

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

August 17, 2020

Reporter: TRISH BUBENIK

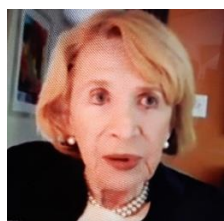
Editor: LYLE CONNELL

**CALL to ORDER:** President BEN THRELKELD belled the meeting to order at 12:32.

**REVIEW of ZOOM ETIQUETTE** Hand-raising feature. To raise your hand using an iPhone, click on the "participants" button (participants' bar—for a laptop) at the bottom of the screen. The participants' screen to the right will pop up. Click on the hand at the bottom left to raise your hand. To lower your hand, click on that same button.

**VISITING ROTARIANS and ROTARIANS with GUESTS:** Pres-Elect CASH ALAEE noted Shoshana Shur (GEOFF ZIMAN's daughter); BEN introduced his father Bob Threlkeld and his mother Toby Stanley from Maine.

**THOUGHT of the DAY:** Diana Diamond shared from her college-era favorite book, *The Prophet* by Kahlil Gibran for comfort during COVID: Seek a friend always with hours to live not hours to kill...



**REMINDERS:** BEN reminded folks about dues. He also urged members to send in photos of themselves wearing a Rotary mask for weekly quiz. Today's masked member stumped everyone, forcing BEN to announce.

**COFFEE with A ROTARIAN:** DANA borrowed this idea from eClub of Silicon Valley. Each month, you are paired with another member for a Zoom or phone conversation—socializing during COVID. To participate, wait for an email. To opt out, email DANA dana@danatom.com

**HANDS-ON SERVICE for August:** Freshen up your neighborhood while getting fresh air. In addition to your mask, you need a garbage bag and gloves, or a grabber. Pictures would be appreciated—bonus points if wearing Rotary gear. Send photos to REBECCA GERALDI--winterskeeper@yahoo.com

BEN then shared a photo of LaKesha Roberts-Evans, Associate Director of Ecumenical Hunger Program, sharing her appreciation for the donation of the 1,000 cans of food, given by our club members.

**MEMBERSHIP SEMINAR:** KAREN ROHDE.



BEN, DANA, CASH and RALPH ADAMS also attended the Saturday event. She noted that she feels our club is doing well already using membership activities that were presented. She was listening for good ideas in this COVID era. She saluted DANA's successful shift to Zoom meetings.

**REVISION of BYLAWS:** BEN invited members to the Monday evening Zoom discussion. We vote next week and need a quorum, so please attend.

**VIRTUAL TGIF and WHISKEY TASTING, August 28:** Pick up samples at BEN's office August 25, 26, 27 (250 Cambridge Ave, Ste. 102) from 8:30-5:00 pm. Pay \$15 sample with cash or write checks to JON COWAN.

**TOUR de MENLO:** LE LEVY (650-832-1653) and HERSH DAVIS (650-799-8683) invite cyclists to join the COVID individual touring, September 4-13. Contact either if interested in this Menlo Park Rotary fundraiser.

**PRESIDENT'S CLUB:** BRIAN STEEN joined after "confessing" that he switched his loyalty from the Giants, due to their current "performance," to the Dodgers.



**94th BIRTHDAY:** Let's send lots cards to our wonderful DICK FREEMAN. His address is on our club website directory.

**NEXT WEEK:** Vicent Partal, Journalist in Catalonia—"The Coronavirus Pandemic as a Symptom of Global Systemic Crisis"

**TODAY'S SPEAKER:** SALLY THOMLINSON introduced Christa Gannon, B.S. Sociology and Law and Society; J.D. "Juvenile Justice in California and Around the World"



Christa founded Fresh Lifelines for Youth, known as



FLY. As a Stanford Law student in 1995, she volunteered to teach law to incarcerated youth faced with spending most of their teenage years, and for some their entire lives, behind bars. She asked them what would prevent other youth from ending up like them, and their ideas became the basis for FLY.

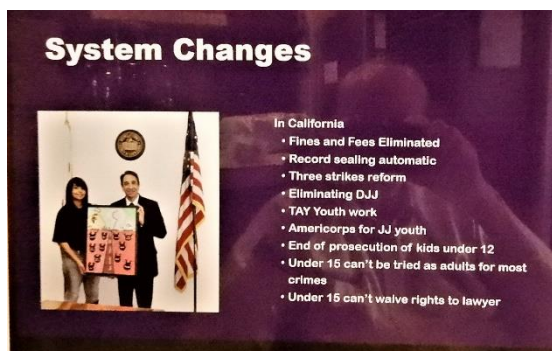
In 1998, she received the prestigious George Soros Foundation award, a two-year fellowship, and she took the young people's ideas, bolstered them with best practices in youth development and crime prevention, and started a pilot program. The pilot was so successful that when the fellowship ended in 2000, Christa incorporated the project into a nonprofit.

TRISH first met Christa at a meeting of the Challenge Team, focused on high risk students in Mountain View, which she founded as superintendent.

While volunteering, the young people taught Christa that they really just wanted someone to care about them. FLY now has active programs in Santa Clara, San Mateo and Alameda counties focused on serving 15-17 year-olds, 80% male, with 17% Black and 9% Latino, with role models, law instruction, and mentors. Programs for students at risk are more productive than the annual cost of \$190,000 per incarcerated youth.

She noted positive changes in recent year in the Juvenile Justice System. Respect for judges serving in juvenile court has increased. She urged us

to watch for changes Governor Newsom is going to promote.



Christa has received numerous awards for her work with FLY, including the James Irvine Leadership Award, the Human Rights Award for the City of San Jose, Stanford Law School's Inaugural Alumni Public Service Award, a Bay Area Women of Influence Award, and induction as an Ashoka Fellow, one of the first in the field of Juvenile Justice in the US. [www.flyprogram.org](http://www.flyprogram.org) DIANA DIAMOND asked about systemic racism. ROB LANCEFIELD recommended the new book *Caste* by Wilkerson calling out systemic racism. TIM WATSON asked about the typical path through the JJS and at what point FLY intervenes.