

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

March 28, 2022

CELEBRATING OUR CLUB's 100th YEAR

Chartered: May 1, 1922

President **CASH ALAEE** called us to order on March 28, in person at the Elks and virtually via Zoom. The last three months of his year at the helm are coming right up.... President-Elect **KAREN ROHDE** introduced a repeat guest, Greg Hood, stalwart in the real estate and construction community.... **REBECCA GERALDI** presented her daughter Winter, attending Cal Poly Pomona, who assisted at the welcome table.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

**SOHEILA  
MOZAYAN**

shared  
fascinating  
information  
about Nowruz,  
the Persian



New Year, celebrated at the start of Farvardin, the first month of the Iranian calendar on the Spring Equinox signaling the start of spring .... Among its customs: A "Festival of Fire" and banquet that may include the ritual of jumping over a bonfire. The "Haft-Sin table," symbolizing health, patience and love with seven items that begin with "s": *sabzeh* (sprouting wheat or barley), *samanu* (wheat sweet pudding), *senjed* (oleaster fruit), *serkeh* (vinegar), *sib* (apples), *sir* (garlic) and *somaq* (red sumac). Finally, "Sizdeh bedar (nature's day)," the final day of the holiday period, a time Iranians, by tradition, go outdoors for a family picnic all day, to play games, dance and begin the new year in peace and health.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Rotary service projects and events: We are planning a monthly "hands on" food delivery activity at Neustra Casa, 1305 Middlefield in Redwood City. **April 6**, five volunteers are needed to cover shifts from 2:00 to 4:00 and 3:30 to 6:00 on the first Wednesday of each month....

The committee working on our club's Centennial needs volunteers to help create poster boards....

On **April 13**, we'll enjoy a Happy Hour at The Patio. 412 Emerson...

On **April 22-24**, the District Conference will take place at Blackhawk. You can sign up selectively for individual events....

To allow extra time for next Monday's speaker, Steven Pifer, we'll have a shortened business meeting, and Ambassador Pifer's talk will begin at approximately 12:45.

**Our club meeting is an in-person lunch at the Elks Club.** Those attending are required to show proof of boosted COVID vaccination at their first visit only. County guidelines will be followed. Members are encouraged to attend in person so that our fellowship and traditions can be resumed. Remote attendance by Zoom is available.

## PRESIDENT'S CLUB

**JACKIE WHEELER** joined the President's Club to celebrate the work of our club's Grants Committee and the achievements of VISTA. Jackie had the opportunity to attend the VISTA Sight Tech Honors celebration and reconnected with colleagues in her field of technology for people with blindness and visual impairments.

## OUR CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

**April 30, 2022, 5:30-7:30 PM, Mitchell Park.**  
**Tickets are on sale now - on our website.**

### Centennial History: 2006

**JUDITH STEINER** shared memories of traveling to India with others from our club for a project in partnership with the Rotary Club of Bombay Metropolitan. The project provided a new water supply for a village that previously had no source of its own, meaning that the women of each family had to carry water home in jugs over long distances. One rule for the project agreed between Rotary and the village was that the newly delivered water had to be available to all, without restrictions relating to caste.



## PROGRAM



Our speaker, **Dr. Karen Eggleston**, is a Senior Fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute at Stanford as well as Director

of the Asia Health Program at the Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center. Her degrees are from Dartmouth, the University of Hawaii and Harvard.... Dr. Eggleston explained that in Japan, gains in life expectancy for people over 65 together with a stable, low birth rate have resulted in a top-heavy population pyramid and far greater demand for care for the elderly. This has led to the widespread use of "COBOTS," collaborative robots that augment rather than replace human effort. For example,

a transfer aid robo, worn by the caregiver, can help reposition patients with less effort and reduced risk of injury for both patient and caregiver.... A study led by Dr. Eggleston of the use of robots by nursing homes in Japan yielded striking conclusions: Unlike robots in manufacturing – where they tend to replace workers – robots in health care can make workers' jobs easier and safer. The study found that using robots led to fewer staff retention problems and increased opportunities under flexible employment contracts.... Effects on the quality of care "need more study...."

## CLOSING

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

## TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: **ANNETTE GLANCKOPF, JULIE JEROME**

Room Set-up: **HERSH DAVIS**

Welcome Desk and Cashier: **REBECCA & Winter Gerald**

Thought for the Day: **SOHELIA MOZAYAN**

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

Pinion writer: **HAL MICKELSON**

Pinion editor: **GINNY LEAR**

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS/EVENTS

April 4	<b>Former US Ambassador to Ukraine, Steven Pifer</b>
April 11	<b>BILL JOHNSON</b> , Chair, Grants Committee: <b>2022 Recipients</b>
April 13	<b>Happy Hour, 5:30-6:30. The Patio, 412 Emerson: No Host</b>
April 18	<b>Erik, Jensen</b> , Professor, Stanford Law School: <b>Seven Myths About Afghanistan</b>
April 25	<b>Elise DeMarzo</b> , Director, City of Palo Alto Public Art Program