

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

September 14, 2020

Reporter: OANA MARCU

Editor: LYLE CONNELL

President BEN THRELKELD welcomed everyone with a reminder of the health need for social interaction and connecting, citing “Together”, a book from Vivek Murthy, MD, 19th US Surgeon General of the US. PARC provides opportunities for connection despite physical distance through TGIFs and Happy Hours – please take advantage and connect with your Rotary friends!

President elect CASH ALAEE welcomed guests CRAIG NEEDHAM hosted by GINNY LEAR; TOIYA BLACK, JODY SIEVERS, KORI SHAW, DANIELLE JAMES and SUSAN BOMAR hosted by our newest member KIM BOMAR; NANCY KAWAKITA hosted by her husband DANA TOM; and TOM LANCEFIELD hosted by his brother ROB LANCEFIELD.

MARK STEVENSON started The Thought of the Day by joining President’s Club in honor of his father who was a Rotarian; he prompted us to connect the dots of the good Rotary work over the last century by reminding us that Rotary International was invited to the founding meeting of the United Nations in San Francisco in 1945; that Rotary Clubs in Europe, shut during and post WWII, are being revived (the 1925-chartered Rotary in Prague was revived in 1991); and he recommended “On Tyranny – 20 lessons from the 20th century”, a book from Tim Snyder, historian at Yale, highlighting key lessons that are at the core of Rotary as well: the importance of learning from other countries, professional ethics and good causes, and defending valuable institutions.



Past Pres. DANA TOM spoke on The Rotary Foundation efforts to eradicate polio, which has had additional benefits of building better health systems. A brief video highlighted recent news that the continent of Africa is polio free, without a single case in four years. Vaccines will continue to be given.

A Paul Harris Fellowship Award was presented by GINNY LEAR to CRAIG NEEDHAM to acknowledge his contributions to promoting education and understanding in the community. CRAIG spoke to our

club in February and is a frequently invited Rotary



speaker who shares his personal life experience as a child whose mother contracted polio and lived in an iron lung for 13 years.

Pres. BEN THRELKELD welcomed new member KIM BOMAR, sponsored by DANA TOM. KIM is a strong advocate for inclusion and community service. She has recently become a Trustee of the First Congregational Church in Palo Alto. Her *classification is LAW-CORPORATE*. Kim looks forward to expanding her business and education. Do connect and read her online bio to learn more about her. Congratulations to KIM and a warm welcome!



Palo Alto Rotary Club Chartered 1922

Rotary Opens Opportunity


New Member Induction:

- New Member- Kim Bomar
- Sponsor- Dana Tom

KIM Kim Bomar LAW-CORPORATE PALO ALTO CA

## UPCOMING EVENTS OF THE WEEK:

On Tuesday, Sept 15 5-7pm, the Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce will hold the City Council Candidate Forum online through Zoom webinar. The event is co-sponsored by The Palo Alto Rotary Club and moderated by Joe Simitian. Participation is free, with required online registration through [www.paloaltochamber.com](http://www.paloaltochamber.com)



Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce



Palo Alto Rotary Club



CO-SPONSOR




INVITE OUR COMMUNITY TO HEAR FROM THE CANDIDATES

## Palo Alto City Council CANDIDATE FORUM

**5-7 pm, Tuesday, September 15**  
*Free & Open to the Public*  
*Zoom Pre-registration Required*  
*at PaloAltoChamber.com*



**Pat Burt**  
Former Mayor and Council Member



**Rebecca Eisenberg**  
Attorney Principal,  
Private Client Legal Services



**Steven Lee**  
Human Relations Commissioner, Attorney



**Raven Malone**  
Systems Engineer



**Greer Stone**  
Palo Alto Teacher County Human Rights Commissioner



**Supervisor Joe Simitian**



**Lydia Kou**  
Council Member



**Ed Laing**  
Managing Partner,  
Equity Search Partners



**Cari Templeton**  
Chair, Palo Alto Planning and Transportation Commission



**Ajit Varma**  
Product Management Director, WhatsApp

Info: 650-324-3121

On Thursday, Sept 17th 5:00 to 5:45 pm The Boy Scouts of America Pacific Skyline Council will hold its 2020 Virtual Distinguished Citizen Award Dinner. This virtual fundraiser event is emceed by STEVE PLAYER and honors JUDY KLEINBERG with the Distinguished Citizen Award, given to recognize a noteworthy community leader. For participation please register at <https://scoutingevent.com/031-DCAD2020>,



The Social Committee is organizing a Virtual Travel TGIF on September 25, 5:30 to 7:00pm, featuring so far London and Asia. Additional volunteers to present a 10-15 minute digital slide show are invited to reach out to BEN THRELKELD.

DANA TOM introduced ENOCH CHOI, Urgent Care Physician, who spoke about "Serving on the COVID-19 Front Lines". Dr. CHOI is the recipient of US and CA congressional recognition, the Palo Alto Tall Tree 2019, PAMF Service Award 2017, SF Business Times Health Hero 2013, and Silicon Valley Business Journal 2011 Health Hero.



Dr. CHOI spoke about the impact COVID-19 impact on the mental health of health care workers, due to extra work shifts imposed by overstaffing during March-May and aggravated by the constant change in protocols, and the confluence of the violence of social movements and the health impact of wildfires. He also mentioned the anti-Asian discrimination, which he has experienced all his life as a child and in college, and which has escalated since March to create an unprecedented fear for safety.



Dr. CHOI mentioned his work with the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center "backpack medicine" providing care to isolated communities outside the reach of regular MDs, including homeless, and the work through Jordan International Aid and Rotary in major natural disasters of the last decade.

Volunteers for the meeting were e-pinion writer OANA MARCU and editor LYLE CONNELL. Please contact OANA and LYLE if you would like to become an e-pinion writer.

Next Week's program is New Member Talks by SOHEILA MOZAYAN, MIKE REYNOLDS and PATRICK KELLY.