

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date: March 5, 2012

Reporter: SCOTT GLISSMEYER

Editor: LYLE CONNELL

**PLEDGE:** SCOTT GLISSMEYER

**VISITING ROTARIANS & GUESTS:** DERRICK BRITT  
**Visiting Rotarians:**

Judy Hannemann – Mountain View

**Guests:** Guest of:  
Victor Gauthier GEORGE FITZGERALD  
Pedro Garcia ANDY COE  
Jeffrey Javier PEDRO GARCIA  
Zafar Iqbal ART STAUFFER  
Paul Wright STEVE PLAYER  
Zack Hou WALT HAYS  
Brian Schmidt WALT HAYS

## OPENING REMARKS:



GINNY LEAR discussed the 100 year anniversary of the founding of Rotary International, which occurred the same year as the 50th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations. She reiterated the theme that the then President of Rotary used – that despite our rich history, it was not enough to celebrate our past, but we needed to look to the future through service and

delivering that service through alliances with various organizations.

**SURVEY:** GINNY LEAR

We have only 40 responses to our online survey so far. We need as many as possible so we can make good decisions based on the needs of our members.

**WELCOME BACK JUDY KLEINBERG!** SHERRI SAGER

**MEMBERSHIP:** SHERRI SAGER

PRESIDENT SHERRI set 150 as our goal for total members by June 2012. We will have a tough time matching that goal, but with the excellent work of the membership committee we're making headway.

We welcomed the following new members to PA Rotary:

PAUL WRIGHT – sponsored by STEVE PLAYER  
ZACK HOU – sponsored by WALT HAYS  
ZAFAR IQBAL – sponsored by ART STAUFFER

**FUNDRAISER:** CASH ALAEE

CASH gave a “friendly” reminder that we are focusing on auction items this week – we have 35, but need 100-150 to meet last year's total. PREZ SHERRI challenged our club to make the room full and force us to seek another site next year.

**PREZ –ELECT AMMOUNCEMENT:** HAL MICKELSON remarked how “frisky” he was feeling after attending PETS, the training program for incoming Presidents; so we are in for a little bit of trouble. He will be recruiting his Board for next year and announced the Rotary University on March 31 from 9:00 – 1:30,

formerly known as District Council. This is especially important for committee or Board members, but any members are welcome! He announced that our President Elect Elect is none other than STEVE EMSLIE – it will be a great next two years.

**TALL TREE** STEVE EMSLIE

One of the four Tall Tree award recipients this year will be our own JOHN BARTON. Steve encouraged folks to attend, and said there would be a PA Rotary table at the event.

## PRESIDENTS CLUB

E.J.HONG – she passed an estate planning exam; and there was much rejoicing.

**SPEAKER** – Victor Gauthier from Caltrans



Victor gave a very interesting talk about the new Bay Bridge.

After the 1989 earthquake, leaders realized that the Bay Bridge needed to be retrofitted and planning began. It took this long, due to many different leaders having a say in the final design, and the need to test brand new technology to ensure safety. The vast

majority of the bridge was built in the US, and other countries involved included Germany, Japan, Denmark, and China. The west span received many upgrades without closing the roadway. This included cables, plates, dampers, and bearings. The foundation was moved to 2 separate footings so there would be more stability.

The 3 story skyway was put together in Stockton California. Each section weighs 1700 tons. The Oakland touchdown has to be moved to make way for the new approach – because of this they are opening six months ahead of schedule – Labor Day 2013. On Yerba Buena Island, there were two closures in 2007 and 2009 to move football field sized sections of roadway. The self-anchored suspension bridge on the east side was driven by a desire to create an iconic structure matching the Golden Gate Bridge. The main tower is 525 feet tall.

Several facets of this construction project were created specifically for this project – hinge pipes with 6 foot lateral motion, cable saddles, and much more. There will be bike lane and emergency lanes so traffic won't be as snarled, if there is a breakdown or medical situation.

For more information, go to [www.baybridgeinfo.org](http://www.baybridgeinfo.org).

## FUTURE PROGRAMS

March 12 **Axel Merk**, European Contagion - Global Dynamics Unplugged

March 19 **TBA**, New Members/Longtime Member Talks

March 26 **Kent Drescher**, Assisting PTSD Vets Transitioning to Civilian Life

**Rotary Meeting Information** [www.rotarypaloalto.org](http://www.rotarypaloalto.org)