



# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date August 11, 2008

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Editor: NICK NICHOLS

## OPENERS:

MIKE COUCH called the meeting to order with LE LEVY briskly leading the Pledge of Allegiance; and then leading us in his newest song creation "Rotary", as sung to the melody "Ain't She Sweet". A good one!

## VISITORS & GUESTS:

GLORIA HOM introduced visiting Rotarian Peter Early from Mt. View; and Rotarians with guests JACK RIDDLE (Suzanne Culley), TONY CARRASCO (Rick Raybin), JACK WOODSON (Mike Connor), and WALT HAYS (Patricia O'Brien).

## PRESIDENT'S CLUB:

MIKE COUCH then welcomed President's Club contributions from the following enthusiastic donors: TOM GRACON honoring his new granddaughter; CYRILLE BETANT apologizing for partial attendance, but just back from his honeymoon; and DENNIS BOYLE celebrating his small plane flight with his son to Oshkosh, WI.

## THANKS:

President MIKE thanked DARYL SAVAGE as Cashier, ROB LANCEFIELD as greeter, and BRIAN STEEN as E-Pinion writer.

## MEMBER INDUCTION:

MIKE called RICK RABIN and TONY CARRASCO to the podium to induct RICK as our newest member. RICK thanked everyone and said he looked forward to working with Palo Alto Rotary.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

MIKE then presented the details of our financial condition, sharing balance sheets and budget details that showed the Club to be in good standing, but needing to raise more funds for our charity recipients. MIKE also summarized the recent member survey indicating support was received for more information on the endowment, more social events, and an OK was generally given on club operations.

MIKE also gave us a sneak preview on an upcoming tailgate party scheduled for the USC football game and an unscheduled "salon in depth program".

## MEMBER TALKS:

New member PETER GUENTERMANN was born in Dortmund Germany and grew up in Munich. He studied and worked in Munich before moving to Atlanta, GA in 1999. Educational background is Law, studying German and law in Munich, International public law in France, and securing a Master in Law degree from Paris X University, Nanterre. Currently a partner in his family



business headquartered in Munich, Germany, he is seeking to capitalize on his international software consulting experience.



STEVE PLAYER, a member since 1976, was born in San Francisco and raised in San Mateo. He received B.A. in Political Science from Stanford University in 1963 and went on to Hastings College of Law. He practiced law in Palo Alto from 1967 to 2000. In 2000, STEVE joined Stanford as an Associate Director of Planned Giving, dealing with planned gifts to the university.

He is married to Nancy Miller (daughter of BILL MILLER, a beloved former President of the Club). Two married children, Sam and his wife, Angela; and Elizabeth and her husband, Matt. STEVE's children and grandchildren are his proudest accomplishment.

He is always active in Stanford affairs and an avid sports fan, as well as a supporter of the "Cardinal".



WARREN "HIG" HIGGINS, a member since 1970, was born July 1, 1917, in San Francisco. His family moved to Albany, California, in 1928. His father died in January 1930, at which time HIG started working at several jobs before and after school.

After graduation from Berkeley High, he went to work for Wells Fargo Bank and attended night school at the American Institute of Banking. He stayed with W.F.B. for six years, then to IBM. He served in the Army for 5 years during WW II, enlisting as a private, and rising to the rank of Captain.

He then went back to IBM as a salesman, but continued in the Army Reserve as Commander of a Data Processing Unit. He attended Command and General Staff College and retired as a Colonel. HIG left IBM after 25 years and joined Tab Products Co. in their Corporate Headquarters. He retired in 1983.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

[Palo Alto Rotary - Speakers Schedule](#)

August 18 – Steve Staiger, "Model T Ford and its impact on Palo Alto" or a similar topic

August 25 – Dr. Marc Feldman, "Human History Seen Through the Genes"

September 1 – Dark (Labor Day)

## NEARBY MEETING PLACES:

[Palo Alto Rotary - Meeting Information](#)