

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

June 10, 2024

Pinion writer: Betsy Bechtel



Chartered: May 1, 1922

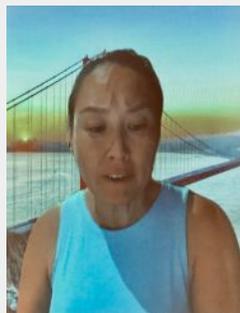
## WELCOME TO OUR MEMBERS & GUESTS

President **LIZ KNISS** called the meeting to order at 12:30 With Hope in the World. Visiting Rotarian Steven Bajors of Mill Valley Rotary, was invited today by **CHARLIE WEIDANZ**. Steven has been chosen by the Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce to manage the Festival of Arts weekend show in downtown Palo Alto in August. **LELAND LEVY** introduced his wife Judy Huey (his soul mate). **BRUCE SWENSON** introduced his guest Rene Morgan, wife of our deceased member Don Morgan. **SALLY TOMLINSON** introduced our member **MIKE BAIRD** who has not been able to be at a meeting for some time and was welcomed back today. Our speaker's fiancée Gabby was introduced as well.



## QUOTE FOR THE DAY

**CHRISTINA CHU** read a quote from Katherine Hepburn:  
"Don't just show up. Transform yourself and everybody around you. Be needed. Be interesting. Be something no one else can be - and consistently!"



## FAREWELL TO LIZ - SOCIAL EVENT!

Past President **KAREN ROHDE** promoted the **Debunking of President LIZ**. The last meeting of June, instead of lunch, will be a dinner at Michael's Restaurant at the Shoreline Golf Course in Mountain View starting at 5:30pm.

Please register (and make your dinner selection) by June 16: Registration link: <https://paloaltorotary.square.site/>

The dinner will be a celebration of President LIZ's highly successful year and to pass the presidential gavel to our incoming President REBECCA GERALDI. Tickets available to buy on the club website. \$90 per person.

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## FINAL NOTES on ENDOWMENT DRIVE



**BETSY BECHTEL**, President of the Palo Alto Rotary Endowment Committee, announced that 46 members have contributed \$19,500 to the Endowment this year which supports our local charities. In addition the endowment through investments and earnings has earned another \$123,564. Five percent of the Endowment Funds each year goes directly to Palo Alto Rotary Charities. **TODD LEWIS** stood and generously offered to contribute \$1000. Thank you, TODD!

## PRESIDENTS CLUB

**BETSY BECHTEL** thanked Rotarians for their notes and support while she was sick and is now on her way to recovery and joined the President's Club.



**REBECCA GERALDI** showed pictures and thanked our club for sending her to the Rotary International Conference in Singapore . 40,000 Rotarians attended including **DANA TOM, JUDY KLEINBERG and GLORIA HOM**. She encouraged our members to sign up for the 2025 convention which will be in Calgary.

**TOM GRACON** announced that 4 of his grandchildren had graduations this month and in their honor he joined the President's club, once for each grandchild.

**LIZ KNISS** announced that her granddaughter graduates Tuesday evening from Santa Monica High School.

**CHRISTINA CHU** joined in honor of our club.

## TODAY'S PROGRAM

DANA TOM introduced our speaker, **Daniel**



**Nguyen**, a Paly math teacher. Daniel teaches AP Statistics and advanced Precalculus at Palo Alto High School. He was on the TV game show "Jeopardy" three times in 2022 and won twice. He was invited back twice for

Champions Wildcard Games in 2023.

Daniel explained the process of getting on Jeopardy. Any of us can sign up to take a 50 question test. He passed and then took a second 50 question test online where you have less than 15 seconds each to answer. Each year, 100,000 people take the tests and of those only 3000 get to the next level, an audition.

Daniel did that and then was one of the lucky ones out of 450 to be asked to be on the show. He said he got the call and was told to



come at his own expense down to Los Angeles for filming with five episodes taped per day. That whole process took about two years. He prepared by watching lots of previously taped Jeopardy shows. He realized the cue card was quite a distance and practiced with a computer at that distance and wore glasses to see the screen better. He also said there is a trick to hitting the buzzer fast. His math skills helped him in quickly calculating how much he wanted to bid in Final Jeopardy and definitely helped him win a second time when he bid \$0 when none of his opponents nor he had the correct answer.



Our members had many questions and enjoyed today's program very much.

## IN CLOSING

President **LIZ** adjourned the meeting at 1:30, noting the entertaining and very interactive program today.

## SOCIAL REMINDER

Please register (and make your dinner selection) by June 16: Registration link: <https://paloaltorotary.square.site/>

## TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: **Geoff Ball, Anne Cribbs**  
Cashier/Welcome Desk: **Rebecca Gerald, Katie Seedman**  
Zoom/Hybrid Host: **Dana Tom**  
Microphone: **Steve Emslie**  
Pinion writer: **Betsy Bechtel**  
Pinion editor: **Ginny Lear**

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

<b>June 17</b> 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	<b>Greer Stone, Mayor of Palo Alto</b> Palo Alto Today
<b>June 24</b> <b>-DARK</b>	<b>No club meeting</b>
<b>June 24</b> 5:30-7:30 pm Dinner	<b>President Liz's Debunking Michael's at Shoreline Mountain View</b>
<b>June 28-TGIF</b> 5:30-7:30 pm	<b>Matt Dolan</b> invites us all to join together at Homewood Suites
<b>July 1-DARK</b>	<b>NO MEETING</b>
<b>July 4-Flags</b> <b>8 a.m. and 5 p.m.</b>	<b>Post Flags on University Avenue 8 a.m.</b> , Meet at Cowper and University Retire Flags: <b>5 p.m.</b> Meet at High and University to return flags to garage
<b>July 8</b> 12:15-1:30pm New President REBECCA's first Club Meeting	<b>Noelle Wilder, Deaf Actor Preschool Teacher @ CA School for the Deaf</b> Accessibility in Performing Arts for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Performers