

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date: September 30, 2013

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PRE-PROGRAM

Guests of today's meeting included Kathy Shen, "Chief People Officer" for the City of PA, introduced by LE LEVY; Michael Wick, the CEO of a local high tech startup, introduced by BEN THRELKELD; Lee Pfab, the Exec of the Palo Alto YMCA, introduced by GRUCE GEE; Kay Hays, life partner and inspiration to WALT; Sharon Tennison, the inspiration and energy behind "The Center for Citizen Initiatives"; and Sharon's guest, Anastasia Andrianaschkina. Anastasia, a young member of the White Nights Rotary Club of St. Petersburg, Russia, delighted all of us when she talked about how her mother had been a driving force for the spread of Rotary throughout Russia for the last 15 years, topping off her brief talk with the presentation of a gift scarf to



PRESIDENT EMSLIE.

DICK FREEMAN circulated a card of sympathy and support for KAY WILSON, who recently lost her husband.



"It's great to be alive in Palo Alto" Opening Remarks were provided by MIKE BAIRD. As a swimming coach, he described the experience of being a part of what he referred to as the greatest thing about sports – its ability to teach (at least to the young, if not to the pros) important life lessons about building good character.

President STEVE reminded us of two important upcoming events: District 5170 Avenues of Service annual event at the Doubletree Inn on Thursday, 17 October. Our club is hosting the dinner-included affair for all Palo Alto Rotarians interested in attending. Talk to STEVE.

Club Social and Tribute to VICKY CHING for the years of hospitality and service we have received at Mings. Thursday, 24 October from 5:00 – 7:00 at, you guessed it, Mings.

PROGRAM



WALT HAYS, so revered as an institution in the Club that he didn't even warrant an introduction, brought us up to date on the club's impressive efforts in the arena of International Service. He, LE LEVY, and JON STOUMEN summarized our four current Community World Service Projects:

"Mend a Broken Heart" in the Philippines where we support local Rotarians and volunteer Physicians in saving lives of those with Congenital heart disease.

"Ape Action International" in Cameroon, where we Support local Rotarians and volunteers working to save endangered primates. (LE also described the upcoming trip to Cameroon by eight Palo Alto Rotarians who will utilize some vacation time to pitch in on this effort.)



"Esperanza Juvenil" in Guatemala, where we support local Rotarians in providing schooling, food, and housing to 110 abandoned or abused children.



"Sustainable Organic Integrated Livelihoods" or SOIL, where we continue to support Sasha Kramer in Haiti, dealing with the combined crisis of no sewage treatment plants and soil which has been depleted of much of its nutrients. The specific endeavor involves promoting compostable toilets to use the 'poop loop' of turning contamination into fertilizer.

WALT received well-deserved kudos for his efforts in keeping our club on the forefront of Rotary International Service. Questions suggest that the following would be helpful in clarifying the funding process for World Community Service Projects:

A significant portion of the money our members contribute to The Rotary Foundation comes back to us as funds available to add to the amount we provide out of our Palo Alto Rotary budget for World Community Service projects. The typical matching grant is 1:1. On the approval of a very large project, the match can be 2 ½ to 1.

The current Palo Alto Rotary budget for WCS projects is \$16,800, which, due to a high degree of volunteer efforts, provides service much greater in value than the \$32,600 worth of checks written.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

Oct. 7–Becky Beacom, Manager, Health Education, PAMF, "The Picture of Health"

Oct. 14–Rotary Partners in Service

Oct. 21–Tim Tosta, Palliative Care

Info: www.rotarypaloalto.org