



# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

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Reporter: GEOFF ZIMAN

Editor: NICK NICHOLS

The theme for this meeting was Rotary World Community Service (WCS)

The meeting opened with Admiral MIKE McMAHON leading a salute to the flag. DAVE THORNTON looked after signing in visitors; SUE HARTENBAUM collected lunch money; Retired President RALPH ADAMS greeted warmly; STEVE MADSEN did his usual valiant work in getting everything ready; E.J. HONG chivvied members to sign in using the new-fangled computer system.

The meeting started with welcomes to Carl Vernon, visiting Rotarian from Lawrence, Kansas; WALT HAYS' guests Kay Wilson and speaker Cindy Wilber; STEVE EMSLIE's guests John Barton and Mike Garvey; BRIAN STEEN's guest Elliott Wright; and ANNETTE GLANCKOPF's guest Kay Wilson.

In his opening remarks, WALT HAYS reviewed the support of the Rotary Foundation in World Community Service Projects and how we can leverage our contributions with matching grants. By working the system, we can turn every \$1.00 our club contributes into \$3.50 at the project site abroad. Walt estimated that over the years, our club has produced between \$500,000 and \$1,000,000 for WCS projects. Although this might seem a small drop compared with the magnitude of the needs, what we do is very meaningful and has very significant influence. Providing fuel efficient stoves and working on reforestation are important elements in preventing deaths from toxic smoke and reducing global warming.

DICK FREEMAN reminded members of the We Care Committee. He also announced that, next week, he would again be selling Entertainment Books with irresistible, gigantic savings.

PRESIDENT MIKE advised that the secretarial functions of the club would be divided between SCOTT GLISSMEYER being the Recording Secretary and E.J. HONG being the Data Management Secretary.

SAM WEBSTER semi-offered a ticket to the Stanford-USC game under obscure gender conditions. In an auction by STEVE PLAYER, BILL BUSSE picked up the challenge with a generous \$150 contribution, which might result in CASH ALAEE getting to the game –

perhaps! Sam's objective was to promote the Club Endowment Fund and to acknowledge the original contribution of JOHN O'KEEFE. We are half way towards our goal of a \$1,000,000 Endowment and Sam emphasized that we must keep working on it.

RALPH ADAMS recognized a number of club members for their Paul Harris Fellowship \$1,000.00 contributions – particularly those with multiple awards. These sustaining memberships build the Rotary Foundation which, in turn, provides the grant money for our World Community Service projects. Ralph wanted to emphasize how important these contributions are to the aims of Rotary. The members recognized were CYRILLE BETANT, CHARLES CHENG (3), LYLE CONNELL (2), LEN ELY, GEORGE FITZGERALD (2), CARL KING (2), ROB LANCEFIELD (5), BILL LOVE (7), AXEL & HANNA MERK (2+3), NINA MOORE, DAVE PRICE (3), SHERRI SAGER, MARK STEVENSON, DAVE THORNTON, JACK WOODSON, GEOFF ZIMAN (6).

DICK BUSH joined the President's Club to acknowledge the excellence of the San Francisco walking tour that HAL MICKELSON had given him – an item that HAL had contributed to the club auction. He has done this in previous years, to the enjoyment of previous winners.

AUDREY RUST became a blue badger, finally.

The Program was introduced by WALT HAYS. He started by reviewing recent WCS projects undertaken by our club. These included providing medical equipment for correcting cleft palates in Sao Paulo, Brazil, where former club member GUSTAVO HOLLOWAY now resides. WALT then showed not-so-glamorous pictures of toilets in Haiti, where the organization SOIL under Sasha Kramer's leadership does important work, providing improvements in sanitation.

After this warm-up, ART STAUFFER described the vocational center project CECAP in Santa Cruz la Laguna, Guatemala. This is in the nearest village to his daughter's hotel and yoga center and is located high on the hills above Lake Atitlan. His colorful series of photographs clearly illustrated the importance and positive impact of the training equipment we have

provided to the people with such limited resources and opportunities – woodworking tools, computers, kitchen utensils and appliances, as well as sewing machines.

To complete the talks, Cindy Wilber gave a presentation on the farmers' market involved with Proyecto Itzaes in the Yucatan. Again, it was demonstrated how our contributions are materially assisting people leading a very basic agricultural existence. For a cute song about good nutrition sung by Proyecto Itzaes children, go to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5TMFN0wCimA>.

In closing, BRUCE GEE and BILL BUSSE were recognized for producing the very impressive PowerPoint presentation.

It is hoped that everyone at the meeting today left with a feeling of pride and satisfaction that our efforts in WCS are really helping to improve the lives of others in very much less fortunate circumstances than we all enjoy.

#### **UPCOMING PROGRAMS**

[Palo Alto Rotary - Speakers Schedule](#)

October 11 – **GLORIA HOM and GINNY LEAR**, “State and County Initiatives”

October 18 – **Speaker to be determined**, “Rotary Foundation – Partners in Service”

October 25 – **Sahar Ghazi**, Knight Fellow, “Pakistan”

#### **NEARBY MEETING PLACES:**

[Palo Alto Rotary - Meeting Information](#)