

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date: May 6, 2013

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Editor: LYLE CONNELL

Today's early arrivers saw **JOCELYN VILLARUZ** and Steve Oku (**JOCELYN**'s guest and Significant Other) hauling a hundred bouquets of beautiful flowers into our meeting space, the competent and unflappable **STEVE MADSEN** setting up the audio-visual system, President-Nominee **E.J. HONG** wrestling the roll-taking computer into submission, and versatile **BRUCE GEE** guarding the till as we paid the new \$18 price for lunch.

At 12:28 **President HAL** called on **STEVE PLAYER** to lead the pledge.

Friend of Club—**PETER GUENTERMANN** was welcomed as a visiting Rotarian from the Munich East club. **Members—Guests: JOCELYN VILLARUZ**—Linda Kresge and Steve Oku; **WALT HAYS**—his wife Kay Hays; **JOHN KIDD**—his friend Roger Lowther; and **DAVE THORNTON**—incoming Kiwanis president Bob Shaw.

Today's opening remarks were provided by **E.J. HONG**, who told us that her daughter is 17 and "off to college soon," and recited a warm prayer for her daughter's guidance and safety. In a lighter vein **E.J.** remarked that instead of getting a dog to fill the void when her daughter leaves, she decided to become Rotary president.



NEIL RAUSCHHUBER became our newest member, inducted by **HAL** with support from secondary sponsor **WALT HAYS** for primary sponsor **RALPH ADAMS**. **NEIL**'s field has been facilities and operations management; and he is a Ph.D. candidate.



Bylaws? **HAL** suggests there's "nothing more fun." The club bylaws last revised in 1992, sorely needs a tune-up, if only to codify what we've been doing notwithstanding the 1992 version. **E.J. HONG**, **HAL**, and committee members including **DERRICK BRITT**, **ROB LANCEFIELD** and **ART STAUFFER** have poured hours into preparation of a new draft, which will be the subject of "an up-or-down, yes-or-no" membership vote at the June 3 meeting. **HAL** invited members to attend either or both of two question-and-answer sessions on the bylaws this week, both at the Palo Alto Art Center: 3:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 7, and 10 a.m. Thursday, May 9.

BRIAN STEEN joined the President's Club to celebrate the arrival of a little one, who is his son-and-daughter-in-law's first son and **BRIAN**'s first grandson.

HAL relayed **JUDITH STEINER**'s reminder that Avenidas' Lifetimes of Achievement event will be on Sunday, May 19. Other upcoming events: The Rotary Summer Social, chez Mike Couch (26790 St. Francis, Los Altos), Thursday, May 23, 5 to 7

p.m., and this year's Debunking Dinner, for President **HAL**, June 10, sixish, at Michael's in Shoreline Park.

NINA MOORE introduced fellow Rotarian **JOCELYN VILLARUZ**, a native of the Philippines

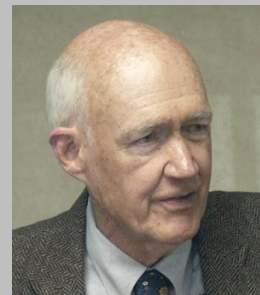


and a clinic nurse manager at the Stanford Hospital and Clinics, who gave a moving presentation on the plight of impoverished children in the Philippines who suffer from a life-shortening heart condition known as patent ductus arteriosus: If the small hole in his or her heart with which every infant is born fails to close naturally, the child's capacity to absorb oxygen is

compromised and, absent corrective measures, he or she cannot expect to live much beyond age 25. The corrective measure of choice is heart surgery, but the procedure costs in the order of 300,000 Philippine pesos (\$7,500), far beyond the means of persons at or below the average income level of 8,000 to 10,000 pesos a month. The Rotary Club of Metro Iloilo, on Panay Island in the Philippines, has developed a program it calls the "Mend a Broken Heart Project," which has recruited surgeons and other medical professionals to perform the necessary surgery on a child of a low-income family at a total cost of 50,000 pesos (\$1,250). Our club has partnered with Rotary Club of Metro Iloilo to help fund this cost; and last year we funded surgeries for eight children. **JOCELYN** illustrated her talk with touching photographs of children who have had or are candidates for the surgery.



JOCELYN and **WALT HAYS** then explained that our club's ability to provide funding depends directly on our members' contributions to The Rotary Foundation, and that this year our contributions have run about half of the normal level. **WALT** and **President HAL** appealed to us to give or, if we have given, to give more, to The Rotary Foundation. Those who, after the meeting, made donations or pledges to give received bouquets of flowers as thanks from **JOCELYN**, Steve, and the Rotary Club of Metro Iloilo.



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

May 13 **George Koo**, "What is Happening in China Today"

May 20 **New Member Talks**, **HENRIETTA BURROUGHS**, **ZACK HOU**, and **MEL MATSUMOTO**

May 27 **Dark**

June 3 **Catherine Crystal Foster**, College Education: Trends and Challenges Facing California Youth

Info: www.rotarypaloalto.org