

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

December 2, 2019

Reporter: TRISH BUBENIK

Editor: LYLE CONNELL

PRESIDENT DANA TOM called the meeting to order and introduced a Rotary International film showing smiles from around the world. He then thanked Rotarians for the support we do for our members, our community and the world.

DANA TOM introduced visiting Rotarian CHARLES ARNOLD, Tiburon and Rotarians with guests: CHARLIE WEIDANZ, Nathaniel Quinlin; RYAN ELLIOTT, Joop Verbake and Stans Klednen, second visit; DANA TOM, Michael Reynolds.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: MIKE COUCH honored the season of Thanksgiving by sharing his "study of philanthropy" generated by a suggestion from Dave Thornton. To instill the concept of "giving back," He gave each of his three grandchildren money for them to give to charity. The first two soon chose favorite charities, but the third was unsure. However, on a visit to Whole Foods, they met a friendly, homeless woman outside. When leaving the area, MIKE suggested to his youngest that she give her money to her—thus demonstrating that "no one becomes poor by giving."



CLUB ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Sign up for next quarter's "Thoughts for the Day" and "Greeters". Get to know new members PATTY MCGUIGAN and RENATA VELCHEVA; plus, thanks to their sponsors STEVE EMSLIE and KAREN ROHDE.

GINNY LEAR thanked members for contributions to the Foothill College Food Pantry food drive. She also thanked DANA's wife Nancy for her volunteering to deliver the collection and to her company, Intel, for contributing \$10 for each of her 20 hours of volunteering which came to our Club. GINNY also announced that Polio Plus contributions have exceeded our \$3,000 goal, and we are 75% of the way to achieving our goal of \$22,000 for The Rotary Foundation. TRF funds support worldwide and local projects, many chosen by our own World Community Service Committee.



DANA noted that the 2nd monthly Project "We HOPE" Tuesday meal serving service project is December 10, 6:30-8:15 pm, at 1858 Bay Road, East Palo Alto. Eat before or after the service project. Up to 10 volunteers needed, including guests (children 10 and up). Wear your Rotary shirt!

GLORIA HOM (IN Santa hat) invited Rotarians and guests to our ROTARY HOLIDAY DINNER PARTY, Wednesday, December 11, 5:30-8:00, at the home of BRIAN STEEN and Sandra Wilson. Food and drinks catered by Rotary. Enjoy fireside fellowship and holiday singing with a professional pianist. Limited parking—please carpool!!



CASH ALAEE announced the annual Youth Speech Contest, Saturday, January 25, 10 am - noon, Avenidas, 450 Bryant St., Palo Alto. All welcome.



PRESIDENT'S CLUB—(\$100 tax-deductible contributions to our Charity Fund to share good news or make an announcement.) KEVIN CURRY joined to assuage the losses of his three football teams;

GEOFF ZIMAN, to announce his youngest grandson's making Eagle Scout, a family tradition;



MATT DOLAN, to celebrate the 10-month anniversary of his daughter's successful lung transplant.



2020-21 Rotary International Global Grant Scholarship Applications available. Please refer candidates with a bachelor's degree to apply by March 1 for a \$30,000 grant. This supports graduate-level, overseas study to further international understanding, peace, goodwill and learn another culture/language and share one's own. Watch for more details in the weekly

email.

VIDEO—"How NOT to Run a Rotary Club" in Five "Lessons"

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS: Pinion writer, TRISH BUBENIK and editor, LYLE CONNELL; Greeters, PAM KRUDOP, GLORIA HOM. Welcome desk and cashier, KATIE SEEDMAN, REBECCA GIRALDI, JANE KHALAF; Setup and AV, MATT DOLAN, RICHARD KELLER; Microphone managers, TOM GRACON, LAURIE LISTON.

TODAY'S SPEAKER, PHILIP KAMIH: Introduced by BETSY BECHTEL, Mr. Kamih returned to Palo Alto from Los Angeles to take the position of Director of Transportation this past August. As the chief transportation official, he presented an overview of Palo Alto traffic issues, planning priorities, new programs and the department's first budget. He reports directly to the City Manager and is particularly interested in engaging community members in transportation



project planning and evaluation, especially as railroad grade separation options are explored. He highlighted the unique "Safe Routes to School" planning efforts funded by the city and noted that 68% of residents use transportation alternatives to single occupancy cars. He encouraged people to contact 311 to report and track specific transportation concerns/issues. While he acknowledged the members' concern over the reality of TOO much traffic in town, he wants his office to work to enhance quality of life in PA.

DANA adjourned the meeting after a lively Q & A session.

NEXT WEEK: New member talks—MARY ANN GEE, LINNET KWOK, and JULIAN DEMALLEVILLE. (Don't miss!!)