

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date: November 3, 2014

Reporter: GOEFF ZIMAN

Editor: LYLE CONNELL

A good reporter asks questions, so here goes!

Who presided today and asked if she was loud enough? E.J. HONG.

Who lead the pledge? MIKE MCMAHON

Who visited today? PETER KIRKWOOD, a Rotarian from the less than 20 member Waitara Club near Sydney, Australia of whom about 50% are of the opposite sex. Also Cindy Threlkeld wife of BEN TRELKELD was there.

Why was a card being passed round? DICK FREEMAN explained that it was to express our sympathy for the passing of ED DANGLER's wife.



Who gave opening remarks and what did he say? DANA TOM gave us a different slant on the characteristics of the Giants' players. He told us of several instances where players had gone out of their way to exhibit Rotarian "Service above self" practices by taking a special personal interest in less fortunate children.

What did Fred A. Carvin, author of "Paul Harris and the Birth of Rotary." say? "The invisible force of Rotary is love of men for their fellow men, free from the restraints of formality; free from religious, racial and political prejudices. The love of men for their fellow men is the breath of life of Rotary."

Who are you going to sit with next week? E.J. HONG, aided by IRIS KOROL, is determined to shake up the buddy seating arrangements next week.

Who did we vote for? Officers and members of the Palo Alto Rotary Endowment Fund Board.

Who wants to party? NINA MOORE announced that our all inclusive Holiday Party will take place on Tuesday, December 2 and will be held at the home of BRIAN STEEN with a medley of festive, familiar music, and Christmas carols. Plan to sing-along!



What do you think of our speakers? SALLY TOMLINSON needs our input and if you haven't completed the survey created by BRUCE GEE's technical wizardry, please do so at once. The Program Committee members are meeting at E.J.'s office at noon on Thursday, November 6.



Who were coerced into joining the President's Club? LIZ KNISS so that she could emphasize the importance of everyone voting in the imminent election. Also RALPH ADAMS so that he could talk about his intention to participate in

the 49ers Challenge Race on November 8 and how he hoped to apply cunning and wisdom to overcome youth and skill.



How can you show your patriotism? On Veteran's Day help DON MORGAN put up (at 8 AM) and take down (at 5 PM) American flags on University Avenue. Contact Don for details if you want to participate and did not sign up at the meeting.

How was the speaker introduced? DIANA DAMOND gave us a quick review of the background of our distinguished speaker Gloria Duffy, CEO of the Commonwealth Club in San Francisco. Gloria is a graduate of Occidental College and Columbia with a Ph.D who has headed two prominent international affairs



organizations. She has also served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense as well as Special Coordinator of Cooperative Threat Reduction during the Clinton Administration. In that role she helped negotiate the denuclearization and dismantlement of weapons of mass destruction

What did our speaker have to say? We were treated to very illuminating presentation about the crisis in

Ukraine. It is a nation of 45 million people with a 99.7% literacy rate and is the 4th highest country in IT skills. At the same time it has a very low GDP and this is a key factor in the current crisis. Farming, mining, aircraft production and vehicle manufacturing are the key industries. Corruption and difficulties in establishing business relationships are the main impediments to improving economic conditions. On top of this, Russian imperialism and the desire to control the extensive oil and gas reserves in the area have produced a very turbulent situation. A positive note was that Rotary has been active in Ukraine since 1992.

What questions followed? ROB LANCEFIELD asked how we know who to trust. HENRIETTA BURROUGHS asked how was nuclear disarmament achieved. DAVID BLITZ asked about political processes in multi ethnic states. CHESLEY DOUGLAS asked about the formation of states and shifting borders. CASH ALAEE asked for comments on the current nuclear discussions with Iran.

Who were those on duty today? DANA TOM greeted; PETER SHAMBORA took care of the welcome desk; AVO IZMIRALIAN cashiered as well as signing in members; Sgt. at Arms JOE SINNOTT, and STEVE MADSEN did the set up.

Who asked all these questions? GEOFF ZIMAN

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**November 10, TBD, due to illness of scheduled speaker**

**November 17, Joel Rosenthal** National Training Director, VHA Veterans Justice Programs: "Assisting our Justice Involved Veterans"

**November 24 Judge LaDoris Cordell** (ret) Independent Police Auditor, City of San Jose: "Civilian Oversight of the Police: What is it and why should you care?"

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