

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter Date: October 11, 2010

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

October 18 Dr. Bharat Pandya, "Rotary Foundation – Partners in Service"

October 25 Sahar Ghazi, "Knight Fellow/Pakistan"

CALL TO ORDER:

MIKE MCMAHON started the meeting at 12:17 PM. A special Pledge of Allegiance was provided by the Local Boy Scout Troop.

INTRODUCTIONS

Visiting Rotarians: Klaus Heineman from Gualala, and Ray Silva from San Jose

Rotarians with Guests: BOB SMITHWICK with his daughter Kathye; ANNETTE GLACKOPF with Judith Wasserman ARB member; Ken Horowitz, Dentistry instructor at Foothill College; SUE HARTENBAUM with Mimi Salkola; DAVE SMULLIN with new member BEN THRELKELD; and GLORIA HOM with Lou Becker, a candidate for Santa Clara County Water Board

OPENNG REMARKS were provided by DERRICK BRITT, who told a story from *Chicken Soup for the Sou,l* about protecting starfish and making a difference, one at a time. DERRICK used the message of this story to remind us of the value of Rotary projects, as presented by WALT and ART last week, that make a difference locally and internationally. Very



inspirational!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EJ HONG showed off the club's new iPad to be used for keeping attendance in an electronic database. EJ thanked Rotary members who donated, fully funding our new iPad: Tom Gracon \$60; Mike Couch \$100; Kevin Curry \$100, Audrey Rust \$40, and Len Ely \$250. EJ also reminded us to please scroll on left side! EJ joined the President's club to thank everyone for their generosity.

DICK BUSH received his Blue Badge from MIKE.

New member induction: DAVE SMULLIN sponsored BEN THRELKELD, an optometrist and UCLA graduate. BEN was welcomed by MIKE, who presented Rotary materials and the customary membership invoice. BEN thanked DAVE and club members.

HAL MIKELSON reminded us of our encounters with a few of the world's great spiritual leaders. To further our spiritual education, DARYL SAVAGE has generously donated a ticket to see the DALI LAMA at Maples Pavilion "Compassion for Human Life." BILL BUSSE won the auction with a \$125 donation. Thanks DARYL and BILL!

STEVE PLAYER announced the Big Game will be played here this year. On November 15, Berkeley Rotarians will come here to entertain and to pick up the ax.

LE LEVY announced this year is International Hands-On year. PA rotary is planning a trip to Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, next May. LE asked for a show of hands of interested attendees, and received a good showing.

GEORGE FITZGERALD introduced today's presentation on the 13 propositions coming up on the November 2 ballot. He introduced our panelists, GINNY LEAR and GLORIA HOM; with moderator DIANA DIAMOND, and DICK FREEMAN helping as timekeeper.



Our experts found many pros and cons for the various propositions and had a lively time debating some

of the major points. Here's a great synopsis provided for you by GINNY and GLORIA:



November 2nd California General Election Issues

Proposition 19 Legalizes Marijuana under California But Not Federal Law. Permits Local Governments to Regulate and Tax Commercial Production, Distribution, and Sale of Marijuana

Should California legalize the possession and cultivation of marijuana for personal use of adults 21 years and older, and allow state and local governments to regulate and tax related commercial activities?

Proposition 20 Redistricting of Congressional Districts
Should the state Constitution be amended to have the Citizens Redistricting Commission redistrict for the U.S. House of Representatives, to change existing redistricting criteria, and to reduce the redistricting timeline?

Proposition 21 Establishes \$18 Annual Vehicle License Surcharge to Help Fund State Parks and Wildlife

Programs. Grants Surcharged Vehicles Free Admission to All State Parks

Should the state levy an additional annual \$18 vehicle license surcharge to provide funds to operate and maintain California's state parks and wildlife protection programs?

Proposition 22 Prohibits the State from Borrowing Or Taking Funds Used for Transportation, Redevelopment, or Local Government Projects and Services

Should the California Constitution be amended to prohibit the state, even during a severe fiscal hardship, from redirecting certain tax revenues dedicated to transportation or local governments?

Proposition 23 Suspends Air Pollution Control Laws Requiring Major Polluters to Report and Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions That Cause Global Warming Until Unemployment Drops to 5.5 Percent Or Less for Full Year

Should the AB 32 air pollution control law be suspended until unemployment drops to 5.5 percent or less for a full year?

Proposition 24 Repeals Recent Legislation That Would Allow Businesses to Lower Their Tax Liability

Should recent tax law changes that allow some businesses to pay lower state income tax be repealed?

Proposition 25 Changes Legislative Vote Requirement to Pass Budget and Budget-Related Legislation from Two-Thirds to A Simple Majority. Retains Two-Thirds Vote Requirement for Taxes

Should the state Constitution be amended to allow passage of budget bills by a simple majority in each house of the state Legislature and should legislators be required to forfeit their pay if a budget is not passed on time?

Proposition 26 Requires That Certain State and Local Fees Be Approved By Two-Thirds Vote. Fees Include Those That Address Adverse Impacts on Society Or the Environment Caused By the Fee-Payer's Business

Should the California Constitution be amended to require two-thirds voter approval for the imposition of certain state and local fees that now require majority vote approval?

Proposition 27 Eliminates State Commission on Redistricting. Consolidates Authority for Redistricting With Elected Representatives

Should the state Constitution and state laws be amended to eliminate the Citizens Redistricting Commission established by the voters in 2008, return all redistricting to the state Legislature, and change the redistricting criteria?

Santa Clara County

Measure A Santa Clara County Children's Health Protection -- County of Santa Clara (*parcel tax - 2/3 Approval Required*)

To protect and maintain children's health and prevent serious illnesses through regular medical checkups, immunizations, and early detection; to reduce costs from unnecessary emergency room use; and to prevent elimination of insurance coverage for low-income children of working families; shall Santa Clara County enact a \$29 dollar annual parcel tax; limited to 10 years; with independent citizens oversight, full public disclosure of all spending, and subject to audits?

Measure B Traffic Congestion Relief and Road Improvement Measure -- Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (*Majority Approval Required*)

To repair potholes, repave and maintain local streets, improve traffic flow on local roads; increase Santa Clara County's share of state/federal matching funds; improve safety; and pay for other congestion and pollution mitigation projects; shall the motor vehicle registration fee be increased \$10 for each vehicle registered in Santa Clara County; thereby relieving traffic congestion, improving streets and reducing polluted, toxic roadway runoff which contaminates water supplies, with all revenues to remain in Santa Clara County?

Proposition C Term Limits -- Santa Clara Valley Water District (*Term Limits of Water Board - Majority Approval Required*)

Shall an ordinance of the Santa Clara Valley Water District limiting Board members, whether elected or appointed after the established effective date, from serving more than three successive 4-year terms; which sets forth the effect of partial terms; and which establishes an effective date of December 3, 2010, to be approved?

Measure E parcel tax -- Foothill-De Anza Community College District (*parcel tax for Foothill-De-Anza CCD - 2/3 Approval Required*)

To protect Foothill College/De Anza College from State budget cuts, provide local funding that cannot be taken by the State, preserve affordable, quality education for students, including: Core academic classes including math, science and writing; training for careers in healthcare, nursing, paramedics, technology, engineering and sciences; and preparing students to transfer to 4-year universities, Shall Foothill/De Anza Community College District levy \$69 per parcel annually for six years with citizen oversight and no money for administrators' salaries?

City of Palo Alto

Measure R Firefighter Charter Amendment -- City of Palo Alto (*firefighter charter amendment - Majority Approval Required*)

Shall the Charter be amended to require the City to continuously maintain in all budgetary years at least the number of Fire Department Personnel authorized in the 2009-10 Annual Budget, and to prohibit the City from implementing any proposal to reduce fire staffing levels or close or relocate a fire station unless the City Council holds two public hearings, submits the measure to voters, and a majority of voters approve

the proposal?

Measure S Election Date Change -- City of Palo Alto
(election date change - Majority Approval Required)

To consolidate with County and State elections and help reduce the City's election costs, shall Article 111, Section 3 of the Palo Alto City Charter be amended to change the City's general municipal elections to each even-numbered year, with the next election scheduled for 2012, and to extend the terms of all current council members by one year in order to complete the transition to even-numbered year elections?

MIKE thanked the GLORIA, GINNY, DIANE, and DICK for their preparation and work.

We adjourned at 1:30 PM.

A Special announcement from DICK FREEMAN following adjournment:

Entertainment book \$ales begin this week. Get a gift for yourself or a family member or that hard to buy for person at the office.

There is over \$11,000.00 in savings in each book.

The price is only \$30.00 and the club keeps \$6.00. What a deal !!! Save money and help our club in one move!

Sample books will be on the table behind the sign-in table.

Questions? Ask Dick Freeman.

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