

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date: June 3, 2013

Reporter: DON MORGAN

Editor: LYLE CONNELL

PRESIDENT HAL began the meeting at 12:25, with ANNETTE GLANCKOPF leading the Pledge.

He resumed the meeting at 12:35 by welcoming Visiting Rotarian and former member KLAUS HEINEMANN, now of the Gualala, CA, Club, following which MONIQUE le CONGE introduced her guest Lee Pfab, and LIZ KNISS introduced her guest Pam Antil.

GEOFF ZIMAN's Opening Remarks invoked the Rotary 4-Way Test. He reviewed his start as a Cub Scout in New Zealand and his later 45 years in leadership positions with Boy Scouts organizations in London and the Bay Area that provided outstanding Scouting programs. He proudly noted his three Eagle Scout sons and three Eagle Scout grandsons. He welcomed the recent national BSA decision to end discrimination against homosexual scouts. He looks ahead to removal of the remaining adult ban. That, he explained, would not be a change for the local Council, since it has long opposed such discrimination.

STEVE EMSLIE and KATIE SEEDMAN encouraged attendance at next Monday's Debunking festivities at Michael's Restaurant at the Shoreline Golf Course.

IRIS KOROL called upon those who had contributed to the Palo Alto Rotary Endowment Fund this year to stand and receive first-of-a-kind gold and blue pins. She added that more pins were available for others who contribute before the year ends on June 30.

BILL JOHNSON introduced representatives of two current charitable Club grantees, Mary Elizabeth O'Connor for the American Association of University Women, and Dierdre Marlowe for Peninsula Bridge. They spoke of their respective programs, AAUW's to enable rising Eighth Grade girls to attend a one week course at Stanford this July on science, technology,

engineering, math studies, and careers. For 24 years Peninsula Bridge has provided academic assistance over four consecutive years to 420 rising fifth to seventh grade girls. Our club's grant funds a pilot program to assist 105 eighth graders on selection of high schools and preparations for eventual applications to colleges.

Contributions to the Presidents Club came from ART STAUFFER in appreciation of HAL's Presidency, including revision of the Bylaws, LE LEVY to commemorate a splendid vacation in the Netherlands and Belgium, cut short, he said, to enable him to vote on the Revised Bylaws, and HENRIETTA BURROUGHS to amend the May 20 Pinion's summary of her New Member talk, as follows: HENRIETTA grew up in a very child friendly neighborhood in

Washington, D.C., a "village" of communal support. She attended graduate school at Columbia University, where she served as Editor-in-Chief of the school newsletter, the Communiqué, not working for the Columbian. She is divorced with two grown children.

After due debate led by PRESIDENT HAL, the members approved the Bylaws Revisions, by considerably more than the required two-thirds.



PRESIDENT HAL advised that VICKY CHING plans to redevelop our meeting site; so the Club needs a new one. A Task Force of Board Members proposes the Elks Club on El Camino in Palo Alto. The Club will hold its Monday, July 8, meeting there.

In a farewell address, perhaps not his last, HAL thanked in detail everyone who labored for the club during his tenure. He received a standing ovation for his leadership and wit.

ANDY COE introduced our main speaker, Catherine Crystal Foster, of the Peninsula College Fund. Her subject was, "College Education: Trends and Challenges Facing California Youth." Some trends are encouraging, such as increasing college applications by Latinos, now at 52% of California applicants. Some are not; a "Completion



Crisis" exists. One quarter of students do not show up for sophomore year. More leave later. Only half of students admitted to four-year colleges graduate in six years, the "new four." That rate will not supply the state's projected 2020 need for two-thirds of

workers with a college education. High costs, inadequate academic preparation, and the lack of mentors or anyone at home with college experience to provide guidance account for much of the crisis. PCF provides selected well motivated first college attendees some funds over four years, as well as mentors, role models, guidance, and help respecting summer internships. Ninety-five percent have graduated or are still in college. One recent grad, Cynthia Vieyra, told her success story, an inspiring example of what additional help can achieve.

After a brief Q&A, PRESIDENT HAL spoke of the Club's own program to help minority students, giving dictionaries to East Palo Alto Schools in honor of our principal speakers. He thanked those who assisted in conducting the meeting and adjourned it at 1:35.

Future Programs

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

May 27 Dark

June 10 DARK, Debunking President Hal

June 17 Michael Kirst, State Policy to Implement Common Core Standards in Education

June 24 Joel Brinkley, Foreign Policy Update

Info: www.rotarypaloalto.org