

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

October 10, 2022



Chartered: May 1, 1922

## WELCOME

The October 10, 2022, meeting of the Rotary Club of Palo Alto was convened on time, all present and correct, by President **KAREN ROHDE**.

President-Elect **LIZ KNISS** called for any Rotarians with guests.

**ARIELLE HENDEL** presented as her guest Elyse Gerson, Executive Director of the Moldaw Residences.



**CHESLEY DOUGLAS** was accompanied by



his  
son

Chet, who reported that Chesley, "in addition to being a great grandfather," is now literally a great-grandfather, with the birth of Cooper John Strong.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

**ARIELLE HENDEL** was also responsible for our Thought for the Day. She noted that this part of October brings us Indigenous People's Day, Columbus Day and Sukkot, the traditional Jewish observance of "ingathering," a time for hospitality. It's the custom during Sukkot to set up a temporary structure called a *sukka*, sometimes translated as a "booth" or "tabernacle," reminiscent of the shelters covered with leaves in which ancient farmers lived while doing the work of the harvest.... Arielle noted that the Jewish faith has always emphasized the importance of community. For example, there are prayers that can be said only when ten people gather together. She quoted Rabbi David Fernandez as saying, "Community is fellowship based on a shared interest," such as the work of serving the needy and vulnerable.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next, Karen called for celebratory announcements linked to President's Club contributions. **BRUCE GEE'S** son, Kirby, was married last week in Oyster Bay, Long Island, to his college sweetheart Rebecca Layne....

**LE LEVY** joined the PC with appreciation for the paella dinner organized by Bruce GEE and GINNY LEAR, and the Persian banquet hosted "superbly" by CASH ALAEE.... On behalf of our

We Care committee, **JULIE JEROME** circulated cards to convey best wishes to **DAVE THORNTON**, who is caring for his wife Mary Alice, and to **WALT HAYS**, reportedly not at his best. **JON STOUMEN** declared that **WALT** "has been a wonderful mentor to me," an impassioned early voice for sustainability and concern about climate change.

## SERVICE CORNER

President KAREN recognized the hands-on volunteers who helped distribute food at Nuestra Casa: **STEVE EMSLIE, HASAN MUSA, DUANE KALAR, and REBECCA GERALDI**, as well as KAREN herself. She thanked **TIM WATSON** for his work on the "Olé 5K...." If you participate in Amazon Smile, please remember to designate Palo Alto Rotary Annual Charities. Inc., as the organization that you wish to support as you shop.

## NEW MEMBER INDUCTION

Our club's newest member, **SIMON PENNINGTON**, was presented by sponsor GINNY LEAR and inducted by REBECCA GERALDI with the participation of President KAREN and District Governor SAVITA VAIDHYANATHAN. **SIMON** has taught at



Foothill College since 1995. A native of Norwich, England, and graduate of Paly HS, class of '83, he earned his B.A. from San Jose State



University and his M.A. from the University of East Anglia, with an emphasis in Romanesque architecture. He has taught at De Anza, Chabot, and College of San Mateo as well as at Foothill. He lives in Palo Alto with his wife

and two sons; he enjoys museums and travel; and says he is "a Norwich City fan, but hardened to the realities of life." Simon is Foothill's Associate Vice President for College & Community Relations, Marketing, and Communications.

## TODAY'S PROGRAM

Wearing his hat as the Assistant District Governor for Area 9A, DANA TOM introduced 2022-23 District Governor Savita Vaidhyathan. She has been a Rotarian since 2007 and served Cupertino Rotary as its President in 2013-14. Savita has served her club as its World Community Service Chair, on its endowment board, and in many other positions; she has led teams on visits to India on WCS projects. She has been a member of the Cupertino City Council and her city's Vice-Mayor and Mayor. Savita has been married for over 30 years to R. Doc Vaidhyathan, a tech entrepreneur.



District 5170 as led by President Savita is divided into nine areas, supported by fourteen Assistant Governors, comprising 62 clubs with 3,800 members.... Savita is emphasizing four

priorities in 2022-23: > Increasing our impact. > Expanding our reach. > Strengthening our ability to adapt. > Enhancing participation and engagement.... Last year our district contributed more than \$350,000 to fight polio worldwide, increased to more than \$1 million as matched by the Bill and Melinda Gates



Foundation.... Rotary provides help for mothers in childbirth and for young men and women who want to go to school instead of working in factories. Rotary's global work includes medical grants, programs that build literacy, training that enhances



self-sufficiency, Peace Fellowships, and projects that can lead to a greener future.... President Savita challenged our club to attract a net gain of 13 members in the current Rotary year... She called for participation from as many of us as possible in the District Conference

to be held April 29, 2023, at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View.

## CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

**President KAREN** thanked all for attending, and reminded everyone to check emails for extra reminders of upcoming activities.

## TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: **Steve Madsen, Cash Alae**

Welcome Desk/Cashier: **Rebecca Gerald, Katie Seedman**

Room Set-Up: **Marco Maina**

Zoom/Hybrid Host: **Dana Tom**

Pinion writer: **Hal Mickelson**

Pinion editor: **Ginny Lear**

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS/EVENTS

October 15 <b>9 am-2:30 pm</b> <b>Still time to sign up!</b> <b>\$30 Fee will be reimbursed</b>	<b>2022 Avenues of Service</b> Mission College, 3000 Mission College Blvd., Santa Clara Our WCS Team will be there with projects!
October 17 Club meeting <b>12:15-1:30 pm</b>	<b>Overview of Key Propositions on the November 8th Ballot</b>
October 24 Club meeting <b>12:15-1:30 pm</b>	<b>William Gould IV</b> Diary of a Contraband-The Civil War Passage of a Black Man
October 27 <b>7-8:00 pm</b> <b>Zoom</b>	<b>World Community Service</b> Committee meeting
October 28 <b>5:30-7:30 pm</b>	<b>TGIF - Home of Betsy &amp; George Bechtel</b>