

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

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Reporter: BILL BUSSE

Editor: BRIAN STEEN

WATER...WATER...EVERY WHERE???

Our speaker today...Cathy Elvert... brought us up to date on the local water scene past, present and possibly the future. For a firsthand look see, scroll down to the bottom of the Pinion and read her comments first.

ANOTHER FIRST We had no visiting Rotarians attending today!

Wow! However we made up for that with ROB LANCEFIELD's guest, Bill Oberman. Bill is a local financial advisor. In addition, our speaker's guest was associate Val Fong.



IT'S CALLED "THE PITTSBURGH MUDDLE SYSTEM!"

With a "not so subtle reference" to your recorder's past Opening Remarks, (BILL B. had shared a number of different thoughts and attempted to tie them all



together at the end), BILL FOGARTY actually successfully accomplished the feat. It went like this:

NUMBER 1. What I learned while baby sitting a 3 year old grandson. IS IT THE TRUTH?

NUMBER 2. What I learned from bad drivers in the Catskills. DOES IT PROMTE GOODWILL?

NUMBER 3. Observing my own colonoscopy. WILL IT COME OUT CLEAN AND BE BENEFICIAL?

And he successfully pulled it all together by noting that all three disparate subjects seem to relate to the ROTARY FOUR WAY TEST! Amazing! Incidentally, he received thunderous applause which suggest this may be the wave of the future. Heaven forbid!!

OUR NEWLY DESIGNED TGIF PARTY...

...will be held this month at Prez. Katie's home 1535 Portola Avenue in P.A. Bring whatever libation you would like....within reason.



A MEMBERSHIP MESSAGE FROM OUR R.I. PRESIDENT

We were treated to a brief video presentation by K.R. RAVINDRAN encouraging us to continue our efforts to extend Rotary to our friends and associates. He made special note to recruit younger members and those recently retired. Remember...we are all thankful to the person who extended a Rotary hand to us. Think about it!

RECEIVING HIS BLUE BADGE...

...was ANDY PIERCE who was sponsored by DAVE SMULLIN. Congratulations to both of you!



THE PRESIDENT'S CLUB E X P A N D S !

President KATIE was honored by inducting five new members into club-dom, or something like that.



First up was P.P. JACK WOODSON. His membership was in recognition of his 50th wedding anniversary. He and Jolaine managed to slip away to Italy and had a few leftover liras to share.

Second was P.P. ART STAUFFER who added



President's Club 100 dollar ante as the result of a BRUCE GEE "auction-sponsored" dinner. Along with the outstanding dinner ART

extolled the virtues of BRUCE'S new interest in hydroponic (?) gardening! Okay, so I don't know the correct spelling. What you need to know is that it consists of the plants being suspended over water infused with magic chemicals...no dirt permitted and very little water used.

Third was TRISH BUBENIK in recognition of the 10th anniversary of Katrina. TRISH was Director of the Palo Alto Red



Cross at the time. With the help of the wives of DAVID BLITZ and CHARMERS SMITH she was able to find local housing for 100 victims of the hurricane and flooding.



Fourth was TIM WATSON in thanks to ROGER SMITH “fore” the auction donate round of golf!

And Fifth was I.P.P.

E.J. HONG “because of today’s talk!” That’s what she said and then she sat down!



OUR PROGRAM TITLE was, **”FROM SKY TO SEA...Understanding & Conserving Palo Alto’s Water from Source to End-Use.”**



Cathy Elvert was introduced by KATHY SHEN. Our speaker is the Communications Manager for the City of Palo Alto and is responsible for all of the public relations that relate to City utilities. Following

receipt of a degree from San Jose State she manages a number of water projects in the Bay Area. Cathy is a dedicated hiker and runner...and an excellent presenter we might add.

Cathy began her slide illustrated program by noting that Palo Alto is unique in running all of its utilities. Our water is delivered via the Hetch Hetchy reservoir through a 100 mile pipe line. She added that it is pristine in quality. (The water...not the pipe line.) The State has deemed that Palo Alto should reduce its water usage by 24% from June through the end of February...no small task, but doable. The City is targeting all water usage, but “the lowest hanging fruit” is landscape gardening. Other comments included:



1. We are currently half way to our goal.
2. City play areas are to remain green for child safety.
3. We are using recycled water for the golf course and have ambitious plans to extend recycled water elsewhere.

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4. The State has passed down a series of mandated restrictions including no washing of sidewalks and driveways. No irrigating within 48 hours after a measurable rain fall.
5. Restaurants will serve water only on request.
6. No watering between 10 am and 6 pm.
7. Modify your behavior. Don’t let faucets run, shorten showers, etc.

Cathy recommended that people call the City for home water audits & conservation devices...also to get rebate information on water related appliances, low water toilets, etc.



The Q and A session included questions from JOHN KIDD, DANA TOM and JIM SUTHERLAND



One of Cathy’s the best suggestions was to contact the City and ask to have a representative make a similar presentation to your association, condominium members, or group of any size. **We are all hopeful that El Nino will end our long drought, but until it does....**



UPCOMING MEETING SPEAKERS

August 31	Dan Klein, Stanford U. Lecturer in Management and Drama and School: "Secrets of Status: How to Expand Your Authentic Range for Authority and Warmth"
September 7	DARK
September 14	Richard Held, FBI Retd: "NSA, ISIS and Cyber Vulnerabilities: Do We Really Understand the Implications?"
September 21	Mitchell Postel, President of the San Mateo County Historical Association: "The Rough and Tumble Political Beginnings of San Mateo County"
September 28	Rotary Foundation