



Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date SEPTEMBER 13, 2010 Reporter: DONALD MORGAN Editor: NICK NICHOLS

CALL TO ORDER

PRESIDENT MIKE began the meeting at 12:15 pm by calling on DERRICK BRITT to lead the Pledge.

INTRODUCTIONS

PRESIDENT MIKE resumed the meeting at 12:35. At his request, JOCELYN VILLARUZ introduced the following visiting Rotarians and guests, all of whom the audience received warmly:

Visiting Rotarians: Robert Bratman of the Aberdare, South Wales, U.K., Club; Ray A. Silva of the San Jose Club; Rich Cably of the Los Altos; and Jayne Hom of the Redwood City Peninsula Club

Guests: Midori Aogaichi, guest of DICK BUSH; Kay Wilson, guest of WALT HAYS; Eliot Wright, guest of WALT HAYS and BRIAN STEEN; Ben Threlkeld, guest of GLORIA HOM; Regi and Steve Topal, guests of GINNY LEAR; and Philippe de Fries, a Rotary exchange student from Germany, guest of MIKE COUCH.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

PRESIDENT MIKE called on BRUCE GEE to present opening remarks. BRUCE puzzled the audience by several references to something that sounded like tridecaphobia, as the subject of his remarks. He eventually explained he was talking about fear of the number 13, today's date. Among plausible reasons why many regard 13 as an unlucky number, he mentioned a belief in some cultures that as there were ten fingers and two feet anything over 12 was to be avoided; and that there were 13 steps up to the gallows platform, to be avoided in numerous cultures. On the other hand, he said many persons regard 13 as Lucky 13, noting that 13 was the number of the colonies that formed the U.S., 13 also is the number of stripes in our flag, and Google shows 25 times as many hits for Lucky 13 as for Unlucky 13. With that, he rested his case. Take your pick, as some did later in the meeting.

REPORT OF WE CARE COMMITTEE

DICK FREEMAN asked for signatures on a card he circulated for VERA KALLMEYER, who is recuperating in Germany from cancer treatment. He said that JIM BAER, who had been out for several weeks, should be back soon; and welcomed ARNE STOSCHEK and AXEL MERK back in our midst. NINA MOORE, currently occupied with moving her family here, also should return soon.

AWARD, CONTRIBUTIONS TO PRESIDENT'S CLUB, and REPRISES ON THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY

At PRESIDENT MIKE's request, IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT RALPH ADAMS presented a Paul Harris

Certificate to DICK BUSH for a lifetime contribution of at least \$1,000 to The Rotary Foundation.

JUDY KLEINBERG made a donation, joining the President's Club in honor of those who had signed her husband's petition to get on the ballot for re-election as a judge. She noted that he was not on the ballot because he was unopposed. She also contributed in honor of her daughter's wedding in Hawaii last week, and in memory of her mother who died a week ago and occasioned a celebration of life at the wedding.

CASH ALAEE joined the President's Club in honor of all the Red Cross volunteers from local communities who responded to the San Bruno fire during the past several days.

MARCIE COX joined the President's Club in support of 13 being a lucky number, as she was married on the 13th of September 13 years ago.

LAURIE LISTON joined the President's Club in honor of his wife having put up with him for 52 years, as of today.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESIDENT MIKE said that the Club outnumbered the Kiwanis at the preceding Saturday's Project to replace vandalized playground equipment at Hoover Park. He thanked volunteers CASH ALAEE, Tom Ashton, DERRICK BRITT, BRUCE GEE, BILL BUSSE, STEVE EMSLIE, ANNETTE GLANCKOPF, TOM GRACON, YORIKO KISHIMOTO, BOB McCOWAN, ART STAUFFER, and JIM SUTHERLAND for helping him figure out where all the washers were supposed to go, among other accomplishments.

He reminded those present that dues were due, and would increase if not paid by September 15.

PRESIDENT MIKE thanked SAM GORDON for serving as today's Cashier, STEVE MADSEN for setting up the meeting, RALPH ADAMS and SUE HARTENBAUM for serving as Greeters, and DON MORGAN for writing the Pinion.

AUCTION

SAM WEBSTER made a ticket available for a San Francisco Symphony Orchestra performance by Joshua Bell on Sunday afternoon, October 24, on conditions that the winner drive him to the concert and back, sit with him in a group of seven at the concert, and be his guest at the Hayes Street Grill for dinner after the concert. STEVE PLAYER auctioned the ticket. Youthful 86 year old DAVID NEGRIN immediately began the bidding and drove up rival CASH ALAEE, before recollecting and announcing first that he was not allowed to and thus could not drive (the probable reason SAM needed a driver); and second that his wife had said he was not available

that day. He somewhat extricated himself from STEVE's suggestion that CASH attend courtesy of DAVE's high bid, by generously donating \$150 to the Palo Alto Rotary Endowment Fund, leaving CASH with the concert ticket for the auction's second highest bid, \$175.

THE PROGRAM:

PRESIDENT MIKE called upon GINNY LEAR to introduce the guest speaker. She reviewed Rich Casey's education and medical achievements. He spoke on "Child AIDS Prevention in Africa." He reviewed the staggering numbers of children and adults in Africa who are HIV positive. He explained that the goal of the "Child AIDS Prevention Project," which he and the Los Altos Rotary Club had undertaken, is to save the lives of 350,000 children per year. Transmission of the virus from mothers to infants in the birthing process accounted for the great majority on newborns' HIV. Transmission can be halved by administration of single doses of the wonder drug, Nevirapine, to mother and infant in connection with birthing at a cost of one dollar, and almost completely blocked at a slightly higher cost for more doses of other drugs over a longer period. He summarized what was being done, in cooperation with local health infrastructure in Liberia, to educate, counsel, test for HIV, and provide treatment for mothers and infants. He appealed for financial help on an ongoing basis and invited consideration of our Club to form a committee to help carry forward the work of this very worthwhile and cost effective project. He responded to questions during the time remaining.

September 20 – New Member Talks, CHAITI
CHATTERJEE, MARK STEVENSON, and JOCELYN
VILLARUZ

September 27 – **Linda Thor**, Chancellor of the Foothill-DeAnza College District, "A Newcomer's Perspective of on California Higher Education: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly"

NEARBY MEETING PLACES:

[Palo Alto Rotary - Meeting Information](#)