

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

March 9, 2020

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President DANA TOM opened the meeting with the remark that we are "Living in Interesting Times" and the reassurance that we will get through the challenges of COVID19.

Pres. elect BEN THRELKELD introduced Visiting Rotarian KATHY BERRY who is Pres. elect of The Los Altos Rotary Club, and guests JONAKE BOSE, Executive Director for Dream Catcher hosted by CHARLIE WEIDANZ, and NATALIE HONG, an MD/PhD at Case Western on a fully scholarshiped program and a talented soprano, hosted by her mom EJ HONG.

BEN notes that the President Elect Training Seminar he attended gathered people from California, Nevada and Hawaii and was a source of new Rotary ideas.

KEVIN CURRY presented an informative Thought of the Day regarding the Rotary program for children born with cleft lip and palate. Through WCS, Rotary helped build a clinic on Lake Titicaca in Peru, to provide adequate medical services and facilities for the care of these children.



Pres. DANA TOM noted that the Crab Feed team and the club Board are working on recommendations and actions from the Santa Clara Health Dept. to decide how to handle the Coronavirus alert.

The Crab Feed Team - BRUCE GEE, PETER SHAMBORA and GINNY LEAR -



presented considerations and proposed action items to maintain the same level of fundraising as in past years irrespective of needed coronavirus precautions that impact holding the Crab Feed event. Some of the venues to ensure the club can have a meaningful impact for charities are: asking sponsors to continue their support; using the already donated items through live/silent auction online or at meetings (goal of 10-20K); converting ticket sales to donations (goal of 10-15K); exploring the probability of cruise sales (goal up to 5K). The team will continue to work on a plan to ensure a successful level of fundraising.



IRIS KOROL reinforced the common practice of online auctions and using ticket sales as donations.

President DANA TOM presented a 4-sapphire Paul Harris pin to BILL FOGARTY who attained a new level of giving to The Rotary Foundation and PolioPlus.



BRIAN STEEN thanked MATT DOLAN for his generosity in offering a 3-night stay at Homewood Suite for the Bay Choral Guild who performed Mendelssohn's Elijah in the Bay Area.

EJ HONG donated \$200 to the Presidents Club and



her daughter NATALIE delighted the audience by performing a beautiful soprano rendition of O Mio Babbino Caro from Gianna Schicchi, an opera by Puccini.



ROB LYMAN introduced three of our new members and their talks.

DIEGO OSORIO joined the club in Aug 2019 sponsored by **BRUCE GEE**. DIEGO was born in Santa Clara and raised by his mom, graduated from MV High School in 2013 and Foothill College, and after a short stint at the Film School in LA he moved to SFSU and is planning to graduate this year. DIEGO has a plethora of hobbies and interests and having benefited from the Youth in Govt Program is now a mentor through the program. He works at the YMCA in membership sales and joined the Rotary through his company. His classification is Non-Profit Administration



RYAN ELLIOTT joined in Sept 2019 sponsored by **ROB LANCEFIELD**. Born in Napa and raised in Vallejo, his parents' work in the Lions Club and community non-profits made an impression on him. RYAN graduated from UCSD in electrical engineering and followed on service above self through fraternity and spending one year after college to work for a non-profit organization. His 1-yr long engineering career came to an abrupt awakening



with the dot-com bubble which prompted RYAN to go on a self-discovery back packing trip to South America. Back at UCSF he studied patent law. He now lives in Palo Alto with his wife and their 10-yo son who between two parents attorneys is learning very quickly how to argue. RYAN's classification is Patent Law, and the theme of his life has been service above self, but for a fun fact do ask him about his picture on a wall of a chicken wing restaurant!

CHRISTIAN MARTINE joined in Sept 2019 sponsored by **JESSICA SUN**. He was born in West Virginia in a town with a Simpsons feel where everyone knows everyone else and people are looking out for each other. From his parents he learned community work and resilience despite challenges. CHRISTIAN studied business and politics at Washington State; he was also a baritone in their choir and has an aviation pilot certification. With his girlfriend Andrea they spend



time negotiating time together despite international travel. CHRISTIAN's work at Facebook and Amazon has been focused on ads and content integrity and protection against

fraud. His lessons learned have been: 1. Fuel Yourself (care for your own physical mental and spiritual health); 2. People, Products, then Processes (this order matters); 3. Be an Owner (nothing is someone else's problem); 4. Bias for Action (perfection begets stagnation); and 5. Have Backbone (do not avoid arguments out of social compliance). His classification is Product Management.

Pres. DANA TOM welcomed all new members noting the Rotary giving and service spirit in all of them, and adjourned the meeting with the wish to Stay Happy and Healthy.

Volunteers for the meeting were Greeters DERRICK BRITT and LINNET KWOK, Welcome desk and cashier KATIE SEEDMAN and OANA MARCU, Setup and A/V: MATT DOLAN and STEVE MADSEN, Microphone managers: TOM GRACON and DENNIS MCGINN, Pinion writer OANA MARCU and Pinion editor LYLE CONNELL.

Upcoming Events: **ARE CANCELLED:**

NO Rotary Happy Hour on March 18, Homewood Suites.

PLEASE NOTE:

THERE WILL BE NO MONDAY MEETINGS ON MARCH 16, 23, 30: DUE TO THE COVID-19 CHALLENGES. EVERYONE WILL BE KEPT INFORMED OF ANY DEVELOPMENTS