

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

October 16, 2023



Chartered: May 1, 1922

WELCOME MEMBERS & GUESTS

President **LIZ KNISS** opened the meeting and asked visiting Rotarians Hung Wei, our District 5170 Governor

and program speaker (Cupertino Rotary), and Herb Ritter, District Governor Nominee (Pleasanton North Rotary), to introduce themselves.



DG Hung Wei

Guest Greg Hood joined us later in the meeting for his fourth visit to our club.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

KAREN ROHDE built on this year's theme of "Creating Hope in the World" by sharing the Starfish Story. A young girl was walking along a beach upon which thousands of starfish had been washed up during a terrible storm. When she came to each starfish, she would pick it up and throw it back in the ocean. A man approached her and said, "Little girl, why are you doing this? Look at this beach! You can't save all these starfish. You can't begin to make a difference!" The girl waited a few moments, bent down, picked up another starfish, and hurled it as far as she could into the ocean. Then she looked up at the man and replied, "Well I made a difference for that one!" Inspired, the man joined the girl in throwing the starfish back into the sea. Soon others joined in, and all the starfish were saved.

The take-a-way was "**Do not underestimate the impact of a small deed of kindness.**"

We all know the needs are great. And as Rotarians, so are the opportunities to be helpful and to do good in the world.

LITHIUM BATTERY COLLECTION

LITHIUM-ION BATTERY RECYCLING,

Saturday, October 21, 9AM-1PM. Cubberley Community Center, 4120 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto. **GEOFF BALL** reminded

members there is no need to remove any batteries, just drop off the items - the sorters will do the rest.

President LIZ thanked **GEOFF** for his leadership of this effort and his collaboration with other Rotary Clubs, District 5170, and the City of Palo Alto.



WE CARE FOR OUR MEMBERS

MIKE MCMAHON shared that member **JIM SUTHERLAND** has been

dealing with several health issues that

have impacted his meeting participation. **MIKE** asked members to sign a card that was circulating and **encouraged members to give JIM a call to wish him well.**



PRESIDENTS CLUB

TRISH BUBENIK joined in honor of her husband and cats, who put up with her being away for a month recovering her health. While away, she loved the way the cats would purr and rub against the phone when they heard her telling them how much she loved and missed them.

USHER FOR PALO ALTO PLAYERS

DANA TOM relays that daytime ushers are needed for a **children's matinee** of "The Wizard of Oz" scheduled by the Palo Alto Players, **November 9th, 9:30 am - 1:45 pm**, sponsored by our Palo Alto Charities Grants. Members are encouraged to sign up to usher. Information is on the club website.

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION DRIVE

Immediate Past President and Rotary Foundation Chair **KAREN ROHDE** shared a video highlighting how The Rotary Foundation uses the funds we raise to improve health, provide quality education, improve the environment, alleviate poverty, and generally "Do Good in The World." Through a series of quizzes and fact sheets, she shared Rotary International's giving guidelines and recognition programs: Paul Harris Fellow Awards, Major Donors, and Bequest Society Members. KAREN highlighted the generosity of our members, noting that our club has donated a combined total of approximately \$1,100,000 to the Foundation and has 80 Paul Harris Fellows. KAREN thanked our 11 Major Donors, **RALPH ADAMS, TONY CARRASCO, MIKE COUCH, BILL FOGARTY, DUANE KALAR, ROB LANCEFIELD, GINNY LEAR, MIKE REYNOLDS, BEN THRELKELD, TIM WATSON,** and **GEOFF ZIMAN**, and two Bequest Society Members, **GINNY LEAR** and **DANA TOM**, for their leadership in giving. KAREN's final quiz question was, "What is the



#1 reason why members say they gave?" The answer was, "Because someone asked." KAREN referred to the Quote For the Day and asked members to pick up their checkbook or log in online and take action, just like the little girl did with the starfish. You'll make a difference in the lives you touch, and you will inspire others to join you.

Ways to Give:

Donate online at

<https://www.rotary.org/en/donate>. Designate Annual Fund-Share or PolioPlus. If you want to give to both, you will need to make two separate donations. You can also set up automatic monthly, quarterly and annual donations. Please send a copy of your receipt to Karen Rohde at karendrohde@gmail.com so she can make sure your donations are credited toward your Paul Harris Fellow Recognition and to our club.

Write a check, payable to The Rotary Foundation, and mail it to Palo Alto Rotary, P.O. Box 592, Palo Alto, CA 94302 or bring it to a meeting.

Please **contact KAREN** if you have any questions about how to donate or about your recognition levels.

DISTRICT GOVERNOR VISIT TO US!



District Governor Nominee Herb Ritter introduced **District Governor Hung "Fun" Wei.**

District Governor Hung shared her personal background, information about the size and scope of District 5170,

and her role as District Governor, which she described as "**Best Cheerleader**". Hung highlighted the learning and education opportunities provided by the District and encouraged members to go to District events and get to know other Rotarians. Hung shared a story about a member of her club who grew up in challenging circumstances and relied on the kindness of

“invisible” people to provide him with school supplies, lunches, holiday gifts, etc. When he grew up and became a Rotarian, he realized that Rotarians were the “invisible” people who had been providing those services to him as a child. He vowed to be the “invisible” person



for others, providing service and support behind the scenes. Hung encouraged us to join him by participating

in service projects.

Hung encouraged us to **be a “Happy” Rotarian** – to do service with a smile. And she encouraged us to **be a “Lifetime Rotarian.”** Sometimes, due to life circumstances, members cannot actively participate and are RINOs (Rotarians in Name Only). Hung urged us to continue to nurture these members. Circumstances may change and they may become active again.

As District Governor and Mayor of Cupertino, **Hung shared her secrets to success:**

- **Be in the moment**
- **Only do what you love to do**
- **Never cook**
- **Have IPO (Income Producing Offspring)**
 - She has 2 IPO Sons

DG Hung spoke about Rotary International President Gordon McNally’s focus on mental health and how it resonated with her personally. Like Gordon, she too lost a family member due to mental illness. Hung wants Rotary to be known as an organization that takes care of its members. She encouraged us to support mental health and to bring tender, loving care to those who may need it. Hung closed her remarks by encouraging us to live a “Doubly Happy Life” – for ourselves and for the loved ones that continue to live in our hearts. Her daily goal is to become a better person and to leave the world a better place.

TODAY’S MEETING VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: **Jackie Wheeler**

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

Zoom/Hybrid Host: **Ben Threlkeld**

Microphone: **Charlie Weidanz**

Pinion writer: **Karen Rohde**

Pinion editor: **Ginny Lear**

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

October 21 9 AM-1:00 PM Rotary Service	Lithium-ION Battery Recycling. Cubberley Community Center, 4120 Middlefield Rd., Palo Alto
October 23 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	Tami Mulcahy, Environmentalist Plastics:Learn-Act-Amplify
October 30 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	Kristina Whalen, President, Foothill College Education Elevated: The Foothill College Promise
November 6 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	David Dockter, Arborist Autumn in Palo Alto
November 13 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	Rob Steinberg, Steinberg, Hart, Architecture Firm Influence of Architecture on Community
November 19 11:30 a.m. Palo Alto JCC Annual Event	SPIN TO END POLIO please contact Linnet at: linnetkwok@hotmail.com to register or for more info. <i>It is not a race.</i>