

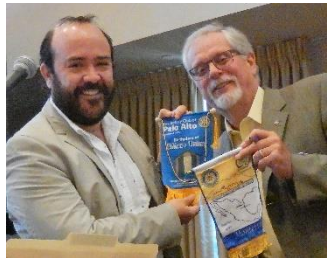
Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

June 5, 2017

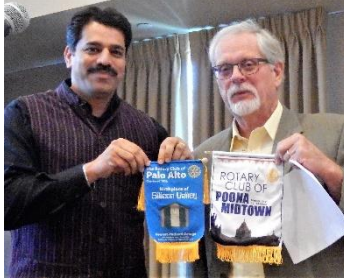
Reporter: MIKE McMAHON

Editor: LYLE CONNELL

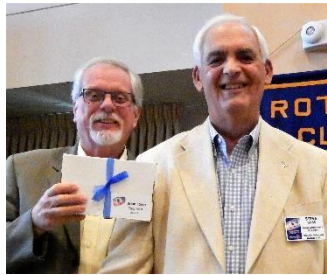
President BRIAN STEEN called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM by leading the Pledge of Allegiance



VISITING ROTARIANS
Amit Jadhar from the Rotary



Club of Poona, India. Daniel Santayana of the Rotary Club of Monterrey, Mexico. Steve Ross, our esteemed Assistant Governor from the Palo Alto University Rotary Club.



GUESTS

Winter Pickett, daughter of REBECCA GERALDI; Merrill Newman, guest of MEL MATSUMOTO; Christine Shambora, spouse of PETER SHAMBORA; Tony Adessa, guest of CHARLIE WEIDANZ; Sasha Kramer and Leah Page of SOIL in Haiti, guests of WALT HAYS; Kay Hays, spouse of WALT; Ron Miller, guest of DICK BUSH.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



TRISH BUBENIK joined the President's Club in honor of today's guest Merrill Newman. (He was also Kim Jong Eun's guest for a couple of months!)

PAM BRANDIN joined the President's Club to celebrate the return of the Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired to El Camino Real.



GLORIA HOM joined the President's Club for her 30th Anniversary of joining the Palo Alto Rotary Club. GLORIA was the first woman to join Rotary!

SALLY TOMLINSON joined the President's Club after 3 weeks in France where she visited the site of the Normandy Invasion 73 years ago this week.



GINNY LEAR announced that President BRIAN's official

Debunking will occur on June 26 at 5:30PM at Michael's at Shoreline.



JUDY KLEINBERG announced that the Chamber of Commerce will be accepting applications for the next class of Leadership Palo Alto until June 30.



PAM KRUDOP announced the results of our Club's Vocational Scholarship

grants for the next school year at Skyline, De Anza, and Foothill Community Colleges. There were 26 applicants, of which 11 were awarded a total of \$21,000.



NEW ROTARIAN

President BRIAN inducted new member, Dr. KARISHMA JUMANI, sponsored by DENNIS MCGINN.

PROGRAM

WALT HAYS introduced Sasha Kramer of the Non-Governmental Organization, SOIL, from Haiti. Our Club was one of the first



supporters of SOIL, 10 years ago, and continues to support SOIL through our World Community Service grants. Sasha showed a video of SOIL's



proprietary community composting toilet, EkoLakay, and how SOIL has trained Haitians to build the toilet. The process of converting the raw human waste to compost takes 6 to 9 months when it is then sold to fertilize crops such as bananas, corn, and papayas.

President BRIAN then introduced our guest, Dr. Thomas Fingar, a Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center Fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies at Stanford. Dr. Fingar has degrees from both Cornell and Stanford and served for 20 years in the State Department. His subject was North Korea, for which he had 4 take-aways:



1. The North Korea situation is dangerous, fraught with many intractable problems but it is not a crisis.
2. The regime in Pyongyang is despotic and despicable but not suicidal; it has been in power now for 5 years, and is no longer "inexperienced."
3. China is not willing or able to solve the North Korea conundrum. Xi Jinping did agree at Mar a Lago to work on this a little harder.
4. Waiting for this regime to collapse is not a policy! It will probably not collapse. Hoping for a surprise ending is not a policy, either.

He then observed that North Korea is not one problem, but a cluster of intersecting problems. Most of the focus is on the nuclear weapons problem. The international community does not recognize it as a nuclear weapons state. Negotiating with the regime is tantamount to this recognition, so diplomatic interchange is foreclosed. The economic problem is not as great as most people believe. It is not wealthy, but neither is it an economic basket case. The economy is now growing due to the development of private markets. South Korea is more concerned with conventional weapons, the 30,000 artillery tubes located less than 30 miles from Seoul. China's concern is about any escalation in the region; it is right on their doorstep.

Who benefits from the passage of time? North Korea hopes that eventually the international community will accept their status as a nuclear weapons state. India, for example, was eventually accepted as a nuclear state. Further, the centrifuges in the North continue to spin, producing more fissile material, at the rate of 1 to 2 bombs per year. On the other hand Mutual Assured Destruction, the Cold War strategy, worked for many decades.

Dr. Fingar's recommendation for the U.S. is to support the new president of South Korea, who comes from the liberal side, and who wants to engage with North Korea. He speculates that Kim Jong Eun will wait to see what happens. The US and China do not want any problems with their own relationship at this time. He pointed out that the last time South Korea wanted to engage, the GW Bush administration opposed the policy and the North then focused on nuclear development. For more info: http://aparc.fsi.stanford.edu/people/thomas_fingar

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

**June 12, Thuy Nguyen, Foothill College President:
"Foothill College: Academic Excellence & Service
Leadership"**

**June 19, Vocational" Talks: Le Levy, Gloria Hom, Lee
Lippert: "Our Fathers and their Influence on Us"**

**June 26. Dark - No Meeting.
PRESIDENT BRIAN'S Debunking,
Michael's Restaurant at Shoreline, Mountain View
RSVP to parotary@gmail.com \$65 per member, \$125
with guest**