

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

September 23, 2019

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President DANA TOM started the meeting by sharing the newly developed Rotary Vision Statement. This vision guides the planning of the next Rotary International 3-year strategic plan.



Pres. Elect BEN THRELKELD called forward Rotarians with guests: DICK MANSFIELD hosted his wife ELLI; DANA TOM hosted his wife NANCY KAWAKITA; PAM KRUDROP hosted MARTA and MARIO MARCOS; and KAREN ROHDE hosted GAIL GALEO, a prospective Rotarian.

The THOUGHT FOR THE DAY was presented by REBECCA



GERALDI, who chose a quote from the creator of the StarTrek TV show, Gene Roddenbury: "If we cannot learn to actually enjoy those small differences, to take a positive delight in those small differences between our own kind, here on this planet, then we do not deserve to go out into space and meet the diversity that is almost certainly out there." Incidentally, Rebecca and StarTrek share

the same birthdate.

Pres. DANA TOM led the induction of new member JULIAN DEMALLEVILLE, sponsored by LE LEVY. LE introduced JULIAN as



a respected young Financial Advisor with Wells Fargo. JULIAN

moved to the Bay Area about one year ago and chose our club as a

way to be part and contribute to the community. JULIAN's classification is INVESTMENT ADVICE.

PAM KRUDOP, Co-chair of the Vocational Scholarships Committee introduced one of the recipients of the nine awarded scholarships this year, MARTA MARCOS DE SILVA. MARTA is studying Childhood Development at Canada College and gave a touching



account of her new life and goals:

she came from El

Salvador in 2014 with her 2 daughters and husband, fleeing a dangerous life. From barely speaking English and being scared of starting something new, she pursued her dream of becoming a preschool teacher, and



enrolled in a BA at San Francisco State U. MARTA shared about her goal of opening her own preschool, which was met with a round of applause from club members. MARTA's dreams are enabled by community help, and the Rotary scholarship will be used to support her education.

Past Pres. GINNY LEAR announced that The Rotary Foundation fundrasing letter is in the mail, and the goal is to meet at least last year's goal of \$25,000. The funds support PolioPlus and the World Community Service programs, which you will hear more about the first week of October from TIM WATSON.

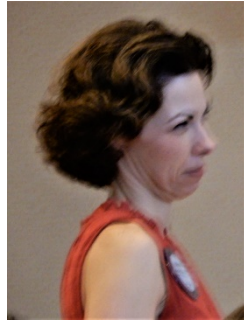
PRESIDENTS CLUB Contributions were made by:

- LE LEVY, who celebrated his 85th birthday this past Sunday, and with the theme of 85, he donated \$85 to President's Club, \$85 to the Rotary Foundation, and bicycled 85 km around the Peninsula, accompanied by JON STOUMEN, TODD LEWIS and BRIAN STEEN who each received a commemorative T-shirt.





- **BETSY BECHTEL** joined the President's Club in honor of **ELI ZABETH SANTANA** who has been the Bright Star of the Palo Alto Players.

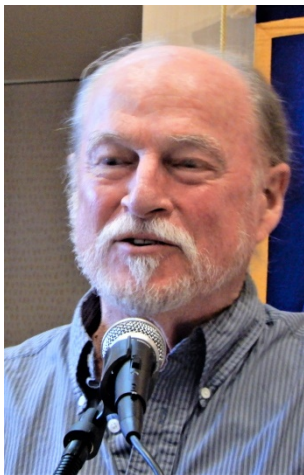


- **ED DANGLER** joined to celebrate the engagement of his grandson who is tying the knot "finally", says his happy grandfather.

Past Pres. **GINNY LEAR** introduced the invited speaker **ROBERT KELLEY**, the artistic director of TheatreWorks, which is celebrating both its 50th year of productions and winning the prestigious

2019 Tony award for Regional Theater, first in California since 1997.

Robert Kelley grew up in Palo Alto, went to Stanford and started his own theater production in the 1970s. By now he has been directing 175 of TheatreWorks' world and regional productions.



In its first three years, the company had four staff and many productions in parks and the Baylands Interpretive Center, it became a non-profit in 1976, then a regional theater. The company became nationally recognized with the production of "Popcorn", which protested the Vietnam War.

Promoting diversity, innovation, professional quality and education, TheaterWorks engages now over 20,000 students every year, including children at risk at the Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, has many productions going to Broadway and London. Shows one staged in Menlo Park, are now at the Palo Alto Lucie Stern Center hosting the summer Shakespeare shows and the Mountain View Center for Performing Arts.

From an early 1970's starting employment of \$200/month which gave the punch line for TheaterWorks: "Theater works, but it doesn't pay", TheatreWorks grew to a current budget of \$11mil/year with contributions from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Hewlett and Packard Foundations, private donors and subscribers. An interesting piece of data offered **ROBERT KELLEY** was that even though we are in Silicon Valley, 95% corporate giving goes outside the area.

The role of TheatreWorks was highlighted by **HENRIETTA BURROUGHS**, **TRISH BUBENIK**, **LAURIE LISTON** and **JUDY**

KLEINBERG who all thanked **ROBERT KELLEY** for the personal impact TheatreWorks has had on them, and for some, on their children's education and personal development over the past 50 years.

With a question from **DANA TOM** about growth and stability going forward, **ROBERT KELLEY** described the ups-and-downs of the theater under periods of economic stress. Even though the production revenue for TheatreWorks is a small percentage, the commitment from the community, with encouragement and support, is essential for the livelihood of the arts.

In answering **JUDY KLEINBERG's** inquiry about challenges for live theater in the era of internet entertaining, **ROBERT KELLEY** summarized the value of a live performance vs flat screen shows with a very clear analogy: "The difference between a phone call and a date". He ended with an invitation to check upcoming performances at theaterworks.org or call 650-463-1960 for a live date at one of the TheaterWorks shows!

LE LEVY noted that the wall inside the Rinconada Library, a display of photos of Palo Altans honored at the time of the city's centennial, featured today's speaker **ROBERT KELLEY**, already notable twenty-five years ago.

Volunteers were: Greeters **PAM KRUDROP**, Welcome Desk and cashier: **KATIE SEEDMAN**, **REBECCA GERALDI**, **JANE KHALAF**, Setup and A/V **DICK MANSFIELD** and **RICHARD KELLER**, Microphone managers **TOM GRACON** and **LAURIE LISTON**, Pinion writer **OANA MARCU** and Pinion editor **LYLE CONNELL**.

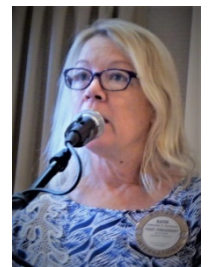
Upcoming events this week:



- **TIM WATSON**, Chair of World Community Service, will host WCS meeting this coming Wednesday, Sept 25, 7-8:30pm, at his office on 873 Santa Cruz Ave. Suite 202, Menlo Park, CA 94025.

- **KATIE SEEDMAN**, Co-Chair of Social Events, announced the

TGIF party this Friday Sept 27. 5:30-7pm, at **PETER** and **CHRISTINE SHAMBORA's** home.



- **PATTY MCGUIGAN** announced the celebration of **DICK BUSH's** life taking place on Sunday, September 29, 1:30-4:30pm, at Peninsula Golf and Country Club in San Mateo, 701 Madera Drive, San Mateo. All club members and friends are invited.



Next week's program:

- **DON AUSTIN**, PAUSD Superintendent, "Challenges and Opportunities for Palo Alto Schools"