. Professor Yalom has had a storied career as a writer and researcher. Her recent book co-produced with her photographer son is entitled "*American Resting Place. 400 Years of History Through Our Cemeteries and Burial Grounds*." Her many books have been translated into 20 languages.

Prof. Yalom and her son spent three years visiting and



photographing 250 early cemeteries and burial grounds throughout the United States. During her illustrated presentation she noted that head stones evolved from Death's heads to Angels and that cemeteries moved over time from the city to the countryside. Her slides ranged from Indian burial mounds to a Puritan Cemetery in the center of today's Boston to an early Spanish

cemetery in San Juan Batista. In the process, she shared various ethnic and cultural adaptations to honoring the dead, including the way slaves and servants were recognized (or not) by their owners. It was a fascinating view of history via a most unconventional approach. Thanks again to Mike and the Program Committee for “digging up” yet another great program. (Sorry about that, folks!)

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

[Palo Alto Rotary - Speakers Schedule](#)

February 15 – Mike Wallace, *Lincoln’s Greatest Speeches*.

February 22 – Michael Gennette, *Autism*.

NEARBY MEETING PLACES:

[Palo Alto Rotary - Meeting Information](#)