

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

February 11, 2019

Reporter: ROB LANCEFIELD

Editor: LYLE CONNELL

President GINNY opened our meeting promptly at 12:30. She announced she was “doing something different.” Instead of asking us to recite the Pledge of Allegiance, she asked LE LEVY and ELIZABETH SANTANA to come to the podium, and lead us in a rousing rendition of “Happy Days Are Rotary,” sung to the tune of “Happy Days Are Here Again.”

Incoming President DANA TOM then led the introductions of Visiting Rotarians and Rotarians with Guests. He introduced Visiting Rotarians Marlene Oliver, from Victoria, B.C., and David Cowan, Realtor, from Santa Clara. Rotarians with Guests were: Past President E. J. HONG, and her guest, Mary Catherine Williams; TONY ADESSA and DANA TOM, introduced Helen Lao, who lives across the street from DANA; CASH ALAEE on behalf of STEVE EMSLIE introduced Avo Izmirlian, commercial realtor; BETSY BECHTEL introduced her neighbor, Lolly Osborne, (Fasani Carpets); ELIZABETH SANTANA introduced Brandon Fagan, Realtor; DAVE SMULLIN introduced his wife Sharon.

Pres. GINNY announced several members wanted to join the President's Club. TRISH BUBENIK donated in honor of the “Club staff” and Pinion writers. Greeter: Past Pres. BETSY BECHTEL; Sign-in REBECCA GERALDI; Cashier: KATIE SEEDMAN; Set up: STEVE MADSEN and RICHARD KELLER; Pinion Editor LYLE CONNELL, and today's Pinion Reporter ROB LANCEFIELD.



Also joining the President's Club were: BRIAN STEEN, in support of three unaccompanied choral concerts, “The Divine Liturgy,” to be performed March 8-10 by the Bay Choral Group; JON STOUMEN, in honor of the birthday of his wife, O'Malley.



Pres. GINNY invited Rotarian David Cowan to speak tell us about a Rotary Fellowship, “Rotary Means Business.” He is the president of the recently formed Silicon Valley Chapter of “Rotary Means Business.” The Chapter's purpose is give Rotarians a chance to meet other Rotarians to grow their businesses. The RI-endorsed Fellowship is one of many Fellowships. The Chapter meets from 6-8 PM the 4th Thursday of each month in Santa Clara.



Pres. GINNY announced Board of Directors meeting February 13th,

CRAB FEED FUN! MARCH 23rd, Mitchell Park. BRUCE GEE reminded us that our annual fundraiser is only 5 weeks and 4 meetings from now. “Let's Get Crackin'” is the theme. Members have already given \$22,000 in sponsorship donations. With sponsors and auctions, our net goal for local charities is \$65,000. AUCTION ITEMS are welcomed anytime. Contact Ginny or Bruce.



SALLY TOMLINSON gave Opening Remarks. In pondering the question, “Who inspires you?,” SALLY realized she is inspired by nature, especially trees. About two years ago on a day she was feeling very stressed, she went for her usual morning walk. SALLY was inspired by realizing that a tree gives stability, strength and giving life, persistence and inspiration to be a demonstration of these qualities.



NANCY CHAN introduced our speaker, Cynthia Butler, Santa Clara County Master Gardener. Her topic was “Bees in a Nutshell” as she only had 30 minutes with us. Although already highly



educated, Cynthia decided to study “bees” at UC as a second career. She is the Master Gardener at Marital Cottle Park in Santa Clara County. Cynthia encouraged us to visit the park, and join one of her regularly scheduled tours. Bees are



the most important pollinators in the world. They depend on eating pollen and nectar to feed themselves and their progeny. The plants depend on the bees for pollination and fertilization. We humans and other animals depend on both the plants and the bees for a lot of the food we eat. There are 20,000 bee species in the world, and 1600 bee species native to California. There are many threats to bee survival (and indirectly, to us). Colony collapse disorder is serious. Although many bees live in large colonies. 70% of all bees live in the ground by themselves. Some herbicides are absorbed by plants, which spread herbicide to the plant pollen. When the bees eat the pollen, they get some herbicide. too. Bad for the bees. Bad for us. This is just a random, anecdotal report of Cynthia's very informative talk. If you want to know more, check out the website for Martial Cottle Park, in south San Jose at 5283 Snell Avenue, not far from intersection of Hwy 85 and 101.