

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

April 22, 2024

Pinion writer: Eric Jensen



Chartered: May 1, 1922

WELCOME TO OUR MEMBERS & GUESTS

President **LIZ KNISS** presided over today's meeting.

HAL MICKELSON introduced Robert "Bob" Grant and **CHARLIE WEIDANZ** introduced Bob Shaw, a fan of choir music and Board Chair of Palo Alto Community Child Care.

QUOTES FOR TAX DAY



ERIC JENSEN relayed a quote most recently attributed to Brene' Brown: "It's hard to hate up close". The idea is that if you have hateful views of a person or community, these can be alleviated by getting to know them better.

NEW MEMBER INDUCTION

LINNET KWOK

introduced **DR. MICHAEL FOGARTY** as the newest club member and his sponsor, **ERIC**, provided a brief bio and



presented his red badge. **MIKE**, husband of Megan Swezey Fogarty and friend to many in the club, is a retired OB/GYN and has three grown children. His 15 minutes of fame was delivering a baby from a woman who had been in a coma and brain dead but kept alive long enough for **MIKE** to complete a Cesarean

birth of the baby. At the time, **MIKE** was quoted by local media "Obviously it's mixed emotions. He's lost a wife and gained a son", referring to the family involved.

RED TO BLUE BADGES

LINNET called upon **GEOFF BALL, LARRY KLIEN, ED LAUING, JOY OCHE, and SIMON PENNINGTON** to receive their blue badges from President **LIZ** and **REBECCA**



GERALDI. Members transition from the red badge to blue badge once they have achieved several milestones including, but not limited to, six months as a member in good standing, attend an orientation, serve on a committee, attend a social, and give a new member talk. Their Sponsors are **CASH ALAEE, BETSY BECHTEL, ANNE CRIBBS, GINNY LEAR, and DANA TOM**.

PRESIDENTS CLUB CONTRIBUTIONS

It was a robust day for the Presidents Club. **BOB McCOWAN** started us off in recognition of his 85th birthday and 65th wedding anniversary to wife, Joan. **STEVE PLAYER**, who was thankful to be back, joined in recognition of **BETSY BECHTEL** and **SHERRI SAGER** as recent Chamber of Commerce/PA Weekly Tall Tree recipients for Outstanding Citizen Volunteer and Outstanding Professional, respectively. **CHARLIE WEIDANZ** quickly joined in recognition of the two Tall Tree recipients along with the other two recipients: Friends of Palo Alto Junior Museum Zoo as Outstanding Non-profit and Zareen's Restaurant as Outstanding Business. Not to be outdone, **LEANNAH HUNT** joined to recognize **STEVE "Mr. Palo Alto" PLAYER** for his recovery, **HENRIETTA BURROUGHS** for Earth Day (today!), and **TRISH BUBENIK** where she remarked "As a former public educator and superintendent, I celebrate the leadership of Gunn High School Choir Director, Bill Liberatore, definitely a Palo Alto musical legend"



TODAY'S PROGRAM



EJ HONG introduced the Gunn Choir Director, **Bill Liberatore**, who announced the support of **JLS Choir Director Angelina Fitzhugh**, who brought in their choir of 25 Chamber Singers. Billy said the choir had recently come back from a Spring Break tour in Spain where the 90 members (75 performers and 15 chaperones and support crew) were well received. He said the student performers may be a bit tired from Prom Night Saturday but the performance did not disappoint. Not in order of performance, the club heard *Soli Deo Gloria* by Paul Kickstat, *Set Me as a Seal Upon Your Heart* by Rene Clausen, *Exultate Deo* by Scarlatti, *Way Over in Beulah Land*, Traditional, *I Hear the Harps Eternal* by Alice Parker, Shawn Kirchner is the arranger of *Wana Baraka*, and *I Can Tell the World* by Moses Hogan. The performance ended with a standing ovation and a "bravo" or two before President LIZ called the meeting.



ROTARY ENDOWMENT FUND DRIVE



BETSY BECHTEL, as club Endowment Committee President, announced notes soliciting endowment participation will be coming to our mailboxes soon. She reminded the club that there are four monetary "asks" for Rotarians each year: annual dues, giving to

The Rotary Foundation/Polio Plus, our annual Spring fundraiser (Crab Feed), and the Endowment Fund. She reported the \$1.2M endowment gives 5% back to charities each year.



IN CLOSING

Thank you to **DUANE & Ann KALAR** for Friday's TGIF in their beautiful backyard aglow with 13 Dogwood trees.

TODAY'S MEETING VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: **Jackie Wheeler, Dave Smullin**

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

Zoom/Hybrid Host: **Ben Threlkeld**

Microphone: **Dana Tom**

Pinion writer: **Eric Jensen**

Pinion editor: **Ginny Lear**

UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

April 29 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	Diane Shader Smith, Cystic Fibrosis Advocate Love, Loss and the search for a cure for anti-Microbial Resistance
May 6 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	Amy Castro, Professor, University of Pennsylvania Fighting Poverty with Guaranteed Income
May 13 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	Ron Herman, Photography Instructor, Foothill College Connecting With Cuba
May 20 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	Our Rotary in Action! Bruce Gee, Chair 2023-2024 Community Grants and Recipients
May 27-DARK	NO MEETING Memorial Day