

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

December 14, 2020

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President BEN THRELKELD belled the meeting to order at 12:31. He then shared positive progress of the first part of the year, citing dues payments, contributions to The Rotary Foundation, KAREN ROHDE's new members, service programs, and SALLY TOMLINSON and committee's robust speakers. BEN cheered the first six months, optimistic about the next and noted that CASH has an experienced team gearing up for next year.

CASH ALAAE introduced Jackie Wheeler, BETSY BECHTEL's guest who is applying for membership. He also welcomed MICHAEL WICK, LEE LIPPERT and E.J. HONG.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY: MIKE McMAHON presented what technical difficulties prevented last week. As a former Navy seaman, he shared diagrams and photos of Pearl Harbor in 1942: noting that those "who died there did not die in vain."



KAREN ROHDE announced that 19 potential members and 20 other guests attended last week's membership meeting. BRIAN STEEN won the prize with five guests followed by JUDITH STEINER, 3. Others—PATTY McGUIGAN, DANA TOM, BETSY BECHTEL, KAREN ROHDE, JON STOUMAN, LINNET KWOK, CHARLIE WEIDANZ, JUDY KLEINBERG, and BEN. New members are the lifeblood of our club.



BRUCE GEE joined the President's Club as Chair of the Palo Alto Community Foundation, which just donated \$100,000 to 285 needy families, noting many Rotary members serve on the PACF Board and Advisory Committee.



THE ROTARY FOUNDATION DRIVE: DANA TOM reported that TRF raised \$30,000 and Polio Plus, \$3500. These donations bring clean water, health and education. We will work toward "Every Rotarian Every Year" as we move forward. You can still donate at <https://my.rotary.org/en/donate> and send an email to dana@danatom.com to let him know you did.



BOARD BUSINESS: BEN moved into Annual Meeting to approve the 2021-22 slates of the Board of Directors and the Endowment Board. Members present unanimously accepted the respective slate for each board.



SALLY TOMLINSON Announced the January Programs:

***January 4—Lynn Orr, former Under Sec. for Science and Energy: Clean Energy and Climate—Key Challenges for the Biden Administration**

***January 11—Joan Ryan, journalist and author: Unlocking the Science and Soul of Team Chemistry**

***January 18—John Hibbing, Political Science Professor, University of Nebraska-Lincoln: The Securitarian Personality: What Really Motivates Trump's Base and Why it Matters in Post-Trump Era**

***January 25—James Eggers, Director Loma Prieta Chapter of Sierra Club: Equity and Inclusion at Sierra Club and Elsewhere**

E. J. HONG Introduced Gunn High School Choral Director, Bill Liberatore



Bill thanked Rotary for the opportunity to create a Zoom program while



students work at home. He introduced his co-teacher Angelina Fitzhugh who works at JLS and with Gunn. They work together with students to boost "music and morale" during these unusual times. He explained that the students prepared their



singing alone at home—never together in preparation for the musical program. He also celebrated that this Zoom program can now go to senior centers (Channing House, the Sequoias, Webster House) via YouTube.

The "Chat" line-up pulsated with praise for the choirs/ensembles, cheering for: the vibrant talent, stunning tonality, professional sound and visual presentations—including effective backgrounds. Special



applause for the singing of all 6th through 12th students across Palo Alto. President BEN gave grateful thanks. BEN also said our Rotary provided "bonuses" to our Elks Club servers—per tradition.

Festive celebration adjourned at 1:37. HAPPY NEW YEAR ALL !!!!!