

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

March 6, 2023



Chartered: May 1, 1922

WELCOME

KAREN ROHDE called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm and welcomed ROTARIANS to the club's new venue at the Baylands Cafe Golf Links. She made sure to offer everyone a customized ROTARY golf ball in recognition of our new location.



PRESIDENTS CLUB

TRISH BUBENIK joined President's Club in honor of the excellent efforts of the Meeting Spaces Task Force and all involved in finding this wonderful new home for Palo Alto Rotary.

MARCH BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

LE LEVY led the group in singing the Happy Birthday song to all the Rotarians with March birthdays.

CLUB FUNDRAISER - APRIL 15th

101 DONATIONS! A New Century of Giving **TICKETS** available now, online or at our meetings. \$100 per person, reserved tables available, 5:30 pm., Mitchell Park Community Center.

THOUGHT FOR



THE DAY

JUDY KLEINBERG presented the Thought for the Day with a tribute and several interesting facts related to the month of March.

JUDY noted that March is the first month of spring; March's birth flower is the daffodil, and March is named for Mars. March 4th is the only day that's also a sentence; March forth! JUDY shared several famous quotes about the month of March, and reminded ROTARIANS of all the possibilities we can look forward to as we journey from winter to spring.

BRUCE GEE informed Rotarians about what to expect this year, and started by thanking several generous sponsors. Please contact BRUCE if you, too,



would like to become a sponsor. There will be two components: an **on-line silent auction** running from March 27 thru April 10. Donations of auction items by members and other supporters are an essential element in achieving our fund-raising goals. Contact **SALLY TOMLINSON** with silent auction items or any questions on those. April 15 is our Gala Crabfeed and Pasta Dinner where we will enjoy the evening together, have our **limited**

live auction items, which already include a Mississippi River voyage on a paddlewheeler or a cruise/tour from Madagascar to Mauritius. Contact **GINNY LEAR** for details.

CLUB SERVICE: YOUR HELP NEEDED

Club Service was the first Avenue of Service created by our Rotary Founders in 1905. Some things never change...

Your help is needed to make each meeting successful. Training provided.

Greeter, Thought for the Day,

Welcome Desk, Pinion: writing or photos.

Let KAREN know of your interest.

First up! KAREN thanked **HASAN MUSABAEV AND JOOP VERBAKEN** who are in training to help with hybrid meetings.

KAREN next thanked the volunteers who have helped to set up and take down the room for our meetings. In our new venue, they can retire. It is included in our service. **HERSH DAVIS, MATT DOLAN, MARCO MAINA, BRUCE WINTERHOF.** Much appreciation to you all.

DISTRICT 5170 ANNOUNCEMENTS

An "International Women's Day" event is planned for Sunday, **March 19**, 4-7 PM at the Rotary San Jose Summit Center Information and registration: <https://bit.ly/D5170IWD2023>

The District Conference will take place Saturday, **April 29**, in a new one-day format at the Computer History Museum in Mountain View. Information and registration:

<https://events.humanitix.com/2023-rotary-district-5170-conference>

TODAY'S PROGRAM

LONG TIME MEMBER TALKS

JIM SUTHERLAND introduced today's speakers.

SALLY TOMLINSON is an 18 year member

SALLY shared her life of (pretty low-level)

crime, ranging from her original sin of taking a forbidden apple from a neighbor's home as a young child in

Alabama; challenging authority while in

school in Iran, where her father was in the US State Department;

hacking her hand-written Stanford

admissions essay by studying the positive character traits

indicated by handwriting and using

them to write her essay (and achieving the desired result); and moving a road barrier in

DC so she could avoid a detour while driving to the airport. SALLY hopes she doesn't get kicked

out of ROTARY for these minor infractions.



DENNIS MCGINN, a member for 21 years

Via Zoom, DENNIS shared how his career with Hewlett Packard impacted his life. He worked at HP for 21 years in 13 positions, doing whatever needed to be done, starting from the bottom as a staff engineer and gradually working his way up the ranks to running a division. Along the way, he became very involved with the automobile industry. DENNIS valued the "management by objective" culture of HP, but tired of the company after it evolved to meeting culture. After working for a series of companies, he returned to the automotive industry, where people were familiar with him. That led to him founding Rapid Recon, which was a huge success. The company manages and reconditions cars to get them ready to sell. DENNIS says his life has been great, and he's very fortunate to have had really good role models. He's still a techie at heart and likes his gadgets.

KEVIN CURRY, a member of PARC for 17 years, but a Rotarian for 45 years.

KEVIN began his talk by ripping up his prepared remarks which were based on the Four Way Test, which was discussed earlier in the meeting. He then went on to discuss his Silicon Valley career. In business, KEVIN is

known as the guy who created the video wall – the wall comprised of the cubes that you



see on news. The company he ran, Electrosonic, grew at over 32% per year the years he led it. KEVIN was born on July 4, 1937. His brother was born on the same day in 1935. He grew up in Kalamazoo, Michigan, and attended 7 different schools between 6th grade

and 12th grade. The family moved frequently because his father invested in different businesses. KEVIN attended the Univ of Minnesota, and Carleton College, then obtained an MBA, after which he was hired by 3M, which KEVIN says was a company that operated with tremendous integrity. After university, KEVIN served in the Coast Guard as an officer (for a short while), but was discharged after it was discovered that he was colorblind. After the Coast Guard, he joined 3M marketing, and worked for 3M for 22 years before moving to work for another company where he developed the idea of the video wall. KEVIN feels lucky to have invested in real estate, since his brother was a realtor, and to have built 5 houses, all of which are still standing. KEVIN is glad to be here in Palo Alto, a great part of the world.

CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rotary Club Locator—**KAREN** encouraged ROTARIANS to remember the ROTARY CLUB LOCATOR when traveling. This allows ROTARIANS to visit any of the 46,000 clubs around the world. With advance notice to PARC’s leadership, ROTARIANS can also exchange a club flag with other Rotary clubs.

KAREN thanked the speakers and reminded everyone to attend happy hour at Homewood suites and TGIF. She also reminded everyone of Daylight Savings Time change on Sunday.

TODAY’S VOLUNTEERS

Parking Lot Greeters: **Tom Gracon, Anne Cribbs**

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

Zoom/Hybrid Host: **Ben Threlkeld**

Microphones: **Dana Tom**

Pinion writer: **Kim Bomar**

Pinion editor: **Ginny Lear**

UPCOMING MEETINGS

March 13 Club meeting 12:15-1:30 pm	Margaret Bruce, ED, San Francisco Creek JPA
March 20 Club meeting 12:15-1:30 pm	Susan Liautaud, Author, Ethics Consultant and Stanford Visiting Professor: Big Ethical Questions
March 31 5:30-7:30 pm	TGIF: Home of TODD and MEGAN LEWIS
April 15 5:30 pm 101 Donations: A New Century of Service	Annual Dinner and Charities Fundraiser Mitchell Park, 3700 Middlefield Rd, PA

Pinion Corrections: *Last week’s speaker, Palo Alto Mayor Lydia Kou requested these corrections: her husband’s name is John St. Clair III; and Lydia is a La Comida volunteer, serving lunches and cleaning up. She has never been a La Comida Board member.*