

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date: February 25, 2013

Reporter: BRIAN STEEN

Editor: LYLE CONNELL

HAL MICKELSON started the meeting at 12:30 PM by leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPENING REMARKS were provided by BERN BEECHAM. Since opening remarks are limited to three minutes, BERN cleverly presented various human activities that can happen in precisely three minutes:



- Human heartbeat in 3 minutes = 500-600 beats
- Human free-fall is 321 miles/hr, 3 minutes =

16.5 miles fallen

- 440 yard dash takes 50 sec. = 1,584 feet covered, or just over a 1/4 mile, which is considered a reasonable distance most people will walk.

OUR GUESTS were welcomed by HAL: **Visiting Rotarians:** Our speaker, Santa Clara County Sherriff Laurie Smith, from San Jose; and KLAUS HEINEMANN from Gualala. **Rotarians with Guests:** Mark Garcia, guest of DARYL SAVAGE; Eric Nickel, the Fire Chief of Palo Alto, guest of ANNETTE GLANCKOPF; Nancy Bjork and Leika Kejriwal, both guests of JUDITH STEINER; George Kelly, guest of ROB LANCEFIELD; Lee Pfab, guest of BRUCE GEE; Mel Matsumoto, guest of MIKE COUCH.

HAL noted that many of our members had attended SAM WEBSTER'S memorial service.

The life of our well-loved friend SAM WEBSTER was celebrated on Sunday, February 24, at the First United Methodist Church.

Sam's family has generously indicated that donations in Sam's honor may be made as follows:

**Palo Alto Rotary Endowment Fund
P.O. Box 592
Palo Alto, CA 94302**

John O'Keefe then presented these touching words in remembrance of SAM:

SAM was a colorful and likeable presence at Rotary each Monday, loyal and faithful to Rotary and its goals.



responded in a way that made people feel better about themselves.

1. SAM helped many, many organizations and individuals financially and in ways many of us will never know.
2. SAM was sympathetic, compassionate, and tactful. He listened and responded in a way that made people feel better about themselves.
3. SAM'S accomplishments exceeded that of most men; he was an Army leader and combatant, a farmer, entrepreneur, real estate developer, as well as an effective and loving family man.

And, we just learned recently, SAM was a neologist -- an inventor of words. He coined a new word at this last appearance at a Rotary meeting. After receiving a plaque honoring his military career, he got up, unsteadily, to speak. He was quiet for a few moments and then said, "Excuse me, but I was just humbling." A new word!

May God bless him and keep him.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CASH ALAEE updated us on The CLAM BAKE, our annual fund-raiser for 2013, which will take place Saturday, March 2nd, from 6 to 10 p.m. at the University Club off Foothill Expressway. If you need to add yourself or guests as participants at the very last minute, please call or e-mail KATIE SEEDMAN, and plan to pay for their tickets at the door, \$75 per person. The menu will offer clam chowder and feature steak or salmon. Information regarding the fabulous Criterion Travel packages that will be available in Saturday night's charity auction was distributed by e-mail Monday evening at 6:25 p.m.; the cruise along Europe's Atlantic Coast will be July 28 to August 10, 2013 and Prague to Paris trip October 9 to 22.

Be SURE to confirm your plans to attend and your guests with CASH or KATIE so they can inform the caterers.

BILL LOVE generously donated \$1,000, saying he will always miss SAM.



DON LANGENDORF also made a donation in SAM's honor (as did others who did not choose to make announcements).



JUDITH STEINER donated to celebrate her two new grandsons and her new hip.

PROGRAM

GLORIA HOM introduced speaker Laurie Smith, Sherriff of Santa Clara County since 1998, most notably as California's first woman Sherriff. She has served four terms and announced she will run for the position again in 2014. You heard it first, right here at Rotary!



both have in common? They both want to be firefighters!"

Sherriff Smith started her talk off with great humor, asking "What do cops and firemen

She started public service in 1973 as a Deputy Sherriff Matron, an off-putting title now, but acceptable in 1973 as were the uniforms, official purse and operations guidebook she shared with us. She had all the same training and responsibilities as men, but received 15% less pay.

The Santa Clara County Sherriff's office performs civil law enforcement very efficiently. For instance, Los Gatos budgets \$15 Million for its own police force; whereas Saratoga pays \$4.0 Million similar law enforcement services from SCC Sherriff's Department. This efficiency is due to the Sherriff's Department spreading its overhead costs, throughout Santa Clara County.

Sherriff Smith then fielded a few questions from our audience:

Q: How does SCC compare cost wise with other counties or to the military?

A: SCC averages 14 to 15% of other public law enforcement agencies, including the military.

Q: Does Cupertino require more resources than other cities?

A: Not really, thanks to consolidation of personnel.

Q: Why don't more cities subcontract with SCC Sherriff?

A: It's usually a matter of local control.

Q: What about gun control?

A: A lot of guns should be removed from the streets, including assault weapons and large magazines.

Q: What about armed personnel in schools?

A: Not good...you can't predict events.

Q: Gangs?

A: There are problems, yes. But it's worse elsewhere in California.

HAL thanked Sherriff Smith and informed her that a dictionary will be given to a Green Oaks Academy second grader in her honor.

ADJOURNMENT was at 1:35 PM by HAL, who thanked those who helped create today's meeting: Our Cashier was ANTONIO SCHETTINO; DICK MANSFIELD manned and fielded the Welcome Desk; BRIAN STEEN was Pinion writer; and STEVE MADSEN handled setup.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

- March 4 **Joe McNamara**, Former Police Chief, San Jose, Crime in Silicon Valley
- March 11 **Susan Lutter** (Club Member), Rotary in Cameroon
- March 18 **Los Altos Main Street Singers**
- March 25 **Gerald Uelmen**, Santa Clara University Law Professor, California's Dysfunctional Death Penalty Law

Info: www.rotarypaloalto.org