

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

June 5, 2023



Chartered: May 1, 1922

## WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & PLEDGE

President **KAREN** belled the meeting to order and asked all to turn off their phones.



President Elect **LIZ KNISS** called for members with guests to introduce them. She then asked visitors to stand and introduce themselves: Linda Jensen (wife of new inductee), Julia Hanlon (Liz's guest), Daniel Templeton, and Shoshona Shur

(Geoff's daughter)

**LEANNAH HUNT** led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. President KAREN then explained that four times a year--Labor Day, Veterans' Day, Memorial Day and Fourth of July--members are invited to join in the Pledge of Allegiance to reflect on citizenship.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

**JOY OCHE** arrived 6 years ago as an immigrant from Nigeria. She moved here as a single mom of two sons, \$300 and "a lot of hope." So, new to the area, she had to build her own community. She wants to build her own support system and be bridge for others as a City of Palo Alto commissioner of Parks and Recreation. The



goal is to make our city more age-friendly and sustainable based on the ad hoc committee she is steering. She is happy to be in our club since her late father was a Rotarian. She then presented three short videos advising that "It's important to travel in groups," emphasizing invaluable "team work" while building community.

## MEMBERSHIP: 2 NEW & 1 GOES BLUE

**REBECCA GERALDI** installed two new members: **ERIC JENSEN** with sponsor **IRIS KOROL** and **JERRY PATRICK** with sponsor **DAN QUINN**. IRIS spoke about Eric's growing up a few houses from her house, being an Eagle Scout and meeting his wife at Paly, and now serves as a reserve officer and as



business manager of the Palo Alto police department. DAN shared that Jerry was born in New Jersey, attended Wesleyan University in Connecticut, studying literature, loves sailing (now inviting DAN), and impressed DAN by reaching out for his friendship.

**REBECCA** then initiated the Blue Badge Ceremony for **CAROLE WHITEHILL**,



sponsored by **STEVE PLAYER**, expressing her delight in CAROLE's active leadership and participation since joining.

### PALO ALTO ROTARY ENDOWMENT FUND

KAREN invited **BETSY BECHTEL** to speak about the Endowment Fund, "the gift that keeps on growing." She thanked all who have recently donated and reminded all that 5% of that is presented to the club each year to support charitable activities. ROGER SMITH has pledged \$5,000 to match member donations from \$1 to \$100 or more. She also encouraged people to consider bequests from IRA or other funds to the Endowment Fund.

### JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Best wishes to **JOOP VERBAKEN, ROGER SMITH, JOHN O'KEEFE & SHERRI SAGER.**

### CUB SCOUT PACK 6

#### GEOFF ZIMAN

introduced Daniel Templeton, leader of Cub Scouts Pack 6, Rotary donation recipient. Daniel showed several photos of Scouts enjoying and learning from a variety of outdoor outings made possible by the Rotary donation. He highlighted their Pinewood Derby, hiking, and training with bebe guns. At the conclusion of outdoor learning, they call for their tasty S'mores.



### LAST CALL: 2 GREAT AUCTION ITEMS!

#### Photo Excursion to Palo Alto Baylands

--Tour led by **DAN QUINN**. Two spaces still available, Saturday, June 10, 10 am-noon. \$100/person. Contact DAN QUINN.

#### Guided Chinatown Tour & Dim Sum

**Lunch**, with **GLORIA HOM** explaining the history of San Francisco Chinatown and sharing some of her own memories Tuesday, June 13, approx. 10 am -4 pm. Six spaces available. \$100/person. Contact GLORIA.

### ROTARIANS IN ACTION

Thanks to members who put up and took down American flags on University on Memorial Day: **GEOFF BALL, BETSY BECHTEL, SIMON PENNINGTON, JOHN ST. CLAIR III and JACKIE WHEELER.**

### TODAY'S PROGRAM

**BETSY BECHTEL** introduced **Dr. Brady Page**, Infectious Disease and Critical Care Medicine at Stanford and San Diego, speaking on "Fighting Infection Disaster: The Story of Polio."

He began his presentation by acknowledging Rotary International's early efforts to tackle and eradicate polio across the world.



Polio is a disease caused by a virus that infects the intestinal tract. Before it was controlled with vaccines, it caused flu-like symptoms for most patients but entered the central nervous system in about 1% of all cases. Because the virus circulated widely in unsanitary conditions, many people were immune to it. Improved sanitation and hygiene in the 18<sup>th</sup> century resulted in individuals encountering the virus for the first time when they had no immunity to prepare them for it. The first academic account of the disease was published in 1799.

The first polio vaccine was developed by Jonas Salk and introduced in 1953, making use of dead viruses and requiring injections. The oral vaccine developed by Albert Sabin and introduced in 1961 was based on live viruses that had been weakened. By 1970, there were only 12 cases of polio reported in the

United States. In 1980, polio remained a public health problem primarily in areas like Brazil, Egypt, Sudan, India, and China. The Global Polio Eradication Initiative organized in 1985 enlisted the help of Rotary International and other organizations in raising \$15 billion to fight polio in the 100 countries in which it was still endemic at that time. By 2016, polio was still endemic in only four countries, Nigeria, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Laos.

Tragically, the fight against polio has faced setbacks in the last fifteen years. Most new cases of polio are in conflict areas like the borders of Afghanistan and Pakistan, and most are not "wild polio" but mutations that have arisen in vaccinated populations. Dr. Page explained this problem very roughly as follows: The Sabin vaccine makes use of weakened but active virus; it's a "feature" of the Sabin vaccine that individuals who have been treated with it in effect vaccinate their families and neighbors through everyday bodily functions and behaviors that expose other people to traces of the virus. If the weakened virus that circulates in this way mutates in a healthy population in which most people have been deliberately vaccinated, no harm is done, but the mutation can spread and cause polio in weak populations; hence, new cases based on the mutation in this way are "vaccine derived."

As polio is eradicated, the diseases that we will have to worry about include Marburg virus (MARV), monkey pox and bird flu. Since most of these diseases reach humans from animals, we should be concerned that cutting down forests and destroying other animal habitats will bring more animals that carry disease into contact with human populations.

### SOCIALIZING WILL MAKE YOU HAPPY!

Special thanks to **MATT DOLAN** and Homewood Suites for hosting the May Social

### PRESIDENT KAREN'S FAREWELL PARTY!

**President KAREN's Debunking: Monday, June 26, 5:30 pm**, Michael's at Shoreline, Mountain View. **\$85/person**, includes wine,

appetizers, dinner and dessert. Entree options: New York Steak, peppercorn sauce; Breast of Chicken, herb butter sauce; Broiled Salmon, lemon beurre sauce; Vegetarian: Spinach & Cheese Tortellini, alfredo sauce.

**Register by June 19:**

<https://paloaltorotary.square-site>

### TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: **Jackie Wheeler, Le Levy**

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

Zoom/Hybrid Host: **Ben Threlkeld**

Mics: **Dana Tom**

Pinion writer: **Trish Bubenik**

Pinion editor: **Ginny Lear**

### UPCOMING MEETINGS and EVENTS

<b>June 12</b> Club Meeting 12:15-1:30 pm	<b>Mehran Salami, Stanford Computer Science Professor</b> "Confronting Ethical Challenges in a High Tech World"
<b>June 14</b> 8-9:30 a.m	<b>Club Board Meeting</b> Contact Karen Rohde
<b>June 19</b> Club Meeting 12:15-1:30 pm	<b>Juneteenth: Loretta Green and Henrietta Burroughs</b> What it means to these two lifetime Palo Alto residents
<b>June 26</b>	<b>NO CLUB MEETING</b>
<b>June 26</b> 5:30-7:30 pm <b>SAVE the DATE!</b>	<b>President KAREN's debunking</b> Michael's at Shoreline