

the CLARifier

CLAREMONT ROTARY NEWSLETTER

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Claremont Rotary Year 91 | Week 7 | February 14, 2020

Program: Four-Way Test Speech Contest

submitted by Lark Gerry

Contest Chair and CHS Principal **Brett O'Connor** introduced the annual 4-Way Speech Contest, just one of many youth projects sponsored by our Club in partnership with Rotary District 5300. This year the theme is *Rotary Connects the World*. Students shared perspectives on the Four-Way Test, based on Herb Taylor's famous statement on business ethics that we have adopted in Rotary.



Of the things we think, say or do:

Is it the TRUTH?

Is it FAIR to all concerned?

Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIP?

Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

There were three contestants all from Claremont High School:

Alex Abarca, a senior, will attend Yale University, hopes to become a lawyer specializing in government.

Melissa Glover, a senior, plans to attend a university here in California to study psychology, political science and/or American sign language.

Maltin Tocani, a junior, whose short term goal is to graduate from high school, long term goal is medical school.

Each of the participants gave impassioned, well organized speeches that reflected their personalities as they integrated the four way test, and it was evident that they all worked hard to prepare for this competition. While the judges deliberated, CHS faculty member **David Chamberlain** spoke about the remarkable scope of the Speech and Debate program. He has also started a debate program at El Roble Intermediate School.



Our team of judges chose **Melissa Glover** as first runner-up, and **Alex Abarca** as the winner of this round. Alex will advance to compete with winners from other regions of our District. A big thank you goes to our judges **John Tulac**, **Bridget Healy**, **Kebokile Dengu-Zvobgo** and speech timer **John Howland**.



A bit of history on the 4-Way Test: From the earliest days of the organization, Rotarians were concerned with promoting high ethical standards in their professional lives. One of the world's most widely printed and quoted statements of business ethics is The 4-Way Test, which was created in 1932 by Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor (who later served as RI president) when he was asked to take charge of a company that was facing bankruptcy. This 24 word test for employees to follow in their business and professional lives became the guide for sales, production, advertising, and all relations with dealers and customers, and the survival of the company is credited to this simple philosophy. Adopted by Rotary in 1943, The 4-Way Test has been translated into more than a hundred languages and published in thousands of ways.



CLAREMONT ROTARY: THE MEETING

submitted by Harry Sparrow

Cameron opened the meeting and asked **Randy Prout** to lead us in the "Smile" song. Cameron then asked **Betty Sheldon** to lead the group in the pledge of Allegiance. Randy returned to the front of the room. He said that instead of singing a patriotic song, we should sing Happy Birthday, because so many members have birthdays this month.

WELCOME GUESTS

Susie Ilsley introduced Alexander (aka Xander) Ruiz who was making his third visit to the Club.

Kebokile Dengu-Zvobgo introduced Ruth Muture from Kenya who has been a member of a Rotary Club in Nairobi.

Buff Wright introduced her sister and brother-in-law, Kathleen and Milt Banner.

John Howland introduced his wife Naomi.

Marc Winter introduce his wife Janet (not pictured).

Bobby introduced two familiar visiting Rotarians from the Edmonds Daybreakers Club, **Dan and Tressa Kentner**.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks to the Best BETT committee members for attending grant ceremonies at two more schools.

There is no noon meeting on March 6. Stay tuned for details about our Spring Social, which will be on the 6th or 7th.

Book your Westin Pasadena hotel room now for District Assembly/Conference on May 1-3. (Information at the [District 5300 website](#).) Ask for the Rotary rate (\$169) These meetings are a great way to learn more and be more inspired about Rotary.

Together We Prepare is coming February 19, 20, and 21. There will be no noon meeting on February 21. We still need some volunteers for Friday. Bonita Ramos offered a CPR training session after today's meeting.



THOUGHT OF THE DAY Roger House



Roger said that the thought for the day was inspired by President Cameron's focus on the 4-way test. Roger said he wanted to focus on "Is it the Truth" and tell the "real truth" about Valentine's day.

Valentine's Day started with the Romans: According to history.com

there are two theories about the origin of the holiday. The first is that the day derives from Lupercalios, a raucous Roman festival on February 15th where men stripped naked and spanked young maidens in the hopes of upping their fertility. On the less sensational side, the second theory is that while the Roman Emperor Claudius II (not to be confused with the infamous Claudius of "I, Claudius" fame) was trying to bolster his army, he forbade young men to marry, because apparently single men made better soldiers. In the spirit of love, St. Valentine defied the ban and performed secret marriages. For his disobedience, Valentine was executed on February 14.

Passing out Valentines is a 600-year old tradition: Each year, kids in America pass out Valentine's cards to their classmates. According to history.com, the oldest record of a Valentine was a poem Charles Duke of Orleans wrote to his wife when he was imprisoned in the Tower of London in 1415. A note Roger didn't share as he was telling us the truth about Valentine's Day, is that one of the oldest surviving Valentine's cards was recently auctioned in London and sold for £5800.

Wearing your heart on your sleeve is more than just a phrase: In the Middle Ages, young men and women drew names to see who their Valentine would be. According to the Smithsonian, they would wear the name pinned to their sleeve for one week so that everyone would know their supposed true feelings.

Candy hearts were originally medical lozenges: In 1847, Boston pharmacist Oliver Chase invented a machine that simplified the lozenge production process resulting in the first candy-making machine. After identifying an opportunity to revolutionize the candy business, Chase shifted his focus to candy production with Necco wafers.

SERGEANT TIME – FOLKS WERE “NICKED” WITH FINES

Sergeant Nick Quackenbos started off fining **Paul Steffen**. This could have been dubbed the “irony” fine. Paul, often fined for being late to the weekly meetings, was fined by Nick for being early to this one. Nick felt it appropriate to remind Paul that he can do it!

Next on the hit list was **Ron Coleman**. Nick noted that Ron had two mentions in recent *Couriers*. One was a letter to the editor and the other was a mention that Ron’s wife, Yvonne, has a new venture. Ron explained that she has opened a sewing studio that caters to adults and children. Ron, of course, couldn’t let the opportunity to tell a joke get past him. “Why does the Norwegian Navy have bar codes on the sides of their ships?...So that when the ships entered ports, they can scan da Navy in.” [rimshot here]. There seemed to be a general accord around the room that this was one of Ron’s best jokes.

Nick then noted that four of our members had been involved in a roadside assistance situation. **Mark Carson, Don Ralls** and **Cameron Troxell** had lent a hand with the changing of a tire after the management committee meeting. However, a certain lawyer, “**John Tulac** would you please stand up,” did nothing more than sit in his car directing his headlights onto the scene. John protested, but was fined nonetheless.

Nick fined **Karen Sapio** for an article that appeared in the [Feb. 14 Courier](#).

Nick then asked **Roger House** and **Harry Sparrow** to stand up. Nick asked Harry to explain a situation that he and Roger had been involved with. Harry said that there had been a “disturbing the peace” action at a local gym, Crunch, that very morning. On Fridays a dance exercise session is conducted in a room just off the main part of the gym. The instructor always plays the music so loudly that it drowns out the music in the main room. There is a large door, similar to a garage door, between the two rooms. Roger invited Harry to join him in closing the door. This led to a loud confrontation with the instructor. For this, both were fined, Roger for the initiation of the action and Harry for ratting Roger out. Nick then said he would have fined Roger regardless, because his thought of the day was too long.

Steve Schenck was then asked to stand up and make an announcement. Steve said he was happy to pay a fine to announce that his daughter-in-law is pregnant with what will be Steve and Barbara’s first grandchild.

Fine-ally, Nick asked **Buff Wright** to stand up and tell us what she had learned in the President Elect Training Session (PETS). Buff said that she had learned about many new and impactful projects being implemented by other clubs in the region and this added further impetuous to actions she is hoping to take in the upcoming year of her presidency.

3 Truths and a Lie

Today’s Contestant: Marc Winter

1. I played high school football in my hometown of Bend, Oregon. In an interview with the local newspaper, my coach stated that I possessed “deceptive speed”. Afterwards, I realized he meant that I was a lot slower than I looked.



2. In 1969 I attended McNary High School in Salem and played in a rock band. Our most memorable gig was at the Oregon State Prison. I still have a poster promoting the event, created by an inmate named Gary Gilmore. Cameron got in a fun comment with this one. He wanted to know if the band had played *The Executioner’s Song*.

3. I spent eight years working as a senior trial attorney for the Office of Chief Council, Internal Revenue Service, Los Angeles District. At one point I defended the IRS in Tax Court in a case brought by the actor Charles Bronson.



Would you like to take on leadership of committee or project next year? Let Buff know about your interest!

4. I met my wife, Janet, while riding on a Los Angeles City bus.

Marc did a really good job with this, because multiple people made the remark that they all sounded true. The first guess was that 1 was a lie, but, no, it was true. Then, 2, but it, too was true. The lie turned out to be the nearly true number 4. Marc did meet Janet on a bus, but it was the Sant Monica Blue Line. Marc said that Janet would never have given her number to a random guy on a Los Angeles City Bus.

Bobby Hyde's Corner: The Presidential Chain Continues

Jim Marchant, Our New P.E.E.E.!

Our club's enthusiasm and momentum is generally at a very high level, a tribute to the members of our club. Club enthusiasm was on extra high octane a couple of weeks ago when Past President Ron Coleman announced the club's newest member of the presidential chain. Jim Marchant. Wow! Those votes do count! Recently I had the privilege of interviewing Jim to find out what makes him tick and makes him an excellent choice to lead our Rotary club as president in the year 2022-2023. As most members of our club know (at least all past presidents do), our presidents traditionally serve just one one-year term. So it is very important for our club to have mechanisms in place to develop future leaders of our club. Like the PEEEs before him, Jim begins his training as Treasurer this year and Secretary next year before he is elevated to Vice President and President in 2022. Jim joined our club in June 2011. We can thank Jim Lehman who convinced Marchant that he would make a good Rotarian and sponsored him for membership. Jim has been an active member in our club since he joined.

I find Jim to be a compassionate human being who is both a "giver" and a "connector" in his interactions with society and humanity. Jim has been a part of the Pitzer College administration for the past 25 years. He has held positions at Pitzer that range from Vice President for Student Affairs (2001-2013) where he was the longest serving VP ever at that position at the college, to Executive Director of Advancement (2013-2019), to his current position as Vice President for Strategic Initiatives and Community Relations (June 2019 to present). Jim has done quite a bit of event planning and fund raising for Pitzer, once even putting himself up for a tattoo in 2006 and again, with a touch up in 2012 as a challenge for a Pitzer Alumni fundraiser. His current role at Pitzer is a perfect fit -- community relations with our locality and Pitzer College. Jim has a passion for helping people.

I was curious if Jim had any vision or goal yet of what he would like to see develop in our club knowing that he had plenty of time to prepare and modify any answer he might give. Without a hitch Jim replied that a) he wanted to develop strong relationship with the college and the community, b) drive membership up and focus on diversity in the club, and c) see where we can develop strong mentor ship for members in the club, both new members and existing members. Finally, I asked Jim if he had any special talent that we didn't know about or he didn't reveal in his [3 Truths and a Lie in January](#). Well, did anyone know that Jim is a professional sommelier? So if anyone needs a helping hand in that department, just call Jim Marchant!

Jim earned his BA from the University of Redlands and his MA from the Claremont Graduate University. He has raised his family here in Claremont and knows the community very

2019-2020 Rotary Foundation News Update

John Tulac recapped some important foundation news. John drew us in by saying, "Once upon a time...once upon a time." He commented on how when we were children, we always knew something fun was about to happen when we heard those words. The connection with the foundation is that this year the club received a \$1500 district grant for a literacy program. We will use the money to acquire books which we will then donate to the senior centers in town so that the seniors can read to children. The target age range is 2 through 5 years of age. John then read aloud part of the book *Mister Dog*; in the story it is mentioned that the dog likes strawberries and Cameron immediately asked, "Chocolate covered?" (This was a reference to the chocolate covered strawberries Bonita had brought to the meeting.) John stopped midway through the book and said we would have to read the rest for ourselves to find out how it ends. He then asked if each of us would make a list of our favorite books to be used as a guide in the buying of books. When asked by **Don Ralls**, John noted that book donations will be accepted.



John told us that we also have a District Grant for the CHAP program. Our money is being used to improve the nutrition element of CHAP by way of the meals that are provided with Rotary volunteers.

Finally, John said that our club's International grant committee has made a recommendation which the board will take up soon. We have an opportunity to support a water project for a Maasai village in an arid region of Tanzania. A place to drill a well that is only about a mile and a half from the village school has been located. The project will include not just drilling the well, but also running a pipe from the well to the school. Our money along with a substantial donation from an individual elsewhere in the US will total \$22000 and will fully fund the project. John reminded us that the club has had two previous African water projects.

John wrapped up by saying that work was already underway for the projects that will be funded during Buff's tenure as president. Continuity is important for successful club projects.

well. Jim's familiarity with Rotary comes a bit from his dad, who was a Rotarian late in life. Jim saw first-hand how Rotary had a positive effect on his dad.



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

UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Feb 19-21	Together We Prepare, El Roble Intermediate School (sign up with Rich Laughton)
Feb 28	Unmasking Suicide, Abe Esquibel (Craft talk)
March 6	Social — TBD
March 13	Treasury of Claremont Music, David Shearer



A close-up photograph of several vibrant pink and red roses in bloom. The petals are layered, showing a gradient from light pink to deep red. The roses are set against a background of dark green foliage, which is slightly out of focus. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the petals.



Taste of Claremont
tickets are available
online now at [http://
www.tasteofclaremo
nt.org/](http://www.tasteofclaremont.org/).



Bacon Bits

Let's fill up the pig!

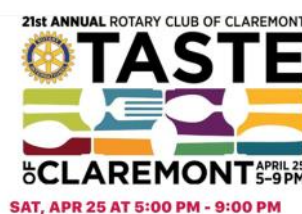


Photo by Steve Schenck

Information about the club and back editions of this newsletter are always available on DACdb and www.claremontRotary.org

www.facebook.com/RotaryofClaremont

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

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: Harry Sparrow (meeting), Lark Gerry (program). Photos: Steve Schenck
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*

