

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

January 22, 2018

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President BETSY BECHTEL called the meeting to order and began the business of the day by having the Pledge of Allegiance.



STEVE PLAYER received a pin for Paul Harris Fellow for his generous contributions.

The Rotary Foundation has met its revenue goals and President Betsy Bechtel provided a challenge of having 100% of membership participation. Even if you want to donate just \$10.00. JACKIE SCHOELERMAN extended the invite to her home on Loma Verde Ave in Palo Alto. TGIF begins at 5:30PM until 7 PM. You only need to bring a friend or significant other! The call was made; however, we did not have any visiting Rotarians this week.

We then proceeded to introduction of guests. GEOFF ZIMAN introduced his daughter Patricia who joined us from New York City. STEVE PLAYER and President BETSY BECHTEL introduced their guests Jim Sheridan and Peter Steiner. As always, it's a pleasure to have new visitors to share the events of our Monday lunches.



JAMES YOUNG challenged our sleuthing skills with "Three Truths and a Lie." His large extended family in Chicago and summers working in steel mills proved the distraction from the details of meeting only one, not two, of the past three Presidents.

A quote from Thomas

Sowell, economist from Hoover Institute, shared by IRIS KOROL provided a positive perspective on the challenges filling our news reports. "The big divide is this country is not between Democrats and Republicans, or women or men, but between talkers and doers."



GLORIA HOM reminded the group of the upcoming Chinese New Year Dinner at Chef Chu's, in cooperation with other local clubs, scheduled for February 8th. Contact GLORIA to make

reservations and celebrate health and prosperity in the "Year of the Dog!" Cost is \$65 per person.

DICK BUSH pointed out to the group a red-headed crab wearing his emerald top hat on the event flyer was calling us to celebrate St Patty's day while joining in the Annual Fundraiser Crab Feed and Auction Saturday, March 17th commencing at 5:30 PM. By all reports this has been a fun filled evening with great fun, food and auction items along with being our clubs largest fundraising event each year. The 2018 Fundraiser Co-Chairs; PETER SHAMBORA, GINNY LEAR, BRUCE GEE and DICK BUSH are available to answers questions on auction items or opportunities to participate. "Sure, it will be grand!"



An update was shared by Tim Watson Chairperson of World Community Service regarding distribution of \$20,000 of the groups funds along with \$12,000 DDF matched with other grants provided significantly more funds awarded. More details will be available on the website of how these funds are used to develop positive economic and financial independence and organizations in Central America and Caribbean Islands for organizations like Mend a Broken Heart that provides heart surgery repairs for children.



Bill Neukom, Founder and CEO of World Justice Project provided a fascinating lecture presenting the work and priorities of his work advancing the rule of law worldwide. The organization's multidisciplinary approach as a foundational effort of promoting rules of law while maintaining local culture and customs. In reference to our thought of the day, Bill Neukom is a doer. With four guiding principles of the rule of law to live their mission of developing community, opportunity and equity. Find out more by visiting www.worldjusticeproject.org.



MLK day of service and East Palo Alto Mayor's Tree Planting created an opportunity, On Monday January 15th, for Palo Alto Rotary to contribute along with other local organizations by joining with Canopy in creating "stronger, healthier communities" through planting trees and restoring native habitat. It is reported that 1.2 million trees have been planted in numerous locations which equals the number of Rotary International members. President BETSY BECHTEL, who herself had been digging in the dirt, recognized Rotary volunteers LYLE CONNELL, JIM SOUTHERLAND, JON STOUMAN, DANA TOM, ELIZABETH SANTANA, MATT DOLAN, DAVE SMULLIN, DON MORGAN, CHARLIE WEIDANAZ, DAVE THORNTON, TIM WATSON, CHET DOUGLAS, WALT HAYS, STEVE MADSEN, MEL MATSUMOTO, MIKE McMAHON. The day of service provided enhancements to Rich May Memorial Field located directly behind St. Francis of Assisi at 1425 Bay Rd in East Palo Alto. This amazing sports field transformed an unsafe vacant lot into an impressive athletic field that would be the envy of any sporting group.



President BETSY BECHTEL expressed her appreciation to Bill Neukom for sharing the priorities of his organization and has the clock indicated it was time to adjourn.