

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date July 28 2008

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UPCOMING PROGRAMS

[Palo Alto Rotary - Speakers Schedule](#)

August 4 - District Governor Gary Citti

August 11 - New Member Talk: Peter Guentermann, and Longtime Member Talks: Warren (Hig) Higgins and Steve Player

August 18 - TBA

August 25 - Dr. Marc Feldman - Human History Seen Through the Genes

ONE OF THE BEST

Our speaker, Keith Humphreys, Professor of Psychiatry at Stanford is obviously one of the most knowledgeable experts on the subject of mental health care in Iraq. What is surprising is the amount of time and effort volunteers like Dr. Humphreys are currently putting in to try to establish a quality health care system in this war ravaged land. The challenge is huge. For example there is currently only one child psychiatrist in all of Iraq...drug addiction is rampant and health facilities are in a state of disarray.

The good news is that many nations are contributing money and talent in an effort to solve the problems. Japan has contributed 25 million dollars, no strings attached...many NGOs from the U.S., Britain, Sweden, Slovenia and others are participating. These mostly unpublicized efforts at rebuilding provide hope that Iraq will one day...in the not too distant future... be able to adequately care for their mentally ill. Very encouraging, indeed!

Thanks to new member PIETER KARK for an excellent intro!

Two side comments from Dr. Humphreys:

"Life is a huge challenge for the average Iraqi, while in Palo Alto a bad day is when there is no low fat yogurt for sale."

"In Iraq, if you are not afraid of your wife, you are not a real man!"

AFTER THE PLEDGE, led masterfully by RICK TIPTON, our obviously concerned Major Domo, PRESIDENT MIKE, requested that we all "practice" standing up! Why, you say?

Well, the Rotary custom is to do so when the District Governor pays his or her annual visit to the Club. Tradition! Unfortunately a few of our members, who will go nameless, were unable to stand for both the Pledge and the DG practice session. Next week these nameless few will have to decide which to honor, our flag or our Rotary potentate. Sam and John...perhaps a bit of exercise during the week will make you double standers.

A MOST SPECIAL GUEST was Prez COUCH's revered Aunt Jeannie. It was pointed out to Past Prez LANCEFIELD that said Aunt Jeannie would undoubtedly be a good source of "debunking" information on our current president...but who's trying to rush things.

OTHER DISTINGUISHED GUESTS introduced by JUDITH STEINER

Rotarians: Marv Patterson and Carew McFall

Guest of Rotarians:

WALT HAYS...Patricia O'Brian
TONY CARRASCO...Rick Raybin
KELLY MORARIU...Michele Matossian & Ed
Dangler
E.J. HONG...Angela Wong
GEOFF ZIMAN...Ivan Gendzel

OUR OPENING REMARKER,

“GRANDFATHER HAYS,” presented a few grandmotherly thoughts to reflect on recent fines for those sponsoring grand babies. The key bit was by a third grader, who wrote to the subject, **“What is a Grandmother?”**

A few of her thoughts included:

A grandmother is a lady who has no little children of her own...she likes other people's.
A grandfather is a man grandmother.
Usually grandmothers are fat, but not too fat to tie your shoes.
When they take us for walks they slow down for pretty things like leaves and caterpillars.
They wear glasses and funny underwear.
They can take their teeth out.
Everybody should try to have a grandmother, especially if you don't have TV, because they are the only grown-ups who have time.

THINGS TO COME

We feed the homeless on August sixth! Sign up for this “Service Above Self” endeavor!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

President MIKE directed the inattentive throng to a hidden sign-up sheet at each table. This sheet may be the key to your future enjoyment of Rotary.

Listed for your contemplation were the following Committees for which you may, or perhaps should,

volunteer:

The above mentioned “Feed the Homeless”...”Club Operations”...”World Service”...”Oaxaca Hands-On”...”Local Hands-On”...”Youth Services”...and “Membership.” The opportunities abound! So jump on the merry-go-round. This is a chance to work closely with other Rotarians and to continue the outstanding service our Club provides to others.

Conspicuously omitted from the Club Service Opportunities is writing for the Pinion. Contact Editor LYLE CONNELL to sign up. Membership in the Writers' Guild not required!

IF YOU DON'T ALREADY HAVE A CREDIT CARD

Or you want to add to your collection, consider signing up for a Rotary International MasterCard. Twenty-five bucks will come to our club “after you make your first qualifying purchase(s)”

THIS COULD BE A BIG YEAR FOR STANFORD FOOTBALL

Put November 15th on your calendar right now! Last year's dramatic upset of mighty USC sets the stage for another resounding victory by the Stanford Red. To memorialize the event in advance we will have another ROTARY TAILGATE PARTY! Even if you are not a fan, this is a “don't miss” event. Great food and great camaraderie included. Cal fans accepted!

TO CONCLUDE OUR MEETING President MIKE “just do it for me” COUCH reminded one and all to “P U L E E Z” stand when District 5170's illustrious Governor GARY CITTI enters the arena! *“Ah, come on guys and gals! My honor is at stake!”*

NEARBY MEETING PLACES:

[Palo Alto Rotary - Meeting Information](#)