

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

November 15 - STEVE PLAYER - BIG GAME SOCIAL WITH BERKELEY CLUB (Palo Alto)

November 22 - New Member / Old Member Talks: SAM GORDON, SUE HARTENBAUM / DUANE KALAR

VISITORS and GUESTS:

There were no visiting Rotarians at today's meeting.

Guests (ROTARIANS) were: Dan Dykwel (ROB LANCEFIELD); Susan Lutter (JOYCE CUSICK); Terry McMahon (MIKE McMAHON); Greg Conlon (GLORIA HOM); Joe Simitian (Speaker); Brock Winstead (Speaker's Aide)

OPENING REMARKS:

GEOFF ZIMAN began with the statement: "On the eleventh month the eleventh day and the eleventh hour in the year 1918."



This was the end of World War One. In Europe this is celebrated as Armistice Day, in the U.S. it is Veterans Day, but in England it is Poppies Day, inspired by the Poem "In Flanders Fields" by Major John McCrae. It was a memorable poem as a reminder of the "eleven-eleven" upcoming this week. Military veterans were then asked to stand and be recognized for their service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MIKE McMAHON honored BILL LOVE for being a 50-year veteran of the Palo Alto Rotary Club. That is impressive. Happy anniversary dear Bill! Subsequently BILL LOVE announced that he was joining the Presidents Club, and is donating \$1000 to the Rotary Foundation.

VICKY CHING explained that a very special peach desert was being served for the lunch that day.

BILL JOHNSON issued a special invitation to anyone interested to joining the Rotary Grants Committee. This involves reviewing and selecting the non profit organization most worthy to receive some of the 25 k grant money provided by the club next year. If you are interested in joining, let BILL know by Wednesday.

RALPH ADAMS is looking for all of us to be world champions. Rotary club members have the opportunity to be champions by helping those in need all over the world. The objective is 100% participation of club members to The Rotary Foundation.

LE LEVY joined the Presidents Club because he had not accurately predicted the outcome of the election of the state legislature. Of the 113 incumbents only 112 were reelected, rather than the predicted 113. LE also announced that they are working on what should be a terrific trip to Brazil in May. Those who are interested in going on that trip were invited to attend a short meeting in the back of the room, immediately following this meeting.

STEVE PLAYER announced that GARY FAZZINO is now back home after a stem cell transplant. He is doing well, and may be a while before he is back back.

Also the Big Game Social next week should be a lot of fun. STEVE is hoping to get rid of the "Axe" that he has stored for so long. The school that is the loser at the Big Game gets to have the "Axe." Come to the meeting early and socialize with the Berkleyites at the bar.

PRESIDENTS CLUB

BILL BUSSE joined the Presidents Club in honor of his Granddaughter's second child. They have been working on the name for the child. He also solicited input for the name for the child. No one wanted to be in a plot to name the child.

JULIE JEROME joined the Presidents Club in honor of her second grandchild in Santa Fe.

TRISH BUBENIK was not to be outdone, and joined the Presidents Club in honor of VICKY CHING and others who attended the very first meeting of the Dream Builders Brunch last week.

THE PROGRAM:

Today's speaker was introduced by LIZ KNISS, who also joined the Presidents Club. This must be some kind of a record for joining. The speaker was State Senator Joe Simitian, who has significant connections in Palo Alto, and is reportedly in the



middle of all the action in Sacramento. He has served 27 years in elected office. Joe began by summarizing what he perceived to be the attitude of the electorate toward the government. The electorate is dissatisfied with government, is cynical and doesn't trust the elected representatives. They don't think the money is spent wisely, think most officials are corrupt, and can't solve problems. There is a 10% confidence in government, due to

inaction on key issues, such as unemployment, failure of the state to establish a suitable budget, paralyzing partisanship, and the wheeling and dealing that goes on in government. However, he believes that hope is still there, if elected officials will get down to business and solve problems, get real results, and make the system work. He also pointed out that decisions are made by those that "show up". If passionate members of the electorate "show up" and pursue issues of concern with the elected representatives, a lot can be accomplished. Go to it Folks!

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