

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

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## “GIVE ME SOME SKIN” TOOK ON NEW MEANING!

**Our Program today** shed new light on “skin” as it relates to burn therapy. Lawrence Cai, Chao Long and Michele Casertano, three Stanford graduate students, joined us to present an inspiring program and thank Rotary for its support of their project. Details about the program, and the many questions and comments, will be found near the end of this Pinion...space permitting.

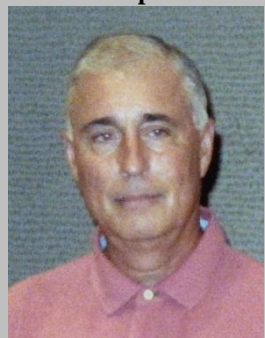
**Following “The Pledge”** ably led by Past Prez **PAM BRANDIN**, current Prez “E.J.” introduced our Visiting Rotarian...Larry Southwick from Sarasota, Florida along with Guests of Rotarians. To wit: Richard Keller/**STEVE MADSEN**...Richard is a Power Supply Consultant. Avo Izmirlan/**STEVE EMSLIE**...



**Our Esteemed PRESIDENT** told what was purported to be a humorous story, but your humble scribe missed the funny part. However, he did record the main point which is *“When you get mad, do something productive, even if it happens to be crocheting”*.

## THE GOOD NEWS

**Membership Chairman BEN THRELKELD** orchestrated the Introduction of New Member, **CHARLIE WEIDANZ**. Ben was ably assisted by Charlie’s sponsor, Retired YMCA Executive, **DAVE THORNTON**. Dave noted that Charlie was a long time Rotarian and “Y” Executive himself having joined Rotary in the 80s and having been associated with 11 different YMCAs. Charlie’s wife also happens to be a “Y” type, currently serving as an executive in Florida. WHERE? Yes, Florida! Theirs is what is known as a “long distance commuter marriage”. We can hardly wait to hear more about how this is working out...if it is...when you give your New Member Talk. Currently Charlie has replaced **LYNDA STEELE** as the Director of Abilities United. Welcome to our Club...now YOUR Club!



## ROTARY FOUNDATION NEWS

Past President **STEVE EMSLIE**...who as a perk for being PP is in charge of this year’s Rotary International Fund Raising drive...made his final pitch. *“Last year we made our goal...but this year we are a bit short.”* By contributing now you will also receive raffle tickets for the big drawing which is a trip for two to the International Convention in Sao Paulo, Brazil. (As a



footnote: ROMAN KAGARLITSKI

won the raffle some years ago, so you know it’s legit!) Make your contribution to a good cause and start practicing your salsa and samba dance steps! It will be a ball!

## NEW MEMBER SOIREE

Many thanks were extended to **MIKE & Jean COUCH** for hosting the party on September 18.

## MORE YMCA RELATED NEWS

### LEE PFAB, who is Executive Director of the Ross Road “Y”



presented an opportunity to members so “inclined” to accept opportunities. And what is the “incline” you may ask? It is to spend time once a week for a year tutoring a young student. All it takes is time and commitment. Give Lee a call. You may change someone’s life!

## NEW PRESIDENT’S CLUB MEMBERS INDUCTED!

Wait a minute...**JUDY KLEINBERG**

is already a member...and then However, our Club turns down no free Accepted with pleasure contribution in honor of than Past President **MICKELSON**. This apparently quid pro quo having joined last week of the new Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce Exec...none other than the afore mentioned **JUDY K**. Let’s keep this contribution bit going around and around Judy and Hal. In time our budget will be fat enough that dues will no longer be needed. Sounds good to me!



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## We had another Prez Club Member today...and is also

probably a renewal. The man with the extra 100 big ones was **JIM SUTHERLAND**. We can assume that as long as his offspring keep having grand babies we can expect more contributions to the Club. This one is number 5 grandchild and is now related to Jim’s youngest daughter. Oh one other bit of important information. **JIM** has learned the process for changing a baby’s diapers. In fact, he was ecstatic about it. What? How can that possibly be? Well, modern technology has come to the rescue. Now when something exciting happens within the diaper it changes color. If you guessed the logical color, you are wrong! It is either blue or green...We can assume the color relates to the type of deposit!



## BACK TO THE PROGRAM...THE TITLE "REAL SKIN"



Past president **WALT**, who doubles as our esteemed World Service Chairman, introduced the main speaker, Lawrence Cai. (First a little background. Lawrence is in Med School at Stanford and plans to be a surgeon, as does Chao. Michele has a degree in mechanical engineering and is studying for his MBA.) They were working at the Design School at Stanford and had volunteered to be part of a team to do an overseas project. At present there are four 4 person teams doing different projects. The criteria include having a local contact...us...that it be overseas...that it meet a real need and is very affordable. Their team had chosen to work on a project in Katmandu, Nepal, having to do with improving the survival rate of burn victims.

**Lawrence was the spokesperson for the team** and did an



outstanding job, especially answering a myriad of questions following the presentation. What you need to know is that while in our country 90% of burn victims survive...in Nepal it is 30%. Also, there is large number of burn victims due to the extensive use of wood burning stoves. The solution that the Stanford team decides to take on was a low cost skin bank. This is not unlike a blood bank, but with other challenges. To harvest skin you need the approval of the next of kin which involves an educational program. Fortunately, their main contact was a physician in Katmandu who was more than willing to work with them. Their goal...To have the best burn center in all of Asia. They seem to be well on the way.

**There were many questions and comments** which attests to the interest in the project...and the fact that Prez "E.J." managed the clock providing ample time. However, your scribe has run out of time as he has been "sent up the river". What? For those of you who may not know, the phrase relates to the early days when the bad guys were sent "Up the river" to Sing Sing...which my family and I will be doing by taking a cruise up the Hudson River to check out Hyde Park, West Point, the Rockefeller Estate and a bunch of other places of interest...but not Sing, Sing, unless we make a wrong move someplace along the way.

## FUTURE PROGRAMS

- October 6** Statewide Propositions Gloria Hom and Terry Christenson, Prof. of Political Science, San Jose State
- October 13** Rotary Partners in Service
- October 20** David Kennedy, Stanford Professor of History Emeritus, "Who Bleeds, Who Pays, the US Armed Forces Today."

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