



April 07, 2016 Issue #34 Editor: S. J. Harrison

This week: **LAURA ROY'S
PASSION FOR SCIENCE & TEACHING**



Laura Roy is a teacher at Charter Oak High School. She has a baccalaureate degree in Biochemistry and a Single Subject Credential in Chemistry and Biology from Cal State University, Fullerton. Prior to teaching high school, she worked in numerous research laboratories as a

biomedical researcher before receiving a TaPP scholarship (Teaching as a Primary Profession). As a TaPP scholar, she is expected to provide students with authentic science experiences to enrich their understanding of the nature of science while also developing their critical thinking and problem solving skills.

The PLTW Biomedical Science curriculum at COHS goes hand in hand with Laura's teaching philosophy that students benefit when their class work includes an authentic scientific research experience. Laura's students learn forensics, biochemistry, genetics, anatomy, and microbiology through engaging in laboratory activities. One such project involves an investigation of Anna Garcia's

death. Anna is a fictional character who was found dead in her home. Throughout the year, the students obtain and analyze pieces of the autopsy report and medical history to help determine her cause of death. They discover that Anna had type I diabetes, sickle cell anemia, hypercholesterolemia, heart disease, and a bacterial infection. Each of these ailments lends itself to fundamental biological concepts. Next year, Laura's students will continue in the biomedical pathway when they take Human Body Systems. In that class, they will come to learn the physiology of how our body systems interact to solve medical mysteries.

OBTAINING SPEAKERS: Finding speakers can be like looking for witnesses of a crime. You have to be persistent and creative in your approach. This month's speakers are brought to Covina Rotary by Brian Akers (pictured below with Harry Borak).



DISSECTING FUN RUN:

April 8 -- 8:30 a.m.:

Most important meeting of the year --

The 2016 Fun Run debriefing meeting.

Where?

Dawn Cychner's office:

**C&S California Capitol
644 S. Barranca Ave.
Covina.**



MEALS ON WHEELS:

Pictured above is Casey Morris doing double duty as our Fun Run Orange and Meals on Wheels coordinator. The question is: Did she convince our new member Danny Rosales to take a Meals on Wheels route?

DATA GATHERING OPPORTUNITIES:

- 04/09 District Assembly with Patricia Harvey**
- 04/14 Dr. Kevin Kaiserman**
- 04/21 Dr. Lim Lacey (City of Hope)**
- 04/28 Mike Birkholm**

INNOVATIVE USES FOR COPIES OF THE WHEEL:

Fold the Wheel in half, then once again, and place it inside your shirt pocket to hold your Rotary badge upright – just like Tom Patronite! Next time: Making pocket protectors.