

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date: March 10, 2014

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Date: March 10, 2014 Elks Club, Palo Alto, CA

Meat loaf was an entrée today; always reminds me of advice from my father-in-law: "Don't let your meat loaf."

## VISITING ROTARIANS

Klaus Heineman visited us from Gualala.

## GUESTS OF ROTARIANS

James Lau, the founder of [NetApp](#), came as the guest of DICK BUSH, and GEOFF ZIMAN brought his daughter, Patricia Shur.

## OPENING REMARKS

ROB LANCEFIELD shared "Confessions of a Gossip," which he distinguished between positive gossip, and negative gossip. Some authorities argue that our need for supportive social interaction trumps other needs, and Rob concluded that we derive health benefits of Rotary meetings, where positive gossip is the norm.



**ANNOUNCEMENTS,  
REPORTS AND REMINDERS**  
In an apolitical flip from Red to Blue, President STEVE EMSLIE presented JACKIE

SCHOELERMAN with her blue badge.



## PRESIDENT'S CLUB CONTRIBUTIONS

MONIQUE ZIESENHENNE, as Director of the [Palo Alto Library](#), has shared a list of the many Palo Alto commissions that have openings, and noted that the library commission only meets every other month. CASH ALAEE asked that members share the commission notices with younger neighbors and friends to help diversify the commissions (not that the rest of us are old or anything).

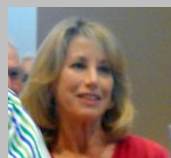


DAN QUINN joined in honor of [Father Stanley Rother](#), who spent 13 years in Guatemala and was murdered there in 1981. Rother is remembered in a plaque that Dan came across while visiting Santiago Atitlan.



## PAUL HARRIS MEMBERS

DAN QUINN and JUDY KLEINBERG each received a Paul Harris Double Sustainer pin for their contributions to the Rotary Foundation.



## CRAB FEED COMING SOON – YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

BRUCE GEE expressed thanks to all who have made early ticket purchases, to event sponsors, and to Patty McGeehan for putting up with DICK BUSH. We are already close to \$30,000 in sponsorships. You can help by securing gift certificates from any of the many places listed on a sheet on the tables – if you don't have a sheet, contact Bruce.

DIANA DIAMOND introduced [Patrick McGrath, Bishop of San Jose](#), who hails from Ireland. McGrath came to San Francisco in 1979 and moved to San Jose in 1989. This year marks his 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year as a bishop.



Referencing a Jewish friend who described Jesus as a troublemaker, McGrath said of [Pope Francis](#), "He is a troublemaker." The trouble started at his ordination, when Francis refused to wear the red cape over his white gown (too showy), and then went out and asked the people for their blessing (instead of vice-versa). He calls himself the Bishop of Rome, not the Pope.

The church, in McGrath's opinion, needs renewal. Referring to the sex abuse scandal and other social issues, McGrath says the church needs to be in contact with the real world. It should listen to questions people are asking and respond to those questions and not respond to questions no one is asking. In his opinion, they need a new CEO, and McGrath believes Francis is the person who can do it. Francis has already been named "[Man of the Year](#)" by Time, GQ, and Rolling Stone.



To make change, Francis needs to 1) set strategy, 2) create a new culture, 3) build the right team, and 4) fund his programs. As for strategy, Francis has told the clergy they need to have the "smell of sheep." He, and they, should be out with the people. He shuns the pope-mobile, lives in a hotel, has a cell phone and uses it to call people. This drives people in the Vatican crazy.

He is creating a new culture of inclusiveness, love of God - very pastoral. For Christmas, he gave the people of Rome cell-phone cards, stamped envelopes, and transit passes. He went to the local prison and washed the feet of "guests," including a Muslim and a woman. Unheard of!

To build his team, he has fired some people in the government, fired some cardinals, appointed 19 new cardinals from all around the world, made changes in the College of Bishops, and appointed a new Secretary of State (who runs the Vatican).

His frugality is redirecting money towards his strategy and desired culture and cutting back on frills. He dismissed "Bishop Bling," and instead of giving bonuses to the Curia as is traditional, he gave that money to the poor. None of this is popular within.

Francis has high approval in the US and even among non-Catholics. More people are returning to the church and some call this the Francis effect.

All these changes will take time. McGrath hopes Francis lives long enough to solidify the changes he has begun.

Mar. 17 - Mon. 12:00-1:30PM  
Mar. 24 - Mon. 12:00-1:30PM  
Mar. 31 - Mon. 12:00-1:30PM  
Apr. 4 - Fri. 6:30 PM  
Apr. 14 Mon. 12:00-1:30PM

Alain Enthoven, "[Affordable Care Act](#)"  
Gunn Chamber Singers  
Vocational Talks  
2014 Annual Fundraiser - Crab Feed  
Jim Keene, Palo Alto City Manager

Info: [www.rotaryvpaloalto.org](http://www.rotaryvpaloalto.org)