

the CLARIFIER

CLAREMONT ROTARY NEWSLETTER

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Claremont Rotary Year 91 | Week 5 | January 31, 2020

Program: Politics of Catalonia, Juli Minoves-Triquell

submitted by Jim Lehman



Nick Quackenbos introduced our speaker, Red Badge member of Claremont Rotary, Juli Minoves, Professor of Political Science and Director of the International Studies Institute at the University of La Verne.

Also relevant for our understanding is this historic map of Spain, showing Catalan Counties and Castile and Aragon in 1210.



Graphic by Alexandre Vigo - Own work, CC BY-SA 3.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=10312430>

Juli, a native of Andorra who has also lived in New York and Miami, comes to his academic post with a wealth of experience in the field, having served Andorra as Foreign Minister and Minister for Economic Development, Ambassador to the UN, to the USA, to Canada, and to Spain. He completed his undergraduate study with a degree in Economics from the University of Fribourg in Switzerland, then did his Ph.D. at Yale. He spent 2019 on sabbatical in Spain—in Barcelona, no less—and was witness to the political turmoil he reports on today.

Here's Andorra, for the many of us who are unfamiliar with this mountainous country of about 80,000 between France and Spain, placed within the context of Catalonia.



Juli explained that the crisis in Spain today derives from conflicting worldviews. Briefly, people in greater Spain view Spain as a unitary state which includes Catalonia; Catalans view Catalonia as an autonomous region which happens (for now) to be a part of Spain—they could choose otherwise at any time.

It's not so different from, say, Quebec in Canada, or Scotland in the UK, or Wallonia in Belgium, where linguistic and cultural divides threaten or have threatened rupture.

The conflict has its early origins in the consolidation of early modern Spain following the marriage of Isabella

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CLAREMONT ROTARY: THE MEETING *submitted by Mike DeWees*

With a packed house, **President Cameron** did double duty introducing song leader **Chris Shaner** and playing piano as she kicked off the meeting with "Smile" and "America the Beautiful." **Dennis Smith** led the Pledge of Allegiance.



WELCOME GUESTS

Chuck Carpenter was the greeter today and introduced our guests. We had no visiting Rotarians.

Susie Ilsley introduced Consultant and Educator **Mary Segawa** who was the Rotary Club President in Lacey, WA.

Ryan Zimmerman visited us as a guest of **Paul Steffan**. Ryan is a Realtor with Wheeler Steffen Sotheby's Realty.

John Tulac joyfully introduced Megan, Bernadette and Guy Tulac



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Services for Jackie Stickels were held on Feb. 1st at 9:30 am at 811 N. Mountain Avenue in Ontario followed by a reception at her daughter Carol Bradford's house. Jackie and her husband Jim (President 1988-89) were active for many years in Claremont Rotary, as memorialized in the James Stickels New Member Award, most recently earned by Susie Ilsley for '18-19.

Together We Prepare is scheduled for February 19, 20, 21. (There is no meeting on the 21st.) **Bonita Ramos** pointed out that helping at this event is easy! Sign-up sheets are on the tables. It's an all-club event and all hands are needed, especially on Friday, Feb 21. Sorry (but thankfully), Wednesday Feb. 19th is full!

John Howland - the Rotary Work Day @ Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden will take place mid- March. Stay tuned for further information.

PDG Sylvia Whitlock, will travel to India in February to work with teachers at the PACE [Piyali School for Girls](#) near Kolkata. She has also accepted an invitation to travel to a Rotary club in Abidjan on the Ivory Coast of Africa in April.

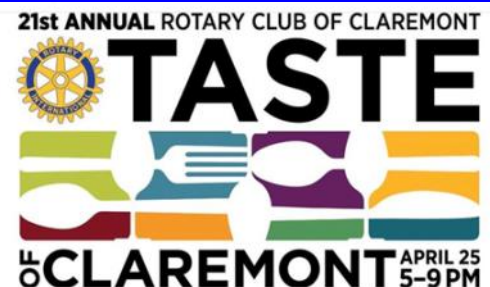
Claremont Rotary Networking Event is **Tuesday, February 4**, 6-8 pm, at El Ranchero on Foothill. **Susie Ilsley** says she expects a lot of people to come and Cameron vouched for the margaritas.

Thank you's went out to **Betty Sheldon** and to the **Best BETT committee** for their work in reading grant applications, and to **Corina Christiansen**, for attending the meeting at the Chamber of Commerce.

Let's wish **Buff Wright** well as she prepares to represent our club at PETS next weekend! PETS stands for President-Elect Training Seminar and Buff will be there with about 450 other Pes from the region.

There will be another **Graber Olive House Tour** on Sunday, February 9 at 2 pm. If you missed the first one you missed a good time so here's another chance!

We may have a DoubleTree conflict on **March 5th** so stay tuned for potential social instead of a meeting.



SAT, APR 25 AT 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Taste of Claremont tickets are available online now at <http://www.tasteofclaremont.org/> and paper tickets are coming soon.

Harry Sparrow and **Jerry Goldman** are busy selling sponsorships for Taste of Claremont. Harry announced that we have an exclusive glass sponsorship from DA Davidson in Claremont. He has also secured ads from Montclair Place and up-sold the Ontario Airport to a bigger ad.

Jerry asked for a member or group of members to sponsor an ad for Ability First in the program. Last year it was sponsored by Dan Kentner who has moved to Washington.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

CHAP and the Claremont Senior Nutrition Program need you! A representative of CHAP will be attending likely on February 28th to receive their district grant.

3 Truths and a Lie

Today's Contestant:
Corina Christiansen

Playing it very short and direct
Corina broke down her list quickly.

1. I love milk chocolate.
2. My favorite color is blue.
3. I am adopted.
4. I played clarinet in the band.

And just as quickly Buff Wright saw through the first one and guessed that she prefers dark chocolate over milk chocolate.



Fines from A to Zoe

Zoe TeBeau stepped up as finemaster with **Susie Ilsley** carrying the pig, and allowed **Bonita Ramos** to shamelessly plug Ability First chocolate strawberries.

"Freshly made with your choice of chocolate" said Bonita. She will deliver them to the Club on the 14th or you can pick them up at Ability First on Indian Hill.

Don Ralls announced the merger of Lightfoot, Ralls & Lightfoot with Yoss Allen Bernstein. **Jim Lehman** suggested "Ralls, et al." but Don said he's going to be taking a step back in Yoss Allen Bernstein and Lightfoot.

Harry Sparrow thanked Buff for all the editing saves she made to his submission last week and paid a fine.

Zoe asked who made it to the Graber Olive House Tour and fined all those who didn't participate.

Nick Quackenbos was asked how his Super Bowl pool was looking but he feigned innocence and predicted KC Chiefs to win. Wait, are Zoe, Nick and Juli re-viewing their bets?



Zoe ended by recognizing that **Juli Minoves-Triquell** was satisfying his craft talk requirement today.

Inspirational Thought for the Day



John Tulac dusted off a couple years of rusty Latin and Google translate to give us a few thoughtful gems.

Cogito, Ergo Sum- "I think, therefore I am"

Praeludium simulationem- "The more we practice, the better we fake it" [roughly translated]

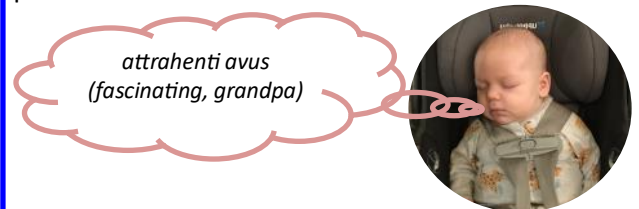
And some not so thoughtful gems...

Tibi favent, et procures novenario Logarithmus quadraginta aut in patera Super?- "Do you favor the Chiefs or the Forty-Niners in the Super Bowl?"

Ne vadas in bonam noctis commando- "Do not go commando into that good night"

Habent enim cor stercore- NSFW...[Google may have cleaned this up for me]

John also said Latin even makes Ron Coleman's jokes better but he may have broken Google translate with that one as he admitted he had no evidence to prove it.



FULL HOUSE



NOT EXILED TO THE KID'S TABLE

Catalonia, continued

of Castile and Ferdinand of Aragon (including Catalonia) in 1469. Catalonia has long had its own language and institutions, which have continued in one form or another even as it was integrated into unified Spain. In the 19th century, it industrialized and developed a bourgeoisie, along with a growing separatist movement. When Spain became a republic in 1931, it granted Catalonia semi-autonomous status. But Catalonia chose the losing side in the Spanish civil war, and in its aftermath Franco abrogated its autonomy and repressed the language and customs. Following his death, a new Spanish constitution recognized distinct national communities within Spain, and in 1979 Catalonia again became an autonomous region, with its own flag, anthem, and regional parliament, and Catalan was again recognized as an official language. A 2006 statute even used the word “nation” to describe Catalonia.

Catalonia’s success came with additional burdens, however. Relatively greater economic success brought relatively higher tax burdens, with a net outflow from the region to the coffers of Spain. Those differential financial burdens did not lessen with the financial crisis of 2009-10 and its attendant high unemployment (rates of over 50% for young adults!), and a constitutional court struck down provisions of the 2006 statute that conferred national autonomy to Catalonia.

A restive population held an informal referendum in 2014 calling for autonomy—with 80% voting yes. In 2017, the Catalan parliament declared independence and a similar general referendum in the region was declared illegal by the Supreme Court and violently disrupted by police. Spain’s government declared “direct rule,” and sought the arrest of the regional political leaders who were defying Spanish authority. The Catalan leaders, including President



Puigdemont, fled to Brussels. They are charged with sedition and with misappropriating funds. Twelve officials were found guilty in October of 2019—9 received long prison sentences; 3 got heavy fines, and protest demonstrations erupted again.

The story gets more complicated. General elections in Spain yielded a weak government; indeed, unable to form a government after an April 2019 election, a re-election in the fall yielded a new Prime Minister thanks to a coalition with Catalanian representatives! So here’s the Spanish government, having just asked the Belgians to extradite Catalan officials, and then the Germans, as President Puigdemont was traveling in Germany, having to square its prior rejection of Catalan independence with its dependence on Catalan influence to stay in office. (BTW, the Belgian and German response was to reject the Spanish extradition request—the Catalan officials in exile had been elected to the European Parliament and were thereby able to avail themselves of diplomatic immunity.)

If there is a path forward, it will begin with a budget. Once they’ve agreed on it and secured approval, they can work on ways to affirm Catalan autonomy while keeping the country intact.

Next Month’s Program: Is Boris Johnson taking note? (;



Chrissy Paniagua integrates the table. Should we add that to the Committee of Ten requirements?

Always on top of the AV System, Mike DeWees saved the day with a stick. Can’t have a dangling cord on the screen during the program!

Does anyone have a guess as to what Tom, Ron, Anita, and John are reacting to below???





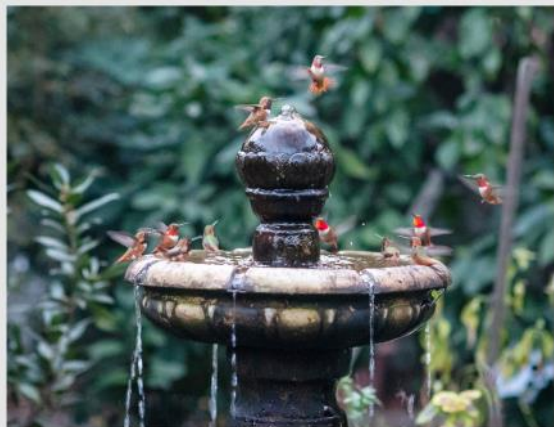
Cameron Troxell
Claremont Rotary
President
2019-2020



UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Feb 7	Bringing High End Cancer Care to our Community Dr. Larry Wagman, City of Hope
Feb 14	4-Way Speech Contest
Feb 19-21	Together We Prepare, El Roble Intermediate School (sign up with Rich Laughton)
Feb 28	Unmasking Suicide, Abe Esquibel (Craft talk)

Photo of the Week



Bathing Beauties

Photo by Steve Schenck



I understand that humming is good for reducing stress

Hmmmm!

zzzz



Bacon Bits

Let's fill up the pig!

On line:

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/Policies are posted for member access on DACdb

February Birthdays

Anna Torres 2/9
Pat Hauducoeur 2/11
John Allen 2/12
Corina Christiansen & Anita Hughes 2/16
Bernadette Kendall 2/17
Ian Standley 2/18
Roger House & MJ Neault 2/23



Notes: Mike Dewees (meeting), Jim Lehman (program). Most Photos: Peter Weinberger
The Claremont Rotary Club meets at the Claremont DoubleTree on Foothill at 12:10pm

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
Jim Lehman
Steve Schenck
Chris Shaner
Harry Sparrow
Peter Weinberger
Buff Wright, editor