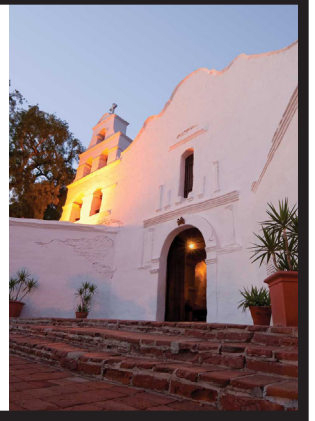




# The Old Mission Bell of Old Mission Rotary



Meetings Every Tuesday at noon on Zoom  
Post Pandemic at the Legacy Resort Hotel and Spa  
[oldmissionrotary.org](http://oldmissionrotary.org)

March 2021- Edition Five

## Save Moms Campaign



*Dr. Fran Ayalasomayajula, Msc.D., has dedicated her career to the field of population health and has served the health needs of populations around the world.*

Fran Ayalasomayajula is an executive healthcare strategist and technologist. She is a devoted volunteer and currently the President of Reach, a 501c3 global social impact organization

Fran presented on the National **Save Moms Campaign**, a population health program led by Reach that is actively combatting maternal death and injury in the United States and abroad.

Millions of mothers give birth every year without any problems. But the maternal dream doesn't come true for all. 15% of all pregnant women develop unexpected complications that are unpredictable and sudden. Knowing and watch-

**Save Mom's Campaign**  
*Continued on Page 2*

## Corona Conversation

At this week's Corona Conversation, club member Don Krupp reminded everyone that we aren't out of the coronavirus woods just yet and the public health experts are concerned we may be heading towards another surge of the pandemic. Though almost a third of the nation has received at least one vaccination dose, there are over 200 million Americans who are still at risk getting infected and becoming ill.

**Notably, the FDA has still approved only one drug for treatment of severe COVID-19 -**

**Remdesivir.** This is an anti-viral medication that prevents the virus from replicating.

Other promised therapeutics still undergoing clinical trials include anticoagulants, convalescent plasma and monoclonal antibodies. Don also noted that individuals on a regimen of low dose aspirin or statins appear to have a lower risk of severe illness if infected. Therapeutics not recommended by the CDC include Vitamins C and D, zinc, hydroxychloroquine and ivermectin.

What we do know is that the vaccines work - they are effective and safe. We also know that the best thing anyone can do while waiting to be vaccinated is to wear a mask, keep your distance, avoid large gatherings and wash your hands.

## STAR/PAL Appreciation Luncheon

The mission of STAR/PAL is to engage under served youth with law enforcement and develop trusting and long term relationships. STAR/PAL offers free programs for undeserved and at-risk youth in San Diego that are led by law enforcement officers. These programs focus on violence prevention, mentoring, leadership, civic engagement, outdoor enrichment, and physical fitness.

Charlotte Cofield is our club's Community Service chair and she was so impressed by STAR/PAL that she reached out to them last summer. We assisted them with a school back pack give away in the fall and with distributing Thanksgiving dinners in November. All OMR members are welcome to attend the Appreciation Luncheon.



### ***Save Mom's Campaign Continued from Page One***

ing out for the signs and symptoms can help avoid preventable maternal death and injuries.

The need to address the maternal mortality crisis is now greater than ever. ***The US has the highest maternal mortality rate in the developed world and death rates are rising.*** Like the global pandemic which has exacerbated the crisis, maternal mortality disproportionately impacts communities of color. In The US, Black women are six times more likely to die in childbirth than white women despite their social status or wealth!. The main goal of Reach's National Maternal Mortality & Morbidity Prevention Campaign is for every pregnant woman to have a blood pressure (BP) monitor to use daily for 90 days pre and post-partum. According to the CDC, change in BP is an indicator of more than 65% of conditions responsible for maternal deaths.

Old Mission Rotarians were saddened and shocked to hear that our country performs so poorly in maternal health.

### **Thousand Smiles Operating Rooms Open**

Cynthia Drake reported that the Thousand Smiles clinic in Ensenada was able to open their new operating suites on Saturday, March 27th and actually performed a bone implant surgery on a young girl. This was the result of years of planning, fund raising and construction. Our very own Bob Chalfa was the driving force for this project.

Before, surgeries had to be performed off site at either the Ensenada General Hospital and the Mexican Naval Hospital.

### **Project Mercy Save the Date**

Gary Stemple announced that Project Mercy has scheduled a special spring construction event on a three acre site in Chula Vista. They are planning to ship pre-assembled housing components to Tijuana for final assembly into single family homes.

The date for the project is Saturday, April 24th and Old Mission Rotarians are asked to participate and contribute money to the effort. The cost of a house is \$6000 and a latrine is an additional \$1000. The cost to ship the house from Chula Vista to Tijuana is \$500 for a total of \$7500 per house.

*Contact Gary Stemple to volunteer for the work project.  
cell: 858-869-7540  
e-mail: gary.stemple@lfg.com*

*The sun, with all those planets revolving around it and dependent upon it, can still ripen a bunch of grapes as if it had nothing else in the universe to do.*

*-Galileo Galilei, physicist and astronomer (1564-1642)*

### **Rotary Calendar**

- Saturday-April 5th **District 5340 Rotary Golf Round Up**
- Saturday, April 10th- **Virtual District Training Assembly**
- Thursday, April 15th-Sunday, April 18th- **Virtual RYLA**
- Thursday, April 22nd- **STAR/PAL Taco Truck Appreciation Luncheon**
- Saturday, April 24th- **Project Mercy Home Building in Chula Vista**
- Tuesday, April 27th- **Art Pratt Foundation ZOOM Board of Directors Meeting**

### **What is RYLA?**

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is a leadership program coordinated by Rotary Clubs around the globe. Each year, thousands of young people participate in this program. Young people are sponsored by Rotary Clubs to attend RYLA events run by the each of the Rotary Districts. In District 5340, RYLA is a leadership conference for approximately 280 high school juniors. The venue in normal times is Idyllwild Pines Camp. Youth Protection certified club members can volunteer to serve as facilitators for the RYLA weekend. The primary intent is to encourage students to become more effective community leaders. Students emerge from the training confident, enthusiastic and empowered. The program includes exceptional speakers, small group discussions and fellowship activities all within an atmosphere of trust and respect. Thanks to our club's RYLA Chair, Tom Sandler, Old Mission Rotary traditionally sponsors more than a dozen students each year from high schools such as Crawford, Madison, Francis Parker, Saint Augustine and Our Lady of Peace. Students typically attend an Old Mission Rotary meeting after the event and are always thrilled by their experiences.

RYLA was cancelled last year and will be a virtual event this spring from April 15th- 18th.

### **Program Calendar**

*Why not invite a friend to  
ZOOM with us?*

- Tuesday, April 6th **The Electoral College with Jeanne Weidner from the League of Women Voters**