

Rotary

Club of Pasadena, CA



A CENTURY OF SERVICE



SPOKES NEWSLETTER

DISTRICT 5300 * Rotary Club 794 * June 11, 2021 * #21-124

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This Week's Program

BASIL HEWITT

Supervisor, Public Information Office of Los Angeles County
Sanitation Districts

"Food Waste Recycling Program"

INTRODUCER: LEAH SNELL



Basil Hewitt is a Supervisor in the Public Information Office of Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts. He has worked for the Sanitation Districts since 1987 in various capacities. He has a Civil Engineering Degree from Rutgers University and a Masters in Civil and Environmental Engineering from Loyola Marymount University. His professional experience includes solid waste research and monitoring, preparation of environmental documents, and public outreach. Most recently, as part of the Public Information Office, his focus is informing the public about the services and programs offered by the Sanitation Districts.

Basil's presentation will provide an overview of the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts' Food Waste Recycling Program. His agency provides wastewater and solid waste management services for 5.6 million people in Los Angeles County.

IN-PERSON: 11:45 am Greeter: Jane Waas
ZOOM: 12:15 pm Greeter: Tammy Silver & Elisabeth Browne

Song Leader: **Phil Miles**
Inspiration: **Rachel Abelson**

Scout Zone Reporter:
Mary Lou Byrne

Tech Team: **Frank Fish - Robert Lyons - Don Andruess - Ken White**

Zoom Team:
Scott Carlson - Kat Rogers - Frank Fish - Tammy Silver
Elisabeth Browne - Wendy Anderson

**** NEED HELP WITH ZOOM****
Tammy Silver - tamamsilver@gmail.com - 626-744-9533



Pasadena Rotary invites you to its Weekly Wednesday Meeting
In-person or via Zoom. Attending In-person please [RSVP](#)
June 16, 2021 at 12:00pm - 1:30pm

** All or part of our weekly Rotary meeting may be recorded to assist with documenting donations, input, or other Pasadena Rotary business.*

Join Zoom Meeting
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84583324183?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84583324183?pwd=R3p1bEtTWHp4R0FjLy82VIFKR0x3Zz09)
[pwd=R3p1bEtTWHp4R0FjLy82VIFKR0x3Zz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84583324183?pwd=R3p1bEtTWHp4R0FjLy82VIFKR0x3Zz09)

Meeting ID: 845 8332 4183
Passcode: 073016

NOTE:
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CITY OF PASADENA HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND STATE MANDATES WE ARE REOPENING OF OUR CLUB, IN CONSIDERATION OF THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF THE PASADENA ROTARY CLUB MEMBERSHIP:

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Hello Pasadena Rotary!

As we look at the return of "normal," it has not been without challenge and the establishment of milestones and memories.

I will be able to look back and say, "I was the president of the club during COVID19!" Each of us will be able to look back and have a story. I will be able to look back and tell my granddaughter that she was born during COVID19 and the reason why I smother her with hugs and kisses? To make up for the times I was unable to see her during COVID 19!

As a club, we are guided through these times of change by our 4-Way Test. They are four timeless principles that help to shape and govern our attitude and behaviors. It is the gold standard for our conduct and making our communities a better place. Remind yourself:

1. Is it the truth?
2. Is it fair to all concerned?
3. Will it build goodwill and better friendships?
4. Will it be beneficial to all concerned?

I am always available to meet with you for a cup of coffee.

In Your Service,

Ken



THE SCOOT ZONE
By **Mary Lou Byrne**, Bureau Chief Emeritus



President Ken Joe rang the bell for his second hybrid in-person/Zoom meeting right on time, as usual. **Don Andrues**, broadcasting from the

"broadcast center" at the U Club, and accompanied by **President Elect Cory Brendel** on percussion and his own trusty guitar, led us in singing "There's No Business Like Show Business" in tribute to our guest panelists, followed by "America the Beautiful." The in-person crowd sang along lustily, perhaps a bit more so on the second song than the first because they all knew the words!



George Falardeau gave the inspiration, reaffirming our commitment to the Four Way Test and the Rotary ethics, and giving thanks for the coming opportunities for service as we re-open.

Announcements: **President Ken** led off with an important \$50 Polio Pig announcement from **Past President Shel Capeloto - Elaine Silberman** had back surgery this past Friday and is still in the ICU. She will probably be in hospital for a few more days and,

said **President Ken**, "they covet your prayers."

Past President Mary Lou Byrne, live from the U Club, looked right into the Zoom camera and reminded everyone that Demotion happens on June 30, and promised, VERY SERIOUSLY, that "if you miss it you will cry salty tears."

President Ken shared how he has heard that the show will be great. "like the San Francisco Giants," but "even Dodgers fans are welcome!" Details below - email **Wendy Anderson** at office@pasadenarotary.com to reserve a spot at the in-person dinner and viewing party!



Our "most amazing **Immediate Past President Scott Vandrick**" introduced our panel from the abstract-art-backgrounded-and-bow-tied Zoom space we all grew to know and love during his presidency. He was bursting with excitement to introduce what he described as "a treasure trove of local theatrical stars, who all of us who live in or near the city of Pasadena are so lucky to have among us."

Our panelists for the day, also via zoom, represented local theatre companies A Noise Within, Boston Court, Pasadena Playhouse, and Parson's Nose Theatre. To kick things off, **IPP Scott** asked each panelist to describe their organization's experience in the pandemic.



Top L: Moderator Scott Vandrick; Geoff Elliott & Julia Rodriguez Elliott (A Noise Within); Jessica Kubzansky (Boston Court); Lower L: Danny Feldman (Pasadena Playhouse); Lance Davis (Parson's Nose Theater)

Geoff Elliott and Julia Rodriguez Elliott, producing artistic directors of [A Noise Within](#), led things off. When the pandemic reached crisis proportions in March 2020 they had just opened Shakespeare's A Winter's Tale. It ran for two weeks, and the companion repertory production of Alice and Wonderland had had several previews and its opening. "The next week," said Geoff, "we were supposed to have a large group of students, and I remember saying 'I can't imagine the state of California will bar theatre.' The day after that the field trip was canceled, and the day after that we shut down."

"We had to find a way to engage with our patrons and artists while working from home," Geoff and Julia continued. "Our education department led the way - we had already been doing online classes and moved our summer camp online, plus we continued to provide content for teachers to share with their students." They also provided virtual events including panel discussions, readings, classes, and forums, which they also used as an opportunity to introduce our patrons to other artists in our community.

They filmed two shows using strict COVID precautions: An Illiad and Alice and

Wonderland. Alice is still available to stream until June 20 and tickets can be purchased here: <https://www.anoisewithin.org/play/alice-in-wonderland/>. Now they are "beyond thrilled" to be shifting back towards normal operations, with the first production of new season set to open in December.

In terms of financial health, A Noise Within is in a very good position thanks to its board, its loyal patrons, the community, and the government help they were able to help. "It's been touching to us that so many people feel that what we all do is important."

They closed by showing the trailer for the upcoming An Iliad, which you can see here: <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=3893227540743724>

Next up was Jessica Kubzansky, Artistic Director at Boston Court Pasadena www.bostoncourtpasadena.org. Jessica began by saying "it's so great to be in Pasadena and at the best Rotary Club ever!" When the pandemic hit, Boston Court was just about ready to open Stephen Sondheim's Passion. Jessica explained, "the second-to-last preview was on March 12 when we had to close our doors." They were disappointed but never lost their sense of humor, as evidenced the photo Jessica showed us of Boston Court's light-up marquee sign scrolling the words "Damn you, coronavirus!" outside the theatre. "We immediately pivoted to opportunities to engage with composers and musicians," said Jessica, "and we ended up recording eight of the concerts according to strict COVID protocols. We offered those for streaming." Beyond that, she explained, "there were a number of pandemic gifts. We took the opportunity to lean into our development of creative works.. We had often wished for long-term artistic development opportunities, so we did that. Every month we shared a work in progress for free. You can see the last two still on the website: <https://bostoncourtpasadena.org/new-play-development/>. That has been a gift. Boston Court also launched an initiative for five local playwrights to have a development opportunity: <https://bostoncourtpasadena.org/newworks/>.



Finally, said Jessica, "We went off script for us and created a Boston Court escape room <https://bostoncourtpasadena.org/events/escaperoom/> where people played from their couches and had to solve puzzles to allow the show to go on. We'd never done it before and it was shockingly successful, reaching escape room enthusiasts from around the country!"

Looking ahead, "one of the constant challenges is that things change that are completely out of your control. We had a show planned and now we can't do it because it will have a production in NYC in the fall. So we have to adapt. We will continue with the playwrights' group, and a virtual component is likely to stay as well."

Lance Davis, Producing Artistic Director of [Parson's™ Nose Theater](#), was up next. He is the co-founder of Parson's Nose with our own Mary Chalon. "We're located in the old Stevens Mortuary Chapel," he began, "and our mission is to introduce classical theatre to today's audience. We do 60-90 minute versions that are accessible, and then you can go on to A Noise Within or Pasadena Playhouse and you won't be intimidated and you can enjoy them!" He bragged that "we have a bunch of fabulously talented actors who came out here to do television and we've been here for 20 years!"

What happened when the pandemic hit? Well he said, "last year we had just finished *The Imaginary Invalid*, of all things, when everything shut down. We had always done Reader's Theatre and decided to recall to life the Mercury Theatre and Lux Radio Theatre of the 1930s and we pivoted to The Parson's Nose Radio Theater of the Air! <https://www.parsonsnose.org/press-media/media/parsons-nose-radio-theater/> We have done 41 episodes to date and they are at our web site, Spotify, Apple, or wherever you get your podcasts!"

Lance closed by saying "thanks to you all and the County of Los Angeles for all the support!"

Our last presenter, Danny Feldman, Producing Artistic Director of the [Pasadena Playhouse](#), opened by looking out at the Zoom crowd and exclaiming "you all look so good!" For the Playhouse, he said, "we had just had our closing night and then the world shut down. We dodged having to shut down but we had to cancel two productions and a bunch of things we had planned." Even though it wasn't quite as disruptive to the Playhouse as it was to the other companies, he said, "it was still a gut punch because when you're in theatre you crave sitting in the room together!"

"We went through the same process all of you went through, evaluating what we can be doing," he explained. He said that the Playhouse sees itself as "public servants in a way, and the need in the community changed so we couldn't gather. We were trying to serve while trying to stay afloat ourselves." There were bright spots, of course: "One amazing lesson we learned was it takes a far longer time from an idea of a play to realization than most people realize. Sometimes two years plus. The pandemic was a weird paradigm shift because we needed to mount something immediately. So we commissioned a work about George Floyd that took only about 2.5 months from conception to writing, filming, and release. www.latimes.com/entertainment-arts/story/2020-10-05/pasadena-playhouse-live-javon-johnson-streaming-theater. We also did a great Jerry Hermann celebration that was featured in NY Times and reached 350,000 people as opposed to our usual 100,000 in person audience!" <https://www.nytimes.com/2021/01/20/theater/theater-to-stream-jerry-herman-marisa-tomei.html>

Danny closed on a practical note: "We are in a very old building with a very old HVAC system that posed COVID issues. We are in a massive HVAC renovation so we haven't announced a return date but we can't wait! Our health is good, too. We really felt the love of our community support. We are so lucky to have a community that values and understands us and steps up time

and time again!"

IPP Scott asked each of our panelists: There has been a lot written about the Creative Economy in LA County - how arts and culture businesses and nonprofit organizations contribute to the local and region economy - to the tune of \$200B in economic output and \$67B in labor income - and we know that theater companies engage a small army of artists, craftspeople and administrative professionals to accomplish their mission. Under all those financial figures - employment, tourism, ticket sales, local restaurant benefits, etc. - there is the theater's role in shaping the cultural character of the community where it resides. How does your company contribute to the cultural makeup of the community, and how is your company different from your colleagues?

Jessica: "Because it holds the mirror up to ourselves and shows us ourselves in richly living and revealing human conditions. Also it spurs rich and real dialogue because it moves people by humanity and individual in storytelling. It teaches us about ourselves and sometimes the specificity of the story generalizes to the human condition."

Geoff: "We're hard wired for the desire to be in a room together to tell and hear stories." Julia: "Coming out of this time of incredible isolation, theatre reminds us we're not alone."

Danny: "'Yes, and' to everything else. [Also, what makes a community better and stronger and helps it conquer challenges? Creativity and empathy. That sense of play and creativity dies in childhood for a lot of people, theatre is a unique tool that invites everybody including the audience to be creative: We turn off the lights and we all agree to play make-believe together. That is exercising a muscle in our brain that uses imagination, creativity, empathy - like a gym!"]

Lance: "Nothing to add! (Kidding!) It's about empathy and if there was ever a time when we need it, it's now. Basically theatre is story telling and those who tell stories will rule the world. Fun fact: Even in London during the Blitz, the theatres were full because people need to be together. And the communal laughter you hear in a theatre is like nothing else."

After a discussion of the great positive impact our participating theatres have on the local economy (Danny noted that 74% of the Playhouse's patrons buy something in Pasadena on the evening they attend a Playhouse production), Scott asked each panelist to give "your theatre's future in a sentence."

Lance: It could be chaos, it could be wonderful: Live radio broadcasts with an audience, starting in the fall. And full performances coming in 2022.

Danny: Bigger, bolder, and greater.

Geoff and Julia: It's about not tiptoeing back into new programming, but to boldly dive in.

Jessica: Passionate adventurous work that even more deeply invests in our community.

IPP Scott closed by urging us, "Pasadena Rotary, go and support your local theatre. Buy a ticket, donate, be a board member. Tell them at the box office that you're a member of Pasadena Rotary. We're partners in this work and we

all work together!"

President Ken thanked the speakers and said that today's panel illustrated part of the answer to "why do people want to live and work in Pasadena?"



Top L: President Ken Joe, Cyrus Afshin, George Falardeau, Wende Lee
Bottom L: Scott Carder, PP Mary Lou Byrne, Stephen Smith
SIGNAGE created and printed by Wende Lee, The Print Spot

RSVP to IN-PERSON LIVE ROTARY MEETING 6/16/21
DEADLINE IS MONDAY 6-14-21 at 5:00 pm

WELCOME BACK, ROTARIANS!

The Pasadena Rotary Club began in-person luncheons. These meetings will be **vaccination-only admission**. To attend requires an RSVP, lunch selection and a copy of your vaccination card on file at Rotary.

Also, during this transition period, the club meeting will be presented in a hybrid-format with attendees both live at the University Club and joining the meeting on Zoom. **In-person meeting check-in is at 11:45 am and plated lunch will be served at noon with the program at 12:30pm. Zoom meeting reception opens at 12:15 pm.**

If you wish to attend the June 16th meeting live in-person, **YOU MUST RSVP**, make your menu selection and submit your vaccination card. You will receive a confirmation from office@pasadenarotary.com. **NO WALK INS.**

You may also **RSVP** by emailing Wendy at office@pasadenarotary.com or 626-683-8243.



L: Cyrus Afshin, PEE Angela Hawekotte, George Falardeau, John Gordon, President Ken Joe, Jeff Palmer

**CLICK HERE TO
RSVP TODAY**

MEETINGS & EVENTS CALENDAR

TYROS MEETING

Monday, June 14, 2021 at 12:00 pm via zoom

Co-chairs: Sheryl Guerrero (thesherylshow@gmail.com) & Mary Lou Byrne (maloby@outlook.com)

BUSINESS ALLIANCE VIRTUAL MEETING - JOIN US!

Monday, June 21st at 4:00 pm

Co-chairs: Cyril Vergis (cyril@arosacare.com) & Wendy Anderson (wowproductions2@gmail.com)

PASADENA ROTARY GOES TO DODGER STADIUM

Monday, July 19, 2021 - Dodgers vs. Giants

Ticket details to follow - email Armida Baylon (armidabaylon@gmail.com) your ticket reservations.

ROTARY ROAMERS IS BACK!

The Rotary Roamers was, in the past, a separate social committee dedicated to the enjoyment of active outdoor activities, such as hikes, bike trips, architectural lecture strolls and stair walks. It is coming back! TO JOIN: Contact Co-chairs

POLIO PIG & COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wish to show a photo & tell us what you are up to - Wish to make an announcement about your family or your favorite nonprofit or a Committee announcement. Email Wendy at office@pasadenarotary.com by **Tues at noon**. Minimum donation: \$20.00
With hybrid meetings, we can accommodate flyers only if provided by deadline.

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL 2021 CONVENTION
June 10th through 16th.. To register convention.rotary.org/en



RSVP - Contact Wendy at
(626) (683-8243) or office@PasadenaRotary.com
(Click on image to enlarge)

An event flyer for the Rotary Club of Pasadena. It features a portrait of President Ken on the left. The text reads: "Rotary Club of Pasadena invites you to join us for The Demotion of President Ken In the zoom Where It Happened". It also provides details for a live watch party at the University Club and a zoom broadcast link available in SPOKES on June 25, 2021.

Rotary Club of Pasadena invites you to join us for

The Demotion of President Ken

In the **zoom** Where It Happened

LIVE WATCH PARTY @ UNIVERSITY CLUB
(175 N Oakland Ave, Pasadena, CA 91107)

ZOOM BROADCAST
link available in SPOKES on June 25, 2021

Join the Rotary Club of Pasadena as we bid farewell to **PRESIDENT KEN**, 2020-2021 leader of the "most happening club in town!" It's your choice to join us in person at the University Club or tune into the live ZOOM broadcast - either way come help us celebrate his most astonishing Rotary year!

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 2021
BOTH LIVE WATCH PARTY AT UCLUB & ZOOM BROADCAST

5:30pm COCKTAILS
7:00pm DINNER
8:00pm DEMOTION BROADCAST

IN-PERSON TICKETS: **\$75** for in-person seating which includes cocktails and 3-course meal

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION BY JUNE 18, 2021 AT:
PasadenaRotary.com



Star-studded entertainment, lots of laughs & **GIANT** surprises!

ADOPT-A-MEAL PARTICIPATING RESTAURANT

Show appreciation to restaurants/caterers supporting our monthly
Adopt-A-Meal Program for Union Station Homeless Services
Family Center

- **CABRERA'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT**, 655 N. Lake (Orange Grove) 626-795-8230 www.cabrerass.com
- **UNIVERSITY CLUB OF PASADENA**, Click on Calendar for their "menu" and other virtual & live events. 626-793-5157 www.universityclubpasadena.com
- **GREEN STREET RESTAURANT**, 146 Shoppers Lane, 626-577-7170 www.greenstreetrestaurant.com
- **KETCHEF with Benjamin Berard** 213-458-8854 MyKETCHEF@gmail.com Brings the restaurant experience to your home. www.KETCHEF.com
- **MIJARES MEXICAN RESTAURANT** Celebrating 100 years in Pasadena, 145 Palmetto Drive, 626-792-2763 www.mijaresrestaurant.com
- **SANSAI**, 350 S. Lake Ave., The Shops on Lake Ave. 626-683-0900 <http://www.sansagrill.com/>
- **PIE 'N BURGER**, 913 E. California Blvd. 626-795-1123 www.pienburger.com
- **MOFFETT'S Family Restaurant & Chicken Pie Shoppe** 626-447-4670 1409 S. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia www.moffettsfamilyrestaurant.com
- **GO CHINA RESTAURANT**, Mandarin & Szechuan Cuisine 626-793-3888 136 N. Lake Ave <http://www.gochinarestaurants.com> Open daily 11 am to 9 pm
- **LUCIANOS RISTORANTE**, Italian Cuisine - 626-440-0637 117 W. California Blvd., in Orangewood Mall across from Huntington Hospital. Open daily 10 am to 8:30 pm.

PATIO & INDOOR LUNCH DINING IS NOW OPEN!

For Weekly Menus and Specials

www.universityclubpasadena.com



UNIVERSITY CLUB OF PASADENA

We're Open for Outdoor Dining!
Enjoy Our Weekly Menu for Lunch on the Patio,
or Pick up Lunch & Dinner To Go Monday-Friday
Please Call (626) 793-5157 for Reservations & To Go Orders

Parking Lot BBQ Americano is BACK - Friday's 5pm-9pm
With live entertainment and Robin's Wood Fire BBQ

7 Day Notice

Gil Kerkbashian

Happy Birthday To These Rotarians!

Diana Peterson-More	June 11th
Hassan Kheradmandan	June 12th
Rachel Abelson	June 12th
Marshall Fuss	June 14th
Julie Gutierrez	June 14th
Jennifer Berger	June 14th
Ellen Simon	June 16th
Victoria Alsabery	June 17th

Rotaversary!

Geoff Johansing	June 7, 2002	15 years
Kathy Meagher	June 17, 1987	34 years
George Falardeau	June 17, 2015	6 years

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

June 23	President Ken's Day!
June 30	No Lunch Meeting

June 30 President Ken's Demotion Celebration at the UClub 5:30 pm Cocktails -
7:00 pm Dinner- 8:00 pm Demotion Broadcast (also on Zoom)
July 7 President Cory Brendel's First Meeting of 2021-2022

SPOKES is a weekly newsletter published by the Rotary Club of Pasadena.

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Pasadena CA 91105

Weekly Meeting Address:
The University Club
175 N Oakland Avenue
Pasadena CA 91101
***Complimentary Valet Parking**

Should you have questions regarding this publication, please call Wendy Anderson at 626-683-8243 or send us an email to office@pasadenarotary.com.

Scout Zone Reporters: Mary Lou Byrne & Justene Adamec

WEBSITE UPDATE:

Chair Paul Martin - www.pasadenarotary.com

Looking for Spokes go to the website, scroll down the homepage to [This Week in Spokes](#).

