

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

May 10, 2021

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**PRESIDENT'S REMARKS:** PRESIDENT BEN The focus for the remainder of our fiscal year will be making sure all our Charitable funds get disbursed, and any excess funds are used for supporting meaningful causes. President Ben also hopes to persuade grant recipients to join our Zoom meetings to tell us the impact our grants have on our community.

**VISITING ROTARIANS:** President-Elect CASH ALAEE introduced visiting Rotarian PATRICK AHRENS from Cupertino Rotary.

**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:** JEFF YEN read from "The Infinite Game" by Simon Sinek. Competing with others is a "finite" game, Think of a baseball game. Each game has start and a finish (although there may be more than one game). The "infinite" game is competing with yourself. There are no set rules about who are the players, how long is the game. So, each of us needs a "just cause" to keep us engaged in the infinite game. Rotary's "Service above self" attracts all Rotarians. That's us!



President BEN turned our meeting over to KAREN

ROHDE, our Membership Chair. She spoke about our Spring Membership Drive. KAREN encouraged us to invite guests to next week's meeting, when our speaker will be Gen. H. R. McMasters, former National Security Advisor (2017-2018), speaking on "Battlegrounds: The Fight to Defend the Free World."



KAREN told us there is lots of information about how to invite people to come to a meeting, and how to invite a person to join. what the procedures are, etc. KAREN showed us the first page on our club website, and how to search on "About a Club" and then to "Become a Member" and then to "Reasons to Join Rotary" and sample email invitations. Last but not least, each new member can have a Rotary Buddy, to help introduce the new member to other club members.

President BEN showed us a 2-minute video "We are Rotary." The video is available on YouTube at: <https://youtu.be/RmKYYcxshO>. Pres. BEN encouraged us to send the video to a friend or potential new member.

**DONATING TO ENDOWMENT FUND.** TIM WATSON encouraged us to encouraged us to name the Endowment Fund as a beneficiary in our wills, trusts or IRA's. Small amounts OK and welcome!



**TGIF MAY 28TH, 5:30-7:00 PM, "SO YOU THINK YOU KNOW PALO ALTO" Trivia Night.** Keep all questions Palo Alto focused, but incorporate various focus areas like music, history, etc. Submit your suggestions for questions, to President BEN. Use break-out rooms on Zoom for teams. Each winning team member gets a \$50 gift certificate from a Palo Alto restaurant TBD.

**2021 VIRTUAL RI CONVENTION JUNE 12TH-16TH.** This is usually held in person in interesting cities around the world. This year, the convention will be virtual. You can hear and see inspiring speakers from all over the world, in the comfort of your own home with Zoom Registration fee is \$65. To register, to go: <https://convention.rotary.org/en>

**PRESIDENT'S CLUB:** President BEN gave very positive recognition to our member, CHRISTIAN MARTINE,, a member of our club who moved to Beckley, West Virginia, about a year ago. Christian recently lost a grandfather to COV-19. Christian wrote an inspiring Op-Ed piece published in the West Virginia Gazette urging people to get vaccinated. Here's a link

to Christian's article: [https://www.wvgazette.com/opinion/op\\_ed\\_commentaries/christianmartine-covid-killed-my-grandfather-get-the-vaccine-opinion/article\\_5aeaff02-453e-5b18-911d-4ab774962a5e.html](https://www.wvgazette.com/opinion/op_ed_commentaries/christianmartine-covid-killed-my-grandfather-get-the-vaccine-opinion/article_5aeaff02-453e-5b18-911d-4ab774962a5e.html)

ROB LANCEFIELD joined the President's Club mainly to honor CHRISTIAN, but also to brag about his new and very limited cooking skills at age 85, and recognized by his wife, Rita.

**NEXT WEEK'S PROGRAM:** A conversation with Gen. H. R. McMaster, Hoover Institute Fellow and former National Security Advisor, "Battlegrounds: The Fight to Defend the Free World President." Invite your friends to this top-notch speaker

**BEN thanked the VOLUNTEERS FOR TODAY'S MEETNG:** Guest Introductions, CASH ALAEE; Pinion writer, ROB LANCEFIELD; Pinion editor: LYLE CONNELL; Zoom CoHost: DANA TOM.

**NEW MEMBER TALKS:** ROB LYMAN introduced JOOP VERBAKEN, KARAE LISLE and JACKIE WHEELER to give their New Member talks. For the first time in Club history, all three shared Zoom presentations to help tell their stories.

JOOP (sounds like "hope") was born in the Netherlands, where he met his wife, STANS KLEIJNEN, also a member of our club. JOOP majored in computer science at college. He has had a long career with numerous tech startups. JOOP and STANS have traveled the world, most recently living several years in Mumbai. JOOP is a long-time member of the Santa Clara University Chorale.



KARAE LISLE was born in Atlanta, the eldest of 5 children. In her junior year of high school, KARAE applied for food stamps. In 1980, she was the captain of the baton twirler team at Florida State University in the Orange Bowl. At FSU, KARAE majored in Computer Science and Management Information. She later graduated from Harvard Business School, where she became an Adjunct Professor. As CEO, KARAE led the merger of Santa Clara Invision and San Mateo Shelter Network. KARAE is currently CEO of VISTA (Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired).



JACKIE WHEELER was born in Pasadena, where she lived many years. Her father was the handicapper for the Pasadena Star-News for horse races at nearby Santa Anita race track. JACKIE lived in Houston for many years, where she led a fascinating life while meeting astronauts' wives. She was part of Opticon, which made a hand-held scanner that enables a blind person to scan print with the right hand, and move the data to the left hand where it can be read using Braille. JACKIE has worked with the IRS and Social



Security Administration. They are the biggest employers of the disabled. JACKIE is currently working with a group, "Close the Gap: Achieving Gender Equality," by recruiting women to increase the percentage of women in the CA legislature from 3% to 50%.

**ADJOURNMENT:** AT 1:40 PM, PRESIDENT BEN rang our bell and adjourned the meeting