

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

January 29, 2024

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WELCOME TO OUR MEMBERS & GUESTS



Past President **GINNY LEAR**, substituting for President Liz Kniss called the meeting to order at 12:30 and asked for any guest introductions.

DANA TOM introduced his guest Amy Yang, a Vice President of finance at a small start up. This is Amy's second visit to

our club. **HAL MICKELSON** introduced Jack Cabaness, Pastor at Covenant Presbyterian in Palo Alto. **CAROLE WHITEHILL** introduced Ross Swimmer who recently became her fiancé. **ART STAUFFER** introduced his spouse, Peggy Stauffer.

Past President **SHERRI SAGER** joined the President's Club in celebration of her retirement 10 days ago, after 29 years, at Lucile Packard Children's Hospital, Chief of Government Relations; **BRUCE GEE** joined to support Sherri's joy in her retirement.

Past President **GLORIA HOM** joined to announce that the former Lozano car wash - now Kaady, is offering free washes this week (exterior only).



QUOTE FOR THE DAY



Zooming from his home at The Forum, Past President **DICK MANSFIELD** related a passage from Alfred Lord Tennyson's poem, Ulysses, which delivered an eloquent message of hope, the theme of this Rotary year.

PRESIDENTS CLUB

DUANE KALAR, in a signed classic 49er jersey, joined to recognize Past President **CASH ALAEE'S** involvement with the 49ers cheerleading squad; **CASH ALAEE** also joined via Zoom to salute the 49ers winning the NFC title game!



HENRIETTA BURROUGHS joined to relate a story about her daughter's home in Oakley which is adjacent to farms carrying her surname and that of her son-in-law;

LUNAR NEW YEAR DINNER

JACKIE WHEELER announced that tickets for the February 21st dinner at Fu Lam Mum in Mountain View are going fast—**only 9 spots remain**.

When we reach 50, we are sold out. Cost is \$75.00/person. In cooperation with Los Altos Rotary Club, make checks payable to: Los Altos Rotary (LARC) to guarantee your seats. Let **JACKIE** know. **MATT DOLAN** will be back next week to receive checks also.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our thanks to **CAROLE WHITEHILL** for hosting a great TGIF last Friday. She hopes we will continue to attend them monthly. Next one is February 23rd.



BRING A FRIEND 2/12/24

Past President **KAREN ROHDE** announced a special Bring A Friend Day on February 12. Our speaker will be Larry Diamond, Senior Fellow at FSI at Stanford. The Membership Committee is planning a special focus.

PEACE LOVE ROTARY March 21st

SALLY TOMLINSON announced the theme of this year's fundraiser, **Peace Love Rotary** and encouraged members to consider offering vacation homes, dinners or behind the scenes tours as excellent auction items. She also gave a quick look at two small ship cruises on luxury yachts: Sicily Circumnavigation (June 15 to June 24, 2024) and Athens to Rome (September 26 to October 5, 2024) both live auction items. Details to follow.



TODAY'S PROGRAM

BETSY BECHTEL introduced the members giving their talks today: **ART STAUFFER**, **NANCY PETERS**, and **HAL MICKELSON**.

ART STAUFFER, born in 1933, shared early parts of his life growing up in Beverly Hills in Southern California during World War 2. He attended Beverly Hills High School, became an Eagle Scout and participated in many extracurricular activities. Art served in the US Navy in the 1950's as an engineering officer on a refueling ship in the South China Sea servicing the 7th Fleet. He

related an embarrassing shipboard story where his engineering crew cause the ship's captain to cancel and important meeting because their error sprayed oil over the captain's clean white uniform.



Art met and married in 1960 his spouse Peggy who have celebrated 63 years of marriage. After their marriage, Art attended Stanford and received his MBA. Soon after he went to work with GE and then to Xerox. In between jobs, Peggy and Art took an around the world tour and accepted the Xerox job since they had run out of money. The Stauffers moved to Rochester NY and on behalf of Xerox to numerous other world-wide locations, Japan being the family's favorite. Eventually the family settled in Palo Alto where the Stauffers raised 3 children and have 6 grandchildren.

NANCY PETERS began by saying she is 89 years old and had this morning been given a clean bill of health from her cardiologist. She related a childhood story of the summers she spent in Vermont.



Nancy was born in New Haven Connecticut whose father was a Methodist minister. In the 1930's Nancy's father was acquainted with other faith community

members of the New Haven community who grouped together to purchase a 120 acre farm in Vermont which houses a collection of farm buildings in various states of repair. Nancy spent many summers as a child exploring the Vermont farm and watched as members of the group began to build their own summer cottages. She fondly remembers local auctions where as children would obtain fascinating items to play with. On a recent

trip back to Vermont, she purchased a set of dining chairs she is currently using.

Traveling is still very much a part of Nancy's life. She related a spur of the moment trip she and her family took to Tuscany. She has traveled to Mexico frequently. More recently Nancy and her partner have traveled extensively on the French canals on a boat they navigated on their own.

Nancy is a psychotherapist and continues to practice in Palo Alto.

HAL MICKELSON has been a Palo Alto Rotary Club member since 1997 and has seen a majority of Shakespeare's plays as well as Gilbert and Sullivan's operettas.

Hal related his career as an attorney, 4 years in private practice and 33 years at Hewlett Packard and an in-house attorney. He explained the difference between in-house and private practice legal work. In-house attorneys work faster since they are not paid by the hour.



Hal was assigned the HP's marketing division as their legal advisor. In the early days of computer technology mini computers could cost \$200,000 and customers were unfamiliar with their operation which resulted in contract issues Hal would need to resolve. One case in particular was the contract with the City of Gardena who purchased the HP 3000.

Hal was involved with antitrust compliance and avoiding price fixing concerns. Hal used his legal skills to train HP managers how to avoid legal entanglements

In the 1980's Hal moved into labor and employment law as newly enacted laws such as the Americans with Disabilities Act came into being. His work in labor and employment was especially important in HP's integrating

companies they recently acquired. His work at HP also involved employee relations including hiring and firing as well as labor organizing issues.

Hal then showed all the legal areas he was not involved with such as intellectual property and patent law.

Hal was born in San Pedro, California and cleared up any confusion on how to pronounce the town's name. He attended Stanford University and Harvard Law. He was admitted to the California Bar in 1975. Hal currently serves on the Board of the Palo Alto History Museum.

CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

GINNY thanked all of our speakers for a wonderful program, and to our members for attending. She encouraged everyone to fill up the 9 seats remaining at the Lunar New Year Dinner and to begin to think of how they can help make our annual crab feed fundraiser a great success: March 21st at Mitchell Park.
Peace Love Rotary Meeting adjourned.

TODAY'S MEETING VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: **Dave Smullin**

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

Zoom/Hybrid Host: **Dana Tom**

Microphone: **Jake Yoo**

Pinion writer: **Steve Emslie**

Pinion editor: **Ginny Lear**

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

February 5 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	Karen Law, Investor Sustainability From an Investor Perspective
February 12 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	Larry Diamond, Senior Fellow FSI, Stanford Silicon Triangle: The US, Taiwan, China and Global Semiconductor Security
February 19 DARK No Meeting	Presidents Day Holiday
February 21 Fu Lam Mum Mtn. View	Lunar New Year Dinner Sign up now, \$75 per person
February 26 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	Faisal Karimi, Afghan Journalist, Knight Fellow Media Under the Taliban Rule in Afghanistan: Capture Strategies and Challenges