

# Palo Alto Rotary Pinion

August 8, 2017

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## CALL TO ORDER

President BETSY BECHTEL called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM by leading the Pledge of Allegiance

## GUESTS

Ellen and Mike Turbow and Barbara Carlin, guests of SALLY TOMLINSON; JENNA FEISTCHZER, guest of CHARLEY WEIDANZ; Judy Huey, spouse of LE LEVY; Oana Marcy, guest of ROB LANCEFIELD.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

MATT DOLAN presented the Thought of the Day, based on a poem by Maya Angelou.

3 TRUTHS AND A LIE  
LEE LIPPERT alleged that he had met 4 First Ladies of the United



States: Pat Nixon, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Hilary Clinton, and Michelle Obama. Few Rotarians guessed that the lie was Mrs. Obama.



## PROGRAM

BRUCE SWENSON introduced our guest speaker, whom BRUCE had hired when BRUCE was Dean at Foothill College. Andrew Fraknoi, Foothill's full-time astronomy professor, is an award-winning science educator who is known for his skill in interpreting astronomical discoveries and ideas in everyday language. Fraknoi teaches courses on "astronomy and physics for poets" attended by 900+ students each year. The title of his presentation was "Total Eclipse 2017: the

Sky Event of the Decade." He answered many questions about the eclipse:

What is a total eclipse of the Sun?  
It's when the Moon gets between the Sun and the Earth and covers up the Sun.

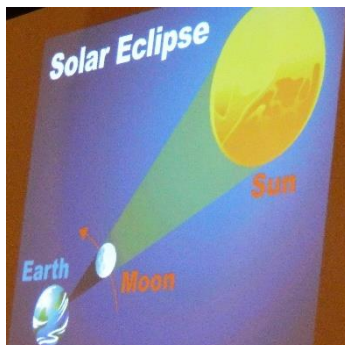
Where will the eclipse of 2017 be visible?

To see the total eclipse, you must be standing right in the dark shadow of the Moon. He presented the path across the U. S. from Oregon to South Carolina.

How long will the total eclipse last?

The total phase this time will last a maximum of 2 minutes 40 seconds. To see it the skies must be clear. Some localities along the path have a history of being more than 60% cloudy during August!

Are eclipses of the Sun dangerous to watch? The Sun's visible (and invisible) rays can cause serious damage to the sensitive tissues of the eye, often without our being immediately aware of it. Special glasses or devices should be used to view the eclipse.



## Interesting eclipse Web sites:

<http://eclipsophile.com/> This site is dedicated to the global traveler who appreciates and seeks out the spectacles that Nature offers to aficionados of the day and night sky.

<http://www.nsta.org/publications/press/extras/solarscience.aspx> A free 8 page observer's guide to viewing the eclipse written by Andy is available here.



<http://eclipse2017.nasa.gov> NASA's guide to the eclipse. Link to live video streaming during the eclipse.

<https://www.greatamericaneclipse.com/> This site has detailed maps of each state's totality. Also where you can buy glasses, atlases, etc.

<https://eclipse.aas.org/> This American Astronomical Society site lists reputable vendors of solar filters and viewers .

## PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

**August 14,** Barbara Babcock, Professor Emerita, Stanford Law School: "Fish Raincoats: A Woman Lawyer's Life"

**August 21,** Dan Gordon, Gordon Biersch and Dan Gordon's Restaurant: "Beer: Oktoberfest to Gordon Biersch"

**August 28,** All Hands on Deck In-house Service Project

