



'SPARKS' OFF THE ROTARY WHEEL
An Award-Winning Newsletter



**The Rotary Club of Altadena meets Thursdays at noon
 at the Altadena Town and Country Club**

Rotary Club of Altadena - #772
 Chartered: February 14, 1949, P.O. Box 414, Altadena, CA 91003
 RI Pres: Gordon R. McNally, Dist. 5300 Gov: Michael L. Soden



January 25, 2024

JANUARY IS VOCATIONAL SERVICE MONTH

Officers

President: Dr Dawn Digrius Smith
Vice President: Doug Colliflower
President Elect: Maricela Viramontes

Treasurer: Mike Noll
Bus: 626-657-2287
Secretary: James Gorton
Bus: 626-793-6215

Directors

Craig Cox
Maria Perez-Arton
Mark Mariscal
Sarah O'Brien
Maricela Viramontes
Doug Colliflower
Dawn Digrius Smith

Chairs

Club Executive Secretary: Mark Mariscal
Membership: Maria Perez-Arton & Brad Roeber
Foundation: Steve Kerekes
Projects: Mike Zoeller

Subcommittees

Community Service: Craig Cox
Vocational Service: Steve Kerekes
Youth Contests, Scholarships, Awards: Mike Zoeller
Youth Activities: Tony Hill
International Service: Sarah O'Brien

THIS WEEK: DR BOON LIM

Mission Failure! The Radiometer Atmospheric CubeSat Experiment

Altadena Town and Country Club, at noon

Speaker Chair: Mark Mariscal



On October 28, 2014, the attempted launch of an Antares carrying a Cygnus cargo spacecraft on the Orb-3 resupply mission failed catastrophically six seconds after liftoff from Mid-Atlantic Regional Spaceport at Wallops Flight Facility, Virginia. Dr. Lim was the Principal Investigator of the Radiometer Atmospheric CubeSat Experiment on

board Orb-3, and will talk about the Mission 'Failure'.

Previously, Dr Lim spent a year at Muon Space, a climate startup, leading formulation for external customers, and internal instrumentation development. He spent the bulk of his career at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory and was the Project Systems Engineer and Engineering Technical Authority for the NASA PREFIRE Mission when he left in 2021. He has developed numerous ground based, airborne and space-borne radiometer systems, and bridges the gap between scientific requirements and engineering implementation, with experience in the full life cycle of missions, including formulation and capture.

Dr. Lim has executed in the three key roles of Principal Investigator, System Engineer and Project Manager, and was a recipient of the JPL Lew Allen Award in 2016 for “Leadership and technological innovation in the emerging field of microwave remote sensing science on nanosatellites.” He has lectured at Caltech, Ae105 – Aerospace Engineering. Dr. Lim received his PhD in Geoscience and Remote Sensing from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

He is currently helping develop the Blue Origin Lunar Architecture.



<https://www.ecsforseniors.org/montecedro/>

Altadena Rotary Events CALENDAR

Jan 27 - Peace Conference

February 10th - 75th Anniversary Gala

March 7- Hold for four way speech contest

March 14- Hold for Four Way speech contest

March 21- Hold for Dan Stover Music Contest

March 28- Hold for Dan Stover Music Contest

May 9 - PCC Vocational Scholarships
May 16 - PUSD Scholarships

June 27 - President Dawn's Demotion Party



LAST WEEK: Dr. Phlunté Riddle, Community Leader

Review: Steve Kerekes



This week’s speaker was Phlunte Riddle, State Commissioner with California’s Division of Juvenile Justice. She spoke to us about the state of mental health in California. Dr. Riddle spent thirty years in the Pasadena Police Department, where she rose from the ranks to become a detective and then community liaison. Before her appointment, Phlunté served the Foothill communities as Assemblymember Chris Holden’s District Director. She helped him expand the College and Career Access Pathways program that provide high school students with the opportunity to take college and vocational training courses. She and Assemblymember Holden pursued solutions for expanding the Gold Line, mental health services, public safety, and cleaner energy. In her present position, she conducts hearings with juvenile offenders to help them gain access to educational and job training opportunities and trauma-informed mental health

Garbis Der-Yeghian

34th Annual Peace Conference



Saturday, January 27, 2024
8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

Richard Nixon Presidential Library and Museum

18001 Yorba Linda Blvd, Yorba Linda, CA

treatment to reduce their risk of re-offending. Dr. Riddle has been married for over 40 years to her husband, Edgar. They have three married sons and several grandchildren.

Dr. Riddle spoke to us about how the pandemic has shaped a large part of the mental problems in California now. National surveys have shown that more than 28% of adults in the U.S. reported having anxiety since the pandemic and more than 22% reported symptoms of depression. We all know someone who passed away during the pandemic, suffered a job loss or incurred some other misfortune. The impact of problems related to these matters have escalated mental health issues in our society, including substance addiction, eating disorders, spousal abuse and divorce. Mental health problems also make it harder to find and keep a job and a place to live. This has caused an uptick in homelessness and also affected our city streets and businesses. There are also impacts from the pandemic which have caused mental health issues in some people who are still able to function normally but who suffer and need treatment. She stated that one of the most difficult things to do is convince people who were affected and suffer from depression and anxiety to recognize that they do suffer from these things and do not need to cope with it alone. She is involved in trying to help people realize that they may need services. She is getting out the word about “wrap around services” which are available for people with mental illness obtain counseling to help them live as independently as possible and not contribute to homelessness.

Dr. Riddle also talked to us about persons with disabilities. She spoke about the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act, known as the “Lanterman Act,” which is an important piece of legislation that was passed in 1969. This is the California law that says people with developmental disabilities and their families have a right to get the services and support they need which will allow them to live like people without disabilities. There are regional centers and service providers which can be accessed through the Lanterman Act to help these individuals and design an individualized program for them.



Saturday February 3rd -

7:00pm

The William D. Davies Building

Farnsworth Park

568 Mount Curve Avenue East Altadena,

California 91001

FREE CONCERT



Margaret Comer

Our 75th Anniversary Gala

Event Harpist!

FEB 10 - DID YOU RSVP?

Dr. Riddle indicated that autism is becoming an increasing problem and is growing at an alarming rate. In 2006, only 1 in 110 children had autism. Now it is 1 in 36. As the incidence of autism grows, these children will require more public services under the Lanterman Act. She emphasized that mental health issues are extremely taxing on society. More than 60% of all law enforcement calls are spent on disturbances relating to mental health issues.

She spoke about a new collaboration between the Pasadena Police Department and the City of Pasadena's Health Department to address mental health issues. Pasadena now has three full-time clinicians from the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health who are available to assist those in mental health crisis and to provide resources and outreach. This partnership enables officers to reach out to people to find more permanent solutions to issues they face such as homelessness, drug abuse, and frequent visits to hospitals. Officers in Pasadena are also required to take training in dealing with persons with mental illness and how to de-escalate a situation.

Lastly, she informed us that there is a [24-hour crisis hotline](#) if you or anyone you know is suffering from mental illness. [Call or text 988 or chat 988lifeline.org](#) for immediate help and resources.

(Cont'd) **Fun facts about Margaret:**

Has played for over 7,500 Beverly Hills afternoon teas.

Played harp for afternoon tea on a ship while crossing the Panama Canal.

Viewed some of the rainforest from a rickety boat on the Amazon River.

Enjoyed a view of Mt. Fuji as she played the harp in the Crown Restaurant of the Palace Hotel.

Lived with a Buddhist priest and his family on the Japan Sea.

Played harp in Scotland at a Ceildh

Built her own medieval style Celtic lap harp.

Played harp for horse race luncheons at Churchill Downs.

Played My Old Kentucky Home at midnight for the inauguration of Kentucky Governor Wilkinson.

Was a VISTA volunteer (domestic Peace Corps).

Integrated her harp music in her position at an institution for physically disabled children.

Through playing and singing familiar songs, helped a woman with dementia relearn how to speak.

Was a community organizer in South Central and Watts in a program under Mark Ridley Thomas.

Received a gift of an old family quilt days before being asked to play the harp in the musical, "Quilters".

Published writer for the Indiana Genealogist.

Has a passion for family history and the music of her heritage.

