

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

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To set things in motion, the president called on BRIAN STEEN to lead the salute to the flag. DANA TOM then came to the podium to introduce our visitors. First was Linnet Kwok, a Rotarian from the Shanghai Club in China, who exchanged a colorful banner. Then HAL MICKELSON introduced two attorney guests Gina Signorello and Brian Wainright who both had been close colleagues at different times in his career. MARY ANN GEE had her husband Timothy Gee and daughter Danielle with her to witness her induction into the club. PETER SHAMBORA's guest was Pete Henry a neighbor from the Southgate area. TIM WATSON's guest was Daniel Grigore an intern in his office about to enter Santa Clara Law School. Finally, DANA TOM introduced his guest Amy Yang. He also spoke glowingly of his time at the Rotary Convention in Hamburg, Germany. He was greatly inspired by the great things (aka "Do Goodery") that Rotary was doing in all four corners of the world. In preparation for next year he asked for a fourth volunteer for the sergeant at arms position and MATT DOLAN gamely stepped forward.



BEN THRELKELD spoke about drawing his inspiration from the 88-year-old Warren Buffett who is considered the greatest investor of our time. Ben applauded his wisdom, charity, ethics and optimism and provided examples of his many thoughtful quotations such as "If you're in the luckiest 1% of humanity, you owe to the rest of humanity to think about the other 99%."

At this point, Mary Ann Gee watched by her family was inducted into



Rotary membership. Although proposed by SHERRI SAGER, the honors were performed by STEVE EMSLIE and the president.

HAL MICKELSON on behalf of PP BETSY BECHTEL exhorted members to attend the upcoming presidential debunking ritual taking place on Monday, June 24 starting at 5:30 PM at Michael's Restaurant at Shoreline. You can



buy your dinner tickets on line and be reminded that the dress theme is SF Giants memorabilia.

EJ HONG generously joined the President's Club 4 times over. Twice was for President Ginny - for missing her debunking and for Ginny's great year. One for daughter Natalie committing to the MD/PhD program at Case Western and again for her other daughter



Nicole starting her internship at Beacon Pointe Advisors in Newport Beach. SALLY TOMLINSON also stepped forward to join the club in Ginny's honor as well as mentioning a connection with one of Hal's guests.

Continuing to honor past presidents, WALT HAYS

was invited to talk about his 1996-1997 year of service. Walt, who joined in 1991, was proud to have started our endowment and to have taken part in the dance performance which was a highlight of the 75th anniversary celebration that year.



JOHN KIDD was next up but claimed that key records of his 2000-2001 year no longer existed. He spoke of the fact that although he firmly believed that collaboration brings better solutions, he had not fully taken into account that certain club members took a lot of convincing. John demonstrated his high regard for Rotary by stating that he had made a large contribution to the Endowment but followed it up by sharing the disappointing news (for us) that he and his wife Phyllis would shortly be leaving the area to move into an assisted living facility in Salt Lake City near his son's family. We certainly wish them well.

Our distinguished speaker Kirk Hanson, who is a Senior Fellow at the Markkula Center of Applied Ethics at Santa Clara University, was introduced by DIANA DIAMOND. He



challenged us by asking "Can Silicon Valley DO Ethics?" He pointed out that these are doubtful times for ethics and our SV businesses. New disruptions loom over the horizon. Also set against this are troubling aspects of the "SV Way" and libertarian ethics. He used the Theranos drama as an extreme example. From this he went on to ask what ethical questions we should be considering and how ready are we for the next generation of startups and disruptions. He left us with the big question of what should our goals in life be.

DAN QUINN asked about ethical incentives; LIZ KNISS drew attention to the demise of the "HP Way"; SALLY TOMLINSON brought up the topic of Benefit Corporations; HENRIETTA BURROUGHS pointed out that ethics problems are not unique to SV and Peter Shambora's guest Pete Henry bemoaned the lack of sharing and collaboration that exists these days in SV.

On duty: KATIE SEEDMAN & REBECCA GERALDI (Visitor Desk); BRUCE GEE (Debunking Dinner Dues); BETSY BECHTEL (Greeting); GEOFF ZIMAN (Pinion); TOM GRACON & LAURIE LISTON (Mics); STEVE MADSEN & RICHARD KELLER (Set Up).

