

# the CLARifier

## CLAREMONT ROTARY NEWSLETTER

SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Claremont Rotary Year 92 | Week 9 | August 28, 2020

## Program: District Governor Greg Jones

By Jim Lehman

District Governor Greg Jones started with *Rotary Opens Opportunities*, RI's new theme. Greg says that it has opened doors for him as a CPA, happy to sit in a room working on tax returns, especially now that the pandemic makes for little change of routine. No way would he have had the opportunity for trips to India, Liberia, Peru, without the incentive Rotary provided to go there, meet people, and join in on projects. Of course, the pandemic has turned everything upside down, but that means we as a club have an opportunity to reexamine and reassess our place in the world. If, to quote Randy Prout, "We are a club that is always in action," what do you do with that brand in the pandemic world when everything seems different? You've had Bikes for Kids, Together We Prepare, Youth Awards, a partnership with CHAP (Claremont Homeless Advocacy Program), all great programs, and now you have a chance to look at the array of programs and ask, "is that where we need to be in the post-covid world?" Maybe some of the high-contact activities won't be possible, or certainly not in the same way, and we will need to figure out what to do now, and how to do it. What's true for the club is also true for us as individuals.

Let's take a look at our "Rotary Why." What was it when we joined? Is it still that today? From surveys, we know that overwhelmingly people join for the local service opportunities; some for the international dimension; some for the fellowship. For some, connecting with other Ro-

tarians may be the high point of the week, and now that we can't have the face-to-face component of it, it may be more important than ever to maintain effective fellowship. So this means that as a club we can work to make sure each member has a chance to fulfill their Rotary Why, to experience those Rotary Moments.

There's a 2-way contract here—it's important for the club to know what the Rotary



Why is for each member—the 48 here today, and the 100 or so in total—and to give each member a chance to try to fulfill those. It's also incumbent on the member to be aware of the Rotary Why that brought them in, and if it's not being fulfilled for whatever reason, to go to the club and say so and ask for help finding how to make it work. The resulting 2-way conversation will help us develop as Rotarians and help us change lives in our communities. Interestingly, as John Tulac was talking about Rotary International and the RI Foundation, he mentioned our 1.2 million members. When I joined 30 years ago, we had 1.2 million members. The number

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### Watch It!

Here is the [link to the meeting recording for August 28](#) featuring District Governor Greg Jones. Password: aK8.N!55

### Next Zoom Meeting

[Zoom link to Meeting on Friday 9/11](#), which features Red Badge member Mary Segawa's Craft Talk

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## ROTARY, THE MEETING

By Jim Lehman

President Buff packed us off to the breakout rooms with DG Greg Jones' request that we talk about our "brand," that is, what others see in us as distinctive and noteworthy. Our prompts included a page from our website showing Rotarians are people of action, and another listing Rotary International Foundation's Areas of Focus: Promoting peace; fighting disease; providing clean water; saving mothers and children; supporting education; and growing local economies. With that as background, what are our signature projects? And what is our sense of our brand? — what it is and/or what we want it to be.

Reports back emphasized engagement with youth—our Interact program is remarkably successful in attracting and retaining Middle School and High School students, and our TLC and RYLA openings are consistently oversubscribed with eager participants. Our club's spirit of lively fellowship and active involvement was also flagged. Tag lines included "Empowering Youth"—we have supported the high school theater program, CLASP, scholarships, Together We Prepare, Bikes for Kids. "Community leaders empowering communities"—we undertake a variety of projects locally and internationally. We wonder whether at this juncture, with all the need that is evident locally and domestically, we should consider focusing our energies and resources closer to home, at least for the time being. For example, we promote international peace, and maybe we should be looking closer to home and work to promote peace locally and regionally as well. Often when we talk about peace, our attention is on conflict zones, where institutions are not supportive of peace. We also need to consider institutional arrangements that positively support peaceful interaction and peaceful conflict management and conflict resolution. "Service Above Self"—our motto is mirrored in our activities, many of them mentioned above, as well as our international projects, including those that connect with the Rotary Theme each year and bring that branding statement to life. Despite our extensive activity, community awareness of Rotary and of Rotary's contributions is still limited, and we should do more to get the word out—in effect, increase brand awareness. (For example, how many are aware of our club's support for Hope Partners, matching the Hartenstine family's gift of \$10,000? How many know that Claremont Rotary gave \$25,000 to Habitat for Humanity when Habitat built six homes in Claremont—and worked on the homes and the landscaping?)

## WELCOME GUESTS AND VISITING ROTARIANS

District Governor Greg Jones from Pasadena After Hours; Assistant Governor Roy Barry, Immediate Past President of the Rotary Club of Upland; Bill Gershon, President Buff's guest, who is becoming such a regular a draft movement is afoot. The welcome song, led by President Buff, Susie Ilsley, and Chris Hayes, included the rarely-heard second verse welcoming the DG.



Noble effort to sing and welcome guests, visiting Rotarians and the District Governor

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Buff reminded us that Africa has been certified wild polio virus free. Member Francis Limbe offered the correction from Focus on Africa that West Africa is virus free but not East Africa.



President Buff will explore getting a speaker on the topic.

Directories—thanks to Tom, Randy, Jim Lehman and the Post Office for delivering them, and apologies to Chris Hayes Shaner for omitting her name. (She's on the Board—it'll get worked out....) The Peace Conference will be on Zoom on October 24<sup>th</sup>—do plan to attend. Check your Clarifier, last page, for upcoming programs: No Meeting next week!!! September 11, Mary Segawa will give her



Craft Talk.

The next meetings are listed on the back page of the Clarifier. Note that on September 4th there is NO MEETING (Labor Day). Looking further forward, on October 9 we'll have a candidate forum with the three candidates for Claremont School Board.

If you know someone who could host a female student from Creighton University who is doing a 12 week occupational therapy rotation at Casa Colina in the middle of September and staying until the middle of December, email [Jerry Tambe](#).



## Sergeant Nona Tirre

Sergeant Nona Tirre: All the Paul Harris recipients—Mike DeWees has created a Donate Now link, so go there and do your thing! John Tulac—silence your phone! But the phone IS on silent. Unfortunately, it is next to the computer, which picks up the call and rings. (For the uninitiated, welcome to Tulac Tech, a special hell for electronic gear and the people who use it. And I say this as someone who marveled as John many years ago demonstrated to me the wonders of the then brand new iPhone. Apps! Camera! Action!) Anyway, you should also fine the instigator who called—Jim Lehman.



Done. Francis Limbe—you're getting fined for appearing on screen as an apparition trapped between galaxies, a truly cool effect. New members John and Greg—welcome to Rotary! Now here's a fine. It's what we do. John Allen—nearly the entire 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of your building is populated by Ro-

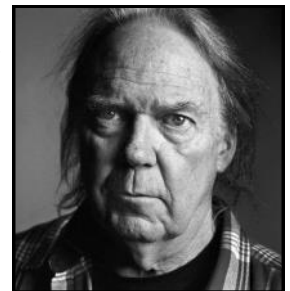
tarians. Not the entire floor; we do have a Kiwanian down the hall. Doesn't matter, you have a fine coming at you. Anita Hughes—you are being fined for resorting to child labor: her beautiful granddaughter knocked on my door and delivered my directory. Buff and Susie—talk about delivering directories and making special friends. Buff: I was driving the other day and found I had a number of bites on my lower legs. Then I noticed a web and spider under the driver's seat. Got the web but not the spider so drove around certain I was in for more bites. (Gotta burn the car. Just burn it.) Susie? Well, when I went to Buff's to pick up directories to deliver, I got a mosquito inside my car and it's still there, pesky and unnerving. Gerry Tambe—you went fishing but caught no fish??? That's not unusual for me. The point is to go fishing, relax, and drink beer. Six of us were there at the river and only my son caught a fish. Rich Laughton—less smart now? Yes—lost a wisdom tooth. Talking about less smart, Harry Sparrow—you said you were an idiot. Why? Just a politically incorrect comment. I manipulate numbers easily (He's a walking talking human calculator) and so refer to myself as an idiot savant. TIME!



## Inspirational Thought

*read by John Tulac*

Kenneth Galbraith: Faced with the choice between changing one's mind and proving there's no need to do so, almost everyone gets busy on the proof. Peter Drucker: Everybody has accepted by now that change is unavoidable, but this still implies that change is like death and taxes. Change should be postponed as long as possible and no change would be vastly preferable. But in a period of upheaval we know change is the norm. Change can be hard, often painful, even risky; however, any organization that does not lead a managed change decays or dies. More than once, Rotary has suffered a crisis requiring significant change in order to grow again and thrive. Ask Sylvia Whitlock. Or Pat Hauducoeur. Or Carole Dorsey. Change for individuals can sometimes be even harder. Thomas Carlyle wrote, "I've got a great ambition to die of exhaustion rather than boredom." Roughly 110 years later, Neil Young sang, "It's better to burn out than it is to fade away or rust." But David White, a high-powered business coach turned poet, took a different approach, dramatically changing his life. As he tells the story, "I had been running on empty and had been that way for quite a long time. I had not been having certain conversations, including "courageous conversations," with myself. One of the stressful things human beings do to themselves when they are trying to work through complex situations is they attempt to solve everything due to velocity, and I was no exception to this. I attempted to meet the increasing complexity of the world by speeding up day to day. You end up starting to look down on people who are actually in a much healthier place or frame of mind than you are. I found myself standing in the doorway of a conference room and a group of my colleagues were about to start a meeting. I had been rushing from here to there. I found myself asking the group, "Has anyone seen David?" There was absolute silence and then gales of laughter because I was the only David who was working there. I was asking if anyone had seen me because I kind of hadn't seen myself in quite a while. It was one of those moments of transparent humiliation. I realized I was so exhausted, I left. I walked home. I felt fortunate my good friend, Brother David, a Benedictine monk, was coming by that



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## Paul Harris Fellows

Randy Prout, Chair for Paul Harris Fellows, introduced Paul Harris Fellow recipients, offering some historical perspectives. A few years back, this club became a 100% Paul Harris Club—every member was a Paul Harris Fellow. We became diligent about giving to the



Rotary International Foundation and created a rule that the club would match, for a member's first Paul Harris award, the first \$100 they gave and, when they were approaching \$1,000, would

put in the final \$100 to get them there. Participation has been really good in the ensuing years, but we are edging away from that 100% designation at least in part because under new RI membership rules we have grown



to include a number of additional family and corporate members, and today we stand at a little less than 80% Paul Harris members. There



are currently 17 members who are non-contributing to RI Foundation. It is the Foundation Committee's plan to provide information over the year about what it is to become a contributor to the RI Foundation and particularly to become a Paul Harris Fellow.

Today, we have five new Paul Harris Fellows to present to you: Frank Bedoya, Lyn Childress, Jerry Goldman, John Howland, and Jim Marchant. There are also four Paul Harris Plus Fellows: Tom Shelley PHF+ 4, John Allen PHF+2, President Buff PHF+3 (Actually, she's a PHF+4 but the hardware isn't here yet), and John Tulac PHF+4. DG Greg Jones offered a few words about the RI Foundation, reading the mission



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## OUT ON THE TOWN

With Claremont Rotary  
A Community Support Event

### OUT ON THE TOWN October 2-11

MARK YOUR CALENDAR for our fundraiser "Out On The Town" October 2 -11. This will take the place of Taste of Claremont this year. Out On The Town with Claremont Rotary is an all club event with the mission of giving back to the community. We will offer free advertising in the Courier thanking vendors who have participated and supported The Taste of Claremont over the years. Thank you to Peter Weinberger for helping out!

Participants will be requested to donate \$10 or more to receive a passport (ticket), wine glass, and more. Passports will be stamped at participating OOTT restaurant / vendor verifying patronage. Passports may then be redeemed for an opportunity to win a gift basket or prize. All Rotarians will be requested to solicit 10 passport donations in advance of the event. A fabulous on line auction will also be featured. To donate items or experiences, contact [Sarah Jo](#).

Please contact **Mark Carson** (chair) to find out how you can assist with our primary 2020 fundraiser. 909-821-5396 or [rotarymarkie@gmail.com](mailto:rotarymarkie@gmail.com)

## Inspirational Thought

Continued from page 3

evening. I asked him to speak to me of exhaustion. He looked at me to see if I was serious, and when he saw that I was, he said, "You know, the antidote to exhaustion is whole-heartedness. The reason you are so stressed is that you have lost the conversation at the center of your life. You've lost your pivot point and you've lost your piece of ground. You must get back to that ground and you must begin the conversation. That's what will take you into the life you want for yourself." David went on to become a well-respected poet and ultimately he returned to executive coaching as well. His is the kind of conversation each individual must have internally and then externally within an organization. That's your thought for two weeks in one.



## New members

We are inducting two new members, John Bifone and Greg Mossman, both coming in as associate members within the corporate membership of Yoss, Allen, Bernstein and Lightfoot.



Welcome John and Greg!! Being involved in Rotary is a way of changing lives—including our own. Find the thing that grabs your heart and run with it. Find your

“Rotary Moment.” Keep the 4-way test in mind as a filter for decisions and action. It’s a valuable guide.

## Big Fork Rotary Montana

By Syliva Whitlock

I spoke to the Rotary Club in Big Fork, Montana on September 2, and this was something they did:

Rotary Club of Big Fork, Montana asked two questions of their members: What has Rotary done for you, and What do you want to do for Rotary? One answer to the first was: At a stage between work and staying home I was interested in giving back to my community. A friend invited me to Rotary. It gave me an eye-opening and game-changing perspective on life.

They also asked each person in attendance to do something for Rotary, to commit to calling someone who was not at the meeting, to extend a hand of caring.

This past week I received one of those caring notes from Bernadette and it felt so good..

DG Jones suggested that we each discover our “whys” for Rotary and then seek to fulfill them. This is something to think about for our breakout discussion on September 11.



## Paul Harris Fellows

Continued from page 4


statement of the Foundation: “...to enable Rotarians to advance world understanding, good will and peace through the improvement of health, the support of education, and the alleviation of poverty.” When we do an international project, they learn about the United States and we learn about their countries—and not just the clips that appear on the news. We make a connection. When we travel to India, Africa, Mexico to participate in a project, we learn about the country, the people, the culture, and we come back and share what we’ve learned. We connect. The real value of the RI Foundation is the understanding we build through those connections, even right within our own communities. It is important and so needed today. The Foundation has become so popular among Rotarians, we drained the available funds last year and are on track to do so again this year. Let us exhort members to persevere—the Paul Harris Fellow designation is a goal, but let it not be a final destination but rather a milestone in your ongoing giving. Make Claremont a better place; make the world a better place.




### Let's Eradicate Nuclear Weapons Before They Eradicate Us


**Zoom Webinar**  
 Friday, September 4, 2020  
 7:00 PM IST (6:30 PM PKT, 9:30 AM EDT)

**Organizers**  
 Rotarians4NuclearBan and Rotary Action Group for Peace (RAGFP)  
 Subcommittee on Nuclear Weapons Education

  
 Host  
 Cochin Midtown  
 Rotary Club,

  
 Co-Host  
 Midland Rotary Club,  
 D 6310,

  
 Co-Host  
 Rotary Club of Karachi  
 Gateway, D 3271, Karachi,

  
 Topic: Growing danger of nuclear war and what we can do about it.  
**Dr. Ira Helfand, MD, Co-President, IPPNW**

  
 Topic: Nuclear Divestment, a.k.a. Moving the Nuclear Weapons Money  
**Ms. Vanda Proskova, PNND Coordinator**

## *Jones, continued from p. 1*

hasn't budged, but in the meantime something like 2 million people have joined Rotary. So many have cycled through, and too many have left because their Rotary Why was not activated—they needed to say, "I joined to do the following, and it's not happening. How can I make it happen in this club?" But they didn't. They just faded away. Each of us should be looking at the tiles on the Zoom screen and asking, "Do I know what it is Susie wants to get out of Rotary? What can I do to help Susie succeed in that? What does Bridget expect out of Rotary, and what can I do to help Bridget get that?" The resulting sense of community, of togetherness, is really critical for us. It's a big challenge, especially in a big club like this. In my club, Pasadena After Hours, with 15 people, it's easy to get to know everybody pretty well, to understand what motivates their Rotary membership, and it's easy



for someone to propose a different project, a different way of doing things, a different focus, if that's

where their fulfillment lies. It's hard for a big club to be nimble, but you're one of the more successful clubs in the District and have been for a long time, so I know you can do that.

Earlier, in the Paul Harris presentations, I said I love the Foundation and its wonderful, life-changing work, but it's in a little bit of trouble now because its funding programs have been so successful. There's now so much demand that we ran out of money last year, and we will run out of money this year. It is important to keep supporting the Foundation, to keep projects going, to continue to make connections and create understanding among people, an ingredient so often missing in our world. And we need more understanding right in our own communities. That's something we'll be working on in the District—doing a little peace building right here in Southern California.

Along those lines, you used to be very active in the Ambassadorial Scholarship program. We now have a Global Grant Scholarship program, and it would be great to see you get involved in it. The District sent four people on these international scholarships last year, to France and England. Peace Scholarships are another important program: we sent a Peace Scholar out last year. These are people committed to

building peace; they've spent their lives working on it and will continue after this post-graduate study opportunity.

At the District, all the plans we had six months ago have been upended. We're living in a virtual world, just like you at the club level. We're trying to do less in the way of projects so as not to compete with what clubs are doing, but we still are doing, for example, our Peace Conference on October 24, as Buff mentioned. And of course it will be virtual. The keynote speaker is Mark Daniel Maloney, last year's RI President. Sylvia's son, head of Cal Berkeley's diversity office, will be another featured speaker. The final call hasn't yet been made, but it looks like we'll have to cancel Team Leadership Camp (TLC) for middle schoolers. We are looking at whether it can be made virtual, though with them spending their days in school virtually, they might be burnt out. RYLA, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, is still under study. It's scheduled for March, and we are hopeful. It had to be cancelled last year, as it was scheduled for the weekend after things shut down.

If you have any questions or suggestions or just want to be in touch, [gregjones5300@gmail.com](mailto:gregjones5300@gmail.com) is the best way to contact me.

### **Questions/Comments:**

With respect to RYLA, it might be possible, by March, for us to develop an approach that works for safe, in-person production of RYLA.

Buff had another question about Global Grant Scholarships requirements about enrollment in a program at a foreign university, which seemed a difficult hurdle when this program was first introduced. Greg said the Scholarships chair, from the San Marino club, is the person to see about the details; he seems to understand what RI wants and how to put it in place.

Bridget Healy wondered if we might see the reinstatement of the District's \$5,000 scholarships for high school graduates. The chair, PDG Roger Schulte, citing lack of interest on the part of clubs, called for letting it go—there simply weren't enough clubs sending in applications. Of course, Claremont was one of the clubs that showed intense and perennial—and successful—interest; hence the question. (And interestingly, the program was created under Greg's leadership the year he was Chair of the Scholarships Committee.) We can ask the incoming DG about putting it into her budget.

Thank you, District Governor Greg Jones!

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**



## Garbis Peace Institute 31st Annual Peace Conference

### ***PEACE out of CHAOS – a Pandemic***

Saturday, October 24, 2020 / 9:00 am—1:00 pm

VIRTUAL — Free via Zoom

FEATURING KEYNOTE  
SPEAKER

Mark Daniel Maloney  
President, Rotary  
International 2019-2020



"How has Covid-19  
Impacted Rotary's  
Priorities and  
Opportunities of Working  
Together"

**Dr. Quentin Wodon**  
Lead Economist, World Bank

"The Long Term Effects of  
Covid-19 Pandemic: Education,  
Human Capital, and How  
Rotarians Can Help"



**Michael Brosowski Founder-  
CEO**  
Blue Dragon Children's  
Foundation

"The Impact of Covid-19 on  
Children and Women"

**Dr. Siobhan Nash Marshall**  
Professor and Chair of Christian  
Philosophy and Philosophy  
Departments, Manhattanville  
College, NY

"The Spiritual Response to  
Covid-19"



**Sheila Gutierrez**  
MA, LMFT Marriage and Family  
Therapist

"Harmful Effects of Covid-19 on  
the Family"

**Eugene Whitlock, J.D.**  
Assistant Vice Chancellor for  
People and Culture; Chief People  
and Culture Officer, UC Berkeley,  
CA

"Creating a Culture of  
Belonging in a Virtual World"



← Sylvia's son





**Buff Wright**

Claremont Rotary  
President  
2020-2021

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Sept 4	Dark for Labor Day (Going somewhere?)
Sept 11	Craft Talk: Mary Segawa



Mangels Ranch Porch



Rotary Opens Opportunities

[So Does the Pig Donation Link!](#)



**Bacon Bits**

Let's fill up the pig!



**Sergeants committee**  
gathers before each  
meeting by email.  
Anyone is welcome to  
share information!!

**Nona Tirre, chair**

### Clarifier Committee

Mike DeWees, co-editor  
Bill Burrows  
Lark Gerry  
Bobby Hyde  
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Steve Schenck  
Chris Hayes 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](http://www.claremontRotary.org)

### Join us on Facebook:

[www.facebook.com/RotaryofClaremont](https://www.facebook.com/RotaryofClaremont)

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

### August Birthdays (many!)

Bill Burrows, Bonita & Richard Ramos 8/4  
Brett O'Connor 8/5 Susie Ilsley 8/8  
John Tulac 8/9 Don Ralls 8/11  
Juli Minoves-Trique 8/15  
Jeff Bonhus 8/22 Ned Paniagua 8/23  
Bob Siliciano & Peter Weinberger 8/25  
Kelly Carson 8/26 Armando Armenta 8/27



**Notes: Jim Lehman program & meeting Photos: Steve Schenck**

**The Claremont Rotary Club meets on Zoom at 12:00 on Friday until further notice**

