

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

September 11, 2023



Chartered: May 1, 1922

## WELCOME MEMBERS & GUESTS

President **LIZ KNISS** called us to order at the Baylands Café for a September 11 meeting focused on hands-on service.

## QUOTE FOR THE DAY



In his thoughts on this special day, **LEE LIPPERT** reflected on the beauty and meaning of the World Trade Center from an architect's point of view. Ground was broken in 1966 and its

construction started two years later. "For me, this is personal. I grew up in the shadows of the Twin Towers. We used to drive through the Meadowlands to New York on family visits. We watched the Twin Towers rise and punctuate the skyline. As a teenager, they inspired and influenced me to become an architect. Center One opened in December, 1970, and Center Two in January, 1972. I began my architectural training in 1974. If the World Trade Center hadn't been built, I wonder what path my life would have taken..."

The architect **Minoru Yamasaki** spoke these words as the WTC was dedicated: *"World trade means world peace. These buildings had a bigger purpose than to provide room for*

*tenants... The World Trade Center should become a representation of man's belief in humanity, his need for individual dignity, his belief in cooperation, and through cooperation, the ability to find greatness."*



**Rotary members stood in respect to listen to the remembrance of 9/11**

## SIBLING CITIES PROGRAM

In the interest of bridging regional divides and promoting civil discourse, Palo Alto and Bloomington, Indiana, will be holding three joint Town Hall events, beginning Sunday, September 17, 1:00 to 3:00 pm our time. Participation in Palo Alto will originate at the Mitchell Park Community Center. You can register at – <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/palo-alto-ca-sibling-cities-usa-town-hall-bridging-regional-divides-tickets-699234819167?aff=oddttdcreator>.

Additional Town Hall meetings with our friends and neighbors in Bloomington are scheduled for October 8, "Climate Action," and November 12, "Race & Belonging."

## HANDS ON COMMUNITY SERVICE

The mission of the **Grateful Garment Project** is to restore dignity to the victims of sexual trafficking and violence. Our club's efforts to assemble and provide backpacks for some of those victims help meet their needs as they begin the road to recovery.

**Lisa J. Blanchard**, founder and executive director of the Grateful Garment Project, reminded us of how and why it began its work: When sexual assault victims seek medical attention and volunteer to be examined, they are asked to surrender their clothing as evidence.



Once clothing has been surrendered, the traumatized victim has nothing to wear home but a hospital gown. The Grateful Garment Project began by supplying hospitals with clothing that can be given to victims of assault and abuse who have nothing else to wear... The 100 emergency portable packs that our club assembled will be delivered through law enforcement agencies as kits of clothing and personal amenities for victims rescued in raids and sweeps from wherever they have been trapped as sex workers or the subjects of trafficking.

The Rotary Club of Palo Alto has now partnered with the Grateful Garment Project for six productive years. It provides services in 51 of our state's 58 counties, serving 31,000 victims annually... A new program, "Dress for Dignity," provides appropriate clothing to victims of sexual assault and abuse who are brave enough to appear as witnesses in public. Most sex-related crimes are not reported; only half of reported crimes are prosecuted; only six of every 100 victims have their "day in court."

The Dress for Dignity program enables them to testify with confidence, with the community's support.



## TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: **Steve Emslie, Duane Kalar**  
Cashier/Welcome Desk: **Katie Seedman, Rebecca Gerald**  
Zoom/Hybrid Host: **Dana Tom**  
Pinion writer: **Hal Mickelson**  
Pinion editor: **Ginny Lear**

**AND ALL MEMBERS WHO CAME TO PUT  
THEIR HANDS TO WORK IN SERVICE**

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

<b>September 18</b> 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	<b>Kyle Hietala, Program Director and Head Coach of Palo Alto HS Speech &amp; Debate</b> Persuading and being Persuaded: Insights from Speech & Debate
<b>September 25</b> 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	<b>District 5 SCC Supervisor Joe Simitian</b> Bridging the Divide
<b>September 29</b> 5:30 - 7:30 pm	<b>TGIF:</b> Home of Mike & Terry McMahon, co-sponsored by Tom & Helen Gracon
<b>October 2</b> 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	<b>Fred Guttenberg,</b> Author, "American Carnage," "Shattering Myths that Fuel Gun Violence"