

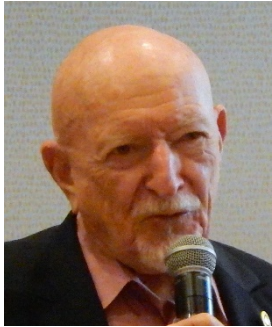
Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

Date: November 28, 2016

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Editor: LYLE CONNELL

WALT HAYS was called upon to start the meeting with the usual pledge of allegiance. From there President BRIAN greeted the visitors. The only visiting Rotarian recognized was former member Dick Carlson now residing in Arizona. CYRILLE BETANT's guest was Pierre Schwob and CHARLIE WEIDANZ introduced husband and wife guests, Ian and Sabina Kroes, who have a medical practice in Menlo Park. Also, visiting for a third time, but not introduced, was Margaret Boles, a former Rotarian from Texas.



ED DANGLER joined the president's club because, while in France recently, he felt that he had not been able to explain the US Electoral College system adequately. [Editor's question: Can anyone?]

Members are reminded that our club's "Jingle and Mingle" Holiday Party will be held this year at 6 PM on Wednesday, December 7 at the home of DICK BUSH and Patty McGuigan at 1530 Waverly in Palo Alto. It will be 100% catered and there is easy parking so mark your calendars and plan to come.

To emphasize the importance of our Endowment Fund, JULIE JEROME brought two representatives from the Downtown Streets Team to our meeting. This is one of the groups that we have supported this year with charitable donations.



Kyle Morgan, who is an



Employment Specialist, spoke to us about the aims of the organization. He explained how it had originated to solve homelessness and panhandling problems and it has now developed into an organization that provides meaningful employment and positive assistance with the building of job skills for those at the lower edge of our

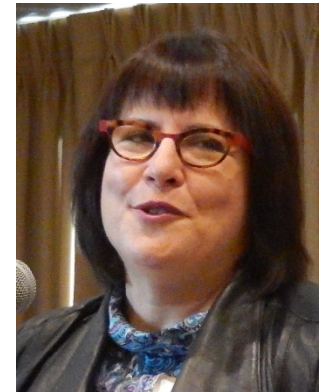
society. The success in Palo Alto is now being replicated in Sunnyvale, San Jose and other local cities. Funding comes from cities, corporations and community donors. Young Feng, a Retention Specialist, also spoke briefly. HENRIETTA BURROUGHS asked about retention rates and KEVIN CURRY was curious about the role of the team members as first responders.



CYRILLE BETANT introduced our main event speaker Linda Shore. She is the Executive Director of the Astronomical Society of the Pacific and Cyrille described her as a recovering astrophysicist. As she explained in answer to a question later from HENRIETTA, Linda had moved away from her initial scientific research into exploding galaxies towards teaching and education.

The Astronomical Society of the Pacific had its origins in 1888 in preparing to observe the solar eclipse that occurred on 1889. Since then its members have met annually and the Society publishes a highly respected publication in the field of astronomy. Since 1980 the organization has had an increasing interest in literacy with a view to expanding general understanding of astronomy, helping teachers to explain and demonstrate key elements of astronomy and giving awards to individuals to celebrate the field of astronomy. Some of this work is supported by grants from the National Science Foundation. The Society has

published a special book called The Total Skywatcher's Manual which differs from the typical textbook and has wide appeal to the novice up to the knowledgeable. They now have a network of 500 clubs, 950 educators and 500 teacher astronomer partnerships. Diversity and inclusion are primary aims. We were reminded that there will be a solar eclipse taking place in August 2017 which will be clearly visible (if not complete) throughout the whole of the US. BETSY BECHTEL spoke of the astronomy classes at Foothill College and MARCIE COX mentioned her personal connection to Arthur Walker who had received an award from the Society.



On duty today were REBECCA GERALDI and JOE SINNOTT checking people in, RICHARD KEELER and STEVE MADSEN doing the set up and GEOFF ZIMAN aided by LYLE CONNELL being (o)PINION(ated) record.

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

December 5, Cyrille Betant, Diana Diamond, Dick Mansfield: "Vocational/Long Time Member Talks"

December 7, 6 p.m., "Jingle & Mingle!" Rotary Holiday Party, home of Dick Bush and Patty McGuigan ~COME!

