

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

November 27, 2023

Pinion writer: Hal Mickelson



Chartered: May 1, 1922

WELCOME MEMBERS & GUESTS

Reminding us that Rotary's job is to "Create Hope in the World," President **LIZ KNISS** called us to order for our Monday luncheon meeting on November 27. To ballyhoo our December 13 holiday party, LIZ wore an arrestingly bright red vest (we had the police as guests, so, yes, "arrestingly"). More about the party later and below.



President-elect **REBECCA GERALDI** led guest introductions which included Suzanne Jain, hosted by **DANA TOM**; Nancy Coupal, by **CHARLIE WEIDANZ**; Helen Piekos, by **DARYL SAVAGE**; April Wagner, Amanda Bates, and James Reifschneider, by **ERIC JENSEN**; Margaret Petros, by **ROGER SMITH**; Christina Hood, by **ANNETTE GLANCKOPF**; and Ross Swimmer, by **CAROLE WHITEHILL**.

QUOTE FOR THE DAY

TRISH BUBENIK quoted Albert Einstein: "The world will be destroyed not by those who do evil, but by those who watch them without doing anything...."

NEW MEMBER INDUCTION

Membership Chair **LINNET KWOK** and sponsor **ANNETTE GLANCKOPF** inducted **GREG HOOD** as our newest member. **ANNETTE** described GREG as "a New Yorker

who had experience in Jamaica." His work is based on "love for art and all things beautiful," industrial design, engineering and construction management. **GREG'S wife Christina** joined in for the welcome photo.



ROTARY ANNOUNCEMENTS

GEOFF BALL announced that a discussion about Climate Action & Sustainability will take place from 1:00 to 3:00 pm Sunday, December 3, in the Mitchell Park meeting room. It's a Sibling City activity with Bloomington, Indiana....

BRUCE GEE noted that our Grants Committee needs volunteers to review more than 80 applications for Rotary support....

ROGER SMITH has worked with **ERIC JENSEN** to establish a Palo Alto Police Foundation, and he distributed a list of Rotarians who are contributing to the Foundation's work. To celebrate support from Rotary for this important effort, **ROGER** is donating \$1,000 to benefit Rotary Charities....

ELF OFF THE SHELF! DECEMBER 13TH



Attired in the robustly colorful garb of a Martian Christmas sprite (you simply had to see it), **PATTY MCGUIGAN** cheerfully announced that our club's

annual **Holiday Party** will be held at her home, scheduled for 5:30-7:30 pm on December 13. Through supplemental elfpower provided by **MATT DOLAN**, her home will be fully decorated. "Hey, I'm the only Irishman you know who has staff." There will be carolers and food... a bottle of wine is a welcome gift.

RSVP to CAROLE WHITEHILL ASAP.

ROTARY WCS ACTION IN CAMEROON

DANA TOM and **SUSAN LUTTER** reported on their visit to Cameroon to see what's being accomplished through our teamwork with Ape Action Africa. DANA'S wife, Nancy Kawakita also participated in the trip. Our club has funded latrines, a well and pumps in schools near the ape sanctuary that had no clean water until receiving our help.... We have also funded furnishings for the village clinic.... SUSAN and DANA met with the imam of the capital, Yaoundé, who said that 58% of students in the local madrasa were female.... **SUSAN** joined the President's Club to honor Rotary's work in Cameroon, and **DANA** joined the PC to honor **SUSAN**.

TODAY'S PROGRAM



Our speaker, **Andrew Binder**, Palo Alto's Chief of Police, was introduced by **DARYL SAVAGE**. Chief Binder's law enforcement experience included eighteen years in San Jose and more than

seven years in Palo Alto at the time he was appointed Chief in 2022. A Bay Area native,

Andrew holds a degree in Criminal Justice Administration from San Jose State and a master's in Criminal Justice from Arizona State.... His department has roughly 150 employees, including 86 sworn officers, and a budget of \$40 million.

Chief Binder began by saying, "We're more than our headlines." He recommends that Palo Alto residents review the press releases available on his department's website; follow calls for service on the website's interactive map; and be aware that his department uses unencrypted radio transmissions to make everyone aware of police activities....

Most crime in Palo Alto is property crime, including residential burglaries. Lock your doors and windows; most criminals are opportunists. Keeping up with yard work makes your home look less vulnerable. Consider installing lighting, alarms and cameras.... Leave nothing visible when you park your car. It takes a thief under five seconds to steal a backpack from a vehicle.... Chief Binder noted that although there's money available to support traffic patrols, his department is recruiting to fill 12 vacancies. He has officers working overtime to address traffic problems on patrol but not, at present, a dedicated, full-time traffic team....

Binder's vision for meeting the needs of the homeless includes a hope for more resources outside law enforcement. His department has a "special problems detail" staffed by two plainclothes officers who connect unhoused persons with the services they need.



DECEMBER 11 MEETING & ELECTIONS

Our December 11 meeting will feature entertainment by the Palo Alto Players.

Please note that during the meeting we will also consider a short amendment to our Club's Bylaws and will elect officers and directors for the Club and our local Endowment Board for the coming Rotary Year.

Election details will be sent prior to the meeting.

TODAY'S MEETING VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: **John St. Clair III**

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

Zoom/Hybrid Host: **Ben Threlkeld**

Pinion writer: **Hal Mickelson**

Pinion editor: **Ginny Lear**

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

December 4
12:15-1:30pm
Club Meeting

**Eric Jensen, Joy Oche,
John St. Clair III**
New member talks

December 11
12:15-1:30pm
Club Meeting

**Palo Alto Players and
Elizabeth Santana
entertain us, musically!**

December 13
Jingle! Jingle!
5:30-7:30 pm

**Rotary Holiday party at
Patty McGuigan's home**

**December 18
December 25
NO MEETINGS**

**DARK! NO MEETINGS
MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

**January 1
NO MEETING**

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!
NO MEETING**

January 8
12:15-1:30pm
Club Meeting

**Hal Hershfield, UCLA
Professor of Marketing and
Behavioral Decision Making
"Your Future Self: How to
Make Tomorrow Better Today"**