

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date: January 31, 2011

Reporter: BILL BUSSE

Editor: LYLE CONNELL

WELCOME BACK GARY!!!

What a pleasure to see our illustrious member, GARY FAZZINO, at Monday's Meeting! After a year of challenging the skills of our medical profession with bone marrow and stem cell transplants, our hero has returned. He helped us celebrate his presence with a contribution of 1,000 dollars to the Palo Alto Rotary Club Endowment Fund. As Sam said, *"Come back often, Gary!"*

VISITING ROTARIANS & GUESTS:

Rotarians:

Jay Wayne...Navato
Candace Roney...San Jose
PP Hipo...Taiwan
Dirk Kanngiesser...Saratoga
Dewey Struble...Reno Central
Special Rotarian...Incoming District Governor, Arley

Marley...Sunnyvale

Guests:

Nancy Shephard & Kristin Wu (JULIE JEROME)
Chui Suen (Guest of PP Hipo)
Patti Fry (GEOFF ZIMAN)
Francisco Torrealba (Speaker's Guest)

THE OPERATIVE WORD WAS "OPPORTUNITY!"

In his Opening Remarks one of our newest members, ELLIOTT WRIGHT, listed the many opportunities we all have by noting the opportunities he has had to opportunize during his life.



(Sorry folks, but I couldn't pass up the opportunity.) Also, he informed us that the Board of Directors has authorized a contribution of \$2,100 to purchase trees and planting materials for Palo Alto's non-profit organization, Canopy. BRIAN STEEN will organize a Tree Planting Opportunity for all of us sometime this Spring. Seriously folks, this is a great opportunity to

work together in adding to the Palo Alto arboreal scene. Block out the months of spring now!

ALSO PUT ON YOUR CALENDAR

The Opportunity To Consider A Planned Gift To Palo Alto Rotary!

ROB LYMAN has organized a gathering to both honor those members who have already done so, and a presentation on the ways you too might consider a Legacy Gift. Put this date down, too....Borel Bank on Wednesday, February 23rd, at 7 pm. RSVP to ROB at robl@jlwealth.com or call 650.494.2733.

FLYING DOWN TO BRAZIL with LE LEVY

Our Club's annual international hands-on project this year will be a tour of Brazil, along with meeting members of many Rotary Clubs around the country. The dates are May 10th to May 24th. See our web site homepage for details and/or call LE.

OUR CONTRIBUTOR PAR EXCELLENCE, TRISH BUBENIK

Ponied up some President's Club bucks in honor of fellow member, VICKY CHING, who earlier made a major contribution to Recording for the Blind and Dyslexic Organization.

OUR PROGRAM..."THE FUTURE OF SOLAR ENERGY"

Past Mayor YORIKO KISHIMOTO introduced speaker, Stefan Kratz. Stefan is of German/Chinese parentage and is with the German company, Q-Cells. He is currently attending the Stanford Business School on a Sloan Fellowship.



Stefan began by describing the ways we currently utilize the sun's energy and his company's role in developing technology and equipment for extracting that energy. He followed by showing slides and describing the rapid growth of solar

energy, particularly in Germany, China and the United States. He noted that 50% of current use worldwide is in Germany and that China leads in production of solar cells with 90% of the market.

In answer to many questions from Rotarians, Stefan noted the following:

Germany has made a long-range commitment to solar energy based, in part, on the Chernobyl radioactive particle fall out.

The United States commitment to have 80% of its power from renewable sources by 2035 is very exciting.

The useful life of a photovoltaic system is 25 years.

The cost of solar will come down as thin film systems are further developed.

Photovoltaic cells were first developed by Bell Labs in 1956.

Stefan was a very knowledgeable and engaging speaker. Our thanks to YORIKO and the Program Committee for yet another outstanding program!

FUTURE PROGRAMS

February 7 Dr. Shelly Fisher Fishkin, "The Mark Twain Autobiography"

February 14 Larry Gerston, "California Challenge, 2011: Now What?"

February 21 Hans Steiner, "ADD: Driven to Distraction"

Palo Alto Rotary - Meeting Information www.rotarypaloalto.org