



August 15, 2013

This Week

Dr. Charles Lawrence

The Expanding Universe

**Program Host:
Hal Yorke**

Since 2000, Dr. Charles Lawrence has been a Principal Scientist in the Astrophysics Element at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL). His research interests include:

- Measurement and analysis of the cosmic microwave background to understand the geometry and content of the universe.
- Extragalactic radio sources, their infrared, optical, and X-ray properties, and the accretion history of the Universe
- Gravitational Lensing.

The JPL projects in which Lawrence has been involved include:

- **Planck** - the first European mission to study the birth of the Universe — launched in May 2009
- **Spitzer** - The Spitzer Space Telescope (formerly SIRFT, the Space Infrared Telescope Facility) — launched into space by a Delta rocket from Cape Canaveral, Florida in August 2003
- **OMEGA Explorer** - Using strong lensing to study the nature of Dark Matter.



Dollars & Sense
 by President
 Dennis Mehriinger

So You think Altadena is a Small Town?!!

The term *small town* is very, very relative, as I discovered this week end when I visited my mom to celebrate her 85th birthday. She bought herself a new Buick because she wanted more horsepower.

Relatively speaking Altadena is a small town. It is about ¼ the size of Pasadena its nearest neighbor. It is less than 1 percent of the population of Los Angeles County, but it has many hundreds of businesses. It has it's own concert amphitheater and has a certain panache.

This weekend I had a rude awakening. I will never call Altadena a small town again! Let me introduce you to Mariah Hill, Indiana.

Every year in August I go back to Indiana to visit my mom and celebrate her birthday. Every year I take her out to dinner to her favorite restaurant the Schnitzelbank.

However, this year to my surprise, she wanted to go to the church social in Mariah Hill, Indiana instead. I had heard her mention this name in the distant past — probably while I was an infant, and she was telling me stories to put me to sleep. However, I had never actually been there.

All I knew was that two of my mother's grandparents had been buried there many years ago. So my mom wanted to go there for her 85th birthday dinner, so I agreed to drive her there.

Well I wasn't ready for what I encountered. Mariah Hill is a tiny, tiny little village half way between Louisville, Kentucky and Evansville, Indiana. It is about 10 miles off of Interstate 64 by narrow country roads which, to my surprise, are paved. It has a post office but no stop light or bank or grocery store. He does have an old fashioned General Store. The official population is less than 700, but the Catholic Church has over 1000 registered parishioners.

When I arrived, I had to make sure I did not miss the all important "right turn at the stop sign." This was the most direct

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Greeters

August 15

Harold Yorke

August 22

Mike Zoeller

August 29

Susan Applegate

Program Review



The Death Penalty in California . . . Rights and Responsibilities

Capital punishment is a legal form of punishment in the State of California. The first recorded execution in the area that is now California took place in 1778 when four native Americans were shot in San Diego County for conspiracy to commit murder. These were the first of 709 executions before the California State Supreme Court decision in

People vs Anderson finding the death penalty to violate the state constitution.

California reinstated the death penalty in 1978. In 2006, US District Judge Jeremy Fogel halted executions in California after finding flaws in the state's execution process. This is where Dr. Michael Parente gets involved in challenging the People's efforts to execute the defendant. As a Federal Public Defender with the responsibility to represent the client as the final defense attorney, and after a long line of attorneys which have exhausted all available avenues through the judicial system, Parente focuses on the application of the judicial process. He cited aspects of the Rotary Four-Way Test as examples of what he focuses on in his work: ***Is it the truth?*** and ***Is it fair to all concerned?***

Because California's death penalty was enacted through the voter-initiative process, the only way to replace it is through a voter-approved ballot measure. An at-



tempt to remove the death penalty in 2012 — Proposition 34 — was defeated with 53 percent of the vote against it. There are

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Rotary Club of Altadena - #7183

Chartered: February 14, 1949
P.O. Box 414, Altadena, CA 91003
www.altadenarotary.com
Meets: Thursday, 12:10p
Altadena Town & Country Club
2290 Country Club Drive • Altadena, CA
626-794-7163

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August

Membership & Extension Month

Program Chair, Hal Yorke

Aug 15 - Dr. Charles Lawrence, "The Expanding Universe"
Aug 22 - Charles Wilson - Craft Talk
Aug 29 - Dr. Neal Turner, Exoplanets: The Search for Earth's Twin in the Goldilocks Zone

September

New Generations Month

Program Chair, Ray Carlson

Sep 05 - To be Announced
Sep 12 - To be Announced
Sep 19 - To be Announced
Sep 26 - To be Announced

Congratulations



Birthdays



08/02 - Phyllis Merrill
08/05 - Kevin Moore
08/08 - Joseph McMullin
08/10 - Don Applegate
08/11 - Joy Carlson
08/14 - Marsha Seyffert
08/24 - Hal Yorke
08/27 - Elaine Klock

08/31 - Bruce Conroy (J. Foreman)

Anniversaries

08/01 - Ed & Phyllis Soza
08/23 - Gary & Dotty Clark



Give until They Stop Hurting

This year will be the first year of the 23 years that I've been in this Club that I will be serving as the Foundation Chair. I have some pretty big shoes to fill to match my predecessors Mike Zoeller and Craig Cox. I will, however, do my best.

The Rotary Foundation represents the most effective way to use the money you want to give to charity. This is because every dollar you give is spent to fight polio, relieve hunger, and improve the life of people everywhere. They perform this amazing feat by holding your donations for three years and then use the interest to cover the administrative costs of the Foundation. When that has been accomplished, they spend all of your money to fund the good works of Rotary throughout the world.

Program

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currently 735 inmates on death row in California, 722 men and 13 women. All male prisoners on condemned status are housed at a maximum-security custody level in three units at San Quentin State Prison. Female condemned inmates are housed in a maximum-security unit at Central California Women's Facility in Chowchilla.

Death penalty trials cost at least \$1.1 million more than regular murder trials, costing California counties about \$22 million per year. It also costs significantly more to house people on death row and

One way to give to the Foundation is by becoming a Paul Harris Fellow. Named after the founder of Rotary, these fellowships are achieved by donating \$1,000 to the Rotary Foundation. This donation can be made over a period of time, and you can become a Sustaining Paul Harris member by donating only \$100 per year to the Foundation. The rest can come as you want. You can award additional Paul Harris Fellowships to other members of your family. In addition to my own Fellowship, my wife Mona and my oldest grandchild, Hannah, are Paul Harris Fellows.

As you all know as members of Rotary, the needs worldwide are great. Too many people live in abject poverty, hunger, and disease. Whatever we can do to

to fund their mandatory appeals than it would if they were all condemned to permanent imprisonment until death. Every death row inmate costs the state \$175,000 more per year, totaling more than \$117 million for the entire death row population. The total price tag for state and county expenses is at least \$139 million a year.

This is a topic of great sensitivity to many, but regardless of one's position on the subject, we all have a responsibility to understand it and to uphold the judicial process.

Sammy Kayali

assist Rotary in alleviating these problems, we must do. There used to be a call for giving to charity that said, "Give until it hurts." We really need to "Give until they stop hurting." Come see me at a meeting to learn how you can help.

Dollars & Sense

Continued from p. 1

route to the community hall where the dinner was held. However, the parking lot was a cow pasture, and the organizers had picked up all of the cow pies to protect the attendees from unintended squishiness on their shoes.

I found a sensible parking place at the end of the pasture under a shady tree. We had to walk up the hill and around the cemetery to the community hall. My sister had come early to buy tickets because your ticket number determined the order of service.

We waited outside for about an hour because they had a huge turnout. My mother was off and running as soon as we arrived at the front entrance, identifying by facial features some fourth and fifth cousins. Gradually the line fed into the air conditioned hall.

Once inside we were greeted by a vast supply of delicious fried chicken, green beans with ham chunks, fresh corn, homemade dumplings, mashed potatoes and gravy. The drinks were simply iced tea and lemonade. I was told that, in the good

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Oleanders

Woe is me! When we bought our place, one of the things we liked was the privacy afforded by the huge stand of oleanders along the front of the property.

That began to disappear with the famous Santa Ana windstorm of November 30 - December 1, 2011. We saw much of the foliage ripped from our oleanders, leaving behind the many dead branches that had built up over the years. Little did I know that this was only the beginning.

Now many of them suffer from something I've heard called *leaf scorch*, in which an insect transmits something to the plant that causes it to suffer what seems to the casual bystander to be a drying out of the leaves due to a lack of water.

When I first observed this, I attempted to provide more hose watering as time would permit. Further, I went out and bought some new plants, and had them placed so as to fill some gaps in the coverage.

Then I learned that watering — at least for the area under the dripline of the canopy of the native oak at one end of the front footage of the property — was not something that I should undertake during the dry months of the year. To do so will encourage an attack of “oak root fungus” to the root system of oaks and deodars alike, and it's a problem for which there is no cure.

So that generally ended my watering. That, and the further revelation that it was *leaf scorch* and not a lack of water that was causing my oleanders to brown up.

By now the new plants have all died, and I am busy preparing for a November planting of something else. I'm in the mar-

ket for California “natives” that will — in time — shelter us again from the street and sidewalk traffic, while also adding to the beauty of Altadena. It will probably end up being Toyon, which gave “Hollywoodland” its name.

But whatever ultimately ends up in the place of my long-suffering oleanders, my task today is to rid myself of the doomed plants I now have. And so you'll see me out periodically with axe, hand saw and branch snippers taking them down bit-by-bit. It's not a pretty sight, and — I have to add — more than a bit disheartening.

I'm under the gun in a certain respect, because I need to have as much cleared as possible before mid-October. It's at that time that I anticipate I'll be hiring a crew to take out anything left over, and also to prepare the soil for whatever is to be planted. That's because I want to save myself some money, and whatever I can't get to now will cost me dollars I could be

using elsewhere.

The current clearance operation is limited by the capacity of my two large and one small yard waste containers that are emptied weekly. The yard service also uses these, so I can't even stuff them to capacity. Still, I'm in a race to move as much green waste out each week as I have the time, energy and carrying capacity to take on.

And at work's end, as I clean myself up, bandage my cuts and nurse my muscle soreness, I ponder how it all might look in another five years, when new plantings have taken root and have grown to reasonable approximations of their ultimate adult height. It's some solace to me to think that all of this work will — in time — be worth my efforts.

So, if you know of some new threat to Altadena's plant species, be kind. Just keep it to yourself. I don't think I could bear to hear it just yet!!

Heteromeles arbutifolia, Toyon, or as it's sometimes called, Christmas Berry, is an evergreen shrub to small tree that usually grows to 6-8 ft. high and 4-5 ft. wide. Toyon can go to 15-20' tall if it's old and happy and become a delightful evergreen multi-stemmed tree with white flowers in summer and red berries in winter.

Toyon makes a good screen or specimen plant.

Toyon is native to much of California and is drought tolerant after the first few years, but tolerates some water if drainage is good. Relatively

fire resistant. Toyon likes full sun, but tolerates full shade. Tolerates serpentine-based adobe soils, but also lives in beach sand. The berries are kinda edible but awful and contain cyanide compounds that can kill you if you eat a few pounds. Better for the birds. I had one student make a cherry pie out of them that wasn't bad. (The same cyanide compounds volatilize off and leave the cherry flavor when cooked.)

See the full article at <<http://www.laspilitas.com/nature-of-california/plants/heteromeles-arbutifolia>>



MONEY by Linda Wilkes MATTERS

Economic Update In the News

The Standard & Poor's/Case-Shiller 20-city housing price index — on a non-seasonally adjusted basis — rose 2.4 percent in May after a 2.6-percent increase in April. On a year-over-year basis, when compared with May 2012, prices rose 12.2 percent, the largest annual gain since March 2006.

Pending home sales, a forward-looking indicator based on signed contracts, fell 0.4 percent in June. On a year-over-year basis, pending home sales were 10.9 percent higher than June 2012.

The Mortgage Bankers Association said its seasonally adjusted composite index of mortgage applications for the week ending July 26 fell 3.7 percent. Purchase

volume fell 3 percent. Refinancing applications decreased 4 percent.

The Commerce Department announced that gross domestic product — the total output of goods and services produced in the US — increased at an annual rate of 1.7 percent in the second quarter of 2013. This follows a 1.1 percent pace of growth in the first quarter of 2013.

Manufacturing activity rose to 55.4 in July after a reading of 50.9 in June. A reading above 50 signals expansion. Total construction spending fell 0.6 percent to \$883.9 billion in June, following a 1.3-percent increase in May. Compared to June 2012, construction spending has risen 3.3 percent on a year-over-year basis.

Factory orders rose \$7.6 billion, or 1.5 percent, in June to a seasonally adjusted

\$496.7 billion. This follows a 3-percent increase in May. Excluding the volatile transportation sector, orders decreased 0.4 percent in June.

Initial claims for unemployment benefits for the week ending July 27 fell by 19,000 to 326,000. Continuing claims for the week ending July 20 fell by 52,000 to 2.951 million. The less volatile four-week average of claims for unemployment benefits was 341,250. The unemployment rate fell to 7.4 percent in July, its lowest level since December 2008. Employers added 162,000 jobs in July.

Coming on the economic calendar are reports on international trade on August 6 and wholesale trade on August 9. ●

Find Linda Wilkes on line: <http://www.myprospectmortgage.com/lwilkes>

A Double Thankyou for a Wonderful 90th Birthday Celebration from Joe McMullin

To Ray Carlson:

I want to thank you for the wonderful article that you had published in Sparks. It brought back wonderful memories of my 30 years with the Rotary Club of Altadena. You have been a great Rotarian. You have done and are continuing to do so much good in this world through your Rotary activities.

I am having a great get together with my 3 children and their families tomorrow. My daughter, Jeannette, is flying in from Texas. We are taking a luncheon boat ride on the Potomac River with my two sons, who live nearby in Virginia, and their families. I plan to show them your article and the copy of Sparks in which it appeared.

Give my best regards to the member

of the Altadena club and encourage them to continue all of the good work for the community of Altadena and the rest of the world for which our club is famous. ... Joe

To Jacque Foreman:

What a pleasant surprise it was to receive from the Altadena Rotary Club the card and brownies to celebrate my 90th

birthday

It brought back wonderful memories of my 30 years as a member of the Rotary Club of Altadena, California.

I joined the club in 1970 and had 30 wonderful years with all of the good friends and members of the club. Please extend my thank you to the club members. ... Joe ●

THIS SATURDAY, AUGUST 17 CONCERTS IN THE PARK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED SIGN UP ON CLUBRUNNER



VIEWS ON CAPITAL PUNISHMENT — IN OPPOSITION TO . . . DR. MICHAEL PARENTE

Capital Punishment is based upon the assumption that normal adult beings are rational and moral beings who know that committing murder is wrong. Capital Punishment punishes those who could have done otherwise (*a moral choice*), but chose to do evil anyway, and therefore deserve to be punished (*particularly heinous crimes*).

It is specifically because of man's value and dignity that we punish moral wrongdoing. (*If you don't believe in morality then punishment makes no sense*). We don't punish animals for stealing or killing (*we don't punish them, we simply remove them for our safety*).

The principal goal of capital punishment is not deterrence, but punishment. In that way it works every time. It always deters the offender. Dead people don't commit more crimes.

It's never unjust to punish a very guilty man or woman if the punishment itself fits the crime (*lex talionis*).

Why must we accept a philosophy (*No Capital Punishment*) that says it's better for 100 guilty people to go free than for one innocent person to be condemned? Guilty people repeat crimes that injure and even kill other innocent people.

Our attempts at improving justice must be at the level of the process of adjudication making any determination of guilt more trustworthy, not dismissing the prosecution of the guilty out of the fear of error, which will assuredly perpetuate injustice... to assuage our own feelings of guilt. We all make mistakes, but that must not deter us from doing the best we can in the carriage of justice. Better unequal justice than no justice at all.

Dennis Prager says; "*We have a war going on here between murderers and society, but only one side is allowed to kill.*" Which side do you think that is any-

way?

"*Capital punishment is to the whole society what self-defense is to the individual.*" (The Ethics of Life and Death J.P. Moreland). Just think about it.

Supposition: Man a free moral agent.

He is capable of choosing good or bad behavior.

He may be influenced by his environment, but not ultimately controlled by it. We have an immediate awareness of our moral natures, that we freely make moral choices. And it seems to make sense to praise and reward good behavior. If we're not responsible for our choices, neither blame nor praise makes any sense.

"If we are not free agents, then we are determined and therefore not responsible for our behavior, either good or bad." B.F. Skinner

Another view is that man is simply sick and needs healing or that he is a machine in need of fixing (*the rehabilitation model*). Our society and every society has failed to rehabilitate criminals (*hard to rehabilitate a sociopath with no sense of right or wrong except through conditioning*). Care to play God?

In a traditional Judeo-Christian ethic, Capital Punishment was commanded by God in the Old Testament — It preceded the Mosaic Law.

Gen 9:6 "*Whoever sheds man's blood, by man his blood shall be shed, for in the image of God He made man.*" (suggests mankind is a moral being)

Ultimately, Capital Punishment is based on the dignity of man, i.e., man's transcendent value and God's moral law allowing mankind to distinguish between good and evil. And if we acknowledge morality, it demands justice and equity, but only if there is **choice** to adhere to or to ignore moral law (*free will required*).

The resulting exercise of our **free**

choices demands individual recognition of our responsibility and accountability, without which there would be no relevance to morality, good or evil. So, in the name of justice, let the punishment fit the crime. This does not abrogate the possibility of **Mercy** or **Forgiveness**, but that is a different subject. ...

... We have a case for Capital Punishment!

Dollars & Sense

Continued from p. 3

old days, they also had beer on tap and passed around the moonshine jug. However, the tea totalers in Indianapolis had long since put a stop to this nefarious behavior.

Once inside I was the talking point of every table. The big guy from California who had travelled over 2000 miles to eat all of their food. My mom was in seventh heaven, identifying long lost cousin after long lost cousin. They reminisced about common relatives who had long passed away. She had a terrific time.

I was interviewed by over 100 different people with short conversations that didn't last long since I did not know anyone that they knew. It was also short lived because, when I quizzed them about the nearest Rotary Club, I got this blank stare. Not a single one of these people had ever heard of Rotary.

The crowd started to thin out as we got close to dusk because most of the attendees had to get home to milk the cows (which must be done twice a day seven days a week).

I knew it was time to go when an elderly lady approached me and insisted that she had once been my baby-sitter. She got a good laugh when she exclaimed "you smell a lot better now!"

Summer BBQ

At

Old Town Pasadena American Legion & Holly Street Apartment Courtyard
131 N. Marengo Ave
Pasadena



Enjoy a wonderful day of Great food, Games for Children and Live Music

Saturday, August 17, 2013

Noon to 9:00 p.m.

- Enjoy BBQ Chicken Lollipops, Angus Beef Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, BBQ Corn on the Cob and much more...
- Enter the "Best" Baked Beans and/or Potato Salad Contest – Entry Fee \$10
- Cash Prize for the winner of the best baked beans and potato salad!
- Frozen Yogurt Station from 
- Live music throughout the day inside our air conditioned building and outside
- Bouncy House and Face Painting for the KIDS!
- Space for vendors to show and sell their crafts available for \$25 per space
- Watch your favorite sporting event in our Top Shelf Bar
- Contests for children include water balloon tossing and more...
- Bar-B-Que from \$2 to \$4. Games, face painting & bouncy house \$2 - \$5

Funds raised from this event helps Veterans, Veterans Families and Children's programs in Pasadena and the San Gabriel Valley.

R.S.V.P. by calling



at 626-396-8271 or email us at salpasadena13@gmail.com

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ROTARY'S MARCH TO END POLIO

Saturday & Sunday October 26 & 27

Western Regional Little League Park
6707 Little League Drive
San Bernardino, California 92407



- ☺ Each club is challenged to walk 100 miles in an effort to raise \$2500.00 You can start anytime, but we hope you will do your final laps at the event
- ☺ You can involve your family and friends.
- ☺ You can involve your RYLA students.
- ☺ You can involve your Interact club.
- ☺ Each club will raise its own money and they will donate it directly to their District.

- ☺ Get people to support "so much a mile".
- ☺ District Website will be available to make donations.
- ☺ Special parking for RV's. Spend the night and enjoy the fellowship.
- ☺ Reserved areas for your clubs Pop-Up's.
- ☺ Food, Entertainment, Tee Shirts.
- ☺ Sunday morning Pancake Breakfast.
- ☺ Polio Survivors Lap

FOR INFORMATION CALL:

Cal Magro - Polio Chair (626) 827-2611

March to End Polio



24 hour walk-a-thon

October 26 & 27, 2013

Rotary Districts 5300-San Gabriel Valley-Foothill, and 5330-Inland Empire, in partnership with The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation are holding a multi-district fundraiser to help stamp out Polio forever. ROTARY, together with UNICEF and THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION have been partners in the effort and are proud to say that there are only three endemic countries left. The Gates foundation has generously agreed to triple our fundraising efforts. Together with your help, we will soon see the end of this disease.

All Sponsors will be recognized with logo on tee-shirts. **Art work must be submitted by 10-1-13**

Major Corporate Sponsors will be highlighted as Corporate Sponsors in most printed and electronic advertising and press releases.

Major Corporate Sponsors will be recognized on the web-site. www.marchtoendpolio.com

Corporate Sponsors will have banners (you provide) displayed around the park as well as advertising on Jumbo-Tron in the center of the park.

During the event, the announcer will call attention to Corporate Sponsors and thank them all for their participation in this event.

Corporate Sponsors will receive corporate recognition in Souvenir Program:

Sponsor		\$ 500.00
Bronze Sponsor	(Major)	\$ 1,000.00
Silver Sponsor	(Major)	\$ 2,000.00
Gold Sponsor	(Major)	\$ 3,000.00
Platinum Sponsor	(Major)	\$ 5,000.00

Cal Magro (626) 827-2611
Polio Chair District 5300

Terry Thompson (951) 538-4996
Polio Chair District 5330



All **FREE** Concerts start at 7:00 PM in the Amphitheater at Farnsworth Park.
 568 East Mt. Curve Ave., Altadena, CA 91001 for information: 626-798-6335
 Visit: <http://www.altadenasheriffs.blogspot.com>

17th Annual Summer Concert Series Schedule - 2013

Downbeat Express (Big Band with Jennifer Gates)	Saturday, July 6th
Law & Disorder (Classic Rock 'n Roll)	Saturday, July 13th
The Blue Breeze Band (R & B, Soul, Blues & More)	Saturday, July 20th
Louis van Taylor Quintet (Cool Jazz)	Saturday, July 27th
Guitarist Brian Hughes Band (Contemporary Latin-Jazz)	Saturday, August 3rd
Upstream (Reggae, Calypso, Soca & Steel Drum Music)	Saturday, August 10th
The Groove (Oldies but Goodies)	Saturday, August 17th
Those Manning Boys & Friends (Music from Ireland)	Saturday August 24th

And... For Our Grand Finale... Saturday, Sept. 7th
Back by Popular Demand, Hot August Night Staring Dean Colley in a Tribute to Neil Diamond
Presented By: Community Events & SSGA

Thank You to our generous sponsors



MonteCedro
 The art of life in harmony



Rotary Club
 Of Altadena



*Georgia Rutherford
 In memory of
 Don Rutherford*

