

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

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President MIKE led the Pledge at 12:27, explaining that he wanted to get everything done, which had been a problem the previous week.

## VISITING ROTARIANS AND GUESTS

The meeting warmly welcomed Charles Shumate, M.D., of the Anderson, Indiana, Rotary Club; Dick Carlson of the Tucson, Arizona, Club; and Philip Boudart of the Millbrae Club.

BILL LOVE introduced as his guests, Irene, his bride of 79 years, and family members, Betsy Antonelli, Anthony Antonelli, and today's presenter of Opening Remarks his granddaughter, Amy Antonelli. MIKE McMAHON introduced Dan Anderson; and ELLIOTT WRIGHT introduced his guest, Jaime Rodriguez.

## OPENING REMARKS

Amy Antonelli talked about an inspiring Atlanta housewife



who turned a great personal disaster into a means of helping the unfortunate. When a daughter, one of ten children, developed a bipolar disorder and ended her life, the mother discovered that for some years the daughter had been supporting an orphanage at a leper colony in India. She then visited the orphanage and learned of the

hopelessly sorry plight of lepers in India, outcasts regarded as responsible for their own fate, and without opportunities to live normal productive lives. Determined to do something about that, upon returning home she started a charity, Rising Star Outreach, and raised a quarter million dollars the first year. Amy learned of Rising Star as an Apple employee on a humanitarian mission to India, following a recent tsunami. She left Apple and became Rising Star's Executive Director in India. In her talk and a two-minute video, she reviewed Rising Star's good works -- mobile medical units, schools, and micro-finance program. As those efforts brightened the lives of the colony, Amy hopes that similar ones will soon transform the condition of lepers throughout India.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

GINNY LEAR encouraged participation with Palo Alto Rotary in the July 4<sup>th</sup> 30th Annual Summer Festival & Chili Cook-Off in Mitchell Park, explaining that head chef JOHN BARTON had able sou chefs, but more helpers were needed in late afternoon. Anyone who visited would enjoy the event, particularly the judges who would correlate bribes with awards.

JACK WOODSON reported that the Endowment Fund's assets now surpassed a half million dollars, an increase of \$90,000 during the past year, resulting from contributions and investment gains. Keep the contributions coming, he urged the meeting, and hope the markets hold up. He thanked TODD LEWIS for invaluable assistance during his two terms (the limit) on the Endowment Board.

## **PRESIDENTS CLUB**

LEN ELY made a contribution of \$500 to the Endowment Fund, in honor of his father.

JUDITH STEINER joined the President's Club in honor of outgoing PRESIDENT MIKE, and the arrival of a granddaughter the previous day.

JUDY KLEINBERG joined the President's Club in honor of PRESIDENT MIKE, the upcoming arrival of their first grandchild in September, and a new job for her son after leaving Google: the head of all business development in the Asia-Pacific region for Facebook.

JOHN KIDD joined the President's Club in honor of 16 grand children and four great grand children, particularly one (at last) with a last name of Kidd.

EDUARDO DANGLER joined the President's Club in honor of a granddaughter born two weeks ago.

## **ON CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE ENDOWMENT FUND**

SAM WEBSTER regaled those present with his persistent and successful (by a narrow margin in a parked car receiving the first kiss) courtship of "a beautiful girl in a polka dot



dress" he met shortly after graduating from West Point in 1941. As fate would have it, the newlyweds remained in the country when in the fall of 1941 the Army sent unmarried recent grads to the Philippines, where their lives were soon ruined by the Japanese invasion. Thankful for his good fortune, SAM made a contribution to the Endowment Fund of a

hundred dollars for each of his 70 years (and counting) of happy marriage to Kim.

## THE PROGRAM: A PERSPECTIVE ON ENERGY POLICY IN CALIFORNIA

LYNDA STEELE introduced former California Energy Commissioner Jeffrey Byron as one who describes himself as an “energy policy wonk,” who promptly proceeded to wonk the audience through the roles and accomplishments



of the Commission and what should be done policy-wise in California, the U.S., and the world. He was not optimistic about the latter two, but said California has done a lot of innovative, technology-forcing things right. He was all in favor of increased insistence on renewable forms of energy. He informed the gathering of the California Desert Conservation Area,

comprising about a third of the state, within which 150 square miles will be devoted to renewable solar based energy generation. He noted enviros' support for renewable as a concept, but found they always opposed and often substantially delayed or blocked specifics. He did not think those obstructions would diminish through changes in the legal system. On an upbeat note and beyond the reach of the enviros, he showed that the most effective and most profitable thing individuals could do to reduce global warming would be to replace incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescent ones.

### **BREAKING NEWS: DEBUNKING BEGINS**

Former PRESIDENT RALPH encouraged attendance at next week's debunking of PRESIDENT MIKE, who he said graduated in the top ten percent of his Academy Class, noting that he had graduated in the top 90% of his West Point class, the equivalent of Navy's top ten percent, getting in an opening barb for the debunking. He called for a round of applause for MIKE, “he certainly won't get any next week.”

## **FUTURE PROGRAMS**

June 27     Darkness at noon. The bar for debunking at **Micheal's** on Shoreline opens at 6 pm, dinner and an entertaining variety of “tributes” begin at 7

July 4       Dark, Independence Day, but the **PA Rotary Chili Cook-Off** is available!

July 11      Sherri Sager, **State of the Club, 2011/2012**

July 18      Thomas Rindfleiech, **The Civil Grand Jury System**

July 25,     **RICH GORDON**, California Assembly

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

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