

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

September 20, 2021

Reporter: SALLY TOMLINSON

Editor: LYLE CONNELL

President KHASHAYAR "CASH" ALAEE called the virtual meeting to order at 12:30.

President Elect KAREN ROHDE invited members to introduced their guests. REBECCA GERALDI introduced Yassine Laghzioui and Hamzeh Abu-Jassar, both of whom were visiting for a second time. CARI TEMPLETON introduced Steven Lee as a returning guest and associate vice counsel for Facebook.



For our Thought for the Day, DAVE SMULLIN spoke about climate change and the difficulty of being optimistic in the face of climate disasters alongside divisive opinions. But taking action can renew optimism, and Rotary offers options. Rotary International added the environment as a focus this year, and there is now a Rotary Climate Action Network. Two gatherings coming up provide an opportunity to take positive action. One, hosted by

our members GEOFF BALL and LARRY KLEIN, this Wednesday, and one hosted by the Rotary Climate Action Team Network on Saturday. Details are below. You can connect with Rotarians in our club, our district, or internationally to tackle this issue.

CASH joined the President's Club in honor of JUDY KLEINBERG who was just announced as a winner of the PA Chamber of Commerce Athena Award. JUDY said



she is honored to be in the company of so many women who have achieved so much.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS, REPORTS AND REMINDERS:

CASH showed a photo of a smiling Akram Piracha with a beautiful vase of flowers. The Club sent him flowers on learning that he has resigned due to failing health. We are sorry to know he has left our club, but were happy to see his smile.



DANA TOM let us know that our recent speaker and DANA's friend Russell Jeung was just named one of Time's 100 Most Influential

People of 2021, honoring his work with the Stop AAPI Hate organization.

Two upcoming Climate Action Gatherings: On Wed, Sept 22, 5-6:30, GEOFF BALL & LARRY KLEIN will host a club conversation about addressing climate change via Zoom. Then on Sat., Sept 25, there is a two-hour training on ways to support climate action - contact info to register and for details is in CASH's Monday e-mail.

FUN is coming your way this Friday! TGIF Sept 24 will be at AbilityPath, 525 E Charleston 5:30-7 PM.

Volunteer your way into the audience at Palo Alto Players: for the Palo Alto Players performance of "Working," Sept 26, 1-4:15 and you get to see the show for free! Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/ewkf1DLfhVuLoP9XA> This will be a hybrid (virtual and in person) performance, and technology step supported by a grant from our club.



Road,  
Usher

District 5170 Avenues of Service Conference is a 2-Day Event Sept 30-Oct 2. Visit the district website for details <https://www.rotarydistrict5170.org/>

## Disaster Response is a Cause of Rotary

. Cash acknowledged some of our members who have been involved in disaster response:

•JUDY KLEINBERG, whose leadership as Mayor got the disaster preparedness program underway.

•ANNETTE GLANCKOPF, the city's disaster preparedness guru.

•REBECCA GERALDI, a block coordinator.



•JOAN PLASTIRAS, a block coordinator.

•TRISH BUBENIK, a former Director of the local Red Cross.



•GEOFF ZIMAN, an active volunteer in Red Cross for many years.



ANNETTE GLANCKOPF told us



of a fun Shakeout contest

sponsored by the City of Palo Alto in connection with earthquake preparedness. They invite you to submit photos or videos of the best expression when an earthquake occurs; the craziest place to duck and cover; surprising hazards around the

house; unique earthquake stories. Send your entry to Annette. And before taking your photo, put on your Rotary gear!

CASH provided an Annual Giving recap: Q1 was focused on Membership dues. Q2 is when we celebrate support of Rotary Foundation and the projects it enables. Q 2,3,4 we will encourage investing in the Endowment with the goal of raising an additional \$100,000 with 100% participation to reach \$1.3 million; Q 3,4 we will turn attention to the Annual Charities with our event on April 29 and a goal of \$100,000. This is our 100th anniversary year, so 100 (plus some zeroes) will be out goal.

THANKS TO HELPERS: BEN THRELKELD and DANA TOM for Zoom back up; KAREN ROHDE for introducing visiting Rotarians and guests; Pinion Editor LYLE CONNELL and writer yours truly.

ROB LYMAN introduced each of our three speakers, New Members ANNE CRIBBS, CARI TEMPLETON, and JEFF YEN.



ANNE CRIBBS was sponsored by



PATTY MCGUIGAN. Anne is a local girl, born in Burlingame, lived in Saratoga and Redwood City and went to Menlo Atherton High School. After graduation, she spent three years in Thailand with her first husband and their baby. After coming back to the Bay Area, and with somewhat older children, Anne went to Foothill College and then Stanford for a degree in poly science. With stints in the City of Palo Alto Rec department and her own PR firm, Anne co-founded the ABL, the first professional basketball league for women, which preceded the WNBA. She now is CEO of BASOC (SF Bay Sports Organizing Committee) which brings international sports to the Bay Area, spreads the ideal of the Olympic games, and manages the CA Senior Games. The Olympics are special for Anne, who swam her first race at age 8 at the Burgess pool, and when she won, announced that she wanted to go to Olympics. She swam competitively, set new records, won gold in the 1959 Pan American Games, and swam in the qualifying heats for the gold-medal winning Olympic team in the 1960 Olympics. All before the age of 16, when she retired from swimming because there were no college opportunities for women swimmers, no scholarships before Title IX. Anne's two current passions are the Senior Games/Encore Games (pickleball starts soon) and the Rich May Field in East Palo Alto, for which she and her board of 8 people raised the funding. Oh, and she is an awesome swim instructor, as our past president BEN will attest.



CARI TEMPLETON joined in February and was sponsored by BETSY BECHTEL. She is a lifelong fan of baseball, and as a child in Atlanta she was motivated in school by a local program that gave out Braves tickets to students with straight A's. Studying for baseball tickets gave her a good foundation, and in high

school Cari worked on the newspaper and taught English as a Second Language. She went to Vanderbilt, where she met her (future) husband in a computer lab. After college, she got her first job at Sun Microsystems. Welcome to the west coast, Cari! But not for long, because after they married, her husband was transferred to Germany. For three years in Regensburg she was unpermitted for work so she went back to school, studying six languages (six?). Back in California, she worked at Google for ten years, had two children at Stanford Hospital, acquired three cats, and somewhere along the way got a Masters in Liberal Arts. Local discourse caught her attention and she joined the Palo Alto Planning and Transportation commission where she still serves alongside her other volunteer interests which now include Rotary

JEFF YEN joined in January sponsored by JON STOUMEN. Jeff's



classification is in Physics – not a classification we have seen before, though he actually double-majored in Physics and Astrophysics at UC Berkeley. Jeff has two brothers, and he is in the middle of a 12 year spread. His has always thought of his father as badass, and for good reason: he was in military, knew martial arts, and was a bodyguard for the President of Taiwan for a year. Jeff's mother was a professor of Chinese and history.

His older brother is a professor in Beijing and his younger brother lives in Taiwan – only Jeff is in the US. His parents were first generation in Taiwan, having moved from China, and now Jeff is first generation in US. He came to the US at the age of 10 to visit his aunt in Daly City, and he was won over to the US by the cool weather and the fact that his aunt gave him a Game Boy and let him eat a pint of ice cream every night. His aunt is a very influential person for him. Jeff studied ESL for three years at City College in San Francisco (he thanks all ESL teachers, including Cari) before he could transfer to Berkeley for his Bachelor's degree and then Stanford for his PhD. He and a colleague have a start-up with the lab in the living room. Jon Stoumen is an advisor to his company and an inspiration because of his healthy lifestyle (more running, less ice cream?)

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

Wed, Sept. 22, 5-6:30 PM, Zoom with GEOFF BALL & LARRY KLEIN, hosting a club conversation about beginning a climate change committee. To join with video, click here:

<https://zoom.us/j/8224330584?pwd=MUUrZTUwQmR3aTJlJmVScUVBeitVQT09>

Friday, TGIF Sept 24, 5:30-7:00 PM, IN PERSON at AbilityPath, 525 E Charleston Road, 5:30-7 PM. Our member SOHEILA MOZAYAN, hosting.

Sat., Sept 25, 10 AM-Noon *Rotary Climate Action Team (RCAT)* Zoom training on climate action leader training - Email to register: John G. Mathers - RCAT Network | [jgmathersevo@gmail.com](mailto:jgmathersevo@gmail.com)

Sunday, Sept 26, 1-4:15 PM Volunteer to Usher for the Palo Alto Players performance of "Working," and see the show for free!

Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/ewkf1DLfhVuLoP9XA> All ushers must show proof of full COVID vaccination and wear a mask This will be a hybrid (virtual and in person) performance, and technology step, supported by a grant from our club.