

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

April 5, 2021

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Editor: LYLE CONNELL

President BEN THRELKELD called the Zoom meeting to order at 12:30 PM.

**VISITING ROTARIANS and VISITORS** There were TWO Visiting Rotarians: Kathy Berry, President of the Los Altos Club and Len Geraldi of the Rohnert Park Cotati Satellite Club, and more importantly, Rebecca's father. There were no visitors.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

**ROB LANCEFIELD** on the subject of Compassion, defined as a sympathetic pity for others, and a close kin of the Rotary Motto, "Service above Self." Dr. James Doty described how Oxytocin is released into the bloodstream as a hormone in response to love and in labor. Rob also related compassion to the tend-and-befriend model, a behavior exhibited by some animals, including humans, in response to threat.



## PALO ALTO 3rd QUARTER GOAL REVIEW

President BEN then reviewed the progress against his goals for the second half of the Rotary year.

Membership – 8 new members since January against goal of 5.

Annual Fundraiser – Goal of \$60K versus Actual of \$91K. Wow!

Social Events – 3 large scale goal – 1 complete and 2 scheduled.

Lunch at Elks Club – Roadmap in progress – on next Board agenda.

Service Project Participators – Goal of 55 different Rotarians hands-on - 42 so far.



## ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

**SALLY TOMLINSON** announced that the event blew through their goal of \$60,000 and raised \$91,456. Fund-a-Need raised over \$20,000, half of which will go to Palo Alto's Christmas Bureau. There are still a few items remaining, including:



-3 spots in the Art Lesson on 4/15

-2 spots on the popular Chinatown Tour, immediately purchased, led by GLORIA HOM

-7 spots for cocktail lessons by REBECCA GERALDI

-Weekly July Ice Cream Socials with SALLY TOMLINSON

-1 case of Page Mill Winery's GPS Wine

Contact SALLY TOMLINSON if you are interested.

## PRESIDENT'S CLUB

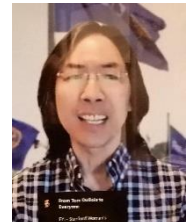
**MATT DOLAN** joined to honor REBECCA GERALDI'S relentless efforts to make the auction a success.



**CASH ALAEE** joined to honor the entire Fundraiser Committee for planning and executing an outstanding, successful event.

## PROGRAM

Past President **DANA TOM** introduced Dr. Clayborne Carson, Director of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Research and Education Institute and a Stanford Professor Emeritus. Dr. Carson has devoted most of his professional life to the study of Martin Luther King Jr., and the movements King inspired. In 1985, the late Coretta Scott King invited Dr. Carson to direct a long-term project to edit and publish an authoritative edition of her late husband's speeches, sermons, correspondence, publications, and unpublished writings.



Dr. Carson initially thought it would be a 20 year project but has found it has taken much longer. Dr. King's papers are spread throughout the world, not just in Atlanta. It has taken longer to edit and publish them than the length of Dr. King's public life! Dr. Carson has made it his goal to make Dr. King's legacy available for free around the world. Dr. Carson has used the Internet via on-line teaching to reach a global audience.

Dr. Carson emphasized the importance of Coretta Scott King in carrying on Dr. King's legacy. Her contribution to how his legacy should be carried on should not be underestimated. In the 16 years after his death, she turned his birthday into a National Holiday and Dr. King into an international icon. Mrs. King had more political experience than her husband, and was not a Baptist.

Some other observations of Dr. Carson:

-The 1964 election was the last one in which a majority of white Americans voted for the liberal candidate.

-There has been a conflict in the King family about using the intellectual property of Dr. King to support the King family and making information available publicly.

-Dr. Carson recommends Dr. King's last sermon, "Unfulfilled Dreams" on the issues of poverty remaining a pressing problem.

-The Jim Crow system in the South was a high priority; it was largely over by 1965. The focus then turned North. The discrimination there was widespread, more subtle, and national not regional.

-It still exists today; entrenched urban poverty in large cities is the biggest problem.

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS/EVENTS

April 12 Emily Arnold-Fernández, Asylum Challenges Around the World

April 14 Happy Hour: 5:30 – 6:30 PM

April 19 Community Grant Recipients – Bill Johnson