

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date: November 7, 2011

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Editor: LYLE CONNELL

## CALL TO ORDER

SHERRI SAGER started the meeting at 12:18 PM with NINA MOORE then leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

SAM GORDON introduced:

Visiting Rotarians: Tony Villanueva from San Mateo Rotary; Phillip Doudart from Millbrae Rotary.

Guests of Rotarians: DICK BUSH introduced Jim Mitchell; NINA MOORE introduced Mary Qian.

## OPENING REMARKS

DERRICK BRITT presented some history, the near impeachment of President Andrew Johnson in 1868 to illustrate Rotary's tests of "Is it the truth?" and "Is it fair to all involved?" Senator Ross from Kansas cast the controversial vote keeping Johnson from being impeached saying, "Always do the right thing, even if it costs you." For details, see:



<http://www.eyewitnesstohistory.com/john.htm>.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHERRI wished a Happy Birthday to VICKY CHING, who will be hosting our December 1 Christmas holiday party. KAREN KIENZLE asked that all attendees bring food platters adequate for 20 people. Volunteers are needed to help with the event.

Contact STEVE PLAYER if you can join our Rotarians going to the Berkeley Rotary Club this Wednesday, Nov. 9, for the Pre-Big Game luncheon. Our group will carpool and leave from Ming's at 10:30 AM.

WALT HAYS invited all to join our club's trip to Haiti in March, 2012. LE LEVY reminisced about his Haiti trip 50 years ago, remarking on the great art, food, and entertainment. Contact WALT for details.

TODD LEWIS encouraged donations to reach our \$7,000 goal to support our Club's construction of a Sister City sign post in front of Palo Alto City Hall.

SHERRI thanked our club volunteers for their help producing and documenting today's meeting. She also welcomed back JIM BAER, who has recovered from an accident.

## PRESIDENTS CLUB CONTRIBUTION

JUDY KLEINBERG announced the birth of her first grandchild, Laird. SHERRI reminded us that a \$1,000 contribution gives your lifetime President's Club status.

## PROGRAM

ROB LYMAN introduced our new and older member presentations.

CATHYE SMITHWICK (BOB SMITHWICK'S daughter) started off sharing family memories and her experiences growing up in Silicon Valley. CATHYE has a long career working in dental health and is now editing the 4<sup>th</sup> edition of "Dental Benefits."



SAM WEBSTER shared stories from his youth in Rhode Island, and then his military experiences at West Point and with the Army during World War II. SAM took us up to the end of the war and will hopefully give us a second installment sharing stories from the rest of his very full life. SAM joined Palo Alto Rotary in 1974.



JOHN O'KEEFE joined our Rotary Club in 1981. He grew up in Arizona and lived with his grandmother, as his parents unfortunately died early. JOHN enrolled at the University of Arizona starting in mining engineering, but later switching to business. JOHN came to San Francisco, worked at Standard Oil, and earned a MBA from Santa Clara University and embarked on his insurance career.



SHERRI thanked our member presenters and adjourned the meeting at 1:30 PM.

## FUTURE PROGRAMS

- November 14 **Dakin Sloss**, Opening California's Finances to the Public
- November 21 **Nan Su**, The Renaissance of Traditional Chinese Culture and Its Global Impact
- November 28 **Swaminatha Mahadevan**, International Emergency Medicine

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