

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

**December 9, 2024**

Writer: Geoff Ziman



*Celebrating 102 years of Service*

## THE MAGIC OF ROTARY 2024-2025

After the Roomers and Zoomers had waved to each other, President **REBECCA** asked President Elect **BRUCE GEE** to welcome guests. The first were visiting Rotarian **Nitin Shah** and his wife **Nita Shah** from the Rotary Club of Coimbatore Smart City in South India.



Other guests (hosts) were her husband, Tim GEE (**MARY ANN GEE**), Kristina Lugo of Avenidas (**JUDY KLEINBERG**) and Sana Sugita (**REBECCA GERALDI**).

**Sana** is a District Rotary Scholar from Japan studying A.I. at Stanford.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

**TIM WATSON** had us stop, breathe and let things go – a calming practice that he uses with the girls' soccer team he coaches.



## ANNUAL CLUB ELECTIONS 12/9/2024

### 2025-26 PARC BOARD OFFICERS/MEMBERS

President Elect **BRUCE GEE** introduced his board for next year who were duly elected unanimously later in the meeting. The Board consists of **CHARLIE WEIDANZ**, President Elect for 2025-26), **REBECCA GERALDI** (Past President), **MATT DOLAN** (Treasurer), **GINNY LEAR** (Secretary), **LINNET**

**KWOK** (Membership), **MARY ANN GEE** (Club Operations), **ANN CRIBBS** (Club Service), **ERIC JENSEN** (Community Service), **JOY OCHE** (Vocational Service), **ULLRICH SCHWERTSCHLAG** (International Service and Environment), and **JUDY KLEINBERG** (Youth Services). Retiring board members **STEVE EMSLIE**, **LIZ KNISS** and **KAREN RHODE** were recognized.

### 2025-26 ENDOWMENT BOARD TRUSTEES`

**BETSY BECHTEL**, Endowment Board President introduced the Endowment Board Trustees for next year who also were duly elected unanimously later in the meeting. The Board will consist of **BRUCE SWENSEN**, **BARBARA GROSS**, **LARRY KLEIN**, **JULIE JEROME**, **PATTY McGUIGAN**, **DANA TOM** and **TIM WATSON**. President **BRUCE GEE** and President Elect **CHARLIE WEINDANZ** will be ex-officio members of the board also. Outgoing Board members **BETSY BECHTEL** and **MIKE McMAHON** were acknowledged.



## BLUE BADGE PRESENTATION

Having completed the requirements, **MARY ANN GEE**, who was sponsored by **IRIS KOROL, ERIC JENSEN and SHERRI SAGER**, was presented with her Blue Badge and a shower of confetti!



## ANNOUNCEMENTS: We Care & Thoughts

During the meeting a get-well card for **ANNETTE GLANCKOPF** was completed.

Also, a sign-up list for Thought for The Day duties was passed around. Please contact **TRISH BUBENIK** if you would like to help with this as there were still a few unfilled spots.

## PRESIDENTS CLUB

**CHARLIE WEINDANZ** joined to commemorate his decade as a member of the club and also to acknowledge his election as Club President Elect Elect.



## THANK YOU

**MIKE FOGARTY and GINNY LEAR** were thanked with confetti for volunteering to distribute early reader kits to children in participation with the Los Altos Rotary Club.



## TODAY'S PROGRAM



In conformance with our Diversity in Celebration theme of the month, **SALLY TOMLINSON** introduced our speaker, **Chaplain Kenneth Lee**. Otherwise known as Kulapradipa Dasa, he is the Universal Enlightenment and Flourishing Chaplain

Associate in the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life at Stanford University.

Introduced to Eastern wisdom texts at a young age, Kenneth was raised in a family of mixed religious

heritage. He has monastic training as well as studying at Rutgers

University in New Jersey and St. Stephen's College in New Delhi. He is a Hindu Brahmin (Priest) of the devotional tradition centered on the worship of Krishna/Vishnu.

In his talk he shared with us the important

celebrations of Hindu religion and culture.

He opened his talk by showing a photograph of a colorful and messy celebration in Northern India. He then shared with us the characteristics of the particular holiday celebrations of Utsava Diwali (Festival of lights and fireworks), Navaratri (Fasting and feasting with meditation and scripture recitations), Sri Krishna Janmashtami (Flowers) and Holi (Harvest Festival). He explained how Hindu celebrations were based on the lunar calendar so the dates each year varied and were not consistent with our calendar.

Following the talk, questions were asked by **HENRIETTA BURROUGHS, SALLY TOMLINSON** and **REBECCA GERALDI**.



## CLOSING REMARKS

President **REBECCA** closed the meeting and reminded members that the meeting next Monday would be "A Holiday Sing Along". After that there will be no meetings until January 6th. Happy New Year!

## TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: **Charlie Weidanz, Matt Dolan**

Welcome Desk: **Katie Seedman**

A/V: **Dana Tom**

Microphone: **Tim Watson**

Pinion Writer: **Geoff Ziman**

Pinion Editor: **Ginny Lear**

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

<b>December 16</b> 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	<b>A Holiday Sing-A-Long with Your Vocally-talented Fellow Rotarians Pianist Theresa Ronan</b>
<b>December 23</b> DARK	<b>No Club Meeting  HOLIDAY BREAK</b>
<b>December 30</b> DARK	<b>No Club Meeting  HAPPY NEW YEAR!</b>
<b>January 6</b> 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	<b>Erwin Chemerinsky, Dean and Jesse H. Choper Distinguished Professor of Law at the UC Berkeley School of Law <i>No Democracy Lasts Forever</i></b>

