



Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Weekly Newsletter

Date JUNE 21, 2010

Reporter: DONALD MORGAN

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CALL TO ORDER

PRESIDENT RALPH called the meeting to order at 12:20pm, saying it was 12:13 and explaining in response to hecklers that a longer than usual meeting was appropriate for the Summer Solstice.

PATRIOTIC ENTERTAINMENT

PRESIDENT RALPH asked everyone present to stand with hand over heart to listen to Natalie Hong, the beautiful 14-year-old daughter of E. J. HONG, perform an exquisite *a cappella* Star Spangled Banner. Natalie received a well deserved huge round of applause.

VISITORS and GUESTS

At PRESIDENT RALPH's request, ARNE STOSCHEK introduced visitors and guests as follows:

Visiting Rotarians

Lee Almas of the Sanibel-Captiva Club, who advised that spilled oil had not yet reached southwest Florida's pristine beaches, but would eventually go up the Atlantic Coast (and on to England some members of the audience chimed in).

Fred Morse of Oakland Club #3.

Karen Fox of the Los Altos Club.

Candace Roney of the San Jose Club.

Guests

E.J HONG purported to introduce her daughter, Natalie, even though she needed no introduction.

RICK RAYBIN introduced his guests, Oliver Coolidge and Mike Baird.

BOB McCOWAN introduced his guest, Sam Gordon.

BILL LOVE introduced his son, Chris, as his guest.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HARRY BROWNE, of Manhattan Project renown, spoke of changes in the composition of the Club's membership since he joined in 1987. He added that 102-year-old former Club President George Knoll is living at Channing House

BILL BUSSE reported for the WE CARE COMMITTEE that JIM BAER is still recovering and had thanked the Members for their expressions of sympathy, and predicted that he would return home in mid-July in very good shape, happily among the statistical ten percent who do recover well from what he had undergone. BILL asked for contributions to the GET WELL FUND, for which baskets circulated at the meeting.

JACK WOODSON reported that the Endowment Fund had made a gift of five thousand dollars to the Club. RICK RAYBIN added that the Fund is healthy, having raised

\$20,000 the past year and made contributions in an approximately equal amount.

PRESIDENT RALPH congratulated ED DANGLER on advancing to Blue Badge membership status.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

ROSEANNE FAIRTY talked about the worldwide (more particularly, the Northern half) significance of the Summer Solstice. She noted that the Pyramids of Giza and the Sphinx were aligned to recognize the event, as were the stones of Stonehenge. She said that Sweden regarded the day as one of its most important holidays, and recounted her very memorable experience celebrating the event in Sweden a number of years back. She concluded with a toast to the Solstice, in the best Swedish fashion, and the sound of "Skool" was heard throughout the room.

PERSONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

MIKE COUCH, called upon by PRESIDENT RALPH for a "very brief" announcement, reminded the meeting that Ming's would be dark next Monday, as the long awaited de-bunking of PRESIDENT RALPH would proceed that evening at Michael's at Shoreline from 6-9pm, with over 60 planning to attend, and others urged to do so. MIKE called upon whoever had opened a highly prized bottle of Chardonnay from a hiding place in the refrigerator at his home during the party there the preceding Wednesday to come clean, and make restitution of sorts by joining the President's Club. No one confessed. The offer is still open.

DIANA DIAMOND joined the President's Club in honor of having won first and second place awards for distinguished journalism throughout the Bay Area.

MARCIE COX joined the President's Club to honor her two sons for successes in film production and screen writing.

BILL LOVE joined the President's Club to congratulate JOHN O'KEEFE for having just shot a round of golf in only two strokes over his age, which had increased by a year the day before.

SAM WEBSTER prefaced his remarks with "I can't resist", to which PRESIDENT RALPH interjected "Try", and continued that two granddaughters and the boyfriend of one of them had graduated Phi Beta Kappa. As a supporter of the Endowment Fund, he made a \$1,000 contribution in their honor.

CHARLES CHENG joined the President's Club to report that his daughter was a National Merit Scholar; and that he is moving to Hong Kong to be close to his 90-year-old father, and that his heart would always be with the Club.

THE PROGRAM

Cary Rosenzweig of IMVU began by saying he and his guest, Tom Radcliffe, had been International Rotary Scholars, and thanking Rotary and Rotary International for that. He educated the audience on “Why a Virtual Dress is More Real than a Box of Tide: Notes from the Virtual Front Line.” He explained that his company sold products that did not exist and enjoyed profitability doing so, utilizing self-designed Avatars of millions of socializing, but anonymous members. He amplified how the company did that in a lively question-and-answer session.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

[Palo Alto Rotary - Speakers Schedule](#)

June 28 – De-Bunking of Commanding Officer Ralph Adams at Michael’s at Shoreline from 6:00 to 9:00 PM (The lunch meeting is DARK)

July 4 – Chili Cook-Off, Mitchell Park. Volunteers needed, call GINNY LEAR or STEVE EMSLE.

July 5 – DARK, Observing Independence Day

July 12 – Bill Sherry, Director of Aviation, “San Jose Airport Today”

July 19 – Dr. William Dement, Stanford University, “Sleep Disorders”

July 26 – Bob Scott, Stanford University, “The Gothic Enterprise: A Guide to Understanding the Medieval Cathedral”

NEARBY MEETING PLACES:

[Palo Alto Rotary - Meeting Information](#)