

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Date: February 8, 2016

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Editor: LYLE CONNELL

PRESIDENT KATIE called the meeting to order with a sing-along for Valentine's Day. LE LEVY of course orchestrated this shindig and ELIZABETH SANTANA led us in song with "Our Ro-t'ry Valentine" sung to the tune of "My Funny Valentine" by Rodgers & Hart & Levy, followed by the Pledge.

Visiting Rotarian Klaus Heinemann from Gualala, California was introduced, and REBECCA GERALDI brought a guest, Deanna Dickman. KATIE gave thanks to GEORGE NEWTON, Cashier; JACKIE SCHOELERMAN, Welcome Desk; STEVE MADSEN and RICHARD KELLER for Room Set Up; and KATHY SHEN and LYLE CONNELL, Pinion.



MIKE McMAHON gave opening remarks, a history lesson about the Russo-Japanese war, which ended with a peace, negotiated by Teddy Roosevelt, for which he was awarded the Nobel Peace prize in 1906. This area is currently of interest as the place where North Korea is flexing its muscles. The navel maneuver Russia used to its advantage is called 'crossing the T', where ships were arranged 90 degrees to a straight on Japanese formation, and where Russia had the use of all of their guns (versus the Japanese that had just those guns pointed

straight ahead).



ELIZABETH SANTANA received her Blue Badge and made an announcement for the Rotary Means Business Social on Feb. 17th.



BRUCE GEE and PETER SHAMBORA reminded us the Crab feed is March 19 and they are looking for donations.



YORIKO KISHAMOTO introduced us to the 'Vocations' speakers, JOHN BARTON, PAM BRANDIN and DANA TOM.



and Stanford faculty in a three-year program.

JOHN BARTON, currently working on his Ph.D., is Director of Stanford's Sustainable Urban Systems Program. He spoke of the need to change our city systems with the population explosion and the increasing percentage of people who now live in cities (currently 50%). The program focuses on designing for sustainability and looking at what problems architecture might be able to solve. The program teaches collaboration and creates a web of industry, students



PAM BRANDIN, a former Athena Award winner, is the Executive Director for Vista Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired that treats 2,500 patients per year. She educated us about the many causes of vision loss including age, diabetes, genetics, birth defects, brain and eye damage. One in six people over the age of 45 have moderate to severe vision loss as does one in four over the age of 75! Pam talked about coping with vision loss in our fast-paced world that is geared to being sighted. She said that technology

is a game changer, with new devices that allow vision-loss patients abilities they did not have before, and she is looking forward to driverless cars. There is a shortage of trained professionals in the field of vision loss.



both point-to-point and point-to-multipoint systems.

DANA TOM is launching a new start-up called Sail Internet (go to sailinternet.com) with three other founders. The idea is to deliver internet wirelessly and provide choice, access to fiber or a beamed signal from antenna to rooftop to serve homes in a neighborhood. They are beginning service in Fremont (fewer trees to interfere with the signal!) and have located their data center there. His business proposition is a strong customer relationship, posted rates and

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

February 15, DARK, No Meeting

February 17, Rotary Means Business Spring Series Kick-off, Channing House, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

February 22, Keith Devlin, Stanford math professor and NPR's "Math Guy"

March 19 Annual Crab Feed, Mitchell Park Community Center