

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

July 1, 2019

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President DANA TOM's first day as new president of the club started with a joyful call for a Happy New (Rotary) Year. When DANA joined the club 13 years ago he felt that he found his people: people with the common goal of making the world a better place. With a heartfelt thank you and honoring Past President GINNY LEAR, DANA is honored to serve as President and expects a fun and productive year.



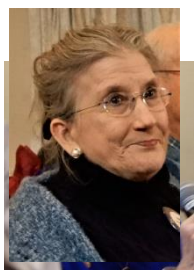
ED DANGLER led the Pledge of Allegiance in honor of the upcoming July 4 Independence Day. DANA graciously acknowledged ED's presence, who had made a wonderful effort to return to the club meetings.

It was also BEN THREKELD's first day of service as President Elect. Visiting Rotarians were LINNET KWOK, who was away for 16 years in Shanghai but back to the Bay Area and at the Club for the 3rd time in a row, and LISA AKSELRAD, current President of the Silicon Valley Passport Club. LISA was sponsored by JOHN KIDD to the Palo Alto Rotary 23 years ago and followed in her father's footsteps who was a Rotarian for 50 years. Daughter-father bond strengthened over the Rotary lunchtime meetings.



Guests were President DANA TOM's wife, NANCY KAWAKITA, and JULIAN DEMALLEVILLE guest of LE LEVY. And a renewed welcome to MARY ANN GEE, our newest member sponsored by SHERRI SAGER.

President DANA announced that the Thought of the Day will remain a valued contribution to the Rotary program, with theme choices between "Be the inspiration", to continue the trend started by Past President GINNY LEAR, "Three Truths and a Lie" to renew the initiative started by Past President BETSY BECHTEL the previous year, and an additional "Why are you Rotarian and the 4-way test". Interested members please sign up with your choice.



TRISH BUBENIK inspired us with her thought of the day about her career in literacy. Inspired herself by her own grandmother who taught herself how to read with the Bible and newspaper, and by her mother who was an avid reader, and a favorite of the librarian in Alabama who would save each week 3 books for her to

read. TRISH's lifelong campaign for literacy has been a life journey in itself.

President DANA announced the new theme for the 2019-2020 Rotary Year, ROTARY CONNECTS THE WORLD, and introduced the new logo of people of diverse backgrounds and colors embracing the planet.



And do not forget to pay the dues for the new Rotary year! Checks may be mailed, brought to a meeting, or you can do it online by credit card.

JULIE JEROME, the Retiring President of the Endowment Fund, welcomed BRUCE SWENSON as the incoming President, on his first official day. A reminder that the Endowment Fund grows by collecting donations, distributed to the World Community Service, Community Grants and Vocational Scholarships.

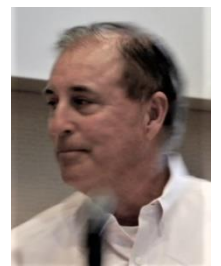


JULIE and BRUCE presented President DANA TOM with a check for \$44,242.

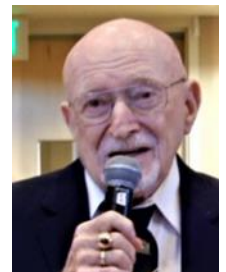


Many joined the Presidents Club: LISA AKSELRAD in honor of DANA TOM as President, TRISH BUBENIK who shared a very special acknowledgment from JOE SIMITIAN on her 50-year wedding anniversary marked June 21, 1969,

CHARLIE WEIDANZ to celebrate his first day as CEO of the Chamber of Commerce working with JUDY KLEINBERG, KLAUS HEINEMANN who celebrates on July 3rd 60 years from the day he proposed to his wife ADELGUND (GUNDI), TODD



LEWIS to celebrate no more tuition checks as his son graduated from college, ED DANGLER having missed meetings (as we all celebrate his return) and in



honor of President DANA TOM, and BERT ROSE also to honor DANA's presidency.



New items on President DANA TOM's agenda were: a reminder of the 9-day trip to Liberia for the West Africa Project Fair and Polio Immunization Day organized by the Rotary International World Community Service in October. If interested, check Howard Tours at <http://www.howardtours.net/west-africa-project-fair--community-service.html>; and a call to reach out to members of the Palo Alto Lion's Club which ended its service.

SALLY TOMLINSON, President of the Program Committee, introduced a policy month for July, with upcoming speakers Clayton Nall (Stanford), Larry Stone (Santa Clara County assessor) and Larry Diamond (Stanford). Updated details are available on the club website.



Today's program was led by ROB LYMAN who introduced the new member talks, and encouraged us to keep him keep him busy by actively recruiting new members. The club's appreciation for new members is reflected by the new member talks ranking as the highest rated program.



JESSICA SUN (Classification: Real Estate) joined us in January 2019 sponsored by CHARLIE WEIDANZ. She grew up in Palo Alto and has been the only Gunn High School student to practice both wrestling and cheerleading. Her passion for sports extends to triathlon, and she plans a half iron man. As a college student at Washington University in St. Louis, JESSICA studied art, architecture, photography and the lost art of bookbinding. She delighted us with images of her artwork, topography projects, and photographs taken on ground transportation in St Louis. From a sense of competition and pressure to succeed in college and family pressure to go into engineering, her road to real estate opened by reading a book called "Equity Happens". For her, selling houses is a way to connect with the families and community, and she cares deeply about the health of the community at large, which is why she joined our Rotary.



JOCELYN LEE (Classification: Education Practices) was sponsored to the club by STEVE PLAYER. JOCELYN's track record of making a difference in the world started very early: adopted as a child, her adoption was hurried along so she can

join the Peace Corps with her parents in Swaziland. A transplant from Colorado, she moved to the Bay Area in 1989 to go to Stanford and currently lives in Los Altos, proud mother of her 5 and 7 yo children. She is very much a team player and connected with the rest of her family who live in Australia and Colorado. She is the Executive Director of Foundation for College Education and very passionate about bringing equity in education. Her impressive career reflects her passion and desire to make an impact. She started as a high school educator and tracked all levels through middle school, elementary and pre-school, as she had the insight that in education it is important to start as early as possible.



JON COWAN (Classification: Government/Community Relations) joined the Rotary in April 2019, sponsored by BRIAN STEEN. JON grew up in Southern California. He did a 6-month training in improv in Los Angeles with a teacher who later became Flo of the Progressive Insurance company ads. His love for nature had him move to the Bay Area, took him on the Inca Trail with a sunset view of Machu Picchu on his birthday, and had him stop traffic for penguin crossing in Patagonia. His passion for politics started early in childhood by reading newspapers, and he is currently the Executive Director for Government Relation for Stanford HealthCare. JON appreciates the political process as a driving force to interact and reconcile our differences even if compromises and conversations can be difficult. JON is also planning his upcoming wedding on September 7th! Congratulations to JON and a warm welcome from President DANA to all new members.



The meeting was supported by cashiers REBECCA GERALDI and KATIE SEEDMAN, room and A/V setup RICHARD KELLER, greeter CHARLIE WEIDANZ, microphone managers LAURIE LISTON and TOM GRACON, e-pinion writer OANA MARCU and e-pinion editor LYLE CONNELL.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

Thursday July 4, our club will gather at 8am for flag display on University-Cowper St. in Palo Alto, followed by coffee together. Flags will be taken down at 5pm.

Monday July 8, CLAYTON NALL from Stanford will speak on "Why Can't the United States Fix Its Transportation Infrastructure?"

Wednesday July 10, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Rotary Satellite Meeting - Homewood Suites. Happy Hour and conversation. \$5.