

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

January 30, 2023



Chartered: May 1, 1922

WELCOME

President **KAREN** belled the meeting to order and reminded folks to turn off their phones.

President-Elect **LIZ KNISS** invited visiting Rotarians and Rotarians with guests to speak up. **BRUCE SWENSON** was celebrating a big birthday and

was joined by his wife Barbara and daughter Kari.

KAREN asked **ELIZABETH SANTANA** to lead the room in singing to him. **ANNE CRIBBS** introduced Joy Oche and announced she has submitted her application for membership. Bing Wei, from the city of Palo Alto, referred by Mayor Lydia Kuo, also attended.



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THOUGHT FOR THE DAY



ART STAUFFER gave a classic thought for today about when things in life seem almost too much to handle, when 24 hours in a day are not enough...when is the day really full? What's

important, what matters, and what is the small stuff? We need to pay attention to things that are critical to our happiness. Set our priorities, and no matter how full our life

may seem, there's always room for your favorite passions, take time for your children, check-ups, and coffee with a friend. **ART** has his priorities straight.

CARING THOUGHTS

Last week we lost two members of our Rotary family. **WALT HAYS**, 87, a 31 year Rotarian, passed away at his home in the Sequoias, with wife Kay by his side.

MATT DOLAN's daughter **Lizzy**, 31, passed away on Saturday night at Stanford Hospital. On Friday family members had been able to talk with Lizzy, and Matt even sneaked in the family dog Tucker to get in bed with Lizzy.

Services for Lizzy just announced will be: **Thursday, Feb. 2**, Spangler Funeral Home 399 S San Antonio Rd, Los Altos (650) 948-6619

Visitation, 5:00PM to 8:30PM

Catholic Rosary Prayer Service, 7:30PM to 8:00PM

Friday, Feb. 3: St Nicholas Catholic Church, 473 Lincoln Ave, Los Altos

Funeral Mass, 2:00PM

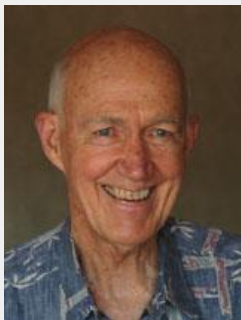
KAREN noted cards of condolence were being passed to sign for Kay Hays and the Dolans.

IMPORTANT CLUB ANNOUNCEMENT

President **KAREN** reminded us that the Elk's Club is ending its time as the venue for our meetings.

Our final lunch meeting at the Palo Alto Event Center will be on Monday, February 27. Our new meeting location will be announced following the Board meeting next week. Thanks to members finalizing details of the new location: **STEVE EMSLIE, BRUCE GEE, IRIS KOROL.**

PRESIDENTS CLUB



Rotarians joined in honor of **WALT HAYS**, whose Rotary sponsor was **DIANA DIAMOND.**

JON STOUMEN joined in his honor and also cheered **WALT's** recent, stalwart work to get solar panels installed at the Sequoias,

where he and Kay lived. **STEVE PLAYER** also joined to celebrate his long-time friend and fellow lawyer **WALT.** **LIZ KNISS** said she had worked with him, especially on political issues, for many years. She said he was a man of integrity and that men of his quality are rare and will be missed. **DUANE KALAR** saluted **WALT** as destined to be a lawyer. **DUANE** met **Walt** as high school students in a state-wide government seminar. **LE LEVY** noted that **WALT** lived by his ethics, joining in the 1980s when he pointed out that the club was too insular and helped expand activities beyond local. In fact, he led club efforts to create international contacts, projects and travel to see the projects in action. He also guided World Community Service for many years. Due to time constraints, **KAREN** vowed to continue these tributes next week.

REVISED BOARD SLATE FOR 2023-24

With shifts of offices by **LINNET, BRUCE GEE,** and adding **JUDY KLEINBERG,** a motion was made and passed by voice vote. Thank you all.

SERVICE CORNER

On the 1st Wednesday of every month, Rotarians have the opportunity to prepare and distribute food to insecure families at **Nuestra Casa.** It's a great opportunity to support families in need. The next opportunity is **February 1st,** at Rise City Church in Redwood City, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm and 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Please contact **CHARLIE WEIDANZ** for more info.

Volunteer to Join the **Neighborhood Canvass about Switching from Gas to Electric Water Heaters,** Saturday and Sunday, February 11th and 12th. Palo Alto Neighborhoods. Training is provided. Sponsored by Palo Alto's non-profit 350.org Climate Team.

DISTRICT 5170 ANNOUNCEMENTS

CASH ALAEE and **JENN TORAI** are co-chairs for our participation in the District's annual **Youth Speech Contest.** Volunteer judges, officials and audience members are needed for the local round of competition on Wednesday evening, **February 8** at the Mitchell Park Community Center. Please check in with Cash or Jennifer to help.

An "International Women's Day" event is planned for Sunday, **March 19,** also at the Summit Center (\$60 for Rotarians, \$30 for guests).

The District Conference will take place Saturday, **April 29,** in a new one-day format at the Computer History Museum. More information is available for all of these District events as rotarydistrict5170.org.

TODAY'S PROGRAM

BETSY BECHTEL introduced our speaker,
Matthew Dodder,

Executive
Director of the
Santa Clara
Valley Audubon
Society. She said
that he is the
most
knowledgeable
about birds in the
area and that he
has been Palo

Alto Adult School's Intermediate and Advanced
Birding Instructor since 1999.



Dodder was born in San Francisco but at 8 ended up in Boston. In 1977 Boston had lots of snow. He got his start as a birder at the age of 14 when he sprinkled bird seeds on the snow after a heavy snowstorm and identified his very first Northern Cardinal. He has traveled around the world birding, but says that some of his most enjoyable birding experiences have been right here in the Bay Area. He has been recognized for his work by both the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society and the San Francisco Bird Observatory. He sits on the Board of Directors of Audubon. You can contact him by email at

mdodder@sbcglobal.net He also suggests
folks check out his classes also at
www.birdguy.net

Dodder's presentation included colorful slides of a large array of beautiful birds as he told us about birds and migration. Some of the pictures were in the public domain, but most were captured by his friend and former Stanford law professor, Tom Grey, who lives on the Stanford campus. He considers himself a "birder and an amateur bird photographer." You can find him at his website **TomGrey@birdzilla.com**.

CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

KAREN thanked **TOM** and **Helen GRACON** for hosting the January 27th TGIF and thanked **MATT DOLAN** and **CAROL WHITEHILL** for overseeing it.

She also thanked Mathew Dodder for telling us about bird migration.

She encouraged folks to attend the **Youth Speech Contest on February 8.**

Sign up to be weekly Greeters at our meeting. Let **CASH** or **KAREN** know.

She encouraged members to sign up for the **Neighborhood Canvass experience** on February 11 & 12.

A summary of the Ukraine Benefit brought \$2,625 from our club in donations to help buy 5 of the generators in the D5170 Fund.

She wished everyone a great week, and urged them to stay warm, before ringing the bell to adjourn the meeting

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: **Mike McMahon, Steve Madsen**

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

Meeting Set-Up: **Rebecca Gerald**

Microphones: **Dana Tom**

Zoom/Hybrid Host: **Ben Threlkeld**

Pinion writer: **Trish Bubenik**

Pinion editor: **Ginny Lear**

UPCOMING PROGRAMS/EVENTS

February 6 Club meeting of 12:15-1:30 pm	"The Supreme Court: Court of Law or Court of Politics?" Jeb Barnes , Professor Political Science, USC
February 6 3:00 PM Zoom	Membership Committee Contact Rebecca Geraldi
February 8 8:00-9:30 AM Zoom	Board Meeting Contact President Karen Rohde
February 8 5:30 PM Mitchell Park	D5170 Annual Speech Contest for High School Students Contact CASH ALAEE or JENN TORAI for details on how you can help.