

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date: June 2, 2014

Reporter: DON MORGAN

Editor: BRIAN STEEN

After leading the Pledge of Allegiance to open the meeting at 12:35, PRESIDENT STEVE introduced visiting Rotarian and former member Klaus Heinemann of the Gualala, CA, Club.

He called next on members to introduce their guests. JOAN PLASTIRAS introduced Jason Dixon; DICK BUSH introduced Jill Newcom; BRUCE GEE introduced Sheetal



Bagde; and MIKE COUCH introduced Daniel Lai.



PRESIDENT STEVE reminded us of the summer social at his home the next day from 5:00 to 6:30 pm, the President's Reception. He called DICK FREEMAN to the podium and with thanks for his financial support presented him with a Paul Harris Membership the was at hand. the sacrifices troops.



Sustaining Pin. DICK noted that anniversary of D Day He spoke movingly of made then by invading PRESIDENT STEVE

announced that DAN QUINN would be available at the conclusion of the meeting for members who wanted to update their membership photos.

DON MORGAN thanked those who volunteered to help post American flags along University Avenue on Memorial Day: CHESLEY DOUGLAS, JACKI SCHOELERMAN, JOHN KIDD, KATIE SEEDMAN and Eric, SALLY



TOMLINSON and WALT HAYS. He also thanked those who helped construct over the holiday weekend a special container designed by BILL BUSSE to store the flags between showings: BILL BUSSE, DICK FREEMAN, and

BRUCE GEE. DON added that the flag-posting project was a joint one with the University Rotary Club, with postings scheduled for July 4 and Veterans Day as well as Memorial Day each year.

JOAN PLASTIRAS introduced our featured speaker Dr. Harvey Fishman. An MD as well as a PhD in Chemistry with a specialty in lasers, Dr. Fishman has 34 peer reviewed publications and 10 U.S. patents.

Dr. Fishman's talk was entitled "*Femtosecond Laser Cataract Surgery*".



He said he specialized in cataract surgery and had worked in a laser lab as a graduate student at Stanford, but wanted to talk about comprehensive ophthalmology and the amazing very recent revolution in eye surgery. Within the last six months, lasers have replaced by-hand cataract, cornea, and other surgeries, producing more accurate corrections quicker and safer overall. He illustrated the various parts of the eye and explained that the cornea accounted for 60% of changes in refraction of incoming light rays and the lens 40%, to focus light on the retina. He explained that lasik surgery, for ages 20s-60s, changes only the curvature (and refraction) of changes the curvature of the lens. The lens changes starting at birth but vision problems develop much later.

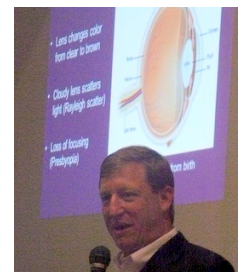


He also gave the derivation of "cataract": as refraction diffuses with advancing age and images grow fuzzy, they resemble what one with normal eyesight would see while standing behind a large, powerful waterfall (cataract) and looking out through the falling water.

Dr. Fishman discusses various lenses that laser improvements have made available today, some of which can change focus or power (*Femtosecond*). The new techniques can almost guarantee 20-20 vision at distance.

Adverting to concerns of those in the audience who had laser surgery more than six months ago, he said that the lenses implanted then as fixed focus lenses could be changed by lasers in various ways.

Dr. Fishman welcomed several questions throughout his prepared presentation and in a Q&A session following it. He received a hearty round of applause, and credit for a dictionary going to a school in East Palo Alto.



PRESIDENTIAL thanks went to CATHY SHEN for serving as cashier today, DICK MANSFIELD for staffing the Welcome Desk, STEVE MADSEN for room set up, and DON Morgan for the Pinion, as the meeting adjourned around 1:30.

Future Programs

June 9 Will Durst, political satirist

June 16 Larry Stone, Santa Clara County Assessor

June 23 Jude Barry, "*Great American Speeches*"

June 30 Debunking of President Steve – Michael's at

Shoreline

No regular lunch

meeting