

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

October 23, 2023



Chartered: May 1, 1922

WELCOME MEMBERS & GUESTS

KAREN ROHDE standing in for the absent **BETSY BECHTEL** standing in for the absent President **LIZ KNISS** called us to order. President elect **REBECCA GERALDI** had **ANNETTE GLANCKOPF** introduce her returning guest Greg Hood who has submitted his application for membership.

THOUGHT & QUOTE FOR THE DAY

ELIZABETH SANTANA reminded us that we should have hope despite the pain of the current heartbreaking events. She concluded with a quote from Michelle Obama stating that "courage can be contagious and hope can take on a life of its own."



GRANTS COMMITTEE SEEKS MEMBERS

BRUCE GEE, Chair of the Community Grants Committee, shared the fact that one million dollars of local charitable support has been provided by our club in the past 18 years. **BRUCE** said new members are welcome to the Committee. Contact him for details.



TGIF, October 27 @ BECHTELS, 5:30 PM

BETSY (and George) BECHTEL, will host our monthly TGIF at their home on Friday, October 27 from 5:30 - 7:30 PM.



Come yourself, bring your spouse, a guest, a potential member, friend, and a bottle of refreshments. Wear your orange!

LITHIUM BATTERY COLLECTION

GEOFF BALL reported on the Saturday lithium battery recycling event. He identified the key people who had made it possible and reminded us of the importance of recycling and addressing sustainability.



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. Contact Dana Tom.

SPIN TO END POLIO: November 19

LE LEVY highlighted the “End Polio” stationary bike spin event taking place at the JCC at 3921 Fabian Way in Palo Alto on Sunday, November 19 at 11:30 AM. An \$80 donation is required but the full amount, double matched by the Gates Foundation, will go to the Rotary Polio Plus Campaign. After the event those wishing to do so will gather at Chef Chu’s for lunch to replenish their calories. Sign up with LE or **LINNET KWOK**.

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION DRIVE

Past President **KAREN ROHDE** explained the program history before giving an update on the current situation of the Polio Plus campaign together with an explanation of why the world-wide eradication of this horrible disease is taking so long. She contrasted it with the 184 years that it took to eliminate smallpox. A short video was shown explaining why maintaining a high level of immunization is so important.



PROGRAM: PLASTICS: Learn-Act-Amplify

GINNY LEAR introduced our speaker, local environmentalist **Tami Mulcahy**, who is an advocate for all things water. Although not a Rotary member (yet!) Tami has joined **ESRAG**, the Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group through its Plastic Solutions Task Force.

Tami started by explaining how plastics and additives affect us and then described the magnitude of plastic waste produced each year and how little of it is actually recycled.



From there she pointed out the shocking pervasive extent of microplastic and nano particulates in the world. She then drew attention to how plastics are disposed of and advocated that countries like the US should not be allowed to dump their used plastic materials on poorer countries for disposal.

Having given us a lot to think about, Tami concluded by exhorting us to rethink every purchase we make involving any plastic materials and recommended taking advantage of Reuse Refill stores.

Questions followed. **TOM GRACON** wanted to know if microbes that eat plastics could help relieve the situation. (Doubtful)

HENRIETTA BURROUGHS wanted to know how we can undo the damage already caused (Transition and minimize) **DUANE KALAR** wanted the location of the refill, reuse store. It is: Right On! Refillery, 300 State Street in Downtown Los Altos. Thank you, **Tami**.

TODAY'S MEETING VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: **Anne Cribbs, Elizabeth Santana**
Cashier/Welcome Desk: **Rebecca Gerald, Katie Seedman**
Zoom/Hybrid Host: **Dana Tom**
Microphone: **Sally Tomlinson**
Pinion writer: **Geoff Ziman**
Pinion editor: **Ginny Lear**

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

October 30 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	Kristina Whalen, President, Foothill College Education Elevated: The Foothill College Promise
November 2 12 noon-1:30 Zoom	Program Committee Contact Sally Tomlinson
November 6 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	David Dockter, Arborist Autumn in Palo Alto
November 8 8:00-9:00 AM Zoom	Club Board Meeting contact Club Secretary Ginny Lear
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>