

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

August 14, 2017

Reporter : HAL MICKELSON

Editor: LYLE CONNELL

Our August 14 meeting began with LE LEVY'S administration of the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by BOB MCCOWAN'S introduction of daughter KATHY SANDIDGE and grandkids JAKE and MAKENNA SANDIDGE. The guest of our speaker, BARBARA BABCOCK, was husband TOM GREY.



The opening thought offered by KARRISHMA JUMANIA was a message from the BUDDHA about finding purpose: "One moment can change a day, one day can change a life, and one life can change the world."

Dates and times for some outstanding opportunities to convivialize were projected on the big screen: August 17, a nibble at Pizza My Heart and music on Lytton Plaza, starting at 5:00; August 25, TGIF at the home of DUANE KALAR, 5:30;

October 1, Palo Alto Players; December 13, Holiday Reception at the home of DICK BUSH and PATTY MCGUIGAN

Past President BRIAN STEEN joined the present President's Club to confess missing meetings while biking 415 miles across Iowa and hiking 32 miles in the Mineral King Wilderness.



ED DANGLER uttered three truths and a lie: Shook hands with FDR in 1936. Was tour guide for the SHAH OF IRAN in 1974. In 1989, met astronaut SCOTT KELLY during a short flight in a tiny plane. And in 2000, encountered GRAY DAVIS when sworn into the State Bar. Members at a

plurality of tables doubted the FDR story, but Ed's bogus claim was the one about the astronaut.

President BETSY BECHTEL welcomed NANCY CHAN as a new member: Nancy is a UC Berkeley and Stanford degree holder; a Realtor at Coldwell Banker; married to ROBERT COOPER; mother of three grown daughters. We're delighted that Nancy is becoming part of Rotary.



Our speaker, BARBARA BABCOCK, is Crown Professor, Emerita, at



Stanford Law School, where she was the first woman to hold a regular faculty position. With degrees from Penn and Yale, she was the first Director of the Public Defender Service of the District of Columbia, and later served as Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Division in the DOJ. Bonus accomplishment: As a 7th grader, she won a Rotary speaking contest in Prince George's County, MD.

PROFESSOR BABCOCK shared the account in her recently published memoirs of her decision to

write a biography of CLARA SHORTRIDGE FOLTZ. Her task was made difficult by the dearth of relevant primary sources; her colleagues were quick to say she could have produced dozens of scholarly articles in the time it took to tell Ms. Foltz's story. That said, the story is riveting: Clara Foltz's husband deserted her, leaving her with five children to support, at first by taking in sewing. She decided she could best make a living as an attorney, even though California law at the time said that only white males could become members of the Bar. Ms. Foltz lobbied in Sacramento to have the law changed, and when the change was made, in 1878, she became the first female attorney in California – indeed, the first female lawyer on the West Coast. Initially refused admission to Hastings College of the Law, she was later the first woman to graduate from Hastings. She was among the first to propose creation of a Public Defender's office, and an outspoken advocate of votes for women who lived long enough to cast her first ballot after California approved women's suffrage in 1911.

PROFESSOR BABCOCK'S memoirs, *Fish Raincoats: A Women Lawyer's Life* (2016), as well as the Foltz biography, *Woman Lawyer, the Trials of Clara Foltz* (2011), can be purchased wherever you like to buy books.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

August 21, Dan Gordon, Gordon Biersch and Dan Gordon's Restaurant: "Beer: Oktoberfest to Gordon Biersch"

August 17, No-Host Dinner at Pizza My HeartM – 5:00 PM, Music on the Plaza. 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM.

August 25, TGIF-DUANE KALAR, 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

August 28, All Hands on Deck In-house Service Project