

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date: September 16, 2013

Reporter: DON MORGAN

Editor: LYLE CONNELL

PRESIDENT STEVE began the meeting officially at 12:20 and substantively at 12:43, leading the pledge. Visiting Rotarians Lisa Akselrad of the Sunnyvale Sunrise Club, and Martel Wassink of the Vienna, Austria, Club were welcomed. HENRIETTA BURROUGHS introduced her guest, Brent Butler; and IRIS KOROL her guest, Pam Antil. Other guests were Lee Pfab, Hema Sareen Mohan, and Joe Simitian, our featured speaker.

For the We Care Committee, DICK FREEMAN announced that ISRAEL ZEHAVI has been in a nursing home for six months. DICK circulated a card to ISRAEL for Members to sign. ISRAEL understands very well and appreciates communications from the Club.



CASH ALAEE's Opening Remarks presented a lengthy and informative list of characteristics of successful people, such as the ability to motivate themselves, to control impulses, to persevere, and to make the most of their abilities. He commented that many Members had ample numbers of these characteristics, without answering BILL BUSSE's question,

"How many characteristics were needed to qualify?"

PRESIDENT STEVE announced that the Club's Fall Social would take place on Thursday, October 24, at Ming's, as a cocktail party from 5 to 7 to express thanks to VICKY CHING and her staff for hosting Club meetings the past several years.

STEVE also invited participation in District 5170's Avenues of Service event on Thursday, October 17, at the Doubletree Hotel in San Jose, starting at 4:00 pm, and including dinner. The Club hopes enough members will sign up at \$45 to make up a table and learn about Rotary projects on the drawing board that provide opportunities for further involvement in ongoing service programs.

ANNETTE GLANKOPF joined the President's Club seeking volunteers to serve as "victims" in "Palo Alto Quakeville," a day of learning, training from 1 pm to 5 pm, and a night of camping, put on by Palo Alto's Emergency Services Volunteers at the Cubberly Community Center on September 21st-22nd. For information go to www.cityofpaloalto.org/quakeville or email Quakeville@cityofpaloalto.org. Others joining the President's Club were AXEL MERK to invite attendance at a non-boring program the next day at the Jewish Community Center, starting at 4:00 pm, on "Money for Nothing," a program about the Federal Reserve; ROGER SMITH to celebrate BRUCE GEE's joining the

board of a community fund; BILL BUSSE to commemorate his 68th high school reunion last week, contributing \$32 less than the standard amount; BRUCE GEE to celebrate the athletic prowess of a grandson who hopes to quarterback Stanford some day; DUANE KALAR to mark athletic and scholastic achievements of five grandchildren, ages 13-17, for five times the standard amount, \$100 per grandchild; and ANDREW PIERCE in honor of his daughter's admission to UC Santa Cruz.

PRESIDENT STEVE thanked those responsible for the staffing the meeting.



SHERRI SAGER introduced our featured speaker, Joe Simitian, our County Supervisor, noting surprise at learning he had graduated from Colorado College, rather than a local institution. Speaking on "State of the County," Supervisor Simitian started by saying his timing was bad – time to rejoin

the Supervisors this year, whom he had left in 2001 to begin at the state legislature. Both beginnings he described as times of scandal and other great difficulties. He reviewed his principal committee roles on the Board of Supervisors, and some of his bipartisan legislative wins in Sacramento. He compared Sacramento and Palo Alto, which he preferred for personal and political reasons. He concluded by saying people should ask their government officials how what they had done has affected their daily life. He was mindful of his own efforts and aspirations to improve our lives. Having left ample time for Q&A, he addressed the roles of individual Supervisors, interactions and differing priorities among members of the Board of Supervisors, the challenges and intended effects of implementing Obamacare, a major task for him, as he succeeds LIZ KNISS as head of the Board's Health Committee, and his favorable experience with "There oughta be a law," a program he initiated years ago to solicit legislative proposals from an informed citizenry, 21 of which he added to the state's statutes.



PRESIDENT STEVE adjourned the meeting close to 1:30 pm.

FUTURE PROGRAM

Sept. 23 Tony Kovaleski, Chief Investigative Reporter, Inside the Investigative Unit at NBC Bay Area

Sept. 30 Walt Hays, Rotary World Community Service

Info: www.rotarypaloalto.org