

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

June 19, 2023



Chartered: May 1, 1922

WELCOME

A bittersweet moment: **PRESIDENT KAREN ROHDE**, who is never unprepared . . . had planned to convene our June 19 meeting both on

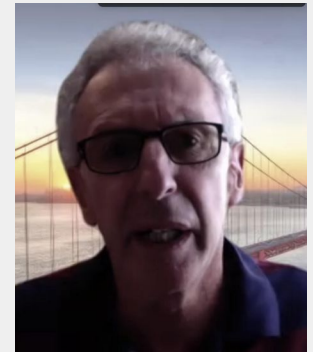


Zoom and in person at the Baylands Café for her last appearance in her term as our leader. It was not to be. Our club was advised by Rotarian **Ed SHIKADA**, the City Manager, that trying to park, gather and meet at the Baylands would not be a good idea because President Biden was planning to appear at that very location to talk about federal initiatives in dealing with climate change. So - **PRESIDENT KAREN**, as ever resilient, conducted a Zoom-only gathering in her final session as President. She wished us a happy Juneteenth, thanked us for our flexibility, and explained that the Baylands Café would try to donate our unused food through appropriate community agencies.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

As his Thought for the Day, **HERSH DAVIS** picked up on the Juneteenth theme and reflected on the importance of the holiday not

only for the African-American community but for everyone in our country. Hersh quoted at length from an inspiring statement made about the history of Emancipation by President Obama in 2016. Here are parts of that statement, as presented by Hersh:



"Just outside the Oval Office hangs a painting depicting the night of December 31, 1862. African-American men, women, and children crowd around a single pocket watch, waiting for midnight, when the Emancipation Proclamation took effect. As the slaves huddle anxiously, we sense how even two more minutes seemed like an eternity to wait for freedom. But the slaves of Galveston, Texas, had to wait more than two years after Lincoln's decree and two months after Appomattox to receive word that they, too, were free at last, on June 19, 1865.

"Today we commemorate the anniversary of that welcome news. Decades of action would follow as equality and justice for African-Americans advanced slowly on our journey toward 'a more perfect union.' On Juneteenth, we reflect on how far we've come. The slaves of Galveston knew that their freedom was only a first step, just as those who crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge 100 years later knew that they had to keep marching. Today, no matter our race, religion, gender, or sexual orientation, we

recommit ourselves to free modern-day slaves around the world and to honor the efforts of those who fought to steer our country more closely toward our highest ideals."

PRESIDENTS CLUB

As our meeting continued: **SHERRI SAGER** joined the President's Club to celebrate the achievements of a favorite niece and nephew. Sarah Sager received a Master's in Marketing Communications from San Jose State, Dylan Sager a Bachelor's in Sports Management from Menlo College . . . **ANNETTE GLANCKOPF, DAVE SMULLIN, STEVE PLAYER, REBECCA GERALDI,** and **TRISH BUBENIK** joined the P.C. to honor **PRESIDENT KAREN** for the year she was finishing. "Thank you for making it fun . . . for preparation and panache . . . for creating camaraderie . . . for being so diligent in thanking your volunteers." **REBECCA** added a word of appreciation for **KAREN'S** generous mentorship.

WE CARE FOR OUR MEMBERS

In a "We Care" announcement, **KAREN** noted that **CHESLEY DOUGLAS** will no longer be able to participate actively in our meetings as the result of what his wife Shirley says are health issues, "mainly his memory." Chesley served as our club's president in 1994-95. His address is listed in our online directory; he'd welcome seeing notes and cards....

GIRL SCOUT SUPPORT UNIT 601

ANNETTE GLANCKOPH presented **Darcy Huston**, an adult leader of Girl Scouts Service Unit 601. The cookies that Darcy had hoped to bring will be delivered at a meeting in July. As

Darcy explained, the Girl Scout movement in Palo Alto shrank just a bit during the



pandemic but is recovering nicely. Support from Rotary helps make the Girl Scouts experience possible in an environment where single parents and grandparents are responsible for raising their daughters and granddaughters. Among the "Service and Sisterhood" programs receiving greatest emphasis: A "SALT" Service and Leadership Team; World Thinking Day, reflecting on "Our Peaceful Future: The Environment, Peace and Security"; and A Civics Badge, helping participants learn about democracy in a way that they don't learn in school.

SOCIAL CALENDAR

Thanks are due **TODD** and **MEGAN O'REILLY LEWIS** for their uniquely curated auction event, an East Bay Art Crawl, featuring introductions to artists, artistic shops, and wonderful food, including craft beer and Detroit pizza.... Our social event as June comes to a close will be the ritual Debunking of **PRESIDENT KAREN ROHDE** on Monday night, June 26, starting at 5:30 pm, at Michael's at Shoreline, 2960 North Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. Registration has closed, but your questions can be directed to **CASH ALAEE**. We had 20, count 'em, 20 social events this year, under the leadership of **MATT DOLAN** and **CAROLE WHITEHILL**.

SERVICE CORNER

In **KAREN'S** year as our leader, we completed 31 service projects in which 71 members participated, a total of 431 hours of service activity.... Next up, we'll need volunteers on Monday, July 2 to usher for "Puffs" at Palo Alto players; please see **DANA TOM** or sign up at <https://forms.gle/z3p9A5yrsqGNrQhL7> . We'll also need volunteers on Wednesday, July 5 to prepare and distribute food at the Rise City Church in Redwood City, 2:00 to 4:00 pm and 4:00 to 6:00; please contact **CHARLIE WEIDANZ**.

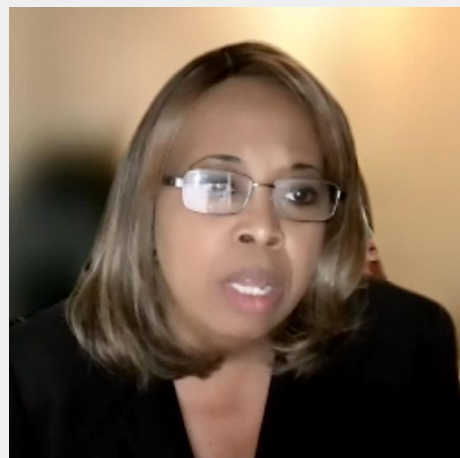
TODAY'S PROGRAM

Our thought-provoking program for Juneteenth took the form of a conversation between

HENRIETTA BURROUGHS and the **REV. LORRIE CARTER OWENS**.

Introduced by Henrietta, Reverend Owens is the Chief

Technology Officer for Integrated Technology Services in the San Mateo County Office of Education, the President of the San Mateo County branch of the NAACP and Assistant Pastor of a church in Oakland.



We often talk about ensuring that everyone gets "a piece of the pie." The bigger issue is making the pie bigger and available to everyone....

Our society now has, in a

sense, more segregation that it has ever had; the playing field still isn't level.... Said Rev. Owens: "My white male counterparts haven't had to fight as I've had to fight. Why should someone who looks like me have to fight? Why should anyone have to fight?"

In response to a question about reparations, Rev. Owens observed that it's a controversial issue, even within the Black community. "It's recognition that more needs to be done to address the ramifications of our history. I do not believe that handing a check to every African-American is the answer, but it's clear

that housing and education are examples of some areas where opportunities should be granted to those who have not had the benefit of intergenerational wealth."

HENRIETTA noted that 70% of white Americans say they do not have friends from other races.... Rev. Owens noted that if you're talking to your grandson about taking the wheel as a new driver, "you have to prepare him in a different way if he's Black...." As our club heard in today's Opening Remarks, we all have to keep marching toward a more perfect Union.

CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS

Zoom/Hybrid Host: **Ben Threlkeld**

Pinion writer: **Hal Mickelson**

Pinion editor: **Ginny Lear**

UPCOMING PROGRAMS/EVENTS

June 26, July 3	NO Club Meetings
July 10 12:15-1:30 PM Club Meeting	1st Club meeting President LIZ and 2023-2024 Board Club Assembly
July 12 Club Board Meeting 8-9:00 AM - Zoom	A good Blue Badge requirement opportunity