

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

March 25, 2024

Pinion writer: Eric Jensen



Chartered: May 1, 1922

WELCOME TO OUR MEMBERS & GUESTS

President **LIZ KNISS** opened the meeting with hip attire from the 70's – a nod to the event Saturday night. She called for visitors. **BRIAN STEEN** introduced his wife, Sandra Wilson.

We also had five guests who were part of our program to be introduced soon.



WE CARE FOR OUR MEMBERS

In Memoriam: **CHESLEY DOUGLAS**, 45 year member of Palo Alto Rotary and Past President 1994-1995, died last week. Most recently he was an Honorary Member. **CHESLEY** and **SHIRLEY DOUGLAS** were married in 1955. We send Shirley and the family our sincere sympathy. A card was passed to send our thoughts to them.



QUOTE FOR THE DAY



BRIAN STEEN provided the quote of the day. Dressed in San Francisco Giants wear, **BRIAN** hosted Giants fan trivia before leading the club in "Take Me Out to the Ball Game". **PLAY BALL!**

We also signed a get well card for **STEVE PLAYER**. His recovery from a recent surgery is going well.

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER REPORT

PEACE, LOVE and ROTARY

President **LIZ** remarked on the "astonishing amount of work" that went into the Annual Fundraiser last Saturday night, March 23rd. She called on **DANA TOM, REBECCA GERALDI, and BRUCE GEE** to provide a report on the event.



DANA recapped last year's fundraising and those individuals and organizations supported, remarking that our club "positively impacted the community and all over the world". **REBECCA** listed over 20 volunteers that made the recent event happen, from the planning committee all the way to the break-down crew. **BRUCE**

PRESIDENTS CLUB

RALPH ADAMS gave the first donation in honor of **DANA TOM** having cut his pandemic locks.

SUSAN LUTTER announced a \$275 donation she is making to the Endowment Fund for the 55 pairs of eyeglasses our members brought for people in Cameroon.

MARY ANN GEE joined the President's Club last week to honor **SHERRI SAGER'S** retirement from Stanford Children's Hospital.

highlighted the sponsors and together, REBECCA and BRUCE announced over \$100,000 in net giving for the evening – a record!

Because he couldn't attend on Saturday, **TODD LEWIS** offered a \$500 donation to the Rotary Charities Fund, only to be matched by **EJ HONG** for another \$500 and a recognition of **ELIZABETH SANTANA** for the work she does at Palo Alto Players.

ROB LANCEFIELD remarked that 25 years ago, the annual fundraiser raised \$8,700.

All funds raised will go to support our annual charities, grants, and scholarships next year.

AREA 9 SPEECH CONTEST MARCH 26th

JENN TORAI announced Youth Speech participant, **Sabrina Terman**, was advancing to the next round of competition at Courtyard Marriott, 4320 El Camino Real, Los Altos, Tuesday night, 6:30 pm., and encouraged our attendance.

TODAY'S PROGRAM

ANNE CRIBBS introduced today's program presented by the Palo Alto Pickleball Club (PAPC), recalling a telephone call she received in 2005 requesting the sport be added to the Senior Games. At the time she did not think much of it. Now it is one of the fastest growing sports in the world and revealed that Palo Alto Rotary and the PAPC will team up in the coming months to host a fundraiser to raise money and recruit new members! She introduced the club visitors, Monica Williams, Rich Pearson, Liling Lampell, Dave Claudino, and the main speaker, Ron Gentile.

Ron is a member and Coach at PAPC. The club is based out of the Mitchell Park racquet courts which are open to the public 6am to 10pm. Ron said the Mitchell Park courts are considered the epicenter of pickleball on the Peninsula. Their club slogan is "Arrive as a



stranger & leave as a friend". PAPC has a heavy presence at these courts and provides beginner lessons, socials, tournaments, and clinics. The programs provide socio-economic connectedness, social connection, and the exercise infuses happiness for all ages, from youth to seniors. Why is it successful? Ron reports the game often involves double play (two players per team) and the court is smaller leading to a high rate of adoption. Liling and Rich showed us pickleball on a modified temporary court adjacent President LIZ's lectern.



(President LIZ was strictly a spectator this time). Rich said new paddle technology, by Owl, is reducing the noise that can be a complaint of neighbors. He also showed us how the game begins at the back lines of the court and progresses to the net, making the "sneaky shot" much more effective than the hard and fast shot.

PAPC is providing a clinic for Palo Alto Rotary Wednesday, April 10th, from 5:30-7pm at the Mitchell Park sport courts near the library. Just show up – they will provide the paddles and balls and beginners are welcomed. Thanks to **LINETTE KWOK** for sponsoring this presentation.

IN CLOSING

President **LIZ** thanked our speaker, our pickleball players, and all who helped to make our meeting possible.

TODAY'S MEETING VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: **Eric Jensen, Karen Rohde**

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

Zoom/Hybrid Host: **Dana Tom**

Microphone: **Joop Verbaken**

Pinion writer: **Eric Jensen**

Pinion editor: **Ginny Lear**

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

<p>April 1 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting</p>	<p>Megan Swezey Fogarty, Stanford University, Associate VP for Community Engagement Stanford and Palo Alto: Driving More Purposeful Engagement</p>
<p>April 8 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting</p>	<p>Prof. Steven Sloman, Brown University Decision Making in a Community of Knowledge</p>
<p>April 10 5:30-7:00 pm Mitchell Park</p>	<p>Pickleball Clinic for Palo Alto Rotarians: Free</p>
<p>April 15 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting</p>	<p>Dean Batchelor, Director, City of Palo Alto Utilities Meeting the Electricity Needs of Palo Alto</p>
<p>April 22 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting</p>	<p>Bill Liberatore and the Gunn HS Choir Musical Entertainment</p>

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