

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

July 6, 2020

Reporter: ROB LANCEFIELD

Editor: LYLE CONNELL

SPEAKER NEXT WEEK: Francis Fukuyama, Senior Fellow, Freeman-Spogli Institute, on "Geopolitical Implications of COVID-19 Pandemic"

President BEN presided over his first meeting, which was our Annual Club Assembly. The topics are normal for a Club Assembly, but unusual compared to typical meetings.

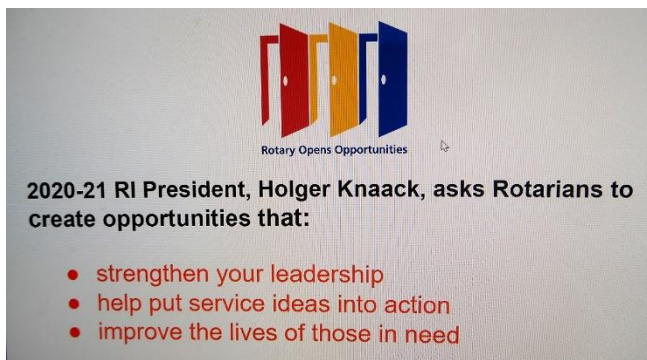


Thanks to Zoom technology, beginning as early as 12:00, many members joined a spirited "Zoom conversation" before the start of the official meeting.

At 12:35, President BEN opened our meeting by ringing our large Rotary bell. He then reminded us of "Zoom etiquette," especially that when we have a large group, the meeting works best if we are all muted. (if you want to say something, you can "raise your hand" by clicking on the "Participants" tag the bottom of your Zoom screen, and then clicking on "Raise hand." Past President DANA will look for "raised hands.")

President BEN began with his President's Opening Remarks. "Working together" is the foundation theme for his presidency. He quoted his daughter, who said: "If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together."

There were no visiting Rotarians. GEOFF ZIMAN introduced his daughter, Shoshana, who joined us from New York City.



"Rotary Opens Opportunities" is the theme RI President Holger Knaack has chosen for this year's Rotary International theme. He is the first German ever to serve as RI President.

President BEN reported that on the 4th of July, two members of Palo Alto University Club placed American flags along University Avenue. On Labor Day, he hopes that we can resume our pre-COVID-19 practice of having many of our Club members join in the placing of flags.



HAL MICKELSON led us in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

President BEN spoke about his goals, plans for 20-21 year, and his changes in meeting formats. President BEN announced three new options for the Thought for the Day. He asked us to speak about something INSPIRATIONAL, OR ROTARY RELATED OR A BOOK THAT MADE US A BETTER ROTARIAN.



DAN QUINN then gave today's Opening Remarks. DAN likes in-person meetings better than Zoom meetings. He is grateful for seeing friends at our meetings. He enjoys serving on the World Community Service (WCS) Committee. DAN is also grateful for our Club's speakers, and for the questions we ask the speakers after their talks.

President BEN thanked JUDITH STEINER for her service as being responsible for finding members to give the Thought for the Day. MIKE REYNOLDS has agreed to find speakers to give the Thought.

Ecumenical Hunger Project Canned Food Drive:

- Hands-On/Sleeves Up project
- For the whole month of July
- Goal 1000 cans of food
- Three Easy Steps
 - Unexpired canned food
 - Put in a bag with your name on it
 - Place on chair outside Cambridge Optometry

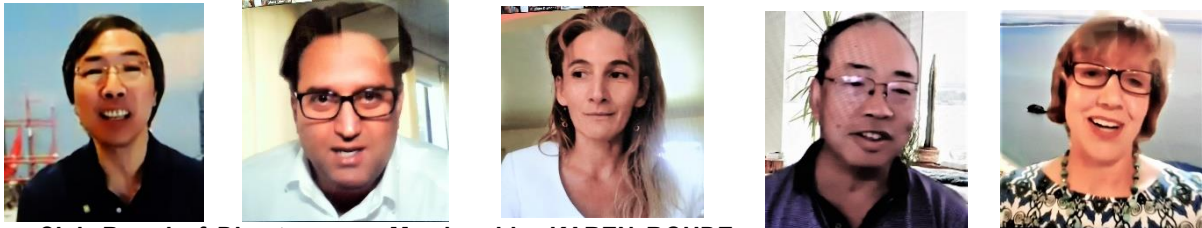
President BEN reported that the COVID-19 pandemic has forced us to re-design our “hands-on” service projects. He announced a drive to collect canned goods to be dropped off during July, right outside Dr. BEN’S optometry office Monday-Friday, 8:30-5:00, at 250 CAMBRIDGE AVENUE, right across the street from the Post Office on Cambridge Avenue. Our donations will be given to the Ecumenical Hunger Project. BE sure to put your name on your bag. President BEN has set yearly goals for participation.

President BEN announced that PATTY MCGUIGAN and PETER SHAMBORA have agreed to serve as Co-Chairs of the Social Committee.



GINNY LEAR joined the President’s Club in honor of her recent 55th wedding anniversary with husband, King. President BEN thanked ROB LANCEFIELD for being the Writer of this week’s Pinion, and LYLE CONNELL for being the Editor. Immediate Past President DANA reported that his jobs as IPP are to: (1) Chair our fundraising drive for The Rotary Foundation (“TRF”); (2) Chair our Club’s donations to End Polio Now, which is shifting focus from polio to fight COVID-19 pandemic; (3) help President BEN and the club’s Board of Directors; and (4) Chair the De-bunking of President BEN.

President BEN reported that our Club Officers are:
 Past President: DANA TOM; President Elect: CASH ALAEE; Secretary: OANA MARCU; Treasurer: BRUCE GEE.



Our Club Board of Directors are: Membership, KAREN ROHDE; Club Service: ROB LYMAN; Club Operations, ELIZABETH SANTANA;



World Community Service; TIM WATSON; Youth Service: PAM KRUDOP; Vocational Service: STEVE EMSLIE; Community Service: LINNET KWOK. Each Officer or Director gave a 3-minute summary of the opportunities for your involvement. If YOU are curious, you’re encouraged to chat with the appropriate Officer or Director.

KAREN ROHDE reported we have 131 members in our Club. In the past Rotary year, we lost 13 members, and welcomed 14 new members.

At 1:32, President BEN rang our Rotary bell and adjourned the meeting.