



# the CLARifier

## CLAREMONT ROTARY NEWSLETTER

IN SERVICE ABOVE SELF

Claremont Rotary Year 93 | Week 19 | November 12, 2021

## PROGRAM: Craft Talks by Arzoo Salami, MD & Em de Pillis, PhD

Submitted by Harry Sparrow

**Susie Ilsley** was excited to introduce our two red badge members who were making their craft talks today. Our speakers were **Arzoo Salami** and **Em de Pillis**. Both of them only recently joined, so this puts them on the fast track for completing their tasks to achieve full membership.

### Dr. Arzoo Salami

Arzoo is a medical doctor with a certification in Disaster Medicine. Disaster Medicine is a field of medical specialization serving the dual areas of providing health care to disaster survivors and providing medically related disaster preparation, disaster planning, disaster response and disaster recovery leadership throughout the disaster life cycle. That life cycle is composed of four phases: (1) mitigation; (2) Preparedness; (3) communication and coordinating the saving of lives; and (4) restoration.

Arzoo was not involved with disaster medicine when in medical school. That came later after she had begun practicing medicine.

Arzoo noted that the reality of medicine is different from what one learns in medical school. She said that in school there is emphasis on how each of us is an individual, which means medicine is an art where medical pro-



fessionals craft care consistent with the patient's unique set of circumstances. Arzoo said in reality it is difficult to provide care in the form of an art.

Arzoo credits **Sylvia Whitlock** with being a catalyst that led to her becoming involved with disaster medicine. Sylvia introduced Arzoo to District 5300's Rotaplast program. The district works with Rotaplast International, Inc., to provide life-changing surgeries to those with cleft lips and/or palates, burn scarring and other deformities. It was helping people who need help like this ultimately led Arzoo to obtain her Disaster Medicine certification.

After her certification, Arzoo joined an emergency response group here in California, the California Emergency Medical Services Authority. It is similar to FEMA but is California specific.

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### Watch it!!

You can hear this program online  
Here's [the link](#) to the meeting recording.  
Passcode: ArzooEm!Nov12

### Next Meeting

Nov 19 in person  
The Circular Economy  
Michelle Tulac  
Also by [ZOOM LINK](#)

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## ROTARY, THE (ZOOM) MEETING

*submitted by Sean Harrison*

We started the meeting off with a song, as usual. Next, **President Mark** led us in the Four Way Test. Bill Gershon and Biffy Danckwerts were guests on zoom. Visiting Rotarian, **Evan Freund**, presenting the centennial flag from Rotary One in Chicago. Next, **Em de Pillis** presented the banner from her recent club in Hilo, Hawaii.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Tom Shelley** announced that there were white pieces of paper on the table where members could choose gifts to support low-income families that need assistance this holiday season through **Hope Partners Adopt a Family** program. We got a bit of a later start this year, so please make sure you jump on your donations as soon as you are able. Next, he announced that for **Bill's Bikes for Kids**, we were able to get 35 bikes for about \$140 each. We need donations for the bikes. We have some money left over from last year, but we are still quite short. You don't have to donate for a full bike, you can make partial donations, or for a helmet or lock. The bike build is December 4, and giveaway is December 11. Be there! Dennis Smith jumped in from Zoomland asking if information for the families will be sent to the attendees who are attending via Zoom. Emails will be sent to all members! **Buff Wright** and **Biffy Danckwerts** announced that for only \$6 a duck you can sponsor a duck to race down a river to support the SPCA in South Africa. How cute is that? For only \$6!?

**Susie Ilsley**, directly addressing the zoom crowd, let the red badge members know that they are going to meet immediately after the next meeting for a quick discussion regarding club finances, a requirement for the blue badge.

### SERGEANTS

Sergeant **Bonita Ramos** come up for a few words. Well, by words, I mean a few fines. **Buff Wright** was the first to be fined for being super helpful with the Clarifier for **Beatrice Casagran** while Buff was in Africa. Both were fined, but the Clarifier is nice and updated now. **Dennis Smith** was fined for confusing everybody for seemingly being in a tent. Craft talkers, **Em diPillis** and **Arzoo Salami**, were fined in advance of their craft talks. **Bonita** wanted to make sure that the Sergeant next week doesn't forget to fine them. Bonita lamented that we all forgot to act appropriately in person. It's been so long; people were a bit negligent in remembering to silence their cell phones. It's like a movie



theater! Don't forget or we all are fined. **Anita Bolling** was fined for cracking open a cold one when someone was talking, it was a cold diet soda, but still...fined. Fortunately, no one had to be fined for forgetting to change out of their pajamas before the in-person meeting. Next, we acknowledged all the veterans for their service to our country and their sacrifice. **Blanca Aguiar** was next to get fined, however, she was not there so she was saved the financial burden. **Tom Shelley** was fined for the fish fry we're all going to have at his house. He caught thousands of pounds of fish, that's incredible! We're all invited for dinner. Sergeant **Bonita** also announced that it was national happy hour day, scho let's all schelebrate! **Bernadette Kendall** was last, to share the exciting news from her family. Her daughter is expecting child number five! She was on her way to her right now with a special delivery of vegetable soup!



## Arzoo Salami craft talk, cont'd from p.1

This group has stepped up to support medical needs during the pandemic. They acquired and certified upwards of 16,000 medical devices in only four months. In addition, with only a handful of volunteers, this group stood up six mobile medical units that traveled all over the state. They also designed stand-up hospitals to meet surge demands.



Arzoo noted that the pandemic is not the only form of disaster that has been going on in the last two years. Fires and the border surge represented other instances where this emergency response group has stepped in to assist.

The pandemic highlighted problems in our hospital infrastructure. Governor Newsom reached out the group Arzoo works with to ask them to help develop responses to needs that had been identified. Arzoo worked on the issue of how to share and conserve oxygen when hospitals can't provide enough oxygen to meet needs. Her group led an effort that established offices of oxygen "gas stations" hospitals could access. They also established a hotline that when called directs people to locations where oxygen is available. A report related to this was published in the medical journal *Public Health Preparedness* in August of this year.

Arzoo ended by saying she has not established a local practice but is exploring options.

In response to questions, Arzoo noted that her unit is part of all disaster responses, with monthly trainings and emergency deployment through a dispatch system.



## Emmeline de Pillis craft talk

Aloha! Em recently moved here from Hilo Hawaii to take a job with the University of La Verne (ULV). She presented a flag from her Hilo Rotary club to president Mark.

Em described herself as a college administrator. She said that nobody gets excited about paperwork (Ever the contrarian, Don Ralls jumped up and yelled, "Yeah paperwork!"), but administration calls to her.

Em grew up in southern California. She graduated from USC and then moved to Hawaii. She loves Hawaii, but the pandemic made her think about being closer to her parents. Thus, the job at ULV.

She told us a little bit about ULV. In addition to the main campus in La Verne, there are 8 other campuses. The university has over 50 majors for its 6000 students to pick from. Em said she is particularly proud of the fact that ULV has the fourth largest MBA program in the LA area.

The core values play a significant role in why the university is so well respected. Those core values are: lifelong learning; diversity and inclusivity; civic and community engagement; and ethical reasoning. Year in and year out ULV receives high marks from US News & World Reports in its annual best colleges report. For 2022, ULV is top ranked in California for student social mobility and it is highly ranked nationally. Also, it is considered a best value school and is highly ranked for its online programs.

Em is an integral part of the business programs element. The career focus in business management is divided into three streams that advance through the entire four-year degree process. These are academic advising, career services and curriculum. The show piece of the curriculum comes in year three; it is the Integrated Business Program. This program is designed so the students get the experience employers are looking for. Classmates organize a real business by developing a business plan and present it to a bank for a loan. After obtaining loan up to \$2500, students perform all functions of a small business and donate net profits to a charity of their choice. Students develop self-efficacy by starting their own business. The course provides ULV graduates with the knowledge of how to run a successful business.

Moving forward, the university is looking to build on existing strengths while developing new degrees and concentration. The pandemic had a major effect on international students, so one of ULV's priorities is to reconnect with its international students. Finally, the university wants to en-

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### Em de Pillis Craft Talk, continued from p. 3

engage with the community such that it becomes the “beating heart” of the local businesses.

Em opened it up to questions at this point. **Zoe TeBeau** asked where the new College of Health would be located. Em said that the decision has not been finalized, but it is likely Ontario will be the location. **Lyn Childress** asked if there are internships for local businesses. Em said yes and that she is the person to email about this. Em added that they are encouraging the businesses to make these paid internships. **Chuck Cable** asked if the university still has a student investment program. Em said she would have to check. **Buff Wright** noted that she could see how Disaster Medicine and programs at ULV could be intertwined in a positive way. Em agreed.

### Everyone Loves Photos

By Steve Schenck





**Mark Carson**

Claremont Rotary  
President

2021-2022



**SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES**

## UPCOMING PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Nov 19	The Circular Economy, Michelle Tulac
Nov 26	Dark for Thanksgiving ( <b>next Fri. meeting, Dec. 17</b> )
Dec 4	Bikes for Kids bike build 8:00 am Holiday Party 5:30 pm (DoubleTree)
Dec 11	Bikes for Kids Giveaway 8:00 am (prep at 7 am)



**Polio Vaccination continued in Afghanistan**

Pictures have a way of bringing the story to life.

**Feed the pig at the meeting or send fines and donations [here](#), or mail your check to**  
**PO Box 357**  
**Claremont 91711**



**Bacon Bits**

Let's fill up the pig!

Afghanistan has completed a four day, country-wide Polio Vaccination Campaign targeting ten million children including 3.3 million who were missed since 2019 by the house to house vaccination ban

### 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

### November Birthdays

Kebokile Dengu-Zvobgo 11/3

Marla Lefler 11/6

Blanca Aguilar 11/10

Mike Pearlman 11/15

Jim Marchant 11/22



*Notes by Harry Sparrow and Sean Harrison. Photos by Steve Schenck. Mike Dewees, ed*  
**Claremont Rotary Club meets Friday at 12:10 at the Claremont DoubleTree [and](#) on Zoom**

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

**Nona Tirre, chair**

### Clarifier Committee

Mike DeWees

Bill Burrows

Beatrice Casagran

Sean Harrison

Bobby Hyde

Jim Lehman

Steve Schenck

Chris Hayes Shaner

Harry Sparrow

Peter Weinberger

Buff Wright, editor