

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

November 17, 2025  
Writer: Hal Mickelson

UNITE  
FOR  
GOOD

Celebrating 103 years of Service

## UNITE FOR GOOD 2025-2026

As we ambled up from the parking lot for our November 17, 2025, meeting of the Rotary Club of Palo Alto, we were greeted by **ERIC JENSEN**, who was collecting canned goods and other nonperishable foods for our first-ever Week of Thanks & Giving project. More about that below.... President **BRUCE GEE** congratulated the "nice crowd" attending virtually for their convivial fellowship before calling both Roomers and Zoomers to order. President-Elect **CHARLIE WEIZANZ** introduced Visiting Rotarians Richard Schoelerman and Shawn Qi from the Palo Alto-University Club and Marty Degeller, a Visiting Kiwanian, all supporters of Thanks & Giving. Another Visiting Rotarian was Sophie Tsang, also from PA-University Club. **BRUCE GEE** introduced his neighbor Garry Lim, who went to college with Bruce's wife, Jane.



yourself in the service of others." You're telling a person, "You are seen" by helping to meet their needs.

## PRESIDENTS CLUB

**STANS KLEIJNEN** reported that she and **JOOP VERBAKEN** will be scarce in coming months while enjoying ambitious travels to Mexico, India, the Silk Road, and the Netherlands.... **BRIAN STEEN** allowed that he will be wearing "colorful garb" and not black tie while singing with the Bay Choral Guild in Campbell on November 22 and Palo Alto on November 23 (at First Congregational, 4:30 pm).... **KANIKA SABHARWAL** remembered how much of a joy and privilege it was to work with our late member **MATT DOLAN** through the Chamber of Commerce.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**GINNY LEAR** showed support for **BRUCE GEE**'s effort to find Rotary Hacks by presenting Bruce with a "**Hacks of Life**" calendar. "Pick one day a week when you're entitled to eat anything you want...." **ERIC JENSEN** and guests Richard Schoelerman, Shawn Qi, and Marty Degeller explained the strategy they had chosen for the Thanks & Giving food drive: Advertising for the project spotlighted our club, Palo Alto-University Rotary and Kiwanis because not everyone knows what "service clubs" are supposed to be; there were pickup points at all three clubs; the Downtown Food Closet and Ecumenical Hunger project were enlisted as partners....

**ELIZABETH SANTANA** announced joyously that funding from Rotary had made it possible

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Our Thought for the Day was offered by **KANIKA SABHARWAL**, a powerful idea from Mahatma Gandhi: "The best way to find yourself is to lose



for hundreds of schoolkids to attend a matinee performance of "Annie." For many young people, it was a first-ever experience with live theater, and just about every seat was filled. ELIZABETH added her thanks to Rotarians who served as ushers during "Annie's" run.

BRUCE GEE noted that there's still time left to join our club's local Grants Committee. Sixty-nine letters have been received from groups that need our help....



Glacier, a hike in the Alaska Range, and four nights photographing the Aurora Borealis. The images that Judy shared with us were breathtaking – an ice cave, an ice tunnel, the Talkeetna Mountains. Now you know: The spruce forests are such a dark green that they're more impressive in black and white; the Northern lights are nearly colorless to the naked eye, but the camera captures their many-hued magnificence.



**Our Holiday Party** will be celebrated at the home of **PATTY MCGUIGAN** on Thursday, December 11, 5-7:30 pm.

Below is the link to Judy's Facebook page where she posts one of her photos almost every other day.

<https://www.facebook.com/judy.kramer.127>

## THE ROTARY FOUNDATION DRIVE

**REBECCA GERALDI** announced that our month of special emphasis on the Rotary Foundation will be coming to an end, but the real deadline for your contributions is the close of Rotary's fiscal year, June 30....

## MEETING ADJOURNED

President **BRUCE** thanked our speaker for her wonderful talk and slides, and our members.

BRUCE also thanked these Rotarians from our two Palo Alto Clubs for leading the Thanks & Giving Project!

## PROGRAM

Our amazing program: Judy Kramer has been **JACKIE WHEELER'S** neighbor in South Palo Alto since 1969. Jackie explained that Judy has been active in the nonprofit world for most of her adult life, and for the last 20 years, she has been a nature photographer; her work is often seen at the Pacific Art League, and she's a past president of the Palo Alto Camera Club. Her work is on permanent display at the Palo Alto Medical Foundation in Palo Alto and Los Alto.



In March of this year, Judy traveled for a photography workshop in Alaska, including two helicopter flights to the Matanuska



## MEETING VOLUNTEERS

**Greeter: Charlie Weidanz**  
**Welcome Desk: Rebecca Gerald**  
**Hybrid Host: Dana Tom**  
**Pinion Writer: Hal Mickelson**  
**Pinion Editor: Ginny Lear**

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

<p><b>November 24</b> 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting</p>	<p><b>Colin Schmidt and Bay Area Sports.</b> Impact of Soccer: June/July 2026, World Cup matches in SF Bay Area</p>
<p><b>December 1</b> 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting</p>	<p><b>Gunn HS Choir Program</b> Our Annual Treat!</p>
<p><b>December 8</b> 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting</p>	<p><b>Long-Term Members Talk</b> <b>Jon Stoumen, Jim Sutherland</b> <b>Mike Baird</b></p>
<p><b>December 11</b> 5:00-7:30 pm Holiday Party COME!</p>	<p><b>Holiday Party! Festive Home of</b> <b>Patty McGuigan, 1530 Waverley</b> <b>St, Palo Alto,</b> <b>Hosted by the Rotary Club</b></p>
<p><b>December 15</b> 12:15-1:30pm Club Meeting</p>	<p><b>Palo Alto Public Safety</b> <b>Professionals</b> Keeping the public safe during the Holidays</p>
<p><b>December 22</b> <b>NO CLUB</b> <b>MEETING</b></p>	<p><b>NO MEETING</b> Happy Holidays!</p>
<p><b>December 29</b> <b>NO CLUB</b> <b>MEETING</b></p>	<p><b>NO MEETING</b> Happy New Year!</p>