

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

December 9, 2019

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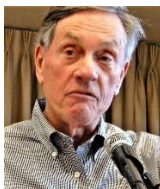
President DANA opened the meeting by reminding us of the 10-word club goals of "Let's have fun; Let's get results; Let's make new friends".

President-Elect BEN introduced two visiting Rotarians. The first was Ashok Gupta, a doctor from Michigan visiting his two sons in Palo Alto. The other was Tracy Hua, a friend of LINNET KWOK, who is the president-elect of the Shanghai, China Rotary Club. DANA TOM's guest Spencer Hsu, who works in real estate was introduced by TIM WATSON. The other guest Stans Kleijners, a retired diplomat, was with ROB LANCEFIELD.



BETSY BECHTEL gave us the "Thought for the Day" by telling how she was inspired by her father and his emphasis on the power of laughter. A sign-up sheet for Thought for the Day speakers and greeters was passed round with the encouragement for everyone to put their name down once annually.

Ballots were passed out for the election of the 2020/2021 Club Board. To no one's surprise the following were elected later in the meeting: CASH ALAEE President Elect (President in 2021/2022); OANA MARCU Secretary; BRUCE GEE Treasurer; STEVE EMSLIE, PAM KRUDOP, LINNETT KWOK, BOB LYMAN, KAREN RHODE, ELIZABETH SANTANA and TIM WATSON Directors. Endowment Board Trustees are elected to 3 year terms but there were no new trustees this year. The current trustees are BRUCE SWENSON, President; MIKE MCMAHON, Treasurer, PETER SHAMBORA, Secretary with AMY ANDONIAN, BETSY BECHTEL, OLIVER COOLIDGE, JANE KHALAF, BEN THRELKELD (as PARC President Elect) and DANA TOM (as PARC President).



BRUCE SWENSON proudly announced that our Endowment Fund had reached \$925,000 so the long-term goal of reaching the million-dollar level is now in sight.

Special certificates were presented to those Paul Harris Society Grand Donors who had donated \$1,000 or more

to The Rotary Foundation in 2018-19. Those present to receive them were PATTY MCGUIGAN (for the late DICK BUSH), GINNY LEAR, ROGER SMITH and TIM WATSON. Absent were RALPH ADAMS, BILL BUSSE and Christopher Love, who gave in memory of his loyal PA Rotarian father PP BILL LOVE.



STEVE PLAYER auctioned two tickets to "Pride and Prejudice" on Saturday, December 14 kindly donated by SALLY TOMLINSON. KAREN RHODE eventually paid \$185 for them but ROGER SMITH donated \$300 to the Endowment for that privilege.

If you read this report before 5:30 PM on Wednesday, December 11, you will still be in time to attend the Rotary Holiday Dinner Party at BRIAN STEEN and Sandra Wilson's home.

Do Save the Date of Tuesday, January 28, 5:30 pm, for a special Chinese New Year Banquet at Chef Chu's Restaurant, \$75 per person, being organized by GINNY LEAR. Reservations begin after the holidays.

You are too late now to sign up for the next two hands-on projects. On December 10, ten volunteers from the club will feed the homeless at Project We Hope and on January 26 eight volunteers will usher at a PA Players matinee.



SALLY TOMLINSON, the chair of the Program Committee, listed the members and enlightened us on the important process of selecting suitable speakers. She welcomed members suggestions and emphasized how presentation skills tops speaker topics.

Four members joined the President's Club. BRUCE SWENSON wanted to acknowledge BRUCE GEE's work



to update our Endowment plaque and JACK WOODSON's inability to find our non-existent (as yet) Endowment Website. DAN QUINN wanted to share with us that his son has just acquired a doctorate at Harvard in statistics. MIKE COUCH wanted to us to acknowledge PATTY MCGUIGAN's birthday. STEVE PLAYER wanted to share with us the joy of his granddaughter receiving acceptance at Pomona College.



The highlight of the meeting was, as usual, new member talks introduced by ROB LYMAN. LINNET KWOK spoke



of her Hong Kong background, love of dogs, husband in China, two sons, UC Berkley education, 15-year China stay in Shanghai, financial analysis, recruiting, corporate fund raising, running, cycling, photography and Rotary interests.



MARY ANN GEE spoke of her loud multigeneration family upbringing in Indiana,

how her musical talents were recognized, her musical education at Indiana University, how she became a professional opera singer in Chicago working with some of the greats, found her second career in banking and how marriage brought her to Palo Alto.



JULIAN DEMALLEVILLE, born in San Luis Obispo, told us how basketball has been a central aspect of his life, how when growing up his family engaged in outdoor activities, his education in finance at Sacramento State, how he has played basketball at San Quentin, his appearance with Steph Curry, his pending marriage and that he is now living in Belmont.

The supporting cast today were LEANNAH HUNT, GINNY LEAR (Greeters); GEOFF ZIMAN, LYLE CONNELL (Pinion writer and Editor); JANE KHALAF, REBECCA GERALDI (Welcome Desk and Cashier); MATT DOLAN, RICHARD KELLER (Setup and A/V); TOM GRACON, LAURIE LISTON (Microphone Manipulators).

Next week's program is José Luis Moscovich and the West Bay Opera