



# the CLARIFIER

CLAREMONT ROTARY NEWSLETTER

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Claremont Rotary Year 92 | Week 27 | July 1, 2020

## Program: The Debunking of President Cameron Cameron Troxell A Derivative Work presented in Several Intervals

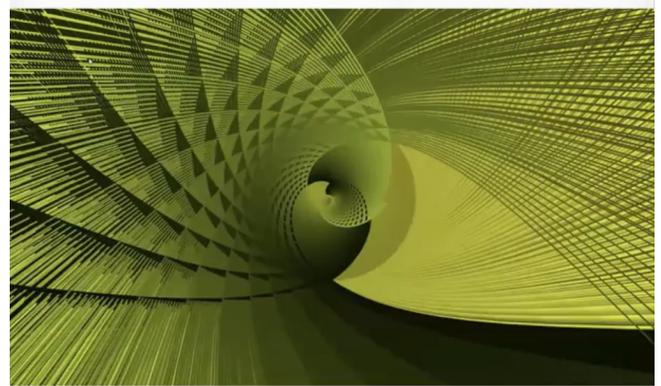
Submitted by the Claremont Rotary Playas

You had to have been there — or watched the video to understand the debunking of Professor-President Cameron Troxell. But here's as faithful a rendition as is fit to print.

At 6:00 on the evening of July 1, the Rotary Club of Claremont gathered on Zoom to observe the annual ritual of debunking the Club President before the august Past Presidents (PP) vote on whether he should be admitted to their ranks. Immediate **PP and MC Ron Coleman** first sent the members off to several breakout rooms to consider the fate of President **Cameron Troxell**. Returning, **MC Ron Coleman** called the meeting to order, reminding people of zoom protocols, including having their libations and snacks at hand. The debunking started at 6:30, with the honorable Professor and President Cameron Troxell decked out in Professorial garb and quaking in his shiny wingtips.



A slide appeared, which mesmerized the crowd, making it more likely they might survive the evening. Cameron, asked to tell us all what the gyrating shapes were, was also caught in a stare, like a student who forgot his homework. In the background for subliminal measure, was the repeating phrase youwilllikethis. Cameron couldn't name it, but said he liked it!



you will like this you will like this you will like this you will like this you will like this

And so it began.... Cue Music (Ride of the Valkyries starts in the background)

Invited guests ostensibly included Geraldo Rivera, Guy Smiley, Musical Guest: Twisted Sister, with Special Guest Appearances by former Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger and One Unindicted Co-Conspirator. The only Guaranteed Guests: the ever present annual Mighty Creative Claremont Rotary Players!

Since we're a singing club, it seemed appropriate to begin with another musical video introduction, produced by **Mike DeWees**. Fade to **The Troxell Bunch**, starring Cameron's Management Team. (found on the recording at 6:05)

**Continued on more pages than you might imagine!**

### LAST WEEK'S MEETING ONLINE *submitted by Buff Wright*

[Here is the link](#) to the recording of the debunking on July 1. (The preview says it all, no need to download.) It was quite fun and hilarity ran throughout. As always, thanks to those who participated, brought guests, and shared in virtual fellowship.

### INSIDE

ALL DEBUNKING, ALL THE TIME

EVENTS, BIRTHDAYS, BITS' THOUGHTS P.6



## The Four Way Test

of the things we think, say or do

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?

Here's a story, of a Rotary club  
 That was doing good in Claremont and the world  
 Every member's heart of gold was like their president's  
 Then a tragic thing occurred.

Here's a story, of a man named Cameron  
 Who was busy with a full life of his own  
 Then he became the club's new president  
 His leadership was shown.

Til that one day, when the whole world shut down.  
 And he knew they needed more than gloom and doom.  
 That this group must somehow stay a family.  
 And that's the way we all became the club that Zooms.

The Troxell Bunch, the club that Zooms.  
 That's the way we all became the club that Zooms.

There was thunderous (muted) applause, and gales of laughter from the (unmuted) Troxell family were heard by all. We moved along to a much more serious subject.

**MC Ron** reminded the assembled squares that Cameron is a professor of mathematics. The debunking committee had hoped to make that our theme tonight, but since all of us are mathematically challenged, **Harry Sparrow** feared attempting that would exponentially increase the likelihood of a less than positive outcome. So, we had to devise a new equation for the debunking. Our new calculus was to identify a number of prime examples of things Cameron has done this year. We divided these into categories and then integrated them into a sequence that we hoped would add, not subtract from the fun of this evening. Admittedly, some of the skits are derivative, but we think they will multiply the odds of our success. If this doesn't work, I suppose we will have to eat humble 3.14159...

Continuing, Ron presented a 12 page paper for recitation that **PP Roger House** gave us on the mathematics behind pipe organ construction. To a unanimous declaration: NOOOOO!!!, Ron tossed the pages off camera and labored on.

As we know, Cameron always had the Four Way Test in every meeting. So here we go. All slowly recited the Four-Way Test as we are wont to do on screen.

Next up, let's take Cameron into the classroom to demonstrate his teaching methods. Please take us through this problem:

### DO THE MATH

<p>Let <math>x=y</math>. Then</p> $x - y + y = y$ $x - y + y \quad y$ $\text{-----} = \text{---}$ $x - y \quad x - y$ $y \quad y$ $1 + \text{---} = \text{---}$ $x - y \quad x - y$ <p style="text-align: center;"><b>1 equals 0</b></p>	<p>Now we know that <math>1 = 1</math>, so add the following three equations together:</p> $1 = 0$ $1 = 1$ $1 = 1$ <p style="font-size: small;">On the right is 1+1, and on the left is 3 ones, and 3 ones make 3.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>3 equals 2</b></p>
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Cameron was at a loss, though he KNOWS  $3 = 2$ . The class, Rotary Players all, rudely boo'd his efforts to explain. Ron, clearly underwhelmed, turned to the place all students end up after class to post feedback about their professors, **Berate My Professor**. On the website:

Student Chris: "Better than Sominex and included in the tuition"

Student Harry: "He's a few variables short of an equation"

Student Bobby woke up: "The class is endless. I learned a lot about infinity"

An animated Student Bernadette: "Professor Troxell is a super nice guy, but I have no idea what he's saying."

The Four Way Test was offered up again, **PP John Tulac** said "Hey, it's a long program, we don't have time for this. Ron ran it anyway, read at chipmunk speed.

Proceeding apace, Ron exclaimed that we are delighted to have Geraldo Rivera with us tonight to present the exclusive expose, **The Secret Life of Cameron Troxell**. Here's Geraldo! Most of us noticed that it was a cheap imitation of Geraldo who showed up, despite the intent to apply the Four Way Test to the Debunking. To deri-

sive laughter, a mustachioed John Tulac said, "What!?!?!? Gerald isn't here. I'm doing it. Get over it."

Wannabe Geraldo (WG): Good evening. Tonight we expose the Secret Life of Cameron Troxell. We begin with photographic evidence of Cameron's first teaching job in grade school.

Here is Sister Mary Cameron in action (a video of Sister Mary Elephant played. We'll spare you a description.)

And now, please welcome our special guest, Cameron's mother, Clare Troxell. Good evening and welcome, Clare.

(Clare) "Good evening, um.... Are you supposed to be Geraldo Rivera or Che Guevara? Nobody told me. I can't tell with that mustache." WG: I'm Geraldo. Moving right along, let's look at some early pictures.

As we can plainly see, Cameron has a twin brother Chris. So, Clare, how did you tell them apart?



"I tried eeny meeny miney moe for a while. As you can see, it wasn't so easy when they were little. But in these, Cameron was the ham on the right in the baby picture and on the left in the baseball picture. Today, however, I have no problem telling them apart."

WG: Why is that? Clare responded, "Cameron is a Professor. Chris, Father Chris, is a Confessor."

WG: I see. Even so, what's the difference? Clare answered in rap: "If you step inside the small confessional, there you'll find the man whose got religion' all tell you if your sin's original. That's Chris."

WG: And Cameron? "Well, sad to say, when you step inside a classroom, you can never tell whether they learn anything."

WG: OK, just a couple of more questions. Could you explain this? He seems to have a propensity for dressing up as furry animals.



Clare acknowledged, "Cameron has always liked dressing up."

WG: I see. One more picture. Can you tell us about this? "No, I can't," hanging her head. "No one can. We really tried to keep it secret." A round of applause was heard!



WG: Scary, scary, scary. Well, Thank you, Clare.

WG moved on to disclose that it is widely believed that Cameron is musically talented. However, we have actual proof of lip syncing instead of actual singing. (showing a music clip of Milli Vanilli).

And there was more!



*Cameron as Twisted Sister's lead singer Dee Snider and U2's Bono*

The sound (predictably) didn't work as it did in the dress rehearsal. So we pressed on.

WG: Be afraid. Be very afraid

And now, it's his turn. Let's hear from Professor Troxell himself. Dr. Troxell, what is this scholarly publication paper about?

**Computing the partition function for graph homomorphisms with multiplicities** WG: Are you homomorphic? You better not be. Cameron: "Why, yes I am!" ([if you need a definition.](#)) And Multiplicities? Does this paper address gender fluidity? "Haha." And these days there's an issue with Spectrahedra, as illustrated in this next paper.

**Approximations of convex bodies by polytopes and by projections of spectrahedra** Why would these only be approximations? Isn't math precise? Could you give us an example? Who in our club has a convex body? Cam said, "Why, I'm sitting next to one." We trust that's a complement!

And finally, **Explicit constructions of centrally symmetric k-neighborly polytopes and large strictly antipodal sets.** What is explicit about it? Is this pornographic math? A lot of curves and straight lines perhaps? Cameron remarked, "Explicit is just a type of equation – lots of symmetry. I can't really explain it. Isn't math amazing?"

WG wrapped up the scholarly interlude saying "I'm going to go back to Berate my Professor. You're clearly not staying up with scholarly papers during the pandemic!"

WG Rivera closed: And that's it. Tune in next week when we resume our search for Jimmy Hoffa. We ransack the offices of the Claremont Courier to find him. I'm Geraldo Rivera and you're not. Good night. And watch yourselves.

**Ron:** It's time again for the Four Way Test [very fast chipmunks did it for us] And now its time for **What's My Fine?** A Trivia Quiz Show. **PP Bonita Ramos**, Cameron and three other contestants representing the Claremont Rotary Players stepped up. Bonita explained that the loser would pay the Polio Pig for the sum represented by the winners' winnings, and showed the categories. Cameron went first.

**Cameron:** What in the world for 100. *Which is loudest animal on earth.* He guessed a whale, a good guess, but the answer was *Sperm Whale*. Not good enough. Points go to the Players.

**PP Anita Hughes:** What in the world for 200. *What is a Skvader?* A rabbit with wings. Yes!



Rotary	What in the World	Math	Who Said
100	100	100	100
200	200	200	200
300	300	300	300
400	400	400	400

**Cameron:** Math for 300. *How does math support self?* Cameron suggested, suspenders? algebra? No, it's Brackets! Points to the Players.

**PP Chuck Carpenter:** What in the world for 300. *What city with a population of just short of 100,000, was the home of Greg Evans, the author of the comic strip "Cathy"?* San Marcos down near San Diego. Wow! Right!

**Cameron:** Who said? for 300. *Some mathematician, I believe, has said that "true pleasure lies not in the discovery of truth, but in the search for it."* DesCartes? No! Tolstoy! (was

he a mathematician?)

**Director Chris Shaner:** Rotary for 400. *How many Rotary clubs have Tokyo in their name?* "69!"

With the Players now at 1400 points, Cameron has a challenge ahead of him.

**Cameron:** What in the world for 400. What's the 6<sup>th</sup> largest city in Oregon and what is it known for? (Cameron knows all the cities above 100,000 from the 2010 census!) "Hmmm Beaverton, Portland, Salem, Eugene, Bend, Gresham. How about Tillamook – known for ice cream." Nope! It was Beaverton, known for Nike headquarters! (there followed an unseemly discussion about getting it right out of the gate.)

**PP Anita Hughes:** Who said? For 400. *The highest moments in the life of a mathematician are the first few moments after one has proved the result, but before one finds the mistake.* "Hmmm. de Morgan?" Yes! For a total of 1800 pts

**Cameron:** Rotary for 300. *What was Rotary International's first motto and when was it approved?* President Cam guessed "Service Above Self in 1921." Oh, no, sorry! You should know this as President, Cam! "He Profits Most Who Serves Best" was approved at the second Rotary Convention, held in Portland, Oregon in August 1911. In 1950, "Service Above Self" and "He Profits Most Who Serves Best" were formally approved to be the official mottoes of Rotary in the Convention in Detroit. In 1989, the Council on Legislation established "Service Above Self" as the principal motto of Rotary.

**MC Ron interrupted.** I'm tired of all this winning. Let's bring this game to an end. Cameron owes \$1000 for Polio Plus. Wow! That was fun! But it's time again for the Four Way Test.

All: NOOOOOOOO!!!!

Ron: OK then, Why does an obtuse angle wear shorts and flipflops?

Don't know, Cameron?

Because it's over 90 degrees. Rimshot.

And now, we'll play **Three to Five Truths.** President-elect **Buff Wright** noted that Cameron scheduled Three Truths and a Lie all year, to complete the process begun by Bonita Ramos in her year as President. Let's see if he was paying attention. The following are all Truths. Who said them?

1. I took a three-day hike up Mt. Kilimanjaro and reached the top of the crater at 18,750 feet. *John Howland*

**The Four Way Test**  
of the things we think, say or do

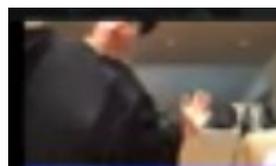
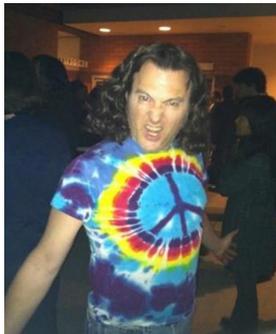
1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
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2. I played E flat alto sax in the high school band and marched in the Rose Parade. *Jerry Goldman*
3. I played tennis for 15 years on the USTA and WTA circuits, was ranked 4.0 and was captain of my teams for 10 of those years. *Susie Ilsley*
4. When I was in the Philippines teaching management development for Bank of America, there was a typhoon that hit the islands and killed over 2,000 people. *Chris Shaner*
5. When I was in high school I played basketball against both Magic Johnson and Kevin McHale. *Jim Marchant*

Cameron, known for his extraordinary memory, got all of them right without hesitation. We think he studied all the Clarifiers to be ready for the big test. (or he may have seen the answers earlier when there was a technical glitch)

Back to Ron, now seriously tired of all the winning. And now the moment you have been waiting for: **Claremont Rotary Idol!**

Cameron is now going to sing for us as he has a thing about imitating Rock Stars. We've chosen him to do "A Little Help from my Friends" and here to help him sing along is Joe Cocker. The Beluchi bit was a sight to behold, though there were sound issues. Technological difficulty led Cameron to volunteer a rendition of what he did at MtSac instead. With a nervous giggle, Barbara got out of the way for her own safety. Cameron didn't endeavor to sing but his daughter Kellen cued up the song. Cam did a persuasive job of Joe Cocker in professorial regalia. He seemed to be flying around like the singing nun! Too bad it was in such a small frame!



**MC Ron:** Let's ask our Judges (soundboard) what they think. Simon Cowell: "As I sit here, I'm trying to think of something nice to say, but I can't" And we are delighted to have former governor Arnold Schwarzenegger with us. Governor? "That's disgusting". And finally, another famous political voice. "The American Dream is dead." Audience, what do you think? Lots of thumbs up!

Great great, so next we have.....uh oh, the past presidents are starting to wake up. If you don't want more jokes, better unmute!

**PP Paul Steffen**, tonight's Past Presidents' Chair: We don't have time for this! When is this thing going to end?

**PP John Tulac:** Well that is a hard



question to answer, mathematically speaking. The closest thing I can say is Xeno's paradox. Cameron, would you explain? "Yes! I know it! An archer shoots arrow at target and it must pass through an infinite number of half way points. So it never really gets to the target."

**PP Bobby Hyde:** This could be endless? How could this be endless?

**PP John Tulac:** It's like a sermon that seems to last an eternity.

**PP Anita Hughes:** Or a lawyer's boring closing argument?

**PP John Tulac:** No, that's more like hell, but that's not important right now

**PP Paul Steffen:** We don't have time for this. We're going to vote now. Is anyone in favor of letting him in? Looking around the screen, he saw lots of electronic thumbs down.

**PP Bonita Ramos** simply said NO! I say No because he owes the sergeants a lot of time for squeezing us all year!

**PP Randy Prout:** I agree. And the singing was a disaster during the Zoom meetings. He's a musician. He's got talent. He just obviously needs more time to figure it out.

**PP Paul Steffen:** What about our PPP loan? We offered Cameron but the bank rejected him.

**PP Lee Goldstein:** I think he hasn't done a full year. It's not his fault about the coronavirus, but Zoom meetings? Really??? He owes us at least four more months. *Then* maybe Buff could take over.

**PP Chuck Carpenter:** Is there any precedent for that?

**PP Paul Steffen:** What does the Book of Bell say? (**Nelson Bell** was a long time member of the Club who wrote all the rules. His name is invoked when things are at a standstill.)

**PP John Tulac, Esquire:** Hang on, I'm looking.... Well, the Book is digitized now but there's no reference to Zoom meetings, obviously. However the *force majeure* clause is quite clear, if we invoke the coronavirus. There is no provision for serving only a couple of months. He would have to do a whole other year.

**All PP's:** NO! NO!! NO!!!

**PP John Tulac:** Well, Cameron has done some good things during the year, if that will help you decide. He brought in Barbara as a member, we grew our membership by 17, we got not one but two district grants!

And we gave lots of money to help feed the hungry.

**PP Paul Steffen** (clearly exhausted), OK one more time, we can do this, because no one wants to see Cameron do another Zoom meeting. **PP Jim Lehman? PP Jerry Tambe?** Votes started changing to thumbs up, including holdouts **PP Marla Lefler, PP Ian Standley, PP Dennis Smith, and PP Roger House.** Quick count...all thumbs appear to be where they belong. OK Cameron, Congratulations and welcome to the Past President's Club.

A final picture of Four Way Test appears as Ron gave thanks to Cameron for a job well done.

There ensued a new zoom tradition, the throwing of the pins. Barbara caught Cameron's and pinned it on his robe. "Wow, it says past president! It's OVER!"

Another pin was tossed to Buff who caught pin with no assistance. Congratulations!

**IPP Cameron** offered thanks to everybody. "I leaned on a lot of you as I developed in leadership. Ours is a wonderful club, so welcoming. This has been a great experience over the past few years and all 13 years in Rotary. We accomplished so much this year, despite the tough times. We really came together. I look forward to more years in Rotary with you."

**PP Ron Coleman** called our attention to a note from Past DG **Luanne Arredondo** who was in the house today! The Rotary Club of Claremont has earned recognition for 2019-20:

- 1) Gold patch for Uniting People
- 2) Gold patch for Taking action
- 3) Platinum Governor distinction patch
- 4) RI Rotary Citation with Platinum RI Presidents Distinction and

The Club is in the running for the District Governor's Bell. We got the highest possible achievement across the board!!!!

This is the legacy of **President Cameron Troxell** as he led us through a crazy year.

**President Buff Wright** took a turn in the speaker box. "It seems like only yesterday that I was hanging out in Hamburg last year with Barbara and Cameron... we had a good time when neither of us was president, didn't we?"



While some members didn't make it onto zoom this spring, we had great attendance. We welcomed 17 new members during the year, including our first zoom installation. It looks like we'll be on Zoom for a while longer. This year's RI theme is Rotary Opens Opportunities. We'll take advantage of this crisis and I hope that each of you takes the opportunity to do something that inspires you.

Our next meeting is July 10, the Club Assembly. At this meeting, new members will have a chance to learn more about Rotary and other members will get a refresher. We have a chance to think about how to take advantage of this unusual time to do some good in our community and around the world."

**MC Ron** gave thanks to the committee. Harry Sparrow, Frank Bedoya, Mike DeWees, Pat Hauducoeur, Anita Hughes, Bernadette Kendall, John Tulac, Chris Shaner, Bonita Ramos, Nona Tirre and the rest of the Claremont Rotary Players. Also thanks to Cameron's family members: Kellen, Chris, Claire, and sister Kiera.

The meeting was adjourned, but several opted to stay a while longer to hear more stories about Cameron!

A good time was had by all! Thanks, Cameron!



