

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

November 11, 2019

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Our meeting of 11/11/19, Veteran's Day, gave us the opportunity to recognize and thank our members who served in the military across the decades, for what they had done for their country. President DANA asked those who had to please stand for our applause.

ROB LANCEFIELD brought his wife Rita, and their neighbor Lydia Li; USAF Captain DUANE KALAR, in full uniform, introduced his daughter Joy Frick, who came to celebrate her Dad's service.



HENRIETTA BURROUGHS told us that negative people always find the problem with every solution. Today she gave us a magic three-word thought for the day "I get to..." as in, GINNY LEAR said, "I get to write the Pinion today!"

DANA announced the crew who had helped to post the American flags on University Avenue this morning: Ryan Elliott, Jim Sutherland, Len Ely, Cash Alae, Betsy Bechtel. Thank you. And, he noted that at 5 pm, they would be back to return them to safe keeping until next Memorial Day.

Tuesday night from 6:30-8:15, we will begin a new service commitment- helping Project WeHOPE monthly with their dinner, and staying to eat with the clients.



LINNET KWOK reported that (breaking news!) 28 SPINNERS to END POLIO are signed up, with two spaces left, should anyone be available this Saturday from 11-11:55, \$55 per bike, at the JCC, 3921 Fabian Way.

Our 2nd Annual Foothill College Food Pantry drive is the next two Mondays, Nov. 18 & 25. Non-perishable

items will be delivered to Foothill to assist enrolled students who have signed up. Food insecurity is a widespread problem for 1/3 of the students.

President's Club contributions came from AKRAM PIRACHA for his daughter's birthday, today. Her name translates as Peace. KLAUS HEINEMANN for coming to America as a young boy, now with a family numbering 17. MARK STEVENSON, in honor of his father, born in 1919, who served in Patton's 3rd Army fighting the Nazis. ED DANGLER in honor of all who served.

DANA thanked all volunteers for today: Greeters, CHESLEY DOUGLAS & RYAN ELLIOTT; Welcome Desk & Cashier, KATIE SEEDMAN & REBECCA GERALDI; Setup & AV – DICK MANSFIELD, RICHARD KELLER; Microphone managers; TOM GRACON & LAURIE LISTON; PINION, GINNY LEAR & LYLE CONNELL. Next week's program, Developer Chop Keenan on "Housing issues in Palo Alto"

A huge thank you to OANA MARCU, JIM SUTHERLAND AND SALLY TOMLINSON for creating today's very special program honoring the veterans in our club.

DANA asked those veterans who had served but were not speaking to please stand: WALT HAYS, DICK MANSFIELD, JOHN O'KEEFE, GEORGE WHEATON, plus we recognized members who served but were not able to attend today; RALPH ADAMS, DICK FREEMAN, WES GARDINER, JACK WOODSON.

SALLY TOMLINSON introduced each of 12 speakers in today's program. The Pinion writer points out that these brief notes are just the start of a great conversation one could have with any of these members.





LYLE CONNELL, US Navy, stationed at Naval Ordnance Laboratory in Washington, D.C. In April 1945, on duty watch, Lyle was one of the first to know that President Roosevelt had died.

BILL BUSSE, US Navy Reserve, Naval Aviation – 1950, reflected on hearing a blast in Arizona while in school. It came from near Alamogordo, NM, and was the first testing of the atomic bomb. Then as a pilot flying over Hiroshima not many years later, Bill saw the rubble remaining from the bomb dropped in 1945.

Captain ED DANGLER US Navy for 30 years, 1950-1980, recalled transporting North Vietnamese civilians to South Vietnam, and of duty during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

GEOFF ZIMAN, Drafted into the British Army – 1954-56. Royal Corps of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers. He described a boondoggle trip to Trieste, but left to our imagination his time with the tank regiment in Germany.

ART STAUFFER – US Navy – June 1955 graduated from Stanford, joined Navy OCS and described his time with rogue crews and unusual captains on an oiler in the Pacific.

DON MORGAN – US Navy pilot, told us a story about these mysterious letters on the wall of a bar: IITYWYBMAD.

ROB LANCEFIELD – US Army – 8 years Active and Reserve, spoke from personal experience for all of the children of veterans who have suffered from PTSD.

DUANE KALAR – USAF Captain, Dental Corps, 1961-1963. Sent to St. Lawrence Island, Alaska, 30 miles from Russia, heard himself being welcomed on Radio Moscow.

KEVIN CURRY – US Army – 1960, remembered his brother to us, who was in Vietnam and suffered damaging effects of Agent Orange.

MIKE MCMAHON – US Navy – 1960, 8 years in nuclear submarines, including the Nautilus, and the Sculpin which could go 20 knots under water. His Navy father was lost at sea.

PETER SHAMBORA – US Naval Aviation – 10 years, 1967 – 1977. Commissioned at Pensacola. In charge of helicopters that recovered the Apollo 14 astronauts, the 3rd mission of men on the moon.

BILL FOGARTY – US Army 1st Lt. infantry, 1969-1972, in Vietnam. Bill remembered his three USF classmates, two of whom died in service and one who has suffered life-long effects of PTSD and agent orange. Bill's father was in the Army in London when a V-bomb struck some children who had just received chocolate from him. His father suffered a breakdown after that. Bill read a brief story about what service to this country means. Bill urged us to say "Thank you for your service." It is appreciated.

The meeting ended with a standing ovation and admiration for our speakers and all who have served.