

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter Date: March 1, 2010 Reporter: LYLE CONNELL Editor: LYLE CONNELL

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**March 8 Helen Quinn, SLAC Physicist, "The Evolution of the Universe"**

**March 15 DARK**

**March 18 Advance Reservations Only ~ We meet at Flint Center 11:45 am - 1:30 pm for Lunch with Under Secretary of Education and our own, Martha Kanter. Contact Mike McMahon [m-mcmahon@sbcglobal.net](mailto:m-mcmahon@sbcglobal.net) For Reservations at \$20 per person.**

## OPENING REMARKS

KAREN KIENZEL utilized "Pig Day" to discuss the power of art in communicating and transforming lives in education. Although the arts in education are the first to feel the recession and the last to recover, she believes this approach to be short sighted. Studies have shown that involvement in the arts can enhance test scores, is an economic driver and encourages a culture of creativity and innovation. It is a safe way of expression and can function as a stress relief. "Art can enable finding yourself or lose yourself".



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRESIDENT RALPH reported that a number of members attended the "25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Be" play last Friday. In fact a couple of members were asked to participate. As a repeat performance ANNETTE GLANCKOPF under pressure spelled the word Rotary just fine and LE LEVY spelled the word President as "Debunking". What fun! RALPH thanked GINNY LEAR and GLORIA HOM for putting it all together.

STEVE and STEVE were on again reminding us of the annual fund raising event on April 24<sup>th</sup>. STEVE EMSLIE said there are only 54 days left to sign up, so sign up now. STEVE (ITALIANO PLAYER) demonstrated his Italian linguistic skills to emphasize the Italian theme. With skill and daring STEVE auctioned off some goodies, while speaking Italian. At least some of us thought it was Italian. Surprisingly it was his table that got the goodies.

MIKE COUCH asked for 5 volunteers for next Thursday to assist with a Gunn High School service project. 266 Gunn High School students will be going to several locations and need adult accompaniment to and from the sites. The time is from 8:00 AM to approximately 3:00 PM. For this

activity MIKE wanted to join the Presidents club, although he is already a multiple joiner of the Presidents Club

JACK WOODSON reminded us that the Rotary Endowment Fund Committee is meeting next Tuesday at 9:00 AM. The location is 533 Byron. This meeting would be an opportunity for new members to fulfill one of their Blue Badge requirements.

## PROGRAM

GEORGE WHEATON introduced our own member, TOM GRACON, whose subject was "Population Trends and Fertility Rates."



At issue is the estimated population of the earth in 2050. If the population curve as it now exists were just extended, the population of the earth in 2050 would be 22 billion. Or will it be 5.7 billion by another estimate? The UN estimates 9.2 billion. It depends on the fertility rates and how they will change the population growth or loss.

A fertility rate of 2.1 is considered to be the rate at which the population can be sustained. The US is the only developed country with a sustainable Population rate; and this is considered to be helped by immigration. Western Europe has a lower fertility rate and has a shortage of workers to support an aging population. Poor countries have a higher fertility rate. To change the fertility rate takes about two and one half generations to take effect. This situation is certainly a recipe for economic change.

For the developed countries there are some offsets for population decline, such as mortality reduction, immigration, and government policies supporting childbirth. For the poor countries, with education of women and other measures the fertility rate could drop.

"Is it a problem?" Stabilizing the population is one thing, but the economic systems in use today depend on growth for economic viability. Or, is it simply "times are changing?"

For more information about this subject visit:  
[Kruise Kronicle: Go forth and multiply a lot less](#)

## NEARBY MEETING PLACES

[Palo Alto Rotary - Meeting Information](#)  
[www.rotarypaloalto.org](http://www.rotarypaloalto.org)