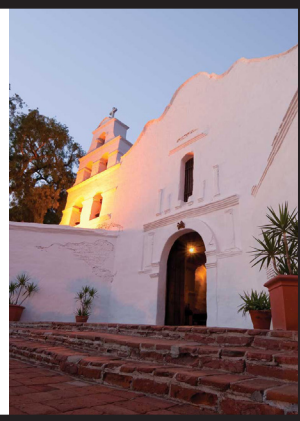




The Old Mission Bell of Old Mission Rotary

Meetings Every Tuesday at noon on Zoom
Post Pandemic at the Legacy Resort Hotel and Spa
oldmissionrotary.org

April 2021- Edition One



The Electoral College or the Popular Vote?



Jeanne Weidner is the Speakers Bureau Chair for the San Diego League of Women Voters.

The League of Women Voters, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy.

The League of Women Voters is a peoples' organization that has fought since 1920 to improve government and engage all Americans in the decisions that impact their lives. They never endorse or oppose political parties or candidates and yet they are political.

Jeanne presented a compelling case for disbanding the Electoral College and using the popular vote for elect-

Electoral College

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Corona Conversation

At this week's Corona Conversation, club member Don Krupp shared important news that San Diego County has administered over one million vaccinations with nearly 23% of the county population now fully vaccinated.

There are some 150 locations in San Diego County now offering coronavirus vaccinations in some form or another.

Still for those who have yet to be vaccinated, navigating the various means and mechanisms for getting your shot scheduled can, at times, be frustrating. To help a Facebook Group has been started that has become a forum to share information and tips about how to find and schedule a vaccine appointment.

If you're on Facebook search for "San Diego Vaccine Hunters."

All of this is important because we are seeing the emergence of a fourth viral surge in some parts of the country involving some of the new more virulent variants. Some of these are showing more serious effects on a younger, healthier portion of the population.

We've been spared from a fourth surge so far in San Diego and California is seeing the lowest case positivity rate in the country. But if past experience is any guide we can expect cases to rise again here. Let's hope that's not the case.

In the meantime, schedule your vaccination, wear a mask, keep your distance from others, avoid large indoor gatherings and wash your hands frequently.

Remembering Arnie Kachok



Arnie Kachok recently passed away. He joined Old Mission Rotary in December of 1973 and for the last several years has been an honorary member due to declining health. His profession was insurance and he was well respected and beloved in his Tierrasanta community.

Club member Michael Lewis will always remember Arnie for his "Great Laugh!"

Paul Harris Fellow Blue Light Special

Rotary District 5340 announced an April "Blue Light Special" to become a Paul Harris Fellow with a pin and certificate!

Through the generous donation of one of our District Rotarians, we are able to match your \$500 contributions with \$500 for the \$1000 cost.

To take advantage of this offer, contact our Executive Club Secretary Stan Vogelsang.

This offer will end on April 30!

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.



Make no judgments where you have no compassion.

-Anne McCaffrey, writer

Program Calendar

Why not invite a friend to ZOOM with us?

• Tuesday, April 13th **Pacific Arts Movement with Kent Lee**

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

Rotary Calendar

- 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**
- Friday, May 7th-Saturday May 8th- **Thousand Smiles Clinic in Ensenada**
- Tuesday, May 11th,- **Old Mission Rotary ZOOM Board of Directors Meeting.**
- Saturday, June 12th-Wednesday, June 16th **Rotary International Virtual Convention**
- Monday, June 28th-**District Governor's Dinner**

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ing the president.

In addition to its ominous origins, the Electoral College was surely not what the Founding Fathers would have wanted. They had already spelled out the electoral process in the Constitution, designed as such to be a more democratic system than it is today. Thus, the Electoral College is not reflective of a true democracy in which the people directly decide their leaders.

The system overrepresents some states and under represents others, creating campaigns that focus on a few "swing states." Five times in our history, a presidential candidate has WON the popular vote but LOST the Electoral College count:

1. Hilary Clinton (2016)
2. Al Gore (2000)
3. Grover Cleveland (1888)
4. Samuel Tilden (1876)
5. Andrew Jackson (1824)

One dirty secret of the Electoral College is the direct relationship to racism and slavery in this country. More specifically, southern states wanted enslaved persons to count toward the population for the purposes of political representation, even when those in slavery had no voting rights or voice in government.

The three-fifths compromise allowed for three-fifths of slaves to be counted which resulted in more representatives in the U.S. House of Representatives and more votes in the Electoral College. The system rewarded slave owners by giving their states more power while holding millions and millions of people powerless.

In a lively Q&A, club member Jerry Hosenkamp noted that the Constitution only discussed a republic and made no reference to democracy. If you are a fan of the Electoral College then stand by for a future program when a speaker will argue for its continuation.