

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

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IT WAS AN OUTSTANDING MEETING EVEN WITHOUT CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS!

We dedicate a day without governmental services....including mail delivery...to the man who discovered America and he was not even recognized at our meeting! So, to right the grievous omission I have added a verse from Alan Sherman's opus that honors the great man...so to speak. However, just prior to that you will find a few thoughts on our outstanding program(S)...yes, in essence, we had two and they both focused on the future lives of children...some by surgery and some by learning to read.

OUR VIVACIOUS PREZ OPENED THE MEETING WITH INTROS...

STEVE ROSS from the University Club was present to introduce the team from "readingpartners.org." This is a program Steve and the University Club have championed. More later.

BEN THRELKELD introduced his mother visiting from Maine.

CHARLES WEIDANZ introduced a visiting Rotarian from San Mateo who just happened to be his wife, Lisa.



Our overseas guest was ZERXES LASHKAI from the Rotary Club of Bombay. ZERXES Club is in District 3140 and has sponsored many activities from supporting a school to water recycling projects to handicap training. It was obvious his Club has many opportunities to provide "Service Above Self" which they take on with energy and vigor! Thanks Zerxes for reminding us that

Rotary is an association that has an impact throughout the world.

OPENING REMARKS WERE OUTSTANDING!...



...Thanks to DICK FREEMAN AND SENATOR John McCain. DICK related a story about a pilot named Mike Christian who had been in prison with Senator McCain at the Hanoi Hilton during the Vietnam War. Mike had been able to pony together an American flag from miscellaneous scraps of fabric. All the prisoners in McCain's compound would say the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag

every day. After Mike was caught and beaten he again managed to create a semblance of a flag and the Pledge continued. It also helped them remember the code... Duty, Honor, Country! (Footnote: Your scribe had a Navy buddy named Harry Jenkins who was a prisoner for 7 1/2 years His wife and daughters didn't know whether he was dead or alive until Christmas 5 years after capture.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rotary Means Business will meet at 7 a.m., Wednesday, September 21st at Channing House on either the 11th or 12th floor, although there may not be a 12th floor. Check it out! Past Prez STEVE

EMSLIE will be the featured speaker! Apparently there is life after presidency!

HANDS ON...SLEEVES UP!

Our two upcoming projects will be at the East Palo Alto Library. CHAIRPERSON REBECCA GERALDI needs 8 additional bookies to sign up in order to have a total of 20. Tasks involve all kinds of library related activities...except just sitting and reading. The second project is at the Palo Alto Junior Museum. JACKIE SCHOELERMAN is heading up that effort. Call for details!

PAUL HARRIS FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED

ED DANGLER AND MARK STEVENSON were awarded their



coveted Paul Harris Fellowship pins and certificates by former TRF Chair STEVE EMSLIE. Way to go, fellow Rotarians! Your contributions to the Rotary Foundation help

make possible international projects...perhaps including our support of the gorilla protection program in Cameroon. They don't know it, but the gorillas have generous Paul Harris friends in Palo Alto! Our thanks to you from them!



PROGRAM NUMBER ONE..."READING PARTNERS"

The team of four young ladies and Rotarian STEVE ROSS described an elementary school reading program and how we Rotarians and spouses could get

involved. Just sign up

to spend one hour per week for 10 weeks helping a young student become more



proficient in reading. A training session and curriculum will be provided. From this experience a student may learn to read at a grade higher and in the process



you make a good friend. Many students have parents who don't speak English so this can be a life changing event. There is no way you will ever regret this contribution to the life of a child who just may wind up going to college, or without help, may drop out. Don't hesitate...Contact Monica de la Cruz at monica.delacruz@readingpartners.org. She will send you information so you can consider taking the next step. This is a great opportunity for Rotarians and their spouses!



PROGRAM NUMBER TWO..."THE INTERNATIONAL EXTREMITY PROJECT"



was after DICK was almost immobile due to serious foot problems. It was a great lead-in to our program.

DICK BUSH introduced the speaker, Dr. Bruce Lehnert, a local orthopedic surgeon, who had made it possible for DICK to run ("and walk") a complete 10K race. And that



The International Extremity Project

for which Dr. Lehnert and his associate, Dr. Jeffery Spanko, are providing medical services is located at a hospital near Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam...formerly Saigon. The team, which is made up of volunteers, has made 11 trips to follow up on previous patients, screen new applicants and operate on those who are selected. Patients are predominantly children who suffer from post polio problems, cerebral palsy, club foot and birth defects. The video was heart rending, both for the successes and the tears. To see children walking and running when they had been unable to do so was truly inspiring. To see the tears of the parents and children who for one reason or another, did not qualify was a heart grabber.



when they had been unable to do so was truly inspiring. To see the tears of the parents and children who for one reason or another, did not qualify was a heart grabber.

It's obvious from both programs that there are multitudes of children in this world who need help if they are to lead joyful and successful lives. Rotary has made a huge contribution by our Polio Plus program. There is much to be done and Rotarians are committed through our many projects to being among the leaders. Great programs! Thanks to the Program Committee for providing the inspiration and leadership.

COLUMBUS DAY REMEMBERED
Here it is folks...Alan Sherman's salute to our hero from his song, "That's Good Advice!"
I advised him that I thought the world was round.
And then I sat him down to ask good Queen Isabella to pawn her jewels for all their worth.
Next day he set sail and as everyone knows he fell off the edge of the earth!!!

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

October 19, Michelle Quinn, San Jose Mercury News: "San Francisco v. Silicon Valley -- Two Different Tech Visions: Which will Prevail?"

October 26, Herant Katchadourian: "The Psychology of Guilt"

November 2, Edith Cabuslay, Program Manager, SM County Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention Unit: "The Social Determinants of Health"

