

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date: January 30, 2012

Reporter: GINNY LEAR

Editor: LYLE CONNELL

OPENING

PRESIDENT SHERRI opened the 5th Monday in January meeting, asking Past Pres. PAM BRANDIN to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

VISITING ROTARIANS AND GUESTS

Visiting Rotarians and guests were recognized by KATIE SEEDMAN, including Palo Alto University Rotary President Steve Ross and Pres-elect Elliot Terbrough. Eight guests were introduced: Henry Goltz (GEOFF ZIMAN), Paul Wright (STEVE PLAYER), Molly Stump (ANNETTE GLANCKOPF), Brian Schmidt (WALT HAYS), Rachel Wright (husband ELLIOTT WRIGHT), Pedro Garcia (ANDY COE), Tim Watson (DERRICK BRITT), and JOAN PLASTIRAS introduced her daughter.

OPENING REMARKS

SAM GORDON offered the thought for the day that in remembering the difficulties of the 49er's the Sunday before last, SAM noted "credit goes to those who play"; and Rotarians have the opportunity "to spend themselves in a worthy cause."



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

SHERRI thanked those who made our meeting possible: Set-up, STEVE MADSEN; Welcome Desk, DICK MANSFIELD; Cashier, RAMONA AMBROZIC; Greeter, TERRY FATEHI; Microphone Duty, WALT HAYS, KEVIN CURRY, and STEVE MADSEN.

MEMBERSHIP

Pres. SHERRI then had the honor of inducting a new member, MONIQUE LeCONGE, sponsored by STEVE EMSLIE.



MONIQUE is the Palo Alto Library Director and has been a Rotarian in Benicia and Richmond, where she previously worked. Welcome MONIQUE!

ELLIOTT WRIGHT was given his Blue Badge, earning it in just over one year as an active new member.



PAUL HARRIS PINS

Paul Harris pins were given to ROB LYMAN, LEN ELY, and JOYCE CUSICK.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GLORIA HOM and VICKY CHING gave one last pitch for their Chinese New Year's event on Feb. 4th. The year of the Dragon's favorite fish is sturgeon, which will be a highlight of the special dinner.

CASH ALAEE said auction items are needed and tickets are now on sale for the fundraiser.

ELLIOTT WRIGHT joined the President's Club in honor of ROGER SMITH and Judy Kay for their gift to newlyweds ELLIOTT and Rachel, of a trip to Monterey. This was a winning bid at our 2011 fundraiser.

SHERRI announced that the Gates \$200 million Challenge grant to End Polio Now has been met by International Rotarian donations. Fundraising continues; and in February, "points for polio donations" to the Rotary Foundation will be matched by the District towards all Paul Harris levels.

PROGRAM

ART STAUFFER introduced our speaker, John Perry, Stanford emeritus Professor of Philosophy, and former member of the PA University Rotary Club, resigning when he didn't have to get up that early anymore. His Cv is long and distinguished. He has a radio program on KALW 91.7, every Sunday called "Philosophy Talk." www.philosophytalk.org. He won an



Ig Nobel Prize for his writings on "Structured Procrastination," which led into his talk today on "Self-deception or How We Get in Our Own Way." Procrastination, he explained, is when the most important thing to be done is ignored by doing a lot of unimportant things. Or, to not do something in a way that is productive, we need self-deceptive skills. It turns out that most often deadlines come and go; and it doesn't matter. Perfectionism in procrastination is when one has a fantasy about how perfect we mean to do it, when an adequate job is usually acceptable. Self-deception is when we recruit beliefs to support competing cognitions. Self-deception is not always bad. It makes us feel better about ourselves. Alarm clocks play a role in some accomplishments. Dr. Perry has them all over his house. Set one for any amount of time and quit what you are doing when it rings. You will have accomplished something. He said he unplugs his laptop when he sits down to use it, because he knows the battery will expire. It was an entertaining and interesting talk about real things we all face, unless we were deceived.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

February 6 Eugene Cordero, Food and Climate Connections

February 13 Philip Pizzo, Dean Stanford School of Medicine

Rotary Meeting Information: www.rotarypaloalto.org