

Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

March 3, 2025

Writer: Betsy Bechtel



Celebrating 103 years of Service

THE MAGIC OF ROTARY 2024-2025

President **REBECCA GERALDI** opened the meeting asking "Roomers and Zoomers" to wave to each other. She then asked President-elect **BRUCE GEE** to welcome Rotarians with guests, who today was Yudy Deng hosted by **JUDY KLEINBERG**.



PRESIDENTS CLUB

SUZANNE JAIN joined the President's Club to honor her very special 94 year old neighbor who had recently passed away.

MARCH 15! FUNDRAISER and SOCIAL

This year's Annual Charities Fundraiser and Social Dinner is **Saturday, March 15**. This celebration event benefiting local and international charities will be held at the **Mitchell Park Community Center, starting at 5:30 pm**.

GINNY LEAR reminded all that the reason to raise money at the March 15th party, ***The Magic of Rotary***, is to support our local non-profits, vocational scholarships and international programs.

The **Online Auction** is now in progress, plus, at the event there will be a **Live Auction** with 4 special items - check those out when you look online!

Tickets for the crab and pasta dinner are \$125 per person, through the website or the emails you have received this week. Always Fun!

WE CARE FOR OUR MEMBERS

MARY ANN GEE had recent hand surgery, and a card made its way around the room for everyone to send her their good wishes, thanks to **JULIE JEROME**.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY



GEOFF ZIMAN quoted Winston Churchill known for his pithy quotes below:
"The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity; the optimist sees opportunity in every difficulty."
"Continuous effort, not strength or

intelligence, is the key to unlocking our potential."

"We make a living by what we get but we make a life by what we give"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PAM KRUDOP, DANA TOM, JOY OCHE, SALLY TOMLINSON, and REBECCA GERALDI will be featured in photos and a two page spread in the May issue of the Rotary magazine about our club's Vocational Scholarship Program. Taking one for the team, they were photographed on a very cold day at Foothill College. Look for it!

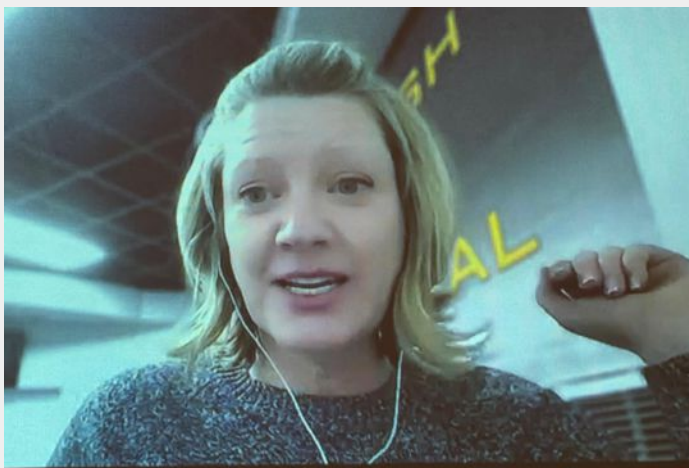
March's Rotary Anniversarie were recognized. Among many members, this month **GINNY LEAR** has been a Rotarian for 35 years.

Birthdays for March were posted: **JULIE JEROME, PETER SHAMBORA, GLORIA HOM** and **STEVE MADSEN** were recognized along with a Name that Cute Baby Photo Contest! We passed!

Rebecca reminded us that Daylight savings begins this Sunday, March 9th, **Spring Forward!**

PROGRAM

DANA TOM introduced our speaker today, **Dannagal Young**, professor of Communication and Political Science at the University of Delaware. Her research interests include political media effects, media psychology, public opinion and the psychology of misinformation.



Professor Young's book *Irony and Outrage: The Polarized Landscape of Rage, Fear, and*

Laughter in the U.S. examines satire and outrage as the logical extensions of the respective psychological profiles of liberals and conservatives.

Her most recent book is *Wrong: How Media, Politics, and Identity Drive our Appetite for Misinformation*.

On NPR's Hidden Brain podcast, Professor Dannagal Young spoke about how our different responses to ambiguity shape our behavior, perspectives, and political beliefs. She asked, do we have a higher tolerance for ambiguity or higher in a need for closure?

Our traits predict our beliefs. We need both kinds of thinkers. It even affects our appreciation for abstract art! Her research explores how the psychology of liberals and conservatives shapes how they process information and their preferences for media genres and political aesthetics.

Dr. Young's 2020 TED Talk explaining how our psychology shapes our politics, and how media exploit these relationships, has been viewed over 2 Million times. She studies the intersection of entertainment and information, including the psychology of political satire. She publishes extensively in the popular press with essays and Op-eds in outlets including Vox.com, The Washington Post, and The Atlantic. She also has appeared on CNN, PBS Newshour, ABC News and many other locations..

CLOSING REMARKS

Following an active Q&A, and with appreciation to our terrific speaker, President **REBECCA** closed our meeting with a reminder to be sure to be among more than 120 friends, inside at Mitchell Park on March 15!

The more the merrier, always!

TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS

Greeter: **Steve Emslie**

Welcome Desk: **Katie Seedman**

A/V: **Ben Threlkeld**

Microphone: **Charlie Weidanz**

Pinion Writer: **Betsy Bechtel**

Pinion Editor: **Ginny Lear**

March 10 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	Long time Member Talks: Jack Woodson, Bruce Swenson, Dave Van Atta
March 15 5:30-8:00 pm Annual Dinner & Fundraiser Mitchell Park	Join Us for the annual crab and pasta fundraising dinner and auction at Mitchell Park. Tickets are \$125 per person Tables of 8 are available
March 17 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	Mark Garcia, Santa Clara County Sheriff's Lt., Retired <i>30 Years in Law Enforcement</i> <i>"My 5 Bad Days"</i>
March 24 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	ANNA Eshoo, Member US Congress, Retired <i>Perspectives on Women's History in the Past 30 Years</i>
March 31 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting	Victor Tom, Chief Scientist at BAE Systems: How Rocket Science Made its Way into Major League Baseball and the Strike Zone