

EDUCATE, EMPOWER, & ELEVATE

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CAL-NEV-HA District, Division 42 Newsletter

December 2024



Cuauhtemoc Solorio Lieutenant Governor temocsolorio22@gmail.com (805) 890-4665 A publication for and about the Kiwanis Clubs of:

CAMARILLO MOORPARK OXNARD SANTA BARBARA SANTA SUSANA SIMI VALLEY THOUSAND OAKS VENTURA VENTURA SUBURBAN

Editor Nick Esser nichorus@pacbell.net Hello Kiwanians-

As the year comes to an end, I reflect on 2024. It was a year that brought us laughter and happiness, personal and professional growth, as well as sadness and loss. We are fortunate to have individuals to celebrate the good, and who we can count on to listen to us and provide a shoulder to lean on. I am blessed to be a part of the Kiwanis community, a community who are selfless, passionate, and dedicated to the betterment of their communities.

I ask that we all take a moment to reflect on our respective 2024 experiences. Let's use this holiday season to close out the year in the best way possible. This is the season to reach out to those whom we haven't connected with, give thanks to someone who has helped, inspired, and or motivated you, and surround yourself with friends and family. Please do not forget to also do something for yourself, as our efforts tend to involve the betterment of others.

I want to thank each and every one of you for supporting me in my role and for everything that you do. I wish you a blessed and prosperous 2025. Let's continue to impact our communities; y'all are a huge piece of the puzzle and the "village" that affords opportunities to others that would not be possible without your commitment and dedication to serve.

• Thank You, and Happy Holidays.

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Camarillo

Allen Grizzard-Paul Reporting

November included a great DCM where we were able to go back to kidSTREAM before they finally start construction. Then we had one of the best Food Drives ever where we filled 13 carts, 1,260 lb. of food (yes, they weighed it). This filled not only the back of a truck but also a Suburban SUV.







December started with a Holiday Walk celebration put on by the Old Town Association, where the kids were able to experience real snow and go tobogganing, while we provided the adults with beer, eggnog, and sangria.







L - R: President John enjoying the snowfall. (Ok it tasted a little soapy). Kids had a great time tobogganing down the real expensive snow which was trucked in. Member Sylvie enjoys some eggnog with potential new member Rhonda.

We worked two events on December14: the 34th Annual Holiday Celebration for Deaf Children—which we now work every year, and a Cozy Christmas event put on for homeless kids by Shelter Care Resources. We also provided Christmas stockings filled with goodies.



Santa arrived on Pizza Dan's truck - President John and Allen feeding the families - One of the older kids leading Christmas carols using sign language.



Arts and Crafts at Cozy Christmas





Treasurer Linda and member Pat had fun working on this event.

Moorpark

Ute Van Dam Reporting











Moorpark has TERRIFIC Kids and TERRIFIC volunteers! Our annual Poker Tournament Fundraiser was a huge success!













Friends from neighboring Kiwanis clubs came to visit! Our Poker-Meister, Steve, ran the show. The final table!











Our monthly social was so much fun at Steve's beautiful home.

Oxnard

Rodney Medina & TinaMarie Martinez Reporting



Kiwanis Oxnard was the co-sponsor of the 14th annual Toys for Teens fundraiser at Settebello's Pizzeria in Oxnard. Proceeds went to donating gift cards to teenagers from underserved parts of the community. The premise by the founder, Tiffany Lopez, is that the tots are taken care of, but the teens are all too often forgotten.











On Sunday December 6 in Oxnard Harbor, Oxnard Kiwanis served over 4000 pancakes to participants of the Annual Santa to the Sea 5k, 10k Run-Walk. President Pablo Gallegos led our crew, Sergio Martinez, Allison Cordes, Marsha Cordes, TinaMarie Martinez, Debra Cordes, Rodney Medina, and friends of Kiwanis Elaine and Carlos Hernandez, who worked from sunrise at 5:30 am to get the hotcakes ready.

Santa Barbara

Marsha Gray Reporting

For the 47th year the Kiwanis Club of Santa Barbara, in partnership with the Santa Barbara Parks and Recreation Department, put on a spectacular Thanksgiving Lunch for the disabled community on the day before Thanksgiving. We had over 35 volunteers, including members of our community who pop up every year asking to help.







We had over 300 diners. We had to have several seatings to feed everyone. All the clients were served at their tables.







L - R: Angela Miller Bevan with son Jackson. He has been volunteering with her since he was in his stroller. Tiffany Celis, Vice President of Administration at our UCSB CKI, lit up the room with her smile and enthusiasm. Rosemary Santillan has been a Kiwanis helper for decades.







L - R: We work our nonagenarians hard. Joe Bailey, 96, and Dr. Art Najera, 90, served lunch the entire time. Lauren Loza, a community volunteer, Alma Vaja, and Jordan Robinson working hard on the line! Past Governor Gary and Marsha. He is the glue behind the entire event—in the kitchen at 6 am getting the food ready.

> Zoë Silverberg was our December 4 speaker. She is with the newly-opened Jewish Federation in Santa Barbara and spoke about the organization. They have an amazing facility and outreach to the community.









New Directions Travel is a 30-year-old organization dedicated to special needs adults. They facilitate travel adventure for them throughout the year. Christmas time is extra-special. A group of special needs adults goes to Disneyland for 3 days and nights. Lauren Loza, her husband Kevin, Marsha Gray, and a parent of one of the adults going to Disneyland spent 3 hours wrapping many gifts for the travelers.

Santa Susana

Debbie Heaslip Reporting



SPECTACULAR HOLIDAY SOCIAL

Members gathered at Debbie's to celebrate the season. Everyone enjoyed appetizers from Margaret and Lorraine while doing a little business that included inducting **FOUR new members** and planning our January **DCM - New Year's Celebration.**



Debbie treated everyone to a wonderful lunch of stuffed peppers and cinnamon-roasted squash. Karen and Debbie whipped up strudel, cookies, and cheesecake for dessert. Fun was had by all with our gift exchange and a box of take-home goodies.

We are a small but very special group that thinks of each other as family, and who keep the Spirit of the Season in our hearts all year.









NOT ALL PLAY -WELL MAYBE SOME

Margaret, Katy, Judy, and her brother Mike prepared our monthly 40 dinners for the Samaritan Center.



The Best December Ever

Santa Su welcomes four longtime Friends of the Club, who took the plunge and decided **to our absolute joy** to officially be part of the gang. Katie Porter, Trustee and Past Lt. Governor, and Debbie, Past Lt. Governor, proceed with induction, nametags, and presentation to the club of new members -



Lorr aine and Don Erickson, Marian Walluks and John Absmeier.



Lots of cheers and hugs!!

Club President Margaret noted that our club has ONE current and ONE past Trustee, FOUR Past Lt. Governors, and EIGHT current or past presidents.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT!

Simi Valley

Donna Smith Reporting



Left: At our Nov. 19 evening meeting, we honored our club's veterans. Center: On Nov. 30 we rang the bell for the Salvation Army, joined by Darlene Pettis, who manages their local Simi office and is now a prospective new member. Right: Our booth crew at the Winter Wonderland Fundraiser for the Samaritan Center on Dec. 7





Dec. 9: Caroling at Varenita Assisted Living with Valley View builders Club and Township and Knolls K-Kids











Dec. 14: Caroling at Vista Assisted Living with Hollow Hills K-Kids. Even their parents joined in!



On Dec. 15 a group of our members got together to enjoy White Christmas at the Simi Cultural Arts Center.

DIVISION 42 NEWSLETTER

Thousand Oaks

John Prescott Reporting



The Thousand Oaks Club staged its annual Conejo Uncorked Wine Festival on October 10 at the Gardens at Los Robles Greens. More than 200 people attended, and our Foundation earned about \$7,600. It was an all hands on deck evening, including those pictured in the group photo. From left to right: President-Elect Brian McMahon, Karen Jackson and her husband Robert, Vice President Jerry Westby, Sherrill Hyink, President Robin Britt, and Past President Mary Sepe.













New member Karen Jackson and her husband Robert hosted and cooked for the Thousand Oaks Club's Halloween social this year. Kathy Smiley and her Social Committee and volunteers put together a great event, and the members really went all out with the costumes. Needless to say, a great time was had by all.







Thousand Oaks Kiwanis Club, Builders Club, and K-Kids visited the California Veterans Home in Ventura to commemorate Veterans Day and let veterans know they are not forgotten. We brought cards, candy, and music. Special veterans we met included Mac, who is 103 years old, and Richard, who is 98. Veteran Ricardo "sky dancer" (pictured, in wheelchair) gave us a beautiful painting in appreciation.

Ventura

Bart Bleuel Reporting





Ventura Kiwanis sponsors the Ventura College Basketball Tournament, usually during Thanksgiving weekend. This year it was a week earlier and only one game. Yeah. It happens.









Ventura Kiwanis supports the Bike Challenge Club by Bike4aCause. The ribbon cutting for the inaugural Learn to Ride event (in the rain), included a keynote address by former Senator Omer Rains, for whom a local bike trail is named.



Ventura Kiwanis hosted 75 VUSD Special Needs students to a Holiday Party. The joy in the room was electrifying.







Left: Ventura Kiwanis attends the Ventura Chamber monthly Connection Breakfasts. Right: Ventura Kiwanis joined Ventura Rotary and Lions for a Holiday Social aboard the Island Packers Harbor Caroling cruise.









The countdown is on! On **December 13, 2024**, we were officially **100 days away from Key Club International's 100th birthday** — a century of service, leadership and making a difference.

We're inviting you to join the celebration! Here are some ways you can get involved:

<u>Visit the centennial webpage.</u> Explore the page for stories, resources and inspiration to commemorate this milestone.

Share your Key Club story. We'd love to hear how Key Club has shaped your life! Inspire others to get involved.

Host a Key Club birthday party. Throw a celebration with your friends, family or local club — and post about it on social media. Tag Key Club's official accounts and use the hashtag #KeyClub100.

<u>Share photos</u>. Help us capture the spirit of Key Club by sending us your favorite Key Club moments, old or new.

Make a donation. Support the next 100 years of service and leadership by donating to the Key Club Centennial Fund. Your contribution empowers young leaders to make lasting change and take advantage of new opportunities. Learn more and make your gift today: <u>keyclub.org/donate</u>.

Show your Key Club spirit. Visit the <u>Kiwanis Family Store</u> to grab exclusive Key Club Centennial gear and celebrate in style.

Join the Key Club Alumni Network. Sign up to stay connected! It's a great way to continue your journey of service and leadership.

Don't forget to mark your calendar for **March 23, 2025** — Key Club International's 100th birthday. Together, we can make this centennial year unforgettable.



We've opened registration for the 2025 Kiwanis International Convention early to give you more time to plan and budget! You don't want to miss our new lineup of education workshops offering practical ideas on how to grow your club and its impact on your community. At the biggest and best Kiwanis event of the year, you'll forge lifetime friendships while exchanging ideas with Kiwanians from around the world.

LEARN MORE

Division 42 Clubs & Meetings

Please confirm the meeting place and time with the Club Secretary if you are planning a visit.

Camarillo

Meeting: Contact Secretary for location. Tuesdays: 1st, 3rd, & 4th - 5:30 pm President: John Hayes Email: hpncopy@gmail.com Ph: (805) 233-4601 Sec'y: Allen Grizzard-Paul Email: allengrizzard@msn.com Ph: (805) 795-6279

Moorpark

Meeting: Contact Secretary for location. 3rd Monday: 6:00 pm Board Meeting, 6:30 pm Business Meeting, 7:00 pm Social President: Mark Van Dam Email: vandamage@roadrunner.com Ph: (805) 433-3305 Sec'y: Bruce Rokos Email: brucerokos@gmail.com Ph: (805) 320-2094

Oxnard

Meeting: The 1901 Restaurant, 740 S. B St. 3rd Wednesday 6:00 pm; 2nd Thursday at DCM ; 2nd Wednesday Business Meeting via Zoom 5:30 - 6:30 pm President: Pablo Gallegos Email: pablo.gallegos@oxnardunion.org Ph: (805) 901-3798 Sec'y: TinaMarie Martinez Email: tinamarie.918@gmail.com Ph: (805) 844-9145

Santa Barbara

Meeting: Cody's Café, 4898 Hollister Ave. 1st & 3rd Wednesdays 12:00 pm 4th Wednesday Evening Social 5:30 pm (Location varies.) President: Marsha Gray Email: marshagraysb@gmail.com Ph: (805) 252-7093 Sec'y: Josh Kane Email: josh.kane@edwardjones.com Ph: (805) 966-9902

Santa Susana

Meeting: Szechuwan Garden, 484 Los Angeles Ave., Moorpark 3rd Wednesday 11:30 am President: Margaret Zoetowey Email: margaret.sigurdsson@yahoo.com Ph: (805) 340-7673

Sec'y: Gary White Email: garywhiteallstar@gmail.com Ph: (805)660-7446



Simi Valley

Meeting: 99.1 The Ranch Studios, 1555 Simi Town Center Way, #730, 1st & 3rd Wednesdays 6:30 pm; Denny's, 5197 E. Los Angeles Avenue, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays 7:00 am 5th Wednesdays, Club Social - various locations President: Donna Smith Email: 3smitties@sbcglobal.net Ph: (818) 281-4372 Sec'y: Mary Martin Email: martin.mary1226@yahoo.com Ph: (805) 587-2235

Thousand Oaks

Meeting: Los Robles Greens Golf Course, 299 S. Moorpark Rd. Wednesdays 7:15 am HYBRID: Live + Zoom (through Dec. only) Social Mtg. "First Friday" night each month: location varies President: Robin Britt Email: rbritt@tokiwanis.org Ph: (805) 824-9381 Sec'y: Lori Olbrich Email: tulipp78@gmail.com Ph: (805) 428-7704

Ventura

Meeting: Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd. 1st & 3rd Fridays 12:00 pm President: Andy Mack Email: amack@arcvc.com Ph: (805) 539-8060 Sec'y: Bart Bleuel Email: bbleuel1@gmail.com Ph: (805) 816-8646

Ventura Suburban

Meeting: via Zoom 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 6:00 pm President: Brendan Hendrick Email: kiwinsda2000@aol.com Ph: Home: (805) 642-8661 Sec'y: Tracey Hendrick Email: tnbhen@aol.com Ph: (805) 642-8661



Division 42 Calendar of Events

Training & Club Events

February 28 - March 2, 2025 Circle K District Convention Site TBD

March 29, 2025 Mid-Year South Education Conference San Diego, CA

April 5, 2025 Kiwanis One Day (As observed by C-N-H District)

April 10-13, 2025 KIWIN'S District Convention Orlando, FL

April 24-27, 2025 Key Club District Convention Woodland Hills, CA

June 25-28, 2025 Kiwanis International Convention Circle K International Convention Pittsburgh, PA

July 2-6, 2025 Key Club International Convention Orlando, FL

August 7-10, 2025 District Education Conference Las Vegas, NV



Division Council Meetings

October 10, 2024 No host club - Div. Leadership Team Location: Cal. Lutheran U., Oxnard Center

November 14, 2024 Hosting club: Camarillo Location: kidSTR≋AM Museum, Camarillo

December 12, 2024 Hosting Club: Simi Valley Location: Cal. Lutheran U., Thousand Oaks

January 9, 2025 Hosting Clubs: Santa Susana & Ventura Suburban Location: Cal. Lutheran U., Thousand Oaks

February 13, 2025 Dark

March 13, 2025 Hosting club: Ventura Location: Cal. Lutheran U., Oxnard Center

April 10, 2025 Hosting club: Oxnard Location: Cal. Lutheran U., Oxnard Center

May 8, 2025 Hosting club: Moorpark Location: Cal. Lutheran U., Thousand Oaks

June 12, 2025 Hosting club: Santa Barbara Location: Cal. Lutheran U., Oxnard Center

July 10, 2025 Dark

August 14, 2025 Hosting club: Thousand Oaks Location: Art Trek, Newbury Park

September, 2025 No DCM - Gov. Visit and Div. Installation







Lappy New Mear

As we welcome the new year, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your support, which has helped us in our mission of Building a Better Future for Our Children. The team at the Cal-Nev-Ha Children's Fund wishes you a year abundant in joy, prosperity, and exciting new opportunities!



AUCTION SNEAK-PEEK

We're thrilled to share a sneak peek of our first auction item. Whether you envision palm trees gently swaying or breathtaking sunsets over the Pacific, this auction item could be your gateway to paradise! Click <u>here</u> for an exclusive glimpse, and stay tuned for info on how to bid on this 7-night escape to the Big Island of Hawaii. A heartfelt Mahalo to Steve Click and Dana Belmonte for their generous donation of this incredible getaway!



DON'T DELAY, APPLY TODAY!

Now is the time for all qualified Circle K members and graduating Key Club/KIWIN'S members to apply for a scholarship from the Cal-Nev-Ha Children's Fund! With your support and encouragement, more students like Abigail Jensen - the 2024 recipient of the Roy A. Kagawa Memorial scholarship - can turn their dreams into reality and reach their goal of obtaining a higher education. Our Circle K and Key Club/KIWIN'S members are relying on your help. Please share that <u>our scholarship applications</u> are due on **Sunday, February 2, 2025**. Consider helping eligible members complete their scholarship app; this simple act could significantly impact their future in numerous ways!

Circle K



Key Club/KWIN'S



LEGACY FELLOWSHIP

Join our <u>Legacy Fellowship</u> and make a difference. Kiwanians are renowned for their commitment to philanthropic initiatives, donating their time and resources, but did you know you can support the CNH Children's Fund by leaving a gift in your will or trust, ensuring a lasting impact. Watch our <u>video</u> to learn about this important opportunity. "From the bottom of my heart, I am truly thankful towards the Cal-Nev-Ha Children's Fund for the 2024 Roy A. Kagawa Memorial Scholarship."

- Abigail Jensen, 2024 Scholarship Recipient