

IN SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Claremont Rotary Year 92 | Week 37 | March 12, 2021

## *Program: Inequities of the Electoral System, Andy Winnick*

*Submitted by Bill Burrows*

Andy Winnick is a professor emeritus from CSU-LA who lives in Claremont. He is President of the American Institute for Progressive Democracy, a non-partisan non-profit that promotes voter education and registration. Andy and his colleagues address how our country and its parts have organized the most fundamental element of democracy—our voting system.



Dr. Winnick spoke about Voter Suppression and Disproportionality in the American Electoral System. He covered the history of election structure and access and rights in the context of the tidal wave of 253 new, reactionary voting rights and voter access laws coming up for decision in many states, including Arizona and Georgia. Some of them take us back to the Jim Crow laws we thought were a relic of history.

He opened with reminders of the history of voting access for women and minorities, reminding us that the voting system was initially built on the possession of property as the eligibility qualifier, not race or gender. Women and blacks who owned property could vote!

There have been many issues with the Electoral College in the debate over the representation provided to the American people by (despite?) this system, which was a compromise

embedded in the Constitution. Over the years, the process of determining who the Electors are has evolved in the states. The American people believe that they are electing the President, for example, but in reality they do not. The Electors are making that active vote and we vote for the electors. But now we have the problem of “faithless” Electors who end up not casting their vote for the candidate they were elected to vote for. This happened in 2000 (Bush v Gore), 2016 (Trump v Clinton), and 2020 (Biden v Trump).

Winnick has had students around the world exclaim that our American sense of “Democracy” is one of the least democratic systems in the world (compared, for example, with Australia, New Zealand, Western Europe, Canada, South Korea and others) due to this unique aspect of the Electoral College versus the popular vote.

The Constitution still contains language that refutes many of our cherished assumptions. The 13<sup>th</sup> amendment, for example, contains language that states that slavery is still legal for individuals who have been incarcerated for crimes. This language, really needs to be embraced and known. (See language, p. 5) Even California has such a law.

*Continued, p. 4*

### Watch it!!

This week’s program is worth watching again! Here’s a link to the [recording](#).

Passcode: Winnick312!

It will be available until 3/30.

### Next Zoom Meeting

March 19: Features  
Pat Lee, President of  
Claremont Kiwanis

[ZOOM LINK](#)

### Inside This Issue

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## ROTARY, THE ZOOM MEETING

submitted by Chris Hayes

President Buff reminded us that today is the anniversary of the Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> meeting we cancelled due to COVID. Bobby Hyde and Buff were the greeters for anyone who disregarded the three cancellation messages, and they only encountered the dedicated Arman Ariane, and Elizabeth Tulac, who didn't check in with John — apparently there's no Rotary pillow talk in the Tulac household. Check out the [Friday the 13th Clarifier](#) (2020).

Buff remarked that she can hardly believe we're in Mid-March, looking toward April! She booked a speaker about the inside story of LA County's complicated response to COVID (thank you Chuck Cable for connecting us) and had to go way out to the end of April or end of May. With any luck, the whole club will be vaccinated by then!



## WELCOME GUESTS

We welcomed frequent guests Joe Atman and Bill Gershon, and Buff's friends, former Rotarians Karen and Joe Morse from LaJolla, and Interactors (p. 5).

Buff thanked Tom Shelley for arranging our guest speaker today, Dr. Andy Winnick.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Polio update: No new wild polio cases were reported this week in Afghanistan and or Pakistan.

Buff encouraged participation in the Habitat for Humanity project, now reported on page 3.

Participate in a mini Las Vegas fundraiser for our Club! See page 8 for details about how to bring Las Vegas shows into your living room on April 16 (or on video after) and earn \$25 for our Club's Foundation!

Chuck Cable has been providing updates about the LA County Fair and the County's COVID-19 response. Thanks!

We'll be polling members again regarding when you feel you'll be comfortable meeting in person.

## ROTARY INTERNAT'L COVID-19 TASK FORCE

Last week, the Rotary International Task Force on COVID-19 presented a program on Zoom talking about how Rotary's COVID-19 response builds on the Polio Plus effort. If you missed it or would like to see it again just click here: <https://rotaryzone2627.box.com/s/z0qht7rmlslk4ltnibe7rywzo5sgyqvm>. You will find the recording, several Power Points and other support documentation from the session. As an example, take a look at the [Global Polio Eradication Initiative \(GPEI\)](#) assets supporting COVID-19. The learning never stops. The folder is also accessible on the [Zone 26/27 website](#) in the [Virtual Library](#); just click on COVID-19.

## INSPIRATION OF THE DAY

John Howland

John shared several quotes that speak to us today.

### RUTH BADER GINSBURG

"Dissents speak to a future age. It's not simply to say. 'My colleagues are wrong and I would do it this way.' But the greatest dissents do become court opinions and gradually over time their views become the dominant view. So that's the dissenter's hope: that they are writing not for today but for tomorrow."

"When I am sometimes asked, 'When will there be enough women on the Supreme Court?' And I say 'When there are nine.' People are shocked. But there'd been nine men, and nobody's ever raised a question about that."

### FRANKLIN ROOSEVELT

During the longest crisis to beset this country, the Great Ten Year Depression which ravaged the country's economy and took jobs and self-esteem from millions, Roosevelt addressed the philosophy of personal individualism, and sought to inspire citizens to pull together. They are words that may be considered to have meaning today.

"Our civilization cannot endure unless we, as individuals, realize our responsibility to and dependence on the rest of the world. For it is literally true that the 'self-supporting' man or woman has become as extinct as the man of the stone age. Without the help of thousands of others, any one of us would die, naked and starved. Consider the bread on our table, the clothes upon our backs, the luxuries that make life pleasant; how many men and woman worked in the sunlit fields, in dark mines, in the fierce heat of molten metal, and among the looms and wheels of countless factories, in order to create them for our use and enjoyment....in the final analysis, the progress of our civilization will be retarded if any large body of citizens falls behind."



### Sergeant Nona Tirre

**Nona** called on **Brett O'Connor**, whose eye-sight in the breakout was having trouble seeing the student in front of him, and his response was that he is getting old. He gave good news that CUSD school will be opening soon, he's not sure of the date yet.

**Jerry Tambe** just got his Black Belt 3<sup>rd</sup> degree. WOW!! He had done a presentation about 15 years ago. We want another one!

**Susie Ilsley's** husband Ken Johnson got another book deal. YAY!! FINE!! (Susie was doing taxes today and couldn't attend.)

**Steve Schenck** donated some of his photography equipment to Pomona and Pitzer Colleges (which he did not attend). They are very appreciative, and enjoy teaching students about old equipment, and it gave him more room in his house. WIN WIN! FINE FINE!



Rumor has it that **Anita Hughes'** grandson Alex was accepted as a freshman to Damien High in the fall. She'll be fined next time!

### St. Patrick's Day facts:

**Frances Limbe** was asked what are the four leaves of clover? He didn't know! They are hope, faith, love and luck.



**Chuck Cable** was asked where the real St. Patrick was born. Chuck said Ireland, but St. Pat was born in Britain, then was kidnapped and taken to Ireland.



**Anita Boling** was asked when the Irish dish corned beef and cabbage was invented. The obvious answer is Ireland, but it was in America. They ate ham and cabbage in Ireland.



### Habitat for Humanity Project

On Saturday, March 13, **Mark Carson, Buff Wright** and **Sylvia Whitlock** participated in a project with the San Gabriel Valley Habitat for Humanity, organized by the Azusa Rotary Club. The house is in a group of nine built as low income housing and housing for veterans in Pasadena, with a great view of the Colorado Street Bridge. We prepped the inside of the house for painting, and gave it a fresh coat of paint for the next veteran family that will live there soon. It was great to be hands on!

The top pictures are Sylvia, Buff and Pat Holly, President of the Monrovia Club, and Sylvia at work. Below them is Teri Muse, President of the Azusa Club, and at bottom, a great statue in the development, with the bridge in the background and Mark Carson.



*Mark is a master of rock, and now paper. What about scissors?*



## Electoral System, cont'd from page 1

Andy illustrated the nature of the flaws in our longstanding electoral system with the story of the failure of Reconstruction as a result of the election of 1877, when there was a fight over which set of electors' presidential votes would be counted. A compromise ended up being reached between the northern and southern states that if the northern states removed all federal troops from the southern states, the election could proceed (and R. Rutherford Hayes was elected). That is when Jim Crow laws (a collection of state and local statutes that legalized practices of racial segregation) effectively began, including the establishment of a set of "violations" that could result in incarceration of a black individual, e.g., "vagrancy," "attitudinal violations") So slavery was effectively reestablished for another 90+ years into the 1960s and beyond.

These exclusionary action efforts have not been focused only on African Americans, but also on Asians, Irish, Catholics and others in many places over the years.

These manipulations include the strategies of districting (gerrymandering), including inequities involved in the actual representation of individual people by the senators and representatives themselves, wherein some are representing millions more than others. For example, Senators in California represent 66 times more people than Senators in Wyoming.

A paper Andy distributed in advance of the meeting put recent voting suppression issues into perspective, citing nine categories of voter suppression. For example, if a voter succeeds in getting registered, but cannot get a vote-by-mail ballot, "one must get to a voting site to vote in person during the hours when it is open. So in Milwaukee, a largely working class city of more than half a million people, about 30% of whom are African American, the election authorities recently (just last April) closed dozens of urban voting sites, leaving open only 5, mostly on the edge of the suburbs and inaccessible by public transportation. Whereas Madison, Wisconsin, the state capital, overwhelming non-Hispanic white and a university town, a city half the size of Milwaukee, had 66 voting sites. So the ratio of voting sites to population in the two cities was more than 25 to 1. In Texas, in October 2020 on the day before early voting began, the Secretary of State simply announced that every county would have only one (1) "Vote Drop Box", even though Harris County's (Houston) population is 4.8 million."

As of February 19, state lawmakers have carried over, pre-filed, or introduced 253 bills with provisions that restrict voting access in 43 states (including two bills in CA, SB511 purging voter roles and SB 597 re absentee voting), and 704 bills with provisions that expand voting access in a

different set of 43 states. (In CA: 3 bills regarding absentee voting: AB37, SB 29 and SB 503, and SB 504 re same day registration and military voting.) The reality of the challenge faced in the efforts to pass new voting rights acts is compounded by the fact that there are really two different Americas – the rural counties versus the urban counties - and these differences involve race, education, ethnicity, and financial success. This is a very difficult problem we are facing going forward, and Andy is worried that bridging this gap may not be possible.

After 1:30, many members stayed on to talk with Andy until 2:00. (all recorded) He will be happy to send a bibliography should we want to learn more. Here's a link to [his recent paper](#) dealing with the subject. And in the meantime, it's never too late to [read the Constitution](#). There's a recent excellent book titled [How to Read The Constitution and Why](#). And, to get you started, here are two articles and an Amendment.

### US Constitution: Article I, Section 4.

*The times, places and manner of holding elections for Senators and Representatives, shall be prescribed in each state by the legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time by law make or alter such regulations, except as to the places of choosing Senators.*

### Article II

*Section 1. The executive Power shall be vested in a President of the United States of America. He shall hold his Office during the Term of four Years, and, together with the Vice President, chosen for the same Term, be elected, as follows*

*Each State shall appoint, in such Manner as the Legislature thereof may direct, a Number of Electors, equal to the whole Number of Senators and Representatives to which the State may be entitled in the Congress: but no Senator or Representative, or Person holding an Office of Trust or Profit under the United States, shall be appointed an Elector.*

### Amendment XIII to the Constitution

#### Section 1.

*Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.*

#### Section 2.

*Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.*

## Electoral System, cont'd from page 4

*Spoiler alert, the complexity of the language here may blow your mind. Could the electors end up voting for a President and Vice President from different parties??*

### Amendment XII to the Constitution

*The electors shall meet in their respective states and vote by ballot for President and Vice-President, one of whom, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves; they shall name in their ballots the person voted for as President, and in distinct ballots the person voted for as Vice-President, and they shall make distinct lists of all persons voted for as President, and of all persons voted for as Vice-President, and of the number of votes for each, which lists they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the President of the Senate;--The President of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates and the votes shall then be counted;--the person having the greatest number of votes for President, shall be the President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if no person have such majority, then from the persons having the highest numbers not exceeding three on the list of those voted for as President, the House of Representatives shall choose immediately, by ballot, the President. But in choosing the President, the votes shall be taken by states, the representation from each state having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two-thirds of the states, and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice. And if the House of Representatives shall not choose a President whenever the right of choice shall devolve upon them, before the fourth day of March next following, then the Vice-President shall act as President, as in the case of the death or other constitutional disability of the President. The person having the greatest number of votes as Vice-President, shall be the Vice-President, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed, and if no person have a majority, then from the two highest numbers on the list, the Senate shall choose the Vice-President; a quorum for the purpose shall consist of two-thirds of the whole number of Senators, and a majority of the whole number shall be necessary to a choice. But no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of President shall be eligible to that of Vice-President of the United States.*

## CHS INTERACT REPORT

Interact Liaison **Bridget Healy** introduced the Interactors, starting with their President, Mercer Weis. Isabelle (Izzy) Winnick is President Elect, Melina Tisopulos and Alana Polanski represents the Sophomores, Carson Paul represents the Freshmen, and Tiffany Nguyen is the club historian.

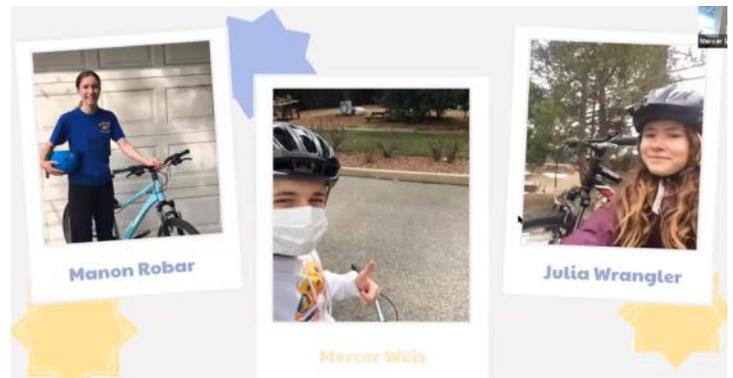


Mercer talked about the recent Club Bikeathon. Twenty-nine Interactors participated, raising over \$900. They used the colors of Blue and Gold to brand the event. The interactors started biking from their homes and raised money from sponsors and family members: \$2 for one mile or a flat donation of \$20. Lots of families helped financially, many irrespective of miles ridden.

Izzie talked about the officer election process, which will be held on line with videos of each candidate, using a software called FlipGrid. Members will have access to the videos to inform their votes. April 7<sup>th</sup> is the submit-by date, and April 14<sup>th</sup> is voting day, when the videos will be shown. They already have applications. A new officer retreat will be set up this summer to orient the new team.

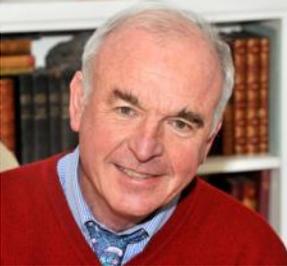
President Buff praised the Interact leadership for moving forward in a tough time and for exercising creative skills. Mercer thanked our club for supporting Interact and engaging their members in our events.

Izzy stayed through the program — Andy Winnick is her grandfather! Will there be a quiz?



## VIRTUAL ROTARY IN YOUR SPARE TIME

From our friend **Biffy Dankwertz** from the e-club of Greater Capetown comes an invitation to participate in an interesting program that will broaden our view! A link to buy tickets (a donation to Rotary for R100 = \$6.25) for the program is on [the website](#). The program is on Thursday, **April 15 at 10:00 am Pacific**.



Speaker Clem Sunter is South Africa's most highly regarded scenario planner and strategist. He is an icon and model of mental litness and has been expertly styled as the Foxy Futurist. He is an executive elite who was responsible for the scenario planning unit of Anglo American

in the 1980s and operated as its CEO in the 1990s. He has found a calling in mounting unique and creative solutions to fit circumstances no longer defined in a box. He has given presentations globally and has become an ambassador of expert knowledge for South Africa.

From discussing strategy in the 1980s with our former president, Nelson Mandela, to becoming a renowned author of several best-selling books, and rooted in bringing his new methodology to the people.

The two main scenarios Clem will be talking about are 'The gilded cage' (do we remain a divided planet) or a 'Friendly planet' (joining together to ensure a better future). He will also be talking about the 'Economic Crossroad' that SA faces, as to whether those responsible take the 'high road or low road'.

Mr Sunter is dually known for his book, *The Mind of a Fox*, which indicated the terrorist attacks on US soil on September 11, 2001.

And brought to you by [Rotary in Great Britain and Ireland](#): Tue, 30 March 2021, 12:05 – 12:45 PDT [Book \(free\) tickets](#)

DATE: 30 | MARCH | 2021  
TIME: 19:05 (LONDON)

YouTube PREMIERE

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CDC Interim Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated->

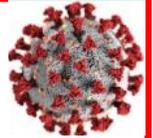
## COVID-19 VACCINATIONS IN LA COUNTY

AS OF MARCH 10, 2021 (UPDATED WEEKLY)



Data do not include doses administered by providers in the Cities of Long Beach and Pasadena.

## COVID Vaccination Update



*Melisa Acoba, health program analyst from LA County Public Health will speak to our club on April 23.*

The LA area Megapods are still stressing second doses and appointments continue to be limited. They advise you to go for a second dose on your appointed day and the time you went for your first vaccine. Be sure to bring your card and ID. About 47% of people over 65 in LAC still need to be vaccinated, and 25.7% in Claremont. (Note, the percentages say something about equitable distribution.) Are you one?

Still need your first vaccine? Stay tuned. Blue Shield is taking over administration of MyTurn.CA.Gov. With luck, the appointment finding will get easier.

From the [LA County Public Health Website](#):

**All people 65 or over are eligible now. Recently added are the rest of Phase 1B — those at risk of exposure at work in the following sectors:**

- Education and Childcare - More info: [webpage](#) | [PDF](#)
- Emergency Services - More info: [webpage](#) | [PDF](#)
- Food and Agriculture - More info: [webpage](#) | [PDF](#)
- People with Serious Health Conditions/Disabilities - More info: [webpage](#)
- People Who Live or Work in Congregate Living Spaces - More info: [webpage](#)
- Janitorial, Custodial, and Maintenance Services - More info: [webpage](#) | [PDF](#)
- Transportation and Logistics - More info: [webpage](#)

[Find out when you can receive a vaccine.](#)

You can access all County's sites through [MyTurn.CA.Gov](#) or link to [all county information sites.](#)



**Buff Wright**

Claremont Rotary  
President  
2020-2021



## UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Mar 19	Claremont Kiwanis President, Pat Lee
Mar 26	Armchair travels to Washington DC during COVID Laura Moore (daughter of John & Linda Moore)
April 2	What's going on with Recycling? Teri Grill, Sustainability Leader, Sealed Air Corp.
April 9	Don't Dis Your Ability, Chelsea DiGerolamo Service Center for Independent Life
April 16	How HOPE brings hope to communities. Sandra Bowers, Regional Director, Hope Through Housing



March Storm Clouds

Photo of the Week by Steve Schenck

Send fines and donations [here](#)  
or mail your check to  
PO Box 357, Claremont 91711

Hey, Bits! Where'd  
your sense of  
humor go?



**Bacon Bits**  
Let's fill up the pig!



**Sergeants committee  
gathers before each  
meeting by email.  
Anyone is welcome to  
share information!!**

**Nona Tirre, chair**

### Clarifier Committee

- Mike DeWees
- Bill Burrows
- Sean Harrison
- Bobby Hyde
- Jim Lehman
- Steve Schenck
- Chris Hayes Shaner
- Harry Sparrow
- Peter Weinberger
- Buff Wright, editor



### Website

Information about the club and back editions of this newsletter are always available on DACdb and [www.claremontRotary.org](http://www.claremontRotary.org)

### Join us on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/RotaryofClaremont](https://www.facebook.com/RotaryofClaremont)

Club [Bylaws](#) and [Policies](#) are posted for member access on DACdb

### March Birthdays

- Chrissie Paniagua 3/7
- Patrick Tambe 3/8
- Jerry Tambe 3/9
- Don Gould 3/13
- Dale Christensen 3/17
- Al Herrlinger 3/20
- Michael Fay & Tim Harrison 3/21
- Jerry Goldman 3/24
- Stan Barnes 3/30



Notes by Chris Hayes and Bill Burrows. Pictures by Steve Schenck

The Claremont Rotary Club meets on Zoom at 12:00 on Friday until further notice

# In the house... Your house

DO YOU MISS VEGAS? WE'RE BRINGING THE STRIP RIGHT INTO YOUR LIVING ROOM.



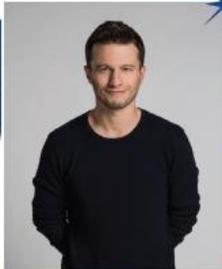
Your ticket comes with a **\$25 Pizza Hut online coupon.**



Streaming Saturday, April 17  
at 6pm

*Encore performances all night long after the first show!*

Headliners include:



Magician Mat Franco  
Comedian Carrot Top  
Fantasy Show Girls  
Frank Marino as Joan Rivers  
The Australian Bee Gees  
The Carpenters Tribute  
Neil Diamond Tribute  
The Kingston Trio Tribute



The **Summerlin Las Vegas Rotary Club** has arranged a fundraiser opportunity only a Las Vegas club could! And they want to share it with other clubs in the district!

For every ticket sold with the code CLA, our club will get \$25 of the ticket price of \$85 per household, which also includes a \$25 Pizza Hut online coupon good anywhere any time. [Buy your ticket here!](#)

The Vegas Show Night is **Saturday, April 17 at 6:00 pm** with repeat performances (it's video, after all) after that for those who cannot make 6 pm.

They tried to keep the Summerlin brand as discreet as possible with this in mind, although they do feature charities that feed those in need, serve homeless teens and care for families with children with cancer, and most of the remaining \$60 will go to these great Rotary causes. We can donate our \$25 per ticket to any cause we wish.

Don't hesitate to share the link to buy tickets, along with the Code CLA, with friends and family, including people far away from Las Vegas. Pizza Hut is everywhere, as are people tired of watching the same old TV shows. Make a night of it and bring some funds into our Club's foundation at the same time.

[Click this link for tickets.](#)

Register as a guest and use the code CLA

You'll get the program link and the coupon by email!

That's it!

Invite vaccinated and/or socially distanced/masked friends and family, and what happens in Vegas will come to your house!