

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

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Reporter: GINNY LEAR

Editor: LYLE CONNELL

PRESIDENT HAL called us to order, inviting **DAVE SMULLIN** to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Dave asked that we remember Capt. Matt Manoukian, who gave his life in Afghanistan in service to our country.



OPENING REMARKS

ZAFAR IQBAL was called to do our opening remarks. His very interesting question to us was "What would you do if you knew you would not fail?" He wondered if Christopher Columbus might have thought this. Good quotes from ZAFAR: "Never let the fear of failure hold you back." + "It is never too late to

be what you might have been."

VISITING GUESTS

Rotarians with guests were **WALT HAYS**, wife Kay; **MIKE BAIRD**, Paul Coleman; **JULIE JEROME**, Heidi Emberling; **KATIE SEEDMAN**, **BRIAN HURWICK**. **BRIAN** was then inducted into the Rotary Club of



Palo Alto as our newest member. **BRIAN** is in Business Development for W. L. Butler Co., and is a former contender in weightlifting for the Olympic trials, but a broken back kept him out.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESIDENT HAL thanked **IRIS KOROL** for her hospitality to the club last Wednesday. A fine party! **DON MORGAN** thanked the Rotarians who participated in a Hands On project last Saturday, planting 100 trees with Canopy at two schools in E. Palo Alto.

THE PRO AND CON

DIANA DIAMOND was called upon to give the pro and con on Santa Clara County Measure A, a request put forth by our Board of Supervisors for a 1/8¢ increase in our sales tax over ten years. It will raise \$500M for the general fund to balance the cuts that have been necessary due to decreased revenues. These funds cannot be taken away by the State. **YORIKO KISHIMOTO** spoke about Measure B, a request put forth by the Santa Clara County Water District, to



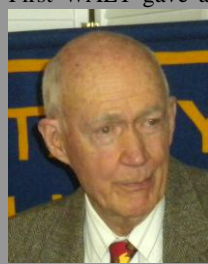
renew an existing special parcel tax for 15 years. Both measures are complex and should be reviewed in your Voter Information Pamphlet. Thank you to **DIANA** and **YORIKO** for their helpful summaries in the time allowed.



PROGRAM

Today's program featured the dynamic work of our club's World Community Service, supported by our members and their contributions to The Rotary Foundation (TRF). WCS Chair **WALT HAYS** began his presentation by urging all members to support TRF during our drive this month and throughout the year. There are \$100 Sustaining Members; \$200 Double Sustainers; \$500 Super Sustainers; and \$1,000 Paul Harris Fellows. TRF goal is *Every Rotarian Every Year*. Checks may be given to **PRESIDENT HAL** at any meeting or donations made online, anytime, at Rotary.org. Funds return to the District and to our programs directly.

First **WALT** gave an overview with slides about our many successful projects. He introduced **Cindy Wilber**, the Education Coordinator at Stanford's Jasper Ridge, and since 2004, our contact for our programs in Mexico's Yucatan area of Chicxulub. With the Rotary Club of Merida, Mexico, we have worked to improve conditions for education, health and self-sufficiency for the people. The latest project is the weekly Farmer's Market that is bringing people and produce together without a middleman, therefore improving income to the growers. Children in the village also learn to grow and eat better food, which reduces their incidence of diabetes. Additional benefits are using math skills as they barter among the sellers.



Cindy expressed grateful appreciation to PA Rotary for our support of many good works. And it will continue. **WALT** talked about our composting toilet projects in Haiti, where a site visit was made earlier this year by members of our club: **HAYS**, **LEVYS**, **SWENSONS**, and **JAYNE BOOKER**. The artistic nature of the Haitian people makes these buildings where toilets are housed very beautiful. **Sasha Kramer**, who has visited our club in the past, and works with **SOIL**, Sustainable Organic Integrated Livelihoods, makes this possible with **PARC** support.



JOCELYN VILLARUZ told of the project in the Philippines called *Mend a Broken Heart*, which supports surgeries for babies and children born with a hole in their hearts, and can't afford the surgeries on their own. Doctors and nurses donate their time, and what would be financially impossible to afford here, we help pay only for the cost of the hospital fee, medication, and testing. Four children have been helped and four more are on the list. We have thank you letters from the families. **LE LEVY** made a pitch for the next "hands on" trip being planned to Cameroon next March, to visit our project in the National Park that protects the gorillas, and the workers who benefit from our support. Our member **SUSAN LUTTER** is our liaison to the project. Many thanks to **WALT HAYS** and all who participate in these Rotary International Projects, planned at the club level and funded by our members, with matching funds from the District and RI.



Thanks to Team Rotary who brought this meeting together, Cashier **AUDREY RUST**, Welcome Desk, **DICK MANSFIELD**, **STEVE MADSEN** for room set up, **MARY QIAN** for greeting, and Pinion writer **GINNY**. Please remember to bring your check for The Rotary Foundation to continue our good work.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- October 15** **Jeff Rosen, District Attorney**, Justice in Motion. My first two years as DA
- October 22** **Robert Walker**, From 6 Billion to 7 Billion. How Population Growth is Changing and Challenging our World
- October 29** **Sam Stewart, Stanford Knight Fellow**, Image Forensics and the Media

Rotary Meeting Information www.rotarypaloalto.org