



the CLARIFIER

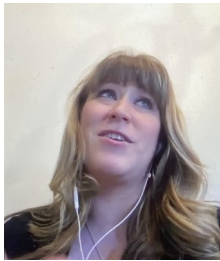
CLAREMONT ROTARY NEWSLETTER

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Claremont Rotary Year 91 | Week 19 | May 8, 2020

Program: Kami Grosvenor, Inland Valley Hope Partners

Submitted by Jim Lehman



President Cameron Troxell introduced Kami Grosvenor, a native of Ontario who graduated Summa Cum Laude from Chapman University in 2004 and now is CEO of Inland Valley Hope Partners. She began by thanking Rotary for its ongoing support over the years, including last fall's painting project and our recent major financial support.

Hope Partners has for over 50 years been assisting low- and no-income families in eastern LA and western San Bernardino Counties, with 5 food banks in Pomona, Ontario, Claremont, and San Dimas, two once a month food distribution centers in Chino and Upland. Hope Partners offers housing assistance through Our House Family Shelter, which targets general families experiencing dislocations brought on by job loss, medical emergencies, and other circumstances where the holes in the social safety net leave fellow citizens with unmet but obvious need. Hope Partners also has a rapid rehousing program to get homeless people back into stable living situations, and as funding permits, a rent assistance program to prevent the dislocation of homelessness in the first place. Another endeavor is the Healthy Living Programs, including the Pomona Valley Certified Farmer's Market, and Amy's Farm in Ontario, and a backyard gleaning program to collect surplus fruit from local residents' properties, all with an eye to assuring that low income households have access to fresh fruits and vegetables.

These programs support about 70,000 people a year, and are undertaken by a staff of 11, three of them part-time, supplemented by hundreds of volunteers. And then, in the middle of March, with schools and businesses shutting down and shelter-

Rotary Announcements

The first Virtual Rotary International Convention will be online **June 20-26**. [Watch for details!](#)

The **District Assembly training** will be offered online June 9 for Board members, and on Thursdays June 11-25 from 6-7 pm-in various subject areas. Ask **Buff Wright** for details or watch this space!

President Cameron recognized the passing of long time Club member **Suzanne Christian** and highlighted all the work she had done over the years for Polio Plus. Several members shared memories including **Bobby Hyde** and **Bernadette Kendall**. Services will be announced when friends and family members are able to assemble.

Bridget Healy announced that seven Claremont High School Interact Seniors qualified to receive Honor Cords.

Next week we will begin discussing possible alternatives to a Fall Taste of Claremont. All ideas are welcome

-in-place orders being issued, Hope Partners lost a huge part of its volunteer force—seniors, the population that is most at risk in this pandemic. In the span of a few days, 90% of the volunteer army stopped reporting for duty, a massive hit. Fortunately, part-time staff were able to increase their

Program continued: page 4

LAST WEEK'S MEETING ONLINE *submitted by Cameron Troxell*

Here is the [link](#) to the recording of the video meeting from Friday, May 8. Thank you to speaker Kami Grosvenor who informed us about the needs and service of Inland Valley Hope Partners.. Thanks as always to those who participated, brought guests, and shared in virtual fellowship. **Watch your email for a video link for the meetings on Friday noon. All are welcome!**

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Rotary: the Meeting

submitted by Mike DeWees

President Cameron kicked off the meeting at a safe distance after preliminary chatter and greetings. Many people joined at 12 on the dot and there were a few minutes of off screen talk and instruction on how to mute Zoom, a virtual necessity!



Welcome Guests & Visiting Rotarian

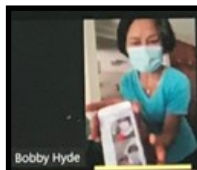
Rotarian Randy Pote, PDG 2015-2016. Randy is the chair of the 2021 Rose Parade Float Committee.

The song for the day was a karaoke version of *America the Beautiful*...did it go any better with a bouncing ball to guide us? Watch the video and decide for yourself at 13:30 minute point. Being a singing club on Zoom is a challenge!

Preliminary Conversation

Cameron gave a shout-out to **Buff** for an amazing Clarifier. She in turned shouted out thanks to **Jim Lehman** and **Lark Gerry** for their contributions last week.

We learned from **Bobby Hyde** that Katherine is home from New York City, as reported in last week's Clarifier, and Bobby confirmed her harrowing experience.



Sylvia Whitlock played with her virtual background with interesting results.



Past district governor Randy Pote joined us with a Ron Coleman style hat. Turned out it was a generous gift from a pretty German bartender.



NEED A MAKEUP?

New York Rotary Club: May 14 and 28 meetings

Several of us attended the May 14 meeting of the NY6 Rotary Club. Interesting speaker, as always. The title: Parasitology vs COVID-19, with Dr. Andrea Crisanti, professor of molecular parasitology at Imperial College London. He pioneered the molecular biology of the human malaria vector *Anopheles gambiae* and has made a number of important scientific contributions that advanced the genetic and molecular knowledge of the malaria parasite and its mosquito vector. Good to know!!

The Club's net zoom meeting is **May 28: Trauma Followed by Recovery** with Arjan Erkel and Ferry Zandvliet, both from Rotterdam, who separately suffered remarkable traumas. Arjan and Ferry combined forces and are now inspiring people through the power of the internet during this ongoing corona virus pandemic.

Inspiration of the Day, *submitted by Don Ralls*

Don Ralls gave us 3 things to think about



1. Somewhere, someone else is happy with less than you have.
2. The happiest people don't have the best of everything, they just make the best of everything.
3. A positive attitude may not solve all your problems but it annoys enough people to make it worthwhile

Three Truths and a Lie Bernadette Kendall



1. I grew up on a 20 acre dairy farm in Ontario with my parents, 16 siblings, a twin brother, grandparents, two sets of aunt and uncles, and seven cousins
2. In the late 80's, I was the legislative representative for CAM (California Association of Midwives) and the chair of the state midwifery conference held at Cal Poly Pomona, where 400 midwives gathered to share ideas discuss safe practices and prepare for exams.
3. As a residential loan officer and manager for American Savings Bank in the 90's, my main office in Woodland Hills was destroyed in the 6.7 Northridge earthquake on January 17 1994.
4. I trained for and completed six LA marathons and the Rock and Roll marathon in San Diego in seven consecutive years.

So maybe it was 4 Truths and a Lie but maybe that was appropriate today as the 4th one was the lie...the slacker only did 6 marathons.



Virtual Pig

with Sergeant Susie Ilsley

Susie Isley made her way around the screen picking off people left and right even if they were fined for similar the prior week, just in case no one paid attention.

Buff Wright was first for celebrating a newly born grandson, Leo, up in Portland after many hours of labor...Buff said that she didn't realize grandchildbirth was so tough!



Zoe TeBeau has moved her estate sales online and she is getting a national reach of 15,000 hits on her online estate sales and grateful that she doesn't need to stage anymore. She is also now re-certified as a member of ISA International Society of Appraisers. She thanked Mike DeWees for her nice website that stood up to the review board. (Fine for free advertising)



Sarah Jo and Vadim were fined for their outstanding Craft Talk in the previous week.



John Tulac was nailed for going on too long for the sergeants last week but it turned out he didn't or at least nobody would confirm it publicly.

Anita Hughes was fined for having a new teenager in the house and for granddaughter Mya's acceptance to the University of Boulder Colorado. She will defer for a year until they figure out if she can just phone it in remotely.



Ron Coleman was fined for telling us about "Aging Next" a comprehensive service that can help seniors navigate the sunset years. Ron was also fined for tossing his sushi around last week.



Lark Gerry was recognized for her pre-meeting antics last week.



Everyone was fined for showing animals and children in meetings, including Mark Carson's turtle.

Bobby Hyde was fined for growing a beard overnight



Lynn Childress was fined for not liking puns. So Susie gave her one. "What do you call cheese that doesn't belong to you? Nacho cheese!"



Ron Coleman would have none of that of course and chimed in: "what do you call a cheese all by itself? Prov alone"

Francis Limbe and Randy Pote were fined for looking like Kilroy in their zoom squares last week, and then Mike DeWees was fined for demonstrating Kilroy. (in case you don't know, "Kilroy was here" was a famous World War II graffiti tag.)



Kelly Carson was looking through pictures of her uncle who passed away and was grateful for the laughs.



Don Ralls self confessed to his 44th wedding anniversary. TRULY FINE!

Adnan Aswad told a joke. "Two men from Florida, shocked at prices for alligator shoes, said, "we have tons of alligators in Florida. We'll make a fortune. So they trap one, remarking, "darn, just our luck we got one without shoes."



Cameron did a shout-out for mother's day and much virtual clapping ensued.

Susie Ilsley announced that her husband Ken is giving an art talk with the Maloof Foundation next Friday. Sign up! It's free, except for Susie — she's fined!



Bernadette announced that the Village South Plan will be discussed by the City Council on Tuesday (5/12) and next Friday (5/15), our program will be a presentation on the plan..



The meeting concluded on time with a virtual bell, after several dozen zoom "goodbyes."



Hope Partners, continued

hours, and the office was able to draw in some younger volunteers to offset some of the lost senior hours.

At the same moment volunteer hours were falling, client need was mushrooming, in much the same way that lines were appearing in grocery stores and big box retailers, and basic items were being bought up and hoarded. Hope Partners saw roughly a doubling of client numbers in the second half of March, and of course with social distancing measures that limited the number of people inside their facility at any time, as well as spacing in the queue, they had lines of people stretching around the block and beyond. Pantries that normally would close at 3 pm were still going at 6pm to take care of the crowds. March ended with some 4600 people served, compared to a normal monthly total of 3300-3600, with maybe 3800 in an exceptionally busy season, so there was a sharp upturn in need. About 27% of the clients were there for the first time ever or the first time in this fiscal year. Many of them indicated that they had lost employment because of Covid-19, had had hours dramatically reduced, and the like. April has eased a bit, but still brought 4100 clients, 500-700 more than usual. The numbers may have eased because people have been receiving tax refunds and the economic stimulus payments. Those are one-time payments, so client numbers may surge again as bills mount and earned income lags. It's hard to know what the pattern will be in the coming months as the economy begins to re-open, because even as work begins to resume and businesses reopen, it won't be at the volume it was before the shutdown. Unemployment could go on for quite a while.

At the request of the City of Claremont, the Joslyn Senior Center food pantry has expanded its hours and adjusted them to coincide with senior meal pick-up program. Need has increased in Claremont, but not as dramatically as in other locations.

Not surprisingly, Hope Partners has a backlog of supplies on order, but they expect that will resolve itself in the coming weeks. They were fortunate to have had enough on hand initially to deal with the increased demand, but will eventually have to replenish stocks and with Rotary's generous assistance, matching a donor grant, they have the resources to do that and to address for now the increase in need.

Requests for rental assistance have risen sharply, as one

would expect with lost employment and wages. Even the moratorium on evictions is of limited help, as families will need to pay the back rent once it is lifted. San Bernardino County has provided Hope Partners some funds to that end, and the organization would like to target some of the Rotary funding to that end as well.

This pandemic has put so many families in a situation they never imagined they'd experience, and they have turned to Hope Partners with fear, even panic. It is rewarding to be able to respond. It is in the name—to provide them hope and confidence that their children won't have to go unfed or lose the roof over their heads. Kami remarked that the staff of Hope Partners has stepped up to this challenge so selflessly and so admirably. She has heard from other organizations and other nonprofit leaders who say their staff are terrified to come to work to interact with the public and to provide the care they need. She has seen none of that. Her team has been enthusiastically committed, and they've had such wonderful community support from individuals, corporations, and faith groups, who have rushed to the aid of others. It's easy to get choked up just talking about it. It is wonderful to see the way that those who can help are stepping forward to meet the needs of others. In 15-20 years working in non-profits, she's never seen anything like it.

Hope Partners extends a big thank you to Claremont Rotary, for continuing and long-standing support, both with the food drive to support the pantry, and with the regular financial support, not to mention service projects like the office painting last year. Right now, monetary contributions probably have the biggest impact, as Hope Partners can buy from the LA Regional Food Bank and stretch a dollar far beyond what the best coupon-clipping, bargain-shopping Rotarian can—even far beyond what we could do at Costco or other warehouse stores. The major gift from an anonymous benefactor, given through Claremont Rotary, will help our neighbors in need. Some ten years back the organization changed its name to Hope Partners because that's what we want to offer our most vulnerable neighbors as we feed the hungry and shelter the homeless: Hope. Thank you, Claremont Rotary, for being partners in that endeavor.

APPLAUSE!!!!

Q: Kami, we have an adopt a family program at Christmas, where we get some basic info on a family and then make purchases to support them. Is there a way to



Hope Partners, continued

adapt the idea for those in need of rental assistance, things like that?

A: That's a great idea. Not sure how we'd implement it, but this is a time our models are turned upside-down, and there's lots of talk about being innovative. We have not done a huge amount of experimentation. But some of our seniors are housebound and can't come to pantries or meal programs, and don't have family or friends to send, so we're driving meals to them, for one example. But we'll hang on to that idea.

Q: **Cameron Troxell**—for Hope Partners, and for Rotarians who haven't heard, the major-gift donors are Eddie and Kate Hartenstein. They asked **Bernadette**, who had been their realtor, how they could help in the community, and she suggested they make their donation to Hope Partners via Claremont Rotary. Cameron and the Board then acted to match the gift, and we will be presenting a check for \$20,000 to Hope Partners next week.

I also want to acknowledge Rotarian **John Howland**, who leads our monthly food drive and money collection for Hope Partners (and also organized the Rotary Work Day that did office painting at Hope Partners office). Thank you, John, for all your work.

Q: **Rich Laughton**: Is there any work that vulnerable seniors can do for you at this time?

A: We normally have things like folding newsletters for mailing, but with multiple contacts it's too risky, so unfortunately, no, not at the moment.

Q: **Lyn Childress**: We've been hearing about farms and dairies with surplus food and I'm wondering if there's any way to tap into that? And also whether chefs and restauranteurs like Jose Andres, who are preparing meals for front line workers and keeping employees hired, can be a model for our club's efforts?

A: Frankly, we've been stretched so thin we haven't been able to explore ideas like that, especially as we are currently in contract negotiations with San Bernardino County. We've been looking at, for example, drive through service at our pantry, but our vendors, funders and suppliers require people's information, so we are constrained.

C: We're just thinking about our vendors for Taste of Claremont and wondering how we might mobilize things to engage them somehow. This will be with us for a while. Maybe we can come up with something.

Q: How do people hear about you/learn about you?

A: Faith communities are among the first places people

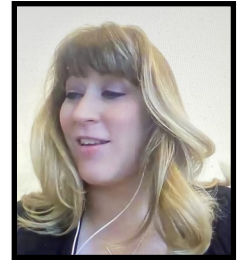
turn when in need, even if they're not affiliated, so we make sure they have our information. Cities and schools also have our information, and schools, when they were open, were a good connection. Local social services, benefits, and medical offices know about us, we are on the web and on Facebook. If you search for food assistance, we are one of the first names that will pop up.

Q: Can you provide an update on your Farmer's Market?

A: It's open! Saturdays 9am to 1pm, at Pearl and Garey, in the parking lot of Purpose Church. We have purchased a couple of hand washing stations, have spread out the booths since we have a big lot, and have instated social distancing, and even have limited pre-order and curbside pick-up for some vendors.

Q: Can we donate online?

A: Yes! Just go to our website. Processing fees average 2.65% so we lose a bit, especially with larger donations. Checks are always welcome. **Mailing address is Hope Partners, 1753 N. Park Ave., Pomona, CA 91768.**



Cameron then suggested we pool resources for the June food drive and make a joint financial contribution to Hope Partners. To that end he and Barbara are pledging \$1,000, and urge members to join them in any amount they like, payable to Claremont Rotary Foundation if by check. Be sure to indicate it's for Hope Partners.

Thank you, Kami! For your work and your presentation!

ARTFUL ENTERTAINMENT: And now for something completely different: [Register here](#) (free) for Friday at 4:00:



Sam and Alfreda Maloof Foundation for Arts and Crafts

May 11 at 9:57 AM · 🌐

Join us this Friday for an online artist talk with Kendall Johnson. Artist and author Kendall Johnson will share his textural paintings and writings as well as a preview of his upcoming book which is to be released later this year.
#museumfromhome #artisttalk #artist #kendalljohnson #malooffoundation #sammaloof #maloof #woodworking #woodworkers #furnituredesign #historichouse

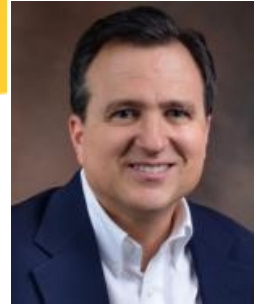


Kendall Johnson

Online Artist Talk
Presented by the
Maloo Foundation

May 15th, 2020
4:00pm Pacific Time

malooffoundation.org



Cameron Troxell
Claremont Rotary
President
2019-2020



ZOOM PROGRAMS & EVENTS

May 15	South Village Sustainable Claremont Kaitlin Morris and Jerry Tessier
May 22	Discussion of Fall Taste of Claremont (optional)
May 29	Craft Talks: Kelly Carson and Barbara Troxell



Tamora and Papa Meiland Roses

Photo of the week by Steve Schenck

Where's all the fine money? I'm being ignored

Please don't be intimidated by the Pig. I encourage all of you to consider donating to Hope Partners —in lieu of the usual food donation at the first meeting of the month.



Bacon Bits

Let's fill up the pig!



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

Clarifier Committee

- Bill Burrows
- Mike DeWees
- Lark Gerry
- Bobby Hyde
- Jim Lehman
- Steve Schenck
- Chris Shaner
- Harry Sparrow
- Peter Weinberger
- Buff Wright, editor



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

May Birthdays

- Lyn Childress 5-16
- Bill McAllister 5-18
- Frank Bedoya 5-19
- Chris Shaner 5-20
- Bob Hauducoeur 5-26
- John Regan 5-31



Jim Lehman (program), Mike DeWees (meeting); Steve Schenck (photos). One day (tbd), the Claremont Rotary Club will resume meeting at the Claremont DoubleTree on Foothill at 12:10pm