

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date: October 17, 2011

Reporter: GEOFF ZIMAN

Editor: LYLE CONNELL

The duty crew for today were: DICK MANSFIELD visitors' table; SUSAN LUTTER lunch ticket table; E.J. HONG ever-vigilant sign-in supervisor; MIKE McMAHON greeter; and STEVE MADSEN set-up. DAN QUINN led us in the pledge.

President SHERRI SAGER had BRIAN STEEN introduce the following visitors: Rotarian Stu Ganz (with long-time perfect attendance record) from San Jose (Cable TV/Advertising); Rotarian Weezie Harwood from Foster City (Insurance); Art Adams from Los Gatos Morning (Insurance); and Thomas Dittler from Munich, Germany (Engineering). Then members introduced their guests: John Kenney (DICK BUSH); Chuck Harwood – father of Rotarian Weezie Harwood above (WES GARDNER); Robert Stuhlmuller (STEVE PLAYER); Marco Robert (MIKE BAIRD); Enid Pearson, Guest of Emily Renzel (DIANA DIAMOND). Whitney Hoermann, the guest of MIKE COUCH was from Green Oaks Academy in East Palo Alto; and she gave special thanks to the Club for the dictionaries and other assistance that we provided to her students. Many of these students are homeless and 90 % live below the poverty line.

PAM BRANDIN's opening remarks wove together the importance of having the right attitude and the characteristics of the positive wisdom found in the slips from fortune cookies. She quoted, "Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference."



DON MORGAN (dlmorgan33@msn.com) announced the upcoming "Hands On" painting project at InnVision on Saturday, October 29 from 10 AM to 2 PM. In addition to participation, some extension ladders are needed. Please sign up on the sheets at the meeting.

MIKE McMAHON alerted members that the Rotary Foundation drive continues until the end of this month; and there will be a past District Governor from Mexico at the next meeting to remind members of the importance of supporting the Foundation.



The main event of the day was the between Peter Drekmeier (pro)



issue.

and Emily Renzel (anti) on Measure E on the November Palo Alto Ballot. The moderator of the debate, DIANA DIAMOND, set the scene by defining it as a complex environmental measure with strong environmental proponents on both sides of the



The measure reads "Shall 10 acres of existing parkland in Byxbee Park be undedicated for the exclusive purpose of building a processing facility for yard trimmings, food waste and other organic materials."

It seems that Palo Alto residents are somewhat divided on the measure; and the debate did not appear to provide decisive arguments on either side.

ANNETTE GLANCKOPF acted as a timer to keep the presentations orderly. To your reporter, the essence of the proponents' arguments were that building a composting facility using anaerobic digestion next to the city's wastewater plant to transform organic waste into compost and energy was both an environmentally and economically sound move.

The counter arguments were that the economic arguments were seriously flawed; and that the proposed facility would reflect detrimentally on the established plans for the park land.

Questions were posed by JIM SUTHERLAND, VICKY CHING, and ART STAUFFER.

Loyal member, ISRAEL ZEHAVI, very much enjoys Rotary meetings. He does need rides to and from the meetings. We are looking for a few more drivers, to share the drives using Israel's adapted vehicle. Please contact the We Care Committee - DICK FREEMAN or BILL BUSSE - if you can help - Service above self!!!!

Final comment from veteran club member DICK FREEMAN, "Can you imagine the esteemed Palo Alto Rotary Club engaging in trash talk?"

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

October 24 **Speaker TBD**, Rotary Foundation

October 31 **Masood Farivar, Knight**

Fellow/Afghanistan, Topic TBA