

### **CAL-NEV-HA DIVISION, DISTRICT 42 NEWSLETTER**

#### **JANUARY 2018**

## KATY'S KOUCH



Katy Porter katy\_d\_porter@hotmail.com 760.315.0645

A publication for and about the Kiwanis Club of:

Camarillo Conejo Valley Moorpark Oxnard Santa Barbara Santa Susana Simi Valley The South Coast Thousand Oaks Ventura Ventura

Editor: Katie McElroy katie@candugraphics.com 630.570.1936 My fellow Kiwanians,

It is a new year! Welcome to 2019, where we have a clean slate to write a whole year of kindnesses, impactful actions, team building and futuristic dreaming. Today you can sit on the Kouch, or you can bounce on the Kouch – it has unbreakable springs – to look forward to this upcoming year.

Celebrate the contributions you have made to the past year, one filled with the joy of singing Key Clubbers and grateful seniors, but also with actions to support our fellow Ventura County citizens who struggled with fire and tragedy near the end of the year. Thank you for all you have done as individuals, teams and clubs to make our community safer and kinder.

When you are out of breath from bouncing, have some ice water with mint, and start your mental images of your club's plans. After the first 90 days, it is a good idea to double check where you are. For those programs and projects your club is committed to accomplishing, have project chairs stepped forward? Do they have support as needed to get the projects done? The project leaders can report to the committee heads, who can support each activity by checking in and showing they care.

Most of our Kiwanis Clubs have one or more Service Leader Program (SLP) associated. Check in to be sure that they have a mentor / advisor to visit regularly. If not, then one or more club members can make a difference, and add a fun activity to their week. When I was a club mentor, I was always inspired by the caring and dedication of the students.

How about the day to day community involvements from your club? For members who do not want to do a big activity, the smaller, but meaningful tasks may be just the ticket. These might include a park or shore clean-up, meals on wheels, or reading in a library or school. If your club does not have events like these, check in with a club that does, for some ideas you can emulate.

Our Division Council meeting in January was amazing! Thank you to the Kiwanis Club of Conejo Valley for hosting, and filling us with Tacos! Also thank you to Don Erickson and the Simi Valley Club for bringing the sodas and iced tea to enhance our meal. Gratitude as well for the Aktion Club of Santa Barbara and Thousand Oaks' Gloria Dyok for holding the raffle. Finally, thanks to all who participated in the raffle and the happy and sad dollars.

We provided a Division 42 certificate and medal to Conejo Valley's Heather Donatini as our Heart of a Hero for the month. Read about her commitment to children with her Bumblebee Project. We filled the room, with 63 members and guests, including about a dozen enthusiastic Key Clubbers. Our speaker was Roberta Nadler, a marketing professional with her own company "Connect the Dots". She talked about the power of social media, and encouraged us all to POST, POST, POST when at fun events, and to LIKE and SHARE when others do the same.

Now let's move to the February calendar. There is NOT going to be a February DCM. Not. Do not come, as there will be no food, no program, no lights, you get the picture. Instead, come to the Mid-Year Conference South, in San Diego, February 16. See you there, and on March 14 at our next DCM.

I appreciate you all, and am eager to see the new year unfold.







# <u>Camarillo</u>

### Allen Grizzard-Paul Reporting

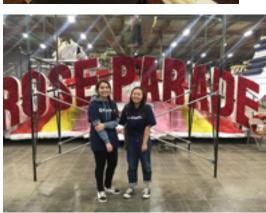
The Kiwanis Club of Camarillo just renewed the Charter for Cub Scout Troop 3800. We are very proud of this Cub Pack who are always looking for service projects to do in the local community. Carole Warren took over from her late husband Darryl, as our Scout liaison and she is now officially a member of the Boy Scouts of America.



Carole Warren on the left with Vickie Turk from Cub Scout Troop 3800, signing the Charter.

Members of the Cub Scout Troop working on one of their Service Projects, painting the benches at the local park where they conduct their meeting.





Rancho Campana KIWIN'S providing service hours at decorating the Rose Float.





Rancho Campana KIWIN'S providing service hours at decorating the Rose Float. Rio Mesa Key Club members

worked on this float and their Advisor, John Muller was there to capture the float along the parade route.



Installation of new member, Bob Kelly, by President Mary Grizzard-Paul and sponsor, Doug Hill. Hopefully this is the first of many for 2018/2019.



# Conejo Valley

We hosted the DCM on January 10 with a Make-Your-Own-Burritos night. We were proud to present our Hero of the Month: Heather Donatini, founder of the BumbleBee Foundation. The Foundation was established in memory of Jarren Donatini, who at the age of four, passed away from a very rare form of liver cancer (Hepatoblastoma). The overwhelming costs and emotional stress of Jarren's 18-month



battle with cancer had such a profound impact that his parents knew they were called to start an organization that would offer love and support for all families suffering from pediatric cancer. Its

### Roger Klausler Reporting



name came easily to them: Jarren loved Transformers, particularly the Transformer named Bumblebee.

The BumbleBee Foundation inspires hope and faith by providing gas cards, medical bill payments, car payments, help with rent and mortgages, utility payments, relief for unpaid time off work, counseling assistance, and support to the overall well being of pediatric cancer families.

The Foundation currently aids 84 pediatric cancer families, 90% of whom live in Ventura County. In 2018 it provided \$150,000 in aid to those

families. Enough funds were donated to "adopt" 53 families for the recent holidays at no cost to the Foundation and provide three Christmas gifts each to the members of those families. In December our Foundation received an unsolicited donation of

\$100 from a friend of one of our members who saw our Facebook page and designated us to contribute it to the relief efforts for the families of the victims at Borderline and those affected by the Hill and Woolsey fires. We added it the \$500 that we had already marked for that purpose. And then. . . . that gift inspired us to solicit more donations to the fund from family and friends,



all of which will be matched by Thrivent Financial. The total now is about \$1200, which our Foundation will donate to the Ventura County Community Foundation. For information and to send your own donation, please go to www.vccf.org

For information and to send your own donation, please go to www. bumblebeefoundation.org

Photo, left to right: Robert Wing, Heather, Roger Klausler, Tom Stapleford, President Amy Hastings, Ryan Wharton, David Yeomans, Sue Bartley, Past President Sonia Agresti, The Rev. Betty Stapleford





# Moorpark

### Ute Van Dam Reporting



Mesa Verde Middle School 6th graders receive a "Be a Leader" bag from Moorpark Kiwanians.

Moorpark Kiwanians are eager to launch a new project where we are adopting every 6th grade student in our city and giving them a "Be a Leader" bag to carry their gym clothes or school supplies. Our goal is to make this an annual project and eventually, every student in our city will have received this useful gift from our club.



Mesa Verde Middle School 6th graders receive a "Be a Leader" bag from Moorpark Kiwanians.



6th graders from Campus Canyon are excited to receive their "Be a Leader" bag!



Steve Hoppel, President of Kiwanis Club of Moorpark, introduces speaker Joana Breckner as she shares her story in "Discovering Your Power in Tough Times."

## **Thousand Oaks**

### **Chuck Huffer Reporting**





Mary Sepe (left) baked 25 loaves of her famous and delicious banana bread. Members snapped them up at \$20 each, with all \$500 in proceeds going to the Eliminate project. The Kiwanis Kween, Sherrill Hyink (right) heads up our Club's Eliminate efforts, and teaming up with Mary is just one of the many ways she generates bucks for Eliminate.



Scott Walker, of Ventura County's Crisis Intervention Team, was our program speaker December 12. The team provides training to dispatchers and police officers to recognize signs of mental illness or developmental disabilities, so that officers and other first responders can respond

appropriately and avoid unnecessary confrontations, while protecting the public, as well as directing individuals to agencies that can provide help where indicated.

Lieutenant Governor Katy Porter heads up the Thousand Oaks Kiwanis "Holiday Angels" project. Here she briefs members on the

project and displays a board with each sticker representing a specific needy child or family. Members picked stickers from the board and returned with appropriate gifts for the Kiwanis Santa team to deliver. The Club donated more than 100 gifts to 32 people in eight families this year.





#### Thousand Oaks

Kiwanians gathered at the Los Robles Greens Banquet Center on December 15 for our annual Holiday Party, this year a Champagne brunch. Members attending the party brought unwrapped toys for KABC's "Spark of Love" program. Seven bags containing approximately fifty toys were later delivered to a local fire station for distribution to needy youngsters through the program.

Thousand Oaks Kiwanis members at the Macy's Believe Make A Wish celebration on Double Down Friday, December 7, after turning in the Club members' letters to Santa. Macy's donates \$1 to the Make-a-Wish Foundation for every letter to Santa received, and double that on Friday. Our efforts helped the Thousand Oaks Macy's store to donate \$13,070 to Make-A-Wish on Double Down Friday!



## Ventura

### **Bradley Dykes Reporting**



President Brad Dykes and Past President Bart Bleuel, interviewed on Our Ventura TV to highlight the work of Kiwanis and our SLPs in Ventura.



Data Builders Club, making quilts for cancer patients (4 pics)







Circle K students spend a couple days cleaning up our city. They spent some time downtown in Ventura and at the beach making sure it is safe and clean for our residents.



Working with the Ventura Land Trust Organization the Circle K students help to plant trees and cleanup the environment.



Kiwanis After Dark was delighted to have Jack the Ripperologists, Matt Kohagen and Jill Blanpea shown here. They told us the story of the unsolved murders back in the fall of 1888.

Hatt of Heroes

Camaritlo



Doug Hill is the first member of our club to invite a new member to join this year. He is also working on two more potential members who we hoping will sign up at the end of the month. Doug is a hard worker for our club who is always the first to volunteer for a service project or fundraiser. He is our Camarillo KIWIN'S advisor; helps deliver meals to shut-ins; works on the Youth Authority Advisory Council; liaise with the annual Strawberry Festival; and is also a key contact with our Chamber of Commerce. You might think, "how does his wife allow him to do all this?" That was simple, he got her to join.



What is a Kiwanis bulletin without photos? BLAH! Photos help us put together names and faces. YEA! Who is the steadfast photographer of Thousand Oaks Kiwanis? None other than "The Photo Man" - Chuck Rogers! HURRAH! Chuck has been a Kiwanian for 24 years and soon found his niche as our Club's awesome photographer. His talent and attendance at all meetings and functions serves us well. Chuck's photos capture the essence of our club's fun personality, and he snaps along at every Kiwanis gathering. Through good times and hard times due to health or personal situations, Chuck makes every effort to be the "man for the job"

We salute you, Chuck...so let us take a photo of YOU!





Barbara Eisenberg has been a member of Moorpark Kiwanis since 2009. She is always willing to roll up her sleeves and pitch in where needed. She is instrumental in planning our annual Bunco game as well as coordinating food for our "Wine and Moonlight" fundraiser. Barbara currently serves as the treasurer on our board. Our club is lucky to have Barb as a member.

# Hatl of Heroes Division Hero and Conejo Vatley Hero of the Month



Heather Donatini, Co-Founder and Executive Director of the BumbleBee Foundation

In 2009, Heather and Jason Donatini heard the words no parent wants to hear, "Your child has cancer". Their then 3-year-old son, Jarren had been diagnosed with a rare form of liver cancer called Hepatoblastoma. For the next 18 months he fought valiantly but passed away in his daddy's arms in the early morning hours of November 1, 2010. Had it not been for the Thousand Oaks community surrounding them: to help raise their youngest son Vincent, provide meals, insure a roof over their heads and lights on at night, the Donatini's would have been lost. As such they vowed to make the tragedy of losing Jarren a way of providing hope and even a moment for other pediatric cancer families to come up for a quick breath of air.

Established as a 501(c)(3) in May of 2011, The BumbleBee Foundation, named after Jarren's favorite Transformer and guardian of the Autobots (the good guys) has since provided hundreds of families thousands of dollars in patient aid. This past year, over \$150,000 of patient aid was provided to over 80 families, 90% of whom reside in Ventura County. The type of aid ranges from gas cards, grocery cards, and coffee cards, to hospital parking vouchers (yes, the hospitals charge parents to park), utility, mortgage, and rent money, medical expenses, internet so that kiddos can complete school work even when they cannot attend school, cars, new tires, and the unimaginable funeral expenses. Additionally, with the support of Bumblebee's amazing donors, 53 families were adopted for the holidays. Each family adoption provided the parents with \$100 gift card for gas and a \$100 gift card for Target, and each of the children in the family, not just the cancer kiddo received \$100 worth of presents off

their wish list. For many, this was the only way Christmas was able to happen for these families. Yet above and beyond the monetary giving BumbleBee was established by two amazing individuals who walked the pediatric cancer walk for 18 months, and who can listen, empathize, and love others who are walking that same unimaginable path. Jarren was a kind, wise soul, who through his journey

showed others the true meaning of love, faith, and courage, and it is because of his death that the BumbleBee Foundation can provide love, faith, and courage to other pediatric cancer families. Therefore, it is my honor to name Heather Donatini, Co-Founder and Executive Director of the BumbleBee Foundation Conejo Valley Kiwanis's Hero of the Month.

# Division 42 Clubs & Meetings

#### Camarillo

**Meeting:** Sportsman Restaurant, 4426 Central Ave, 1st Tuesday 6:00 pm. Tuesdays x-1st 12:00 pm President: Mary Grizzard-Paul Email: marygrizzard@msn.com Ph: (805) 482-6279 Secy: Allen Grizzard-Paul Email: allengrizzard@msn.com Ph: (805) 795-6279 Cell

#### **Conejo Valley**

Meeting: Bandits Grill and Bar 589 North Moorpark Road, Thousand Oaks Tuesdays 11:45am President: Amy Hastings Email: amybeuthel@yahoo.com Ph: (805) 405-4303 Secy: Roger Klausler Email: rklausler@gmail.com Ph: (805) 746-2584 Cell

#### Moorpark

Meeting: Moorpark Chamber of Commerce, 18 E. High St. 1st Monday 7:00pm President: Steven Hoppel Email: stevenhoppel@gmail.com Ph: (424) 750-1103 Secy: Paula Driscoll Email: pdriscoll805@outlook.com Ph: (805) 795-4865

#### Oxnard

Meeting: The Tower Club, 300 E. Esplanade Dr., 22nd Floor Thursdays 12:00 pm President: Tina Marie Martinez Email: tinamarie918@ gmail.com Ph: (805) 890-4799 Secy: Tracy Carroll Email: mpcrec@aol.com ph: (805) 484-2107

#### Santa Barbara

**Meeting:** Mesa Cafe, 1972 Cliff Drive, Santa Barbara Wednesdays 12:00 pm President: Marsha Gray Email: marshagraysb@gmail.com Ph: (805) 563-1458 Secy: Walter Browne Email: walterbrowne1@yahoo.com Ph:

#### Santa Susana

**Meeting:** Junkyard Cafe, 2585 Cochran St., Simi Valley 2nd Tuesday 6:15pm Monthly Dessert Socials - 4th Tuesday 7:00 pm (Call for

Location)

President: Debra Heaslip Email: sskiwanisinfo@gmail.com Ph: (805) 368-9980 Secy: Gary White Email: garywhiteallstar@gmail.com Ph: (805) 660-7446 Cell

#### Simi Valley

Meeting: Best Western Pasada Royale Hotel, 1775 Madera Rd Wednesdays x-2nd 7am After-hours meeting 2nd Friday 6:30pm @ Boys & Girls Club of Simi Valley, 2850 Lemon Ave, Simi Valley President: Marian Wallucks Email: marianwallucks@outlook.com Ph: (608) 338-8062 Secy: Mary Martin Email: fmmartin7@sbcglobal.net Ph: (805) 527-0760

#### The South Coast

Meeting: High Sierra Grill, 521 Firestone Rd, Goleta Tuesdays 6:30pm President: Wesley Jackson Email: wesjackson050@msn. com Ph: (805) 967-7417 Secy: William Bailey Email: bill@jwbailey.com Ph: (805) 964-2249

#### Thousand Oaks

Meeting: Los Robles Greens Golf Course 299 S. Moorpark Rd. Wednesdays 7:15am Social Meeting: 1st Friday - Call for location President: Chuck Huffer Email: chuffer123@gmail.com Ph: (805) 807-2911 Secy: Gloria Dyok Email: gloriadyok@verizon.net Ph: (805) 402-1297 Cell (Text preferred)

#### Ventura

Meeting: Poinsetta Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd, Ventura Fridays 12:00 pm President: Brad Dykes Email: braddykes@gmail.com Ph: (805) 552-4217 Cell Secy: Fred Zielger Email: ziegler.fairway@gmail.com Ph: (805) 535-5218 Cell

#### Ventura-Suburban

Meeting: Marie Callender's Restaurant, 1295 S. Victoria Ave. 1st & 3rd Wednesdays 6:30 pm President: Brendan Hendrick Email: kiwinsda2000@aol. com Ph: (805) 642-8661 Secy: Tracy Hendrick Email: tnbhen@aol.com Ph: (805) 642-8661



## **Division 42 Calendar of Events**

### Training & Club Events

### DCM

**February 16, 2019** Mid-Year Conference South San Diego Marriott, Mission Valley. Full day, with registration at 7:30 AM

March 10, 2019 11:00am - 3:00pm Governor's Visit River Ridge Golf Club 2401 W. Vineyard Ave, Oxnard, CA 93036 Thousand Oaks Club hosting

March 2 Mid-Year Conference North

June 27-30 2019 KI Convention - Orlando, FL

June/July 2019 - Date TBD CLE Training!

August 15-17, 2019 CNH Convention - Las Vegas, NV DCM @ The Arc - Ventura 5103 Walker Street, Ventura, CA 93003

Thursday, November 8, 2018 Hosting club: Simi Valley

Thursday, December 13th 2018 Hosting club: Camarillo

Thursday, January 10, 2019 Hosting club: Conejo Valley

Thursday, February 14, 2019 No meeting. Go to Mid-Year Conference

Thursday, March 14, 2019 Hosting club: Santa Susana

Thursday, April 11, 2019 Hosting club: Moorpark

Thursday, May 9, 2019 Hosting club: Oxnard

Thursday, June 3, 2019 Hosting club: Thousand Oaks

Thursday, July 11, 2019 Hosting club: Santa Barbara and the South Coast

August 2019 No DCM - DCON

September 2019 No DCM - Installations

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\$1339.00 – Call for Promotional Pricing	\$1339.00 -	BF	У	Ocean View Balcony	Available Exclusively through Suzanne Klasen at CruiseOne
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\$1439.00 – Call for Promotional Pricing	\$1439.00 -	DD	ony	Delux Ocean View Balcony	
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	06:15 AM	Los Angeles, California	10/26	Sat	Valley of Mexico. You'll "Come Back New" when you sail on this premium cruise line voted best Ocean Cruise Line by USA Today
05:00 PM	08:00 AM	Ensenada, Mexico	10/25	Fri	Coast cruise lines. You may want to experience the bustle of San Francisco or tour the famous Napa valley wine region. Further down the coast you'll see the white sand beaches of Monterey Bay and want to soak up the charm of San Diego. Wine lovers may want tour the many well know wine producing regions in California and the Califia
10:00 PM	8:00 AM	San Diego	10/24	Thu	Sail round-trip from Los Angeles and experience the spectacular coast of the Golden State of California! The Royal Princess, flagship of Princess Cruise, offers a level of service and luxury unmatched by other Pacific
		At Sea	10/23	Wed	Kiwanis Project Eliminate Fundraiser - Unique Premium West Coast Cruise
6:00 PM	7:00 AM	Monterey, California	10/22	Tues	
11:00 PM	7:00 AM	San Francisco, California	10/21	Mon	
		At Sea	10/20	Sun	Fundraiser Cruise
04:00 PM		Los Angeles, California	10/19	Sat	Royal Princess - October 19, 2019 Kiwanis International   Departs Los Angeles, California Project EliMiNaTe
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	PORT OF CALL	DATE	DAY	7 Night Pacific Coastal Cruise (Los Angeles Roundtrip)