

IN SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Claremont Rotary Year 92 | Week 43 | April 23, 2021

Program: LA County COVID Response, Melisa Acoba

submitted by Harry Sparrow



LA County Health Program Analyst Melisa Acoba presented the basics on the COVID-19 vaccination effort in LA County.

Melisa reviewed the three vaccines currently available in LA Co. and the qualifications for receiving one as of now (16 and over), and, importantly, the absence of barriers regarding immigration status. Everyone 16 or over has the right to receive the vaccine.

She reviewed the history of the rapid development of the vaccines, including the steps involved with the clinical trials, Emergency Use Authorization, and the work done by the many state and federal agencies to ensure safety (FDA, ASIP, CDC, etc.).

Melisa said that the ongoing goal of the vaccination effort is to “do as much good for as many people as possible while maintaining safety for all.”

The County also recognizes the challenges of promoting justice in the distribution, maintaining consistent process transparency, and addressing the real issues involving health disparities in underserved communities.

The site-availabilities for where individuals can receive the vaccine continue to grow and expand, including pharmacies and individual clinic sites, as well as the larger sites like Dodger Stadium.

LA County recently signed a new MOU with the state of California, and the County will work with Blue Shield on expanding delivery opportunities. LA will be entering the state network, and therefore will have access to those data dashboards to get clearer understanding about the progress of distribution and delivery to all residents.

Melisa reemphasized the ongoing need to maintain vigilance with mask wearing, social distancing, and hand washing as we move through the next several months while the vaccines continue to be delivered to more and more individuals. This is especially true in all public places.

Melisa warned the group to beware of the many myths surrounding the vaccines and the scams that persist, including charging people for the white vaccination cards (all vaccines and documentation are free and encouraged, and of course, shouldn't therefore need to be forged). We need to protect our information, and we should report any of these scam attempts when and if encountered.

Melisa encouraged us to check out the [LA County Vaccine website](#) (which we post weekly in the Clarifier) to explore updates and ongoing additions to the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section.

Continued, p. 5

Watch it!!

You can hear the program at about 33 minutes into the meeting!

Here's a link to the [recording](#).

Passcode: LACOV1919!

It will be available until 5/13.

Next Zoom Meeting

April 30: Featuring Claremont Mayor Jennifer Stark

[ZOOM LINK](#)

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ROTARY, THE ZOOM MEETING

submitted by Chris Hayes Shaner



President Buff recalled that throughout this year, we have heard a wide variety of programs, from art and music, to vaccine distribution, to mental health, teen suicide prevention and taxes, from homelessness to housing to business survival, from virtual education, talking about race, to the electoral system and a project in Guatemala. We have a few programs planned and about five dates yet to plan. What do you want to hear about? Please talk about it a bit in the breakout.

And while talking about diversity of programs that broaden our thinking, Buff mentioned that she is looking forward to talking about effectuating diversity in Rotary membership. On Tuesday, the Board adopted a Club policy reflecting the RI Statement on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. She will be sending out the statement for all to examine. The Board discussed whether to circulate the policy before adopting it, but decided that the real work of the Club is in deciding how to make it come alive. Please let Buff know if you would like to be part of the core discussion.

WELCOME GUESTS

We welcomed **Bill Gershon** and **Stephen Juliar**.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jennifer Stark, Mayor of Claremont, is our speaker next week to provide a City report. Bring questions!

The virtual RI International Convention is open for registration and will be aired online **June 12-16**. There will be many interesting talks. The first 25 registrants from the club will be reimbursed **\$49 through May 7 at 9:59 pm**. Thereafter it will cost \$65. [Click here](#) to register.

District Conference registration is open. The conference will be online **May 22 from 2:00-5:00 pm**. Typically about 12 Club members attend. There is no charge this year. The conference will spotlight clubs' activities over the last 12 months. You should have received an email with a link on April 22 from DG Greg Jones or log-in to DACdb and go to the District Calendar.

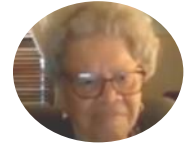
Brett O'Connor thanked **Frank Bedoya** for helping out with the Stover Music Contest at CHS on April 17. There were seven contestants, including one drummer, and six pianists. One contestant moved forward to the next level; our club will be hosting.

Brett O'Connor also talked about the Hensel Ethics essay contest, which has produced 25 essays! **Buff, Bernadette Kendall, Lucinda McDade,** and **Sylvia Whitlock** volunteered to help. Let Brett know if you are interested.

Buff sent a survey to all members regarding when we'll feel comfortable coming back to in-person meetings. 48 have responded. See page 4 for data.

INSPIRATION OF THE DAY

Submitted by Sylvia Whitlock



The great secret of human happiness is to never suffer your energies to stagnate.

Today is your day and mine, the only day we have, the day in which we play our part. What our part may signify in the great whole we may not understand, but we are here to play it, and now is our time.

This we know, it is a part of action, not of whining, it is a part of love, not cynicism. It is for us to express love in term of human helpfulness. Richard Evans

In a related move, **Karen Sapio and Mark Carson** went to the DoubleTree to test its AV capacity to interact with the OWL system that **Tim Harrison** generously gave to the Club. They had partial success. The tech person was not available, and the system has not been use much over the past year. A slide was shown of what we could be looking at. See page 4 for a larger view.

A possible (interim) future for meetings





SERGEANT HARRY SPARROW

Jerry Goldman was fined \$5 for being a nice guy. Jerry hated to think what he'd be fined if he were not nice!

-**Kebokile Dengu Zvobgo** traveled to New Mexico (much was closed, but it was beautiful) and Colorado

-**Don Ralls** celebrated his wife's birthday, going out for both lunch and dinner, and got fined \$5.

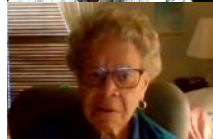
-**Sylvia Whitlock** has a birthday coming up April 28, and She's pretty sure it's her 25th. Harry is going to pay her fine of \$5 since she is our rock star.

-**Ian Standley** is always called on about the Mars project. He told us that he had nothing to do with the helicopter on Mars, but he knows the guy that works on the helicopter, and he is pretty jazzed for the success of the project.

-**John Tulac** was asked whether this description rang any bells: rich notes of orchard fruit, citrus, toffee, heavy dark fruits on the nose with light sweet pastry, brown sugar and oak. The palate is honeyed with caramel notes, citrus, vanilla, complex fruit, and charred oak. The finish is long and elegant with notes of toffee, citrus, and oak spice. Ah yes! It seems these related to the Lismore 21 scotch John experienced with out of town clients recently. Talk is cheap for lawyers, but neither is this a cheap whiskey!

-When **Steve Schneck's** father in law's home sold, they donated some of the old furniture and a Bass to a happy recipient, the CHS theater department. Bernadette Kendall, the selling agent was willing to pay Steve's fine and for her son Ryan helping with the move. Steve's cross-country teammates at CHS back in the day, helped the Hueters move in to the home originally. **Brett O'Connor** was asked to feed the pig as well, since CHS benefitted from the donations.

-**Tom Shelly** is celebrating his anniversary with the club —nine years a Rotarian! If only he hadn't scooted out!



VIRTUAL ROTARY IN YOUR SPARE TIME



Brought to you by [Rotary in Great Britain and Ireland](#):

The first talk of Season 4:

"Empowering Girls" with Rotary International President Elect Shekhar Mehta.

You can catch up on the 26 events so far on the [Rotary in Great Britain and Ireland's YouTube channel](#).

Highly recommended by Buff is the talk by [Daniel Flynn](#), Chief Visionary and Co-Founder of [Thankyou](#). Daniel's corporation provides the proceeds from selling water and other products to charity. His remarkable business development story is quite interesting and inspiring!

Also of great interest is Humanitarian **Sylvia Whitlock**, [Pushing the boundaries in Rotary](#).



SURVEY CONCERNING IN-PERSON MEETINGS.

Are You Ready to Return to In Person meetings? 48 have responded. About half said would come back in June. ¼ in July ¼ August-Oct.

		Q2: When do you think you will be comfortable returning to meetings at the DoubleTree?					
		Total	June	July	August	September	October
Total Count		48.0	24.0	12.0	5.0	4.0	3.0
YES		46.0	24.0	11.0	4.0	4.0	3.0
NO		2.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Don't intend to be		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Broken down by attendance on zoom this year, just one who has not attended at all on zoom would attend if we started in July. The majority who have attended regularly would return in June. Those who have attended occasionally would come back in June or July.

		Q2: When do you think you will be comfortable returning to meetings at the DoubleTree?					
		Total	June	July	August	September	October
Total Count		48.0	24.0	12.0	5.0	4.0	3.0
Yes, regularly		36.0	20.0	7.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Yes, occasionally		7.0	3.0	3.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
A few times		4.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0
Not at all		1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

If we held hybrid meetings, half would attend online, 19 would probably come online, five probably not (i.e., would come in person.)

This is what a hybrid meeting would look like for those on zoom using speaker view. Mark Carson and Karen Sapio had recently spoken and so the camera switched to them. If one watched on gallery view, the DoubleTree group would be in one square. Those at the Doubletree would see the gallery or speaker on zoom.



County COVID Response,cont'd from p.1

Melisa reminded us that, “The best vaccine is the FIRST vaccine that becomes available to you!” She then answered questions.

Melisa noted that dose availability does continue to be an issue, but is now getting better.

There was some discussion about addressing the ongoing challenges for the underserved communities who continue to be the hardest hit with COVID cases and vaccine delivery. The department is aware of persistent hesitancy, lack of availability, lack of community education about the vaccine, among these groups and is addressing them as best they can.

The need for a future booster shot was mentioned, and Melisa confirmed that this is true, but that the chances for the same severity of the spread is not expected to be as high as it was through this past first year of the pandemic. The answer to the question of how long the vaccine will be effective is still out.

Proof of vaccination forms and anticipated documentation required for travel were also raised to Melisa. She said that these are questions/issues yet to be addressed and said that she would get some info back to our Club.

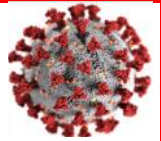
Melisa was asked about more specific plans and active partnerships in the works currently to address the ongoing challenges of distribution to the underserved and hardest-hit populations. There studies, such as the one referred to at right: “Racial, Ethnic & Socioeconomic Data and Strategies.”

Melissa sent follow-up information in answer to two questions. The County’s [latest guidance on private events](#) says, “Indoor private events are permitted only if all guests tested negative for COVID-19 or show proof of full vaccination. Indoor events are limited to a maximum of 150 people.

After the meeting, she also related that acceptable proof of full vaccination includes:

- 1) A government issued photo identification and a Vaccination card (which includes name of person vaccinated, type of vaccine provided and date last dose administered) OR
- 2) a photo of the attendee’s vaccination card as a separate document OR
- 3) a photo of the attendee’s vaccine card stored on a phone or electronic device OR
- 4) documentation of vaccination from a healthcare provider (which includes name of person vaccinated, type of vaccine provided and date last dose administered).”

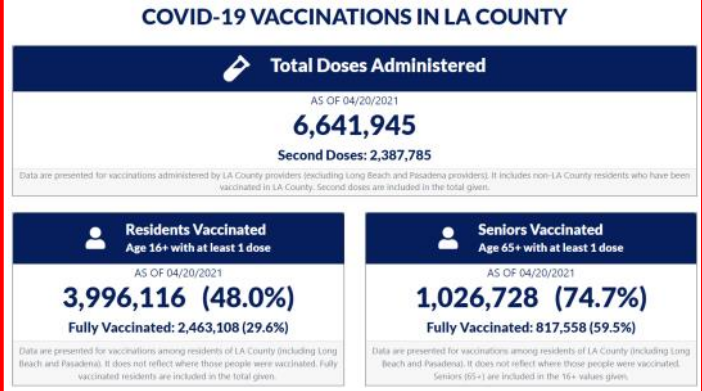
COVID Vaccination Update



New: [Dashboard on vaccinations in LA County](#)

People vaccinated in Claremont: 17827 (55%)

From the [LA County Public Health Website](#): As of April 15, all people over 16 are eligible. 48% of the 8.3M LA County citizens over 16 had received at least one dose by April 20, leaving 3.9M seeking vaccines!



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

NEW: Smaller vaccination sites may have waiting lists. Try Von’s on Baseline.

CDC Public Health Recommendations for Fully Vac-

Equitable Distribution of Vaccines?

There is abundant data about the equitable distribution COVID 19 vaccinations. Los Angeles County posts distribution data online and has compiled a COVID-19 Racial, Ethnic & Socioeconomic Data & Strategies Report

[View the Report](#)





the CLARifier

The Clarifier, P.O. Box 357, Claremont, CA 91711



Buff Wright

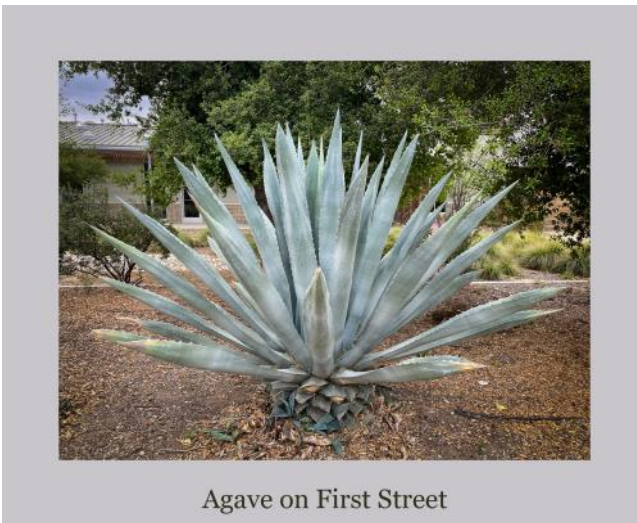
Claremont Rotary
President
2020-2021



Rotary Opens Opportunities

UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

April 30	City of Claremont News, Jennifer Stark, Mayor
April 27 May 4	District Assembly (virtual) Register on DACdb!
May 7	Sr. Craft Talk (etc.) PDG Jerry Tambe
May 14	Destination Akko, Prof. Tammi Schneider, CGU



Agave on First Street

Photo of the Week by Steve Schenck

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



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

Join us on Facebook:

www.facebook.com/RotaryofClaremont

Club **Bylaws** and **Policies** are posted for member access on DACdb

April—May Birthdays

- Pete Robertson 4/23
- Sylvia Whitlock 4/28
- Lyn Childress 5-16
- Bill McAllister 5-18
- Frank Bedoya 5-19
- Chris Hayes Shaner 5-20
- Bob Hauducoeur 5-26



Notes by Chris Hayes Shaner and Harry Sparrow. Pictures by Steve Schenck

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