

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

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POLITICS...TWO TO ONE!

What does that mean you might ask? Well, today was Vocational Talks Day. Our three illustrious speaker's careers were about "Politics" "Politics" and "Education"...in that order. And that order was LIZ KNISS ...WALT HAYS ...and TRISH BUBENIK. Needless to say their talks were politically illuminating and educationally inspiring, especially when we got to the question about TRISH being fired. So, skip to the end if you want to be illuminated and inspired first!

The ever effervescent GLORIA HOM led us in the Pledge followed by...

INTRODUCTIONS... To wit:

OUR VISITING ROTARIAN was Mark Manchester from MP and our GUEST of a ROTARIAN was BEN THRELKELD'S friend, Shashamb Divekar.

IT'S TRUE FOLKS!

Our planet is no longer at the center of the universe! BERN BEECHAM made the announcement after researching the life of James Lick. It seems James wanted to have a pyramid built in honor of his favorite personality...himself. However, he settled for building Lick Observatory. Shortly after opening in 1898 came confirmation of our lowly place in the universe. Good choice, but bad news, James! ...and great OPENING REMARKS, BERN. A bit discouraging to we centrists, however!



SOMEWHERE IN THE SCHEME OF THINGS

...a slide show of our visit to Big Basin and the Rotary Grove was presented. Since yours truly was making the presentation, no one was available to take notes for the PINION. Hopefully, the slide show will appear on our web page...or if you want a personal copy, contact bbusse1@mac.com. Our gracious president noted that the presenter's allotted 5 minutes were not over subscribed. Yet another Rotarian to beat the time clock!



WHAT IS IT THAT BROUGHT ABOUT THE RUSH TO JOIN THE CLUB?

That question will go unanswered, but the President's Club coffers were filled with many \$100 contributions.



The joiners were...("Are you kidding?") President E. J. herself! A president joining the President's Club? Wow...definitely a first! That stunner was followed by joiners HENRIETTA BURROUGHS, SHERRI SAGER, ANNETTE GLANCKOPF, LEANNAH HUNT, DAVID BLITZ and DARYL SAVAGE...pretty much in that order.

DICK MANSFIELD announced that the late BILL LOVE'S wife, IRENE, passed away on April 24th. Our Club's condolences to the family. BILL and IRENE were very special to all who knew them.

PAST PREZ STEVE EMSLIE presented PAUL HARRIS pins to MONIQUE ZIESENHENNE, DANA TOM and JOE SINNOTT for



their financial contributions. Thanks gang from Paul's progeny which includes Rotarians everywhere.

THE SPRING BASH AT THE KALAR'S

...was a great success according to Social guru, NINA MOORE! She added a special thanks to the caterer and announced that a silver spoon was missing...at which time DAVE (our resident magician) SMULLIN miraculously pulled same out of his sleeve.



OUR VOCATIONAL GURU MEL MATSUMOTO

first introduced a registered nurse noting that she had been allotted 10 minutes for her presentation. With that forewarning LIZ KNISS moved immediately from nursing to her career as a politician.



Many of us wonder what it is that makes certain individuals want to run for office. Well, the mystery is out. Someone, and in Liz's case GARY FAZZINO, talks you into it. Was she successful, you might ask?

Perhaps. She ran 9 times and won 9 times! A few high notes:

1. First elected to the Palo Alto School Board. Most unpopular vote was to close Gunn High School. (It may still be open, however.)
2. Elected to the Palo Alto City Council. (11 years and counting) Two issues were, and still are, traffic and parking.
3. Elected to Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors. Lots of County Hospital issues.
4. Elected to Palo Alto City Council Issues library hours, new building construction in Downtown, etc.
5. Conclusion "Everybody feels strongly about something!"

LIZ has five granddaughters. "None has taken up politics!"

NEXT UP WAS WALT HAYS. Walt was interested in political science since his goal in life was to be Secretary of State. Here are a few highlights:



1. Received a fellowship to study in Germany
2. Joined the Army Reserve and played sousaphone in the band.
3. Received law degree and joined firm in San Francisco.
4. Set up new firm in San Jose. Had two successful cases before State Supreme Court.

5. Elected to SJ City Council.
6. Became involved with environmental issues.
1. Moved family to Palo Alto and found mediation more satisfying than lawyering.

Question. "Why haven't you run for Palo Alto City Council?"
Answer. "Everybody's issue is your issue. I'd rather focus."



TRISH BUBNIK, OUR NON-POLITICIAN. (Although it sounded as though teaching and school administration included a mite bit of politic-ing.) At the end of the program she was asked why she was fired after being Superintendent of Schools in MV for 9 1/2 years. The answer, "They wanted a man and besides the average time span for a superintendent is 2 years. They hired a man...he lasted 2 years!"

1. Began teaching in 1970. Adopted by school's toughest class.
2. Taught English, French and Typing with no previous typing experience.
3. Organized teachers' strike which led to administration.
4. In 1981 her school had first computer lab.
5. Created new K-8 school named Columbia School.
6. Columbia astronauts carried school banner into space. It had the names of the students.

Final thought: "Always eat lunch with someone positive. It will improve your day."

The books selected by President E.J. for Green Oaks Academy:
LIZ..."Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs"
WALT..."What Do You Do With a Tail Like This?"
TRISH..."Where the Wild Things Are"

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 11 – Club Program: Jeremy Hay, Knight Fellow

May 18 - Anna Itoi and Andy Hinton, Google Compliance: "The Role of the Ethics and Compliance Lawyer in a Major Corporation"

May 25 – DARK - No Meeting

June 1 - , Supervisor Joe Simitian