

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

**January 13, 2025**

Writer: Sally Tomlinson



*Celebrating 103 years of Service*

## THE MAGIC OF ROTARY 2024-2025



President **REBECCA GERALDINI** welcomed everyone to our meeting with the now-traditional mutual wave between Roomers and Zoomers. President-elect

**BRUCE GEE** then welcomed visiting Rotarians and guests.

**JUDY KLEINBERG** introduced her husband Jim Kleinberg. **ANNE CRIBBS** introduced her friend Helen Mendel.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Former President **KAREN ROHDE** shared some tips from the Wall Street Journal's 15-minute fixes, focusing on their advice: "To feel better, donate your time or money." So, the next time you are feeling down or stressed, give some money away! Benefits may include reduce blood pressure, reduced stress, and an all-round better outlook on life. To maximize the effectiveness of your generosity, their first tip is to "give a damn" -



give to causes you care about. The second tip is to "follow the money" - pay attention to what your money accomplishes. The third tip is to "unsubscribe" - don't sign up for automatic giving because it distances you from the results of your giving. And fourth, "volunteer your time."

## PRESIDENTS CLUB

**GINNY LEAR** described a great tale of Rotary connections. Last Monday a friend asked her if she knew anyone who wanted a barber chair! Not your typical question, but Ginny was game to ask around. The next thing she knew, she saw **ELIZABETH SANTANA** of Palo Alto Players and asked her if she was interested in this chair. **ELIZABETH** happens to have another theater friend who is producing "Sweeney Todd" and who may want the chair! She did want it. The lesson learned is "Never imagine what might not happen - just ask!"

After seeing the slide about January members (see the next item), **DUANE KALAR** joined the President's Club for the pleasure of being on top of **STEVE PLAYER**.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**REBECCA** featured members of our club who joined in January's past, and who, as a group, have given 480 years of service to Rotary! Many of our longest-serving members joined in January, with **REBECCA** featured members of our club who joined in January's past, and who, as a group, have given 480 years of service to Rotary! Many of our longest-serving members joined in January, with **DUANE KALAR** leading the group at 54 years and

**STEVE PLAYER** with 50 years! **REBECCA** also announced the January birthdays and we got to play baby-ID.

There was a great article in the **Living Well** Section of the **Palo Alto Weekly** about area Rotarysts - our club, PA University Rotary and East Palo Alto Rotary. It is good to get exposure to the community of Weekly readers.

**DANA TOM** attended the District conference with many workshops on why people join Rotary and why they stay. One recommendation was to increase visibility, which we managed with the article in the PA Weekly.

**GEOFF BALL** described the Climate Summit hosted by the Los Alto Rotary. There were about 100 people there with ten speakers from different clubs. GEOFF wants to create a project for our club, and he will send around a note to gauge interest.

## LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION: 1/31

**GREG HOOD** and **GLORIA HOM** announced that January 31 will be a combined TGIF and [Lunar New Year at Channing House](#) on the 11th floor starting at 5:30 pm. It will be \$75/person for a celebration featuring a buffet of delicious food delivered by Chef Chu's Restaurant. Look for an email with a link to sign up. It's the Year of the Snake!

## TODAY'S PROGRAM

Sports enthusiast **ANNE CRIBBS** introduced our speaker. **Mark Purdy** retired in 2017 as sports columnist at the San Jose Mercury News. After 33 years on the job, he has much to share



He joined the San Jose Merc in 1984, covered 14 Olympic games and 32 Super Bowls, and

was named one of America's top ten sports journalists by the Associated Press and the Wall Street Journal. He is responsible for the name, McCovey Cove! In 2021, he became the first journalist inducted into the San Jose Sports Hall of Fame. Perhaps more important to members of our club, Mark wrote the copy about ANNE for her Bay Area Hall of Fame plaque.

Mark shared with us many tales from his recent book entitled "The San Francisco 49ers, and Illustrated Timeline." He took



us through the history of the 49ers, with lots of stories, to the delight of the many fans in the room. News to many, the 49ers originated at Santa Clara University. Two Santa Clara students, Al Ruffo and Tony Morabito, loved football. Years after graduating, seeing Kezar stadium sitting unused, they got serious about their college fantasy of starting a football team. They successfully founded the 49ers with the team colors of red and gold, which are the colors of Santa Clara, and many early players were Santa Clara grads. Their first games were at Kezar.

The 49ers were the first NFL team to be owned by women - the wives of Tony Morabito and his brother. One of the 49ers Super Bowl appearances was at Stanford Stadium in 1984. Steve Jobs paid for Apple-logoed seat cushions for the splintery wooden seats.

Mark filled the half hour, leaving questions for after the meeting, when he was surrounded by a crowd.

## CLOSING REMARKS

With thanks to our speaker and all who attended, President **REBECCA** adjourned the meeting at 1:30 pm.

## TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: **Liz Kniss, Karen Rohde**

Welcome Desk: **Katie Seedman**

A/V: **Ben Threlkeld**

Pinion Writer: **Sally Tomlinson**

Pinion Editor: **Ginny Lear**

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

<b>January 20</b> 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	<b>MLK, Jr Day: Service Project</b> <b>Hands On/Sleeves Up for</b> <b>Grateful Garment backpacks</b>
<b>January 27</b> 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	<b>New Member Talks:</b> <b>Rene Morgan, Jon Goldman,</b> <b>Jack Cabaness</b>
<b>February 3</b> 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	<b>Stuart Weiss, Chief Scientist,</b> <b>Creekside Science: Protecting</b> <b>Monarch overwintering Habitats</b>
<b>February 10</b> 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	<b>Dr. Ayodele Thomas, Associate</b> <b>Vice Provost, IDEAL</b> (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access in a Learning Environment) <b>Advancement at Stanford, and</b> <b>Executive Director of the</b> <b>Greene Scholars Program</b>