

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

September 24, 2018

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Today's meeting was opened by LEN ELY leading the flag salute. There were a father and son pair of visiting Rotarians from Sweden: Nils and Pelle Simonson. Guests of members were John Cowan from Stanford Medical (BRIAN STEEN) and Helen Mackenzie, Past President of Gamble Gardens and the PA Garden Club (GLORIA HOM). STEVE PLAYER also had three guests – his wife Nancy, Jocelyn Lee and Rob Cormack, father of PA Council Candidate Alison Cormack.

LIZ KNISS joined the President's Club to substantiate her brave



comments making headlines and ROB LANCEFIELD also joined in honor of Christine Ford, Liz, and all other women who have been victimized. DICK BUSH made a contrite contribution to atone for the misfiring of his attempted humor at last week's meeting. CHESLEY DOUGLAS stated that he had met recently with retired

honorary member DICK FREEMAN and found him in lively spirits . LEN ELY joined to honor the birthday of his 16-year-old son.



The president announced that there was still a quantity of beautiful still new wine glasses with exclusive etched Rotary emblems available at the bargain price of \$5 each and perfect for coming holiday parties. After that, GINNY LEAR, in the absence of PP BETSY BECHTEL, reminded members about the importance of contributing to the Rotary Foundation.

STEVE PLAYER spoke eloquently about how the highly esteemed former club member SAM WEBSTER had been a great inspiration and mentor to him in many ways. He remembered particularly his optimism, generosity and service to country and community.



Your reporter does not feel that he can meaningfully encapsulate the complete question and answer session today with the five Palo Alto City Council candidates so will not attempt to do so. The panel consisted of Pat Boone, Alison Cormack, Tom Dubois, Eric Fiseth, and Cory Wolbach. They are competing for three places on the Council. DIANA DIAMOND ably performed the role of moderator and asked a series of penetrating questions. It seemed that the most critical issues facing the Council are: traffic, transportation, housing, job-housing imbalance, rate of growth, budget restraints and the huge retirement pension deficit. It did not appear that any of the panel members proposed any new, outstanding or innovative ways to handle any of these knotty problems.



There were only three questions from the floor. JIM SHERIDAN asked what can be done about the elephant in the room – Stanford. HAL MICKELSON asked for comments on the lodging tax rates. LEN ELY asked about increasing building height limits.

Those members who were present may, hopefully, have been able to form opinions about the candidates from their assessment of the panelists' responses.

The crew on duty today were STEVE EMSLIE (Greeting); KATIE SEEDMAN and REBECCA GERALDI (Visitor's desk); STEVE MADSEN and RICHARD KELLER (Set-up); TOM GRACON & LAURIE LISTON (Microphone manipulation); GEOFF ZIMAN (Pinion).

PROGRAMS and EVENTS

October 1, Nadia Naik, co-founder of CARRD, Californians for Responsible Rail Design: "Caltrain Considerations for Palo Alto"

October 8, Gloria Hom and Liz Kniss: "Election Program - The California State Propositions"

