

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

February 5, 2024

Pinion writer: Eric Jensen



Chartered: May 1, 1922

WELCOME TO OUR MEMBERS & GUESTS

Rotary is all about tradition and this week, traditions continued as President LIZ KNISS was traveling and Past President **IRIS KOROL**, took over the helm. The ship was in good hands.

Past President **IRIS** recognized Rotarians with guests: **RALPH ADAMS** introduced returning guest Justin Duren, **DANA TOM** introduced another returning guest Amy Yang, and **HAL MICKLESON** re-introduced his "spiritual advisor", Pastor Jack Cabaness, of Covenant Presbyterian in Palo Alto



attend, let **MATT DOLAN** know before it is too late.

THE ROTARY FOUNDATION

The Rotary Foundation chair, **KAREN ROHDE**, provided an update on the Foundation, reminding all that half of the proceeds go to Rotary International World Fund and the other half return to the club for local grants. The club goal for 2024 was \$20,000 and to date the club has raised \$27,290 – the most raised in KARENS's recent memory. She credited **LINNET KWOK's** Spin to End Polio event, to help us in raising \$4,660 – exceeding the goal amount by over 200%. These funds would be matched 2:1 by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

The goal this year was 100% member participation in The Rotary Foundation giving and the club is currently at 64%, which means we have the opportunity to do more before the end of the fiscal year. Any amount over \$25 to \$100 or more is welcome. The following members were recognized for

QUOTE FOR THE DAY



JOHN ST CLAIR III gifted those in attendance with a vocal passage from the song "What the World Needs Now" by Jackie DeShannon (1965). John said the song reminds us of empathy, kindness, and solidarity in turbulent times, or said another way,

creating Hope in the world.

LUNAR NEW YEAR DINNER February 21st

President **IRIS** reported there are maybe 3-4 spots remaining for the Lunar New Year Dinner so if you wish to



their level of giving to the Rotary Foundation:
Paul Harris Society members: RALPH ADAMS, GLORIA HOM, SUSAN LUTTER, TIM WATSON, DANA TOM



Paul Harris Fellow members: **DARYL SAVAGE** (new); Level 2: **RICHARD KELLER**; Level 3: **JUDY KLEINBERG, TODD LEWIS, JON STOUMEN**; Level 4: **DAN QUINN**; **LEVEL 5: TRISH BUBENIK, BILL FOGARTY, ANNETTE GLANCKOPF, BRUCE SWENSON, CAROL WHITEHILL, JACK WOODSON**; Level 6: **SUSAN LUTTER**; Level 7: **DANA TOM**. Thank you for your generosity! Look for more recognitions in the coming weeks.

BRING A FRIEND 2/12/24

Past President **DANA TOM** announced a special Bring A Friend Day on February 12. Keep the pipeline of future Rotarians strong. Our speaker will be Larry Diamond, Senior Fellow at FSI at Stanford.

PEACE LOVE ROTARY March 23rd

BETSY BECHTEL encouraged sponsorships and auction items for this year's fundraiser, Peace Love Rotary. Vacation homes, dinners, or behind the scenes tours are excellent auction



items. **BETSY** called on **BRUCE GEE** to mention two small ship cruises: first is Japan By Sea, (May 14-25) and Athens to Rome (September 26 to October 5, 2024) both live auction items. Details to follow.



TODAY'S PROGRAM

Karen Law came to Rotary to speak about "Sustainability from an Investor Perspective". Introduced by **DANA TOM**, Karen is a Stanford trained engineer-turned-investor managing a social venture fund to build and strengthen communities through sustainability, equitable empowerment, and the arts. Taking a strategic role, her firm advises along the venture capital-philanthropy spectrum. Karen has spent 20 years working at the intersection of people and technology and reports that there is currently a convergence of funding opportunities with emerging initiatives in sustainability. On Karen's "watchlist" are electricity supply and demand (particularly AI computing demand), efficient feedstocks, carbon markets, oversight of carbon claims, and start-ups that do not start traditionally. Her firm uses analytics to vet the positive or negative impacts of an enterprise's product or service, among other matters. She works with markets as traditional as transportation or as innovative as reforestation. Karen states "even though most ventures fail, being alive (as an organization) brings value."



CLOSING

Past President **IRIS** ran a tight meeting and adjourned with time to spare. The bell rang!

TODAY'S MEETING VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: **Greg Hood, Ullrich Schwertschlag**
 Cashier/Welcome Desk: **Rebecca Gerald, Katie Seedman**
 Zoom/Hybrid Host: **Ben Threlkeld**
 Microphone: **Charlie Weidanz**
 Pinion writer: **Eric Jensen**
 Pinion editor: **Ginny Lear**

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

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	Presidents Day Holiday No Meeting
February 21 Fu Lam Mum Mtn. View	Lunar New Year Dinner \$75 per person Nearing SOLD OUT
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
March 1  TGIF 5:30-7:30 pm	TGIF: Eric & Linda Jensen's home... Join in the good times! Bring a beverage to share