

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

February 28, 2022

CELEBRATING OUR CLUB's 100th YEAR

Chartered: May 1, 1922



**President CASH ALAEE** rang the bell promptly at 12:30 PM to open the virtual meeting.

President-Elect **KAREN RODHE** introduced REBECCA GERALDI's three visitors. Hein Nyugen,

originally from Viet Nam, is a co-founder of an organization called Aspired. As a former student at Foothill, she was able, later in the meeting, to confirm the speaker's comment regarding the reasons for the decline in the number of international students. The two other visitors were Elyse Gerson, Executive Director and Arielle Handle, Community Development Director at Moldaw Residences, a senior living community that shares space with the JCC campus in Palo Alto.



## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

**ED LAUING** spoke of the overwhelming problem of climate change in the light of the Jewish admonition Tukkun Olam – To repair the World. The interpretation of the sages is that you are not



obligated to complete the (repair) work, neither are you free to desist from it.

## IN MEMORIAM

CASH sadly announced that **LYLE CONNELL**, our 100-year-old, Pinion Editor Emeritus and highly esteemed member of 24 years, passed away on February 23. **LYLE** had just attended our previous meeting on February 14.

A memorial service for **LYLE** will take place on **March 8, 11:00 AM**, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 3865 Middlefield Rd. Palo Alto

TOM GRACON advised us that **STEVE MADSEN's** wife Nancy had recently passed away and that cards to Steve are welcomed.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Beginning March 7, our club meeting will be an in-person lunch at the Elk's Club.** Those attending will be required to show proof of boosted COVID vaccination. County guidelines will be followed. Remote attendance by Zoom will be available, for now, but members are encouraged to come in person so that our fellowship and traditions can be resumed.

The Rotary International statement on the **Ukraine** conflict was shared and guidance for Rotary Clubs will be provided in coming weeks. It should be noted that the former US

Ambassador to Ukraine Steven Pifer will be our speaker on April 4. Club Member ROMAN KAGARLITSKI stated that he has had difficulty contacting his staff in the Ukraine and ascertaining the situation there.

President **CASH** and **REBECCA GERALDI** attended the recent dinner with RI President-Elect Jennifer Jones. Pictures from the event were shown with the leadership theme "People of Influence, People of Action and People of Purpose".

The **Climate Action Committee** will meet via Zoom at 5PM on March 8.

On March 13, 4:00-6:30 PM, Rotary District 5170 will celebrate International Women's Day with an in person event at the downtown San Jose Rotary Summit Center. WCS Chair **MIKE REYNOLDS** has planned a club display table at the Project Fair. Information is at [rotarydistrict5170.org](http://rotarydistrict5170.org). Seven of our members have registered so far, and we hope more will join us.

## PRESIDENT'S CLUB

The following members joined the President's Club in honor of Lyle: **TIM WATSON, TRISH BUBENIK, REBECCA GERALDI**, also noting her son's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday, **DON MORGAN, GINNY LEAR**, and **DUANE KALAR**, noting his own birthday, and his 50 years of Rotary membership.

**TOM GRACON** contributed in memory of Nancy Madsen, as well as for LYLE. TOM noted that it also was his own birthday.

## OUR CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

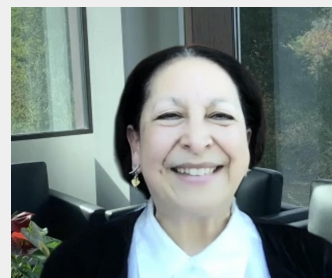
**April 30, 2022, 5:30-7:30 PM, Mitchell Park.**

Rotarians have received an email with a request for auction items for the silent auction. Let **SALLY TOMLINSON** know if you have donations of gift certificates from a favorite restaurant, wine, meals, sharing of talents, etc. Please refer to the email explaining what auction revenues support, and share it with

others who might donate, and for additional details. Proceeds support our Palo Alto Rotary Annual Charities Fund.

## PROGRAM

**BETSY BECHTEL** introduced our speaker **Judy Miner, Chancellor of Foothill-De Anza Community College District** and active member of many local and national boards. She spoke about the diverse issues facing Community Colleges. Foothill-De Anza's emphasis is on university transfer, workforce education and lifelong learning.



An important element recently has been dual enrollment where the college provides an attractive alternative for high school students. Internships and apprenticeships are also receiving current emphasis. The pandemic has been a tipping point and declining enrollment in recent years has been experienced not only at Foothill-De Anza but also throughout the country. The speaker suggested that there were multiple factors besides COVID attributing to this trend – hot job market, economic stress, cost of housing, remote working, barriers to foreign students as well as questioning of the value of certificates/degrees. The speaker responded to questions asked by **DIANA DIAMOND, HENRIETTA BURROUGHS, DAVE PRICE, BETSY BECHTEL** and **LE LEVY**.

## CLOSING

**CASH** thanked the speaker and all who volunteered, as he closed today's meeting,

## TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS

Thought for the Day: **ED LAUING**

Zoom Co-Hosts: **BEN THRELKELD, DANA TOM**

Pinion writer: **GEOFF ZIMAN**

Pinion editor: **GINNY LEAR**

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS/EVENTS

March 7	Linda Coble, 1st Female Pres., Honolulu Rotary Club, 1st Female Anchor CBS Honolulu, 1st Female District Governor, District 5000 <b>Breaking Ceilings in Rotary and Beyond</b>
March 14	Ed Shikada, City Manager, Palo Alto <b>Current and Upcoming Challenges for Palo Alto</b>
March 21	CHRISTINA CHU, JERRY UNDERDAL, ED LAUING: <b>New Member Talks</b>
March 28	Karen Eggleston, Senior Fellow, Freeman Spogli Institute: <b>Cobots in Japan and what they mean for the future of healthcare in the US</b>
April 4	<b>Former US Ambassador to Ukraine, Steven Pifer: on Ukraine</b>