

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

August 31, 2026  
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CREATE  
LASTING  
IMPACT

Celebrating 104 years of Service

## CREATE LASTING IMPACT 2026-2027

**WELCOME!** After President **CHARLIE WEIDANZ** opened the meeting and greeted Roomers and Zoomers, President-Elect **ERIC JENSEN** welcomed visiting Rotarians and guests. Justin Wong and Liz Cowie came from the University Club to talk with **ANNETTE GLANCKOPF** about joining forces on the speech contest.



Technical difficulties provided the light entertainment of the business part of the meeting. The Zoomers could not hear the room, but the room could hear them, and it was worth the lunch ticket to listen to them speculating about who was in charge and whether they (i.e., **GLORIA HOM**) should stay and was it always like this! The hybrid hosts did a stellar job in figuring it out before all was lost.

While our A/V team worked, it was noted that overdue Club Dues could be paid today, right now. President-elect **ERIC** said anyone with past dues would be signed up for Thought of the Day! **TIM** Watson pleaded guilty and **REBECCA GERALDI**



rushed over with her Square and took care of that! And then he shared the following TFTD.

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

The introduction of **TIM WATSON** was rather lost in the midst of the Zoomer chatter, but Tim nevertheless shared his THOUGHT which was inspired by three questions that were posted all around campus on visitor's day at his alma mater college, Boston College. These questions are good bases for reflection no matter what stage of life we are in, and Tim proposes that we also put them forward for our club: **What brings you joy?**  
**What are you good at?**  
**What does the world need you to be?**



## PRESIDENTS CLUB

**MARK STEVENSON** came to the Rotary meeting on the very day of his 72<sup>nd</sup> Birthday. We wished (but did not sing) him a very happy birthday.

**JUDY KLEINBERG** announced her 56<sup>th</sup> anniversary, possible because she was married at a very young age, but more importantly to boast about her grandson's stellar athletic achievements.

On a very somber note, **KANIKA SABHARWAL** recently returned from a two-week guided hiking/meditation trip in

Nepal and China, where she was in the very valley that has recently been flooded. As she left her trek, she met the incoming international group, some from this area, and later learned that the group was swept away in the flash floods.

## NEW MEMBER INDUCTION

**KRISTINA LUGO** came forward, along with **KANIKA SABHARWAL**, to welcome **LUKE FARLEY** as the newest member of our club! Luke has been in community banking for over 20 years, having worked with **KATIE SEEDMAN** and Kanika, and already knows many in the room.

Kristina then introduced her committee, which meets on the third Tuesdays at 5:30 pm. The goal for the year is to bring in 24 new members, which is all of our collective job. Kristina challenges each of us to bring at least one guest this year. She also plans to have a bigger presence at the May Fete, the Art and Wine Festival, and the July 4 Chili Cook-off in 2027, so please be prepared to volunteer to help at those events.



## SPECIAL EVENT: SEPT. 28. REGISTER NOW

**Special off-site meeting on Monday, September 28, noon-1:30 pm (no lunch):**

In order to accommodate a larger audience for Former Ambassador Michael McFaul, and to allow him more time to speak.

The meeting will be at the Mitchell Park community center. The format will be a speech with written questions following.

This meeting is being held in conjunction with the Los Alto Rotary Club, for members of our two clubs only, allowing for one guest per member, until we both reach our maximums. It's OK not to bring a guest.

**Registration is required**, there is no charge. Because we paid to reserve the room, we are asking our members for a \$5 donation to cover the room fee, if you wish to help. Register by following this link: <https://square.link/u/h3AL61F2>.

**BRUCE GEE** invited anyone who is going to the Stanford Football Game this Friday to come by his tailgate. **REBECCA GERALDI** had an extra ticket which was scooped up. **Please e-mail Bruce for tailgate instructions.**

## PROGRAM: HANDS ON

In lieu of a speaker, **ERIC JENSEN**, brought us our hands-on service meeting for the summer. The on-hands committee consists of **JOHN ST CLAIR III** and Eric, and they would love new members who will inform the club.

**Today's Project:** We partnered with the University Club and Kiwanis to support EPAK (East Palo Alto Kids Foundation), which awards grants directly to teachers who apply. Our club paid for backpacks for a third-grade class in East Palo Alto, but the backpacks were already filled and delivered, so there was no in-meeting task for us. So, we wrote notes of encouragement to those children! ERIC provided us with notes and cute little teddy bears to tie them to.



ERIC also gave us the opportunity to share how we have volunteered in the community in recent months. Roomers wrote it on Post-it notes that were put on the wall, and Zoomers shared in conversation, recognizing the network of service that our members provide as individuals in the community. Photos of some of these notes are here.

## CLOSING

President **CHARLIE** thanked our members and volunteers and we got busy writing notes.

## MEETING VOLUNTEERS

**Greeters:** Garry Lim, Mark Stevenson  
**Welcome Desk:** Rebecca Geraldi  
**Hybrid Host:** Soophie Tsang, Joop Verbaken  
**Pinion Writer:** Sally Tomlinson  
**Pinion Editor:** Ginny Lear

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

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|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>September 7</b><br>Club Dark for Labor Day                                                                                               | <b>No Meeting, Labor Day</b><br>Post Flags on University Avenue                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>September 14</b><br>12:15 - 1:30 PM<br>Club Meeting                                                                                      | <b>Sofia Pablo-Hoshino, Community Engagement Manager</b><br>Topic: Hidden Villa, Los Altos Hills                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>September 21</b><br>12:15 - 1:30 PM<br>Club Meeting                                                                                      | <b>Annamarie Lusardi, Prof of Finance, Stanford University</b><br>Topic: Financial Literacy for the Student Athletes, Struggling Families and more                                                                                                            |
| <b>September 28</b><br>Monday<br><b>Special Rotary Event</b><br>12-1:30 pm<br><b>Mitchell Park</b><br><u>3700 Middlefield Rd. Palo Alto</u> | <b>Former U.S. Ambassador to Russia Michael McFaul</b><br>Insights on International Topics<br><b>A shared event with Los Altos Rotary Club</b><br><b>Registration required</b><br><a href="https://square.link/u/h3AL61F2">https://square.link/u/h3AL61F2</a> |



