

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date: December 5, 2011

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The faithful facilities crew today was DICK MANSFIELD (visitor desk); MIKE McMAHON (greeting); E.J. HONG (attendance enforcement); JIM SUTHERLAND (lunch money) and STEVE MADSEN (set up). LYNDA STEELE led us in the pledge. SUSAN LUTTER introduced the following visitors: Rotarians Jane Reed and Frank Verlot from Los Altos, as well as Rotarian Ilan Zorman, an engineer from Ramat Hashron in Israel. Ramona Ambrozic, guest of RICK RAYBIN, was introduced by OLIVER COOLIDGE.



In his opening remarks, ROB LANCEFIELD emphasized the importance of reconciliation by recounting his experiences in visiting his original family homeland in Russia where ethnic German and Russian hatred had existed.

KAREN KIENZLE, the organizer of the very successful and festive club holiday party this year, expressed thanks to her co-chair NINA MOORE, as well as to numerous volunteers. These included RICK RAYBIN, JOAN PLASTIAS' guest, WALT HAYS, DICK FREEMAN and GINNY LEAR's husband, King, working the bar. Others involved were DICK and Ellie MANSFIELD, ANNETTE GLANCKOPF, DARYL SAVAGE and SALLY TOMLINSON in set up; Peggy and ART STAUFFER, MARY QIAN, JIM SUTHERLAND and JAMES YOUNG in clean up; BRUCE GEE in the website that listed all the bountiful and delicious food items. VICKY CHING received many thanks and a token of appreciation for her generosity in kindly hosting this event in her spacious home.



Next a new member, JON STOUMEN (Architecture) was inducted. Jon is not new to Rotary, having served as the president of the Healdsburg Rotary Club. He was sponsored by KATIE SEEDMAN, but WALT HAYS did the honors at the meeting.

MIKE COUCH reminded members of the Dictionary presentation in EPA that has since been changed to Wednesday, Dec 14th.

JACK WOODSON, with unsolicited prompting from some venerable club members, explained the importance of contributing to the Palo Alto Rotary Club Endowment Fund. Every year 5% of the amount in this fund (now worth over \$500,000) is combined with the funds collected from our annual charity event, together with fines (President's Club) and money from other sources. This amount is used to support the club charitable endeavors. This makes the Endowment Fund an important factor in the club's gifts to the local community. The goal is to double the capital in our Endowment Fund in the next few years. It is important to distinguish our club Endowment from the Rotary International Foundation Endowment Fund, to which members are also expected to contribute. The RI Fund supports world community service and other important international projects. Jack set an admirable example by making generous personal contributions to each of these funds.

ANNETTE GLANCKOPF announced that reservations for the January 8 club trip to the Chinese Shen Yen Performing Arts event in San Francisco were closing on Wednesday, December 7. In January, a field trip is planned to visit a Chinese medical establishment (eyesight improvement).

JIM SUTHERLAND, on behalf of ELLIOTT WRIGHT, thanked members who took part in the tree planting event last Saturday. DAVID NEGRIN took advantage of being a permanent President's Club member to ask members what Alexander the Great and Winnie the Pooh have in common (Go figure!)

HAL MICKELSON helped our mortified and chagrined President SHERRI SAGER make amends for failing to thank hard working members at last week's meeting by relieving her of \$20. DERRICK BRITT joined the President's Club to announce his success in getting new legislation passed to allow flexible purpose corporations to be established in California. DUANE KALAR described his fortunate recovery from special back surgery and how fake bowel movement facilitated his hospital escape. For this he made a very generous donation to the Club Endowment. BILL BUSSE also joined the President's Club to honor Stanford's recent sports achievements, and his pending birthday and escape to Maui. Another President's Club contributor was E.J. HONG, who announced several pending solo performance engagements for her musically gifted daughter.

Finally CHESLEY DOUGLAS got into the act by advising the club of the success with the club's Sister City Column Project. Aided by STEVE EMSLIE, the project has now been approved by the City Architectural Review Board. Former Mayor LE LEVY has been lined up to do the dedication. It is understood that there have been several requests that he not do it in song.

Member talks are generally regarded highly by club members and today's were no exception. The new and vintage members were each introduced by ROB LYMAN and GEORGE WHEATON respectively.



OLIVER COOLIDGE has crossed the Pacific once by steamship, twice in a prop plane, four times by sailboat, and innumerable times by jet. He has close family connections with both Palo Alto and Rotary. His mother's youngest brother was the late WARREN THOITS, who club members remember fondly. Oliver described his career in aviation. Since 1983, he has been with Federal Express in both a flying and training role. He lives in Portola Valley, has been married for 30 years, and has two grown daughters.



HARRY BROWNE is an honorary member of the club and was our president in 69-70. He described how his career in nuclear engineering started in an accidental way; and how he got involved in the Manhattan Project during WWII. From there he went on to being on the Atomic Energy Commission and joined Thompson Products (now TRW). That was when he first became involved in Rotary. He started his own company in Palo Alto in 1961. Now retired, he has lived in Channing House in Palo Alto for the last 10 years.

[Palo Alto Rotary - Meeting Information](#)

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