

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

August 20, 2018

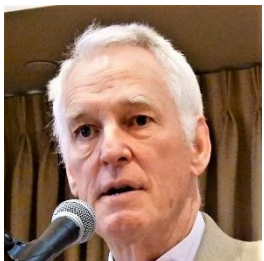
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THANKS TO THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE!

It was another superlative program! Our guest speaker was Ambassador Mike McFaul. His topic was "Confronting Putin's Russia". The topic couldn't have been more timely and the presentation was outstanding. If you had the misfortune of missing the meeting, consider buying his recently published book, "FROM COLD WAR TO HOT PEACE - An American Ambassador in Putin's Russia".

President GINNY invited DANA TOM to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the somewhat startling announcement that the introduction of guests would not take place! And WHY? you might ask.... Simply because there were too many visiting Rotarians and guests (32) and it would take up too much of the speakers time! A good presidential decision! We invited them all to come again soon for some well deserved recognition.



DAN QUINN provided the Inspiration of the Day, remembering Larissa Keet, an activist and environmentalist he met while serving on the Board at Hidden Villa in Los Altos Hills. Her motto was "Do what you can."

PRESIDENT'S CLUB

REBECCA GERALDI joined in honor of her father's 82nd birthday. He is also Asst. District Governor for Rotary District 5130, in the Santa Rosa area.



BEN THRELKELD joined in honor of winning the Rotary Auction item to use Judith's Steiner's apt. In Vienna, which led to a family trip from Vienna to Bucharest on the Danube River.

CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Our Program next week will be filling 150 back packs with personal necessities for Grateful Garments, a Santa Clara County non-profit. This is an annual Club Project and a great socializer.
2. There is NO CLUB MEETING on Labor Day. However, we will be putting up flags along University Avenue at 8 a.m. Labor Day and taking them down at 5 p.m.. More details next meeting.
3. This weekend is the Palo Alto Festival of the Arts. Our club is sponsoring an artist's square in the Chalk Art area on Tasso Street. Stop by and see the results!

PROGRAM NOTES

MIKE McFAUL went to high school in Bozeman, Montana, is a Stanford grad and a Rhodes scholar. Mike ("The only person who calls me Michael is my mother and Sergey Lavrov") was our U.S. Ambassador to the Russian Federation, 2012-2014. He is an analyst for NBC News and a columnist for the Washington Post. He is currently a professor of Political Science at Stanford.



Some of his comments are as follows:

- ~ Working for President Obama in his first term, McFaul helped to author the "Reset" policy, which looked for ways the U.S. could engage with Russia on common interests and enhance US security and economic objectives
- ~ Presidents Medvedev and Obama negotiated a reduction in the number of nuclear weapons by 30% from the 2002 Moscow Treaty
- ~ President Putin's rise to power interrupted a new era of collaboration with the U.S., returning to a level of confrontation harkening back to the Cold War.
- ~ Putin established a Eurasia Economic Union in 2015 to counteract NATO
- ~ Putin has said on Russian TV that Ambassador McFaul is evil and responsible for fake news. We could be at the beginning of a new cold war or a "hot peace" as our speaker has named it.

Ed: Today's program was one of the most informative we have ever had! As far as I could tell everyone was wide awake for the entire talk. Perhaps a first!

Thanks to SALLY TOMLINSON and her Committee for the many superlative programs. Without a doubt they have enhanced the reputation of the already reputable Palo Alto Rotary Club!

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

AUGUST 27 – HANDS ON PROJECT AT THE MEETING

SEPTEMBER 3 – NO MEETING - LABOR DAY

SEPTEMBER 10 – TIM WATSON, CHAIR
WORLD COMMUNITY SERVICE

SEPTEMBER 13 – THURSDAY, ROTARY SOCIAL EVENT
GAMBLE GARDENS, 5:30-7:00 PM

SEPTEMBER 17 - DEBORAH ROHDE, STANFORD LAW SCHOOL
PROFESSOR: "CHEATING: ETHICS & LAW in EVERYDAY LIFE"