

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

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Reporter: LE LEVY

Editor: LYLE CONNELL

PRESIDENT EJ with her usual abundance of enthusiasms called on **DENNY BOYLE** to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Seventy-three per cent of the members were able to recite most of it.

DAVE THONTON, introduced his guest, Charles Weidinz, newly appointed as Director of Abilities United in Palo Alto.

OPENING REMARKS:



KATHY SHEN, Chief People Officer for the City of Palo Alto, spoke about the special appeal of “community service” to the Millennial Generation. She commented on studies which show younger people today are especially attracted to employers who participate more in helping their communities. Hence, by providing many volunteer opportunities, Rotary is a perfect organization to attract younger members.

BEN THELKELD, on **KATHY**'s remarks, reported that our membership has been relatively stable in recent years. To increase membership, he focused on “Gain” (inviting newcomers), and “Retain” (keeping existing members engaged).



Apropos of new membership, EJ invited **DISTRICT GOVERNOR ED JELLEN** to the podium to induct **SHEETAL BAGDE** as Palo Alto Rotary's newest member. Born in India, **SHEETAL** got her MBA in the U.S., and serves as a financial advisor in Palo Alto.

The following were honored by DG ED as early Double Sustainers to The Rotary Foundation, 2014-15: **CYRILLE, BETANT, DERRICK BRITT, ANDY COE, LEN ELY, WALT HAYS, BILL JOHNSON, YORIKO KISHIMOTO, IRIS KOROL, LEE LIPPERT,**



DON

MORGAN, RUTH SCHNEIDER, JOE SINNOT, MARK STEVENSON, MICHAEL WICK and JACK WOODSON. **GINNY LEAR** was honored as a Super Sustainer



And four were honored as repeat Paul Harris Fellows: **DERRICK BRITT, ROB LYMAN, JUDITH STEINER AND SALLY TOMLINSON.**



MIKE BAIRD, Chair of the Youth Services Committee, took a moment to remind us of the many youth services our Club sponsors: Global Grant Scholars, Boy and Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Gunn Interact, International Youth Exchange, Camp Ryla (Rotary Youth Leadership Camp), Rotaract, High School Speech Contest, support of Green Oaks Academy in E.P.A. **MIKE** concluded by joining the President's Club for swimming from Alacatz to San Francisco, inspired by fellow Rotarian **BEN THRELKELD**.



BRIAN SCHMIDT AND TRISH BUBENIK also joined the President's Club, **TRISH** to personally thank all connected with the Summer Social at the KOROL's, and **BRIAN** by way of announcing the kickoff of his re-election

campaign as a Director of the Santa Clara County Water District.

TODAY'S SPEAKER:

District Assistant Governor **SHAWN CURBY** introduced our speaker, District Governor **ED JELLEN**. Born in L.A., Governor **ED** attended Berkeley for both his undergraduate and Law degrees. Retired from his position as Chief Judge of the Alameda County Bankruptcy court, he has served on the faculties of both Cal and Stanford. **ED** told his Rotary story in three Chapters:



Chapter One: As a speaker at Oakland Rotary, Ed was so impressed by the club that he returned to join. Moral: Actively seek community leaders and volunteers to be new members.

Chapter Two: When a new member, Ed was asked to personally get involved with a program at McClymond's High. Moral: Engage new members.

Chapter Three: Although initially interested only in service at home, Ed began working on projects in Ghana, Kenya, Cambodia and Guatemala. Moral: Rotary broadens your vistas.



Thanks, ED, for your inspiration and for all you do.

MEETING THANK YOU'S: **PRESIDENT EJ** gave special thanks to **VIRGINIA LEAR, STEPHEN MADSEN, JOE SINNOTT, DERRICK BRITT, YORIKO KISHIMOTO, LEE LIPPERT, LYLE CONNELL and BRUCE GEE** and others for their regular contributions to our Monday meetings.

FUTURE PROGRAMS

August 18 Buzz Thompson Stanford Woods institute for The Environment “California Drying”

August 25 Coleen Bailey, Exec Director, National Steinbeck Center 75th Anniversary of the “Grapes of Wrath” by John Steinbeck

Info: www.rotarypaloalto.org