



the CLARifier

CLAREMONT ROTARY NEWSLETTER

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Claremont Rotary Year 91 | Week 42 | October 18, 2019

Program: Claremont Then and Now, John Neuber



John Neuber is the past and future president of the Claremont Heritage Board, the CEO of Trinity Youth Services and a member of Claremont’s Architectural Commission. His talk is taken from various of his columns in the Claremont Courier: *From the Files of Claremont Her-*

itage. John opened by disclosing that he bribed Buff to continue as Treasurer of the Claremont Heritage Board last night by threatening not to come to this meeting.

John’s focus is on what happened in past that influenced the way Claremont is today.

Interestingly enough, water was the first draw and is why the Tongva First People settled here at the end of a river that no longer exists. We’re on top of the 2nd largest alluvial plain in the world, and artesian wells were common – the ones pictured below were near Memorial park. The aquifers are too low now. There used to be a swamp in south Claremont where Pomona students went duck hunting!

The first home in Claremont was built by Ed Alisal in Me-



morial Park in 1884. It was replaced by two Victorian cottages built by Henry Austin Palmer. Palmer was the



father of Claremont. He had lived in the Claremont area of Berkeley, CA. When the Santa Fe Railway developers from Boston were looking for a name for the local stop. Palmer suggested Claremont and a bunch of Spanish names....the railway opted for Claremont. A beautiful depot was built, later replaced by the one we have now.

Then came the Hotel Claremont on the Pomona College



Campus. No one ever stayed there. So Pomona College was invited to occupy the building; Palmer gave 80 acres and the Hotel to Pomona College when Henry went bust

CLAREMONT ROTARY: THE MEETING

President Troxell started the meeting with a clang and we were off with a Smile and recitation of the Four Way Test. *(Wait, was there a camera malfunction? Cameron, is that you?)*



GUESTS AND VISITING ROTARIANS

Among the day's guests were 10 Interactors (see page 3), 3 future members, two interested in learning about the Club, a speaker, and a partridge in a pear tree.

Clarina Pio Roda came again as Nona Tirre's guest; **Ned Paniagua** was once Arman Ariane's guest and brought his wife, **Chrissie Paniagua**. Also attending were President of the Pasadena After Hours Club, **Andrew Herriman**; CGU Economics Graduate Student **Frances Assenga** introduced by Cameron Troxell, and Speaker **John Neuber**.

We sang a welcome to all guests and visiting Rotarians, happy to announce that the song specifically welcomes a dentist – Ned Paniagua fits the bill! (We still need a librarian!)



ANNOUNCEMENTS

We have funded an ad in the October 18 Courier, partnering with Sunrise Rotary, to celebrate Polio Day (October 24) and to remind people of Rotary in our community. Thanks, **Anita Hughes**, for the idea. And thanks to **Tim Harrison's** graphic designer **Stacie** and to **Peter Weinberger** for design help for maximum impact in the Courier and online.



Bernadette Kendall has scheduled interviews for El Roble students for TLC on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday to fill our 12 positions. Other students will be supported by Sunrise. The committee is **Anita Boling, Pat Hauducoeur, Lark Gerry, and Bonita Ramos**. We need a team of four Rotarians who must be available all three afternoons.

Nona Tirre brought special Rotary Club of Claremont car magnets, available on the front table.

Cameron announced that there would be a special brief Board meeting after the meeting.

Rotary Work Day is Nov. 2 at the HQ of Hope Partners. Sign up or let **John Howland** know if you can sign up for a morning or afternoon shift. John read a letter from **Tom Shelley** who brought the need for \$300 for the paint and supplies to the Board last week, having discovered that the Rotary Work Day was not a line in the budget. After a few minutes of discussion, **Chris Shaner** brought out her checkbook and wrote out a check for \$300. Thanks, Chris!

The Club Holiday party will be at the Hughes Center Dec. 7. **Anita Boling** is chairing the committee, which will meet after today's meeting.

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES?

Anita Hughes described ways for Rotarian volunteers to make a difference in the community. The Club has donated money for the Sr. Center kitchens and is looking for hands-on opportunities. The Director would appreciate a few volunteers to serve lunch at Jocelyn from 10:30-12:30 or Blaisdell from 11:00-1:00. Contact Anita for how to volunteer. There are other similar opportunities for big events like a dinner dance and a holiday event. Finally, the Claremont Homeless Advocacy Program (CHAP) Shelter at the Friends meeting House which houses 5-6 people currently, could use people to take a shift to check people in or out or spend the night, or to clean the kitchen. We just got funded with a district grant for involvement with the CHAP nutrition program.



OCTOBER BOARD MEETING: The Board met last week. **President Cameron** reported on the leadership chain's participation in strategic planning, and he will be following that up with a discussion of future plans with the Club on December 13. We are pleased to announce that the District Grant proposal to help fund a nutrition program for the Claremont Homeless Advocacy Program has been granted. There will be related opportunities to volunteer. Director **Chris Shaner** donated \$300 to fund the work day project at Hope Partners. The Board voted to grant \$250 to a Western University of Health Sciences scholarship program ad to get the word out about Rotary. The Board has discussed and **Tom Shelley** is leading an effort with several other organizations including the Senior Bike Group to fund bike repair stations on the Wilderness Trail.

SERGEANT HARRY SPARROW

Sergeant Harry again fined himself as the opener – he withdrew from Three Truths and a Lie to make room for the Interact Report and avert a Harry Sparrow overdose. FEED THE PIG!



The LAFF Award (Last Arrived First Fined) was given today to **Tim Harrison**, who was also caught using his new car magnet as a coaster. Fine fine.

Bridget Healy, speaking through chocolate cake, was fined for her pride in her daughter for accepting a job as Deputy Director of Human Services in Rancho Cucamonga, after serving for several years in the Cities of Claremont and Monrovia.

Don Ralls was fined for having free time after the deadline for filing tax extensions.

Bernadette Kendall was fined for the ultimate marketing coup of having a home she is selling on the Claremont Heritage Home Tour. Bernie explained that as chair of the home tour committee, she only volunteered this house when another dropped out. It was a heck of an incentive to finish the renovations to get it on the market.

Bonita Ramos was fined for celebrating National Chocolate Cupcake day instead of Astronauts Christina Koch and Jessica Meir who successfully completed the first all-female space-walk.

Nona Tirre was fined for missing the Networking gathering last night. Nona was at a stained glass event, which is sort of related to stained wine glasses at the Packing house, right?

Buff Wright was fined for missing a Rotarian article that Harry clearly studied closely. He asked, what was the country contributing second most to the Rotary Foundation? Without hesitation, she guessed Germany, a great stab in the dark. The answer was India.

Inspiration of the Day: Bonita Ramos provides all you need for National Chocolate Cupcake Day

- ◇ All you need is love. But a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt.
- ◇ You can't make everyone happy; you're not chocolate.
- ◇ Chocolate is God's apology for broccoli.
- ◇ Strength is the capacity to break a Hershey bar into four pieces with your bare hands - and then eat just one of the pieces.
- ◇ Your hand and your mouth agreed many years ago that, as far as chocolate is concerned, there is no need to involve your brain.
- ◇ The 12-step chocolate program: NEVER BE MORE THAN 12 STEPS AWAY FROM CHOCOLATE!
- ◇ There is nothing better than a friend, unless it is a friend with chocolate.
- ◇ Once upon a time, I was hungry. And that's what happened to your chocolate.
- ◇ If you can't remember my name, just say chocolate... I'll turn around.
- ◇ Nice memories are like chocolate: you can't survive on them alone, as they aren't very filling, but they make life sweeter.



Photo from 5/17/19

INTERACT REPORT

Bridget Healy reported that the CHS Interact year is off to a great start. The officers, except one who is on the Homecoming Court, introduced themselves and related a few things about their activities.

President **Faris Benihani** is pleased to be working with such a great group of officers and a strong club. **Ani Singh**, Secretary, has implemented a "remind" program to give notices to over 200 people of club meetings and activities. 86 people showed up for a recent meeting.

Mercer Weis, president elect talked about Scare Away Hunger on October 31. Proceeds go to Hope Partners. They will participate in Hope Partners work day. **Amelia Troncone** continued that she is organizing the Scare Away Hunger committees. Over 60 members have signed up. **Isabelle Winnick** is in charge of the food collection for Scare Away Hunger. They have a goal of 200 cans of food. **Deborah Fum**, **Lyna Bui** and **Bao Phung** provided reports on other activities coming up and on internal organization matters.

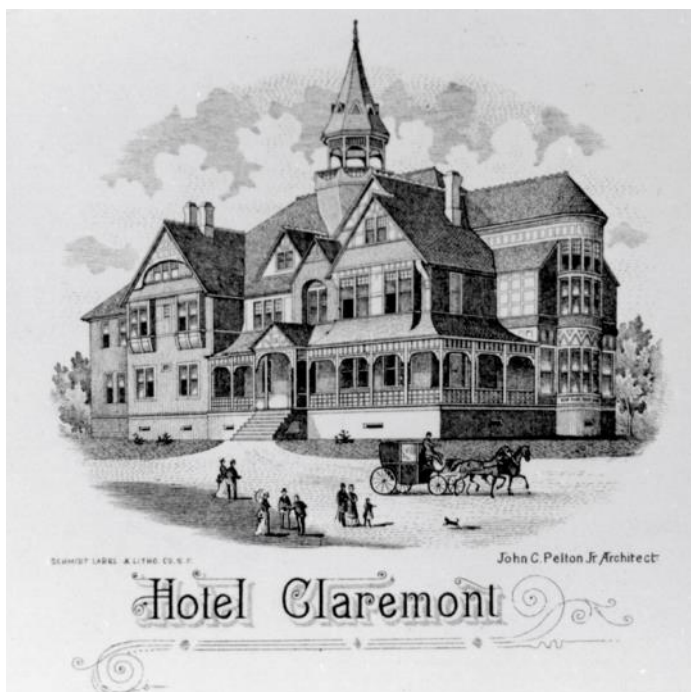
The two Freshman representatives, **Alana Polanski** and **Addison Walburg** talked about the transition from El Roble and noted that the good thing about being an officer is that you are closely involved in helping the community.

Thanks, Interact!



Claremont Then and Now, continued

on the land deal, which led to Pomona College abandoning its plan to build in Pomona. After a few years, they decided to stay.



Sumner House, residence of the first Pomona College President, was built in 1887, and was moved from Pomona to its Claremont resting place at First and College in 1901. The family lived in it for the full five days it took to move the house!

Pomona College was an economic driver for Claremont. John will publish a book about all the amazing buildings in Claremont in about a year. Proceeds will go to Claremont Heritage. Remarkable architects designed the Carnegie Library, Bridges, and Little Bridges.

The Claremont Inn at Bonita and College was torn down in 1968. The destruction of the Claremont Inn and the Library launched Claremont Heritage with a preservation mission. Susie Illsley offered that Rotary met at the Claremont Inn too.



Another point of early history that affects Claremont to this day is the Town Meeting, which was imported by New England residents who moved to Claremont. A recent example is the process for the Claremont Master Plan and the Foothill project – there were 40 opportunities for the community to provide input. Another was the Verizon plan to put in cell towers that came before the Architectural Commission – they hadn't asked for any input and were advised to do it because this is Claremont!

Bess Garner and Herbert Garner, both Pomona College graduates, had a lot to do with the cultural development of Claremont. Herb built his Vortex truck parts business which is still on Indian Hill, and Garner House which is now home to Claremont Heritag, and the



Padua Theater, all from 1926-30 during the depression. At the Padua Theater, they sponsored plays and musicals, and started the Mexican Players theater.



Claremont Then and Now, continued

Someone spent a lot of time to bring State Route 30 through Claremont, which led to Route 66 coming through later. Realtor Frank Wheeler was that promoter!



John showed a picture of Claremont landmarks including the old Claremont High School, then three stories. Few realize that they took off the third floor out of fear after the Long Beach earthquake. Helen Renwick donated land for civic center, including the library, city hall (was chamber of commerce) and the post office. A picture of the old library



brought lots of awww reactions. (Notice the elephant toe curb.) It was replaced by the brutalist library we now have.

Other buildings also evoke aspects of Claremont's past. The Infirmary for the Colleges, the Village Theater, the citrus industry marked by the Packing House and the Sunkist building which began in Claremont College Heights.

John showed pictures of the 1938 flood when the equivalent of half the volume of the Mississippi River wiped out entire towns and washed through Claremont.



In the Mid-Century after WW2, artists affiliated with Scripps College, including Millard Sheets brought in architects and

artists. Theodore Criley designed churches, banks and houses. Richard Neutra is another noted architect who designed homes in Claremont, as well as in LA and Palm Springs.

And there are notable newer buildings too like the Pomona College studio art building on Columbia Ave., and more to come. Claremont Heritage is paying attention.

Wrapping up, John noted that several additional economic drivers have contributed to Claremont over the years, like the building boom after WWII. Now, lots of our sales tax dollars come from Cultural Heritage Tourism. We've preserved the character of the town. People say, this is what I remember growing up, I want to go to dinner there, etc. 60-70% of people on our streets in the village aren't from Claremont. John employs 25 people who buy lunch and goods in Claremont, but most don't live in Claremont. And expansion in the Village has been well planned. New buildings, as in Village West, have scale and massing that fits in and have not ruined the village as feared.

John concluded that the Colleges are still an economic driver, but not as much as in the beginning. The citrus industry is gone, but we have created adaptive reuses of the buildings, including the Packing House and the Ice House office (now the Back Abbey). Claremont has its charm in part because in the 1970s notable residents like Ginger Elliott, Mary Stoddard, and Judy Wright led preservation. In short, things that happened in the past have a great deal to do with Claremont as it is today!

What a fascinating program! John closed his remarks to appreciative applause.

Frank Hungerford volunteered that he was on the City Council in the 1970's when they built the library. The County didn't allow Claremont to have any control over the project or hiring of the architect. People love the library, but it could have been better!

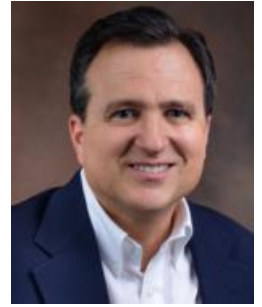
Bernadette Kendall noted that the home at 1100 Oxford was on the Home Tour last weekend. The exterior is built from rubble of the 1938 flood. The City Engineer got fired for taking the rubble – he was supposed to dump it. **David Sawhill**, the CHS Interact advisor, was a docent and showed pictures of the flood and the building process. Gordon Kauffman, the designer of Scripps College, designed the house.

Bernadette also pitched another marketing coup. When she sold the Neubers their historic house on Indian Hill, she insisted that John join Claremont Heritage. Both paid off! John and his wife were able to restore the house to its original beauty because they had so many pictures in front of just about every design detail, from the years it was owned by the Ilsleys.



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



Cameron Troxell
Claremont Rotary
President
2019-2020



UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Oct 25	March of Dimes, Natalie Michney
Nov 1	From High Heels to Horseshoes: An Unexpected Life, Ada Gates
Nov 2	Corazon Build; Rotary Work Day
Nov 15	Claremont Homelessness, Zach Courser

Photo of the Week



DONNER LAKE

Photo by Steve Schenck



Oops...new fangled photography will get you every time. Where's my darkroom!

I think my emoji deserved a bigger billing.



Bacon Bits

Let's fill up the pig!



Sergeants committee meets every Friday at 11:30 AM in the Orchard Lounge at the DoubleTree Hotel and anyone with information to share is welcome!!

Clarifier Committee

- Bill Burrows
- Mike DeWees
- Lark Gerry
- Bobby Hyde
- Dan Kentner
- Jim Lehman
- Steve Schenck
- Chris 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

October Birthdays

- Betty Sheldon 10/1
- Tom Shelley 10/7
- Sean Gallagher 10/13
- Rich Laughton 10/13
- Jim Lehman 10/20
- Chuck Carpenter 10/25
- Nona Tirre 10/30



Notes: Buff Wright. Photos: (lost in space)

The Claremont Rotary Club meets at the Claremont DoubleTree on Foothill at 12:10pm