

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Date: January 18, 2016

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This report deviates from the usual format because today's meeting was a little unusual in its structure. As it was MLK, Jr. Day, the principal meeting activity was making and filling 100 shoe boxes with comforting and essential items for female shelter residents. Before the meeting, the various items to be included were set out on tables and the basic box containers were assembled. Helping the organizer REBECCA GERALDI in this preparation exercise were ERIC KWON, JANE KHALAF, SALLY TOMLINSON, KATIE SEEDMAN, WALT HAYS, GEOFF ZIMAN, LEE PFAB, PAM KRUDOP and HAL MICKELSON.

After members had time to help themselves to lunch, the meeting was opened by President KATIE SEEDMAN with a patriotic salute to the flag. We welcomed the presence of "longtime no see" Past President SHERRI SAGER whose job keeps her very busy.



LISA AKSELRAD was invited to the podium to announce the sad passing of honorary member ISRAEL ZEHAVI. All members should have received full details by email of the memorial service for Israel to be held on Sunday, January 24 at 2 PM at Congregation Beth Am.

Your scribe was reminded by Lisa's presence of the riveting personal recollections that her father, and esteemed longtime club member, the late Rabbi Sid Akselrad was accustomed to make around MLK day. Sid had traveled to Alabama to, bravely, take an active part in the marches of Dr. King.

It was announced that there would be a TGIF gathering for club members on Friday, January 29 at the Lucy Stern Fireside Room between 5 - 7 PM. This informal social event has been kindly arranged by ELIZABETH SANTANA. If you know that your last name starts with letters between A and M bring wine or other favorite beverage. Otherwise, assuming you fall in the N - Z group, bring snacks like chips, dips, nuts, cheese or other tasty morsels.

TOM GRACON reminded members that the youth Rotary speech contest would take place this coming Thursday, January 21, 7 p.m., at the PA City Hall Council Chambers. You are all invited to what usually proves to be an interesting event.

BRUCE GEE made a pitch for the annual fund raiser crab feed. Important points he made were: Come on March 19; There will be plenty of Pacific NW crab; Price will be \$75 plus a nickel (wooden or legal tender); Auction items are being actively sought and any ideas to improve the occasion would be welcomed. The committee currently working with Bruce on the event are DICK BUSH, GINNY LEAR, PETER SHAMBORA, BRIAN STEEN and KATIE SEEDMAN. More volunteers will be needed as progress is made.



Before moving on to the filling of the shoeboxes, SALLY TOMLINSON joined the President's Club to honor REBECCA GERALDI for her outstanding leadership of hands on projects like this.

JOHN KIDD asked who would be receiving the boxes we were making and it was explained that they would be given to women in special shelters who had been rescued from dangerous situations. SHERRI SAGER emphasized the fact that these

unfortunate victims needing special protection come from all social classes.

The shoebox project involved wrapping of individual boxes as well as writing a generic gift note for special impact. Labels in the boxes explained that they were a gift from our Rotary Club. Items in the boxes included, scarves, toiletries, beauty products, chocolate, mints and tea bags as well as a container of Vaseline kindly provided by HAL MICKELSON. All hands were on deck as these photos show!



The faithful service team on duty were STEVE MADSEN (set up), GINNY LEAR (visitors), GEOFF Ziman (Pinion), LYLE CONNELL (Photographer/Pinion Editor) and the versatile EJ HONG doing double duty as cashier and greeter. Thanks to BRUCE GEE, updated copies of the printed club directory are now available at the meeting.

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

January 25, Jeffrey Fisher, Professor of Law, Stanford University: "US Supreme Court"

February 1, Julie Lythcott-Haims, author, former Dean of Freshmen at Stanford: "Raising an Adult"