



Kiwaniis®

THOUSAND OAKS

The Official Newsletter and Minutes of the Kiwanis Club of Thousand Oaks, California

July 3, 2024

Who's on First?



Furiously waving the flag in honor of the Fourth of July are Doug Morrison, Sherrill Hyink, Bob Engler, Don Christie and Sean Leonard. Sherrill led the singing of "Grand Old Flag."

Dave Biedebach gave one of his best invocations this morning, thanking God and the men and women who have served and continue to serve our country to secure our freedom. Problem is – Don Christie thought it was his turn this morning and so did Rick Herrera and so did Doug Ryan. This will all get sorted out down the road ... we hope.

With President Paul Lopez away to represent the Club at the Kiwanis International convention in Denver, Goddess-Elect Robin Britt took the podium to

chair the meeting. She first called on Sherrill Hyink to lead the opening song, and the Kween tricked four other Kiwanians - Bob Engler, Doug Morrison, Don Christie and Sean Leonard into helping her with a flag-waving rendition of "Grand Old Flag." Teta Van Omeren led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sean Leonard introduced his guest, Karen Jackson. She is a local independent CPA and interested in serving the community. Welcome, Karen.

Don Christie and Sue Engler are cele-



Sherrill Hyink led the singing of "Grand Old Flag." Teta Van Ommeren led the Pledge of Allegiance and Dave Biedebach gave the invocation.

brating birthdays this week. There were no Club anniversaries reported.

Presidential Announcements

Robin filled us in on upcoming events. Several members will be helping the Simi Valley Kiwanis Club with their Fourth of July Extravaganza tomorrow. We are hosting the August DCM (Division Council Meeting) at Art Trek

Upcoming Speakers

- 07/10 TOSH new cancer center.
- 07/17 DA's office.
- 07/24 Ron Cey/Ken Gurnick
- 07/31 Brewfest prep
- 08/07 Nellie Cusworth-History of TO.
- 08/14 John Garcia, CLU, Impact of AI
- 08/21 Nels Carroll, Cardio Thoracic Robotic Surgery.

on August 8. Robin asked for a big turnout.

The July Friday Night Evening Edition is this Friday at Cristy Warner's home. A sign-up sheet made the rounds. Cristy has also informed members about this year's American Cancer Society Relay for Life at CLU on October 5 – get in touch with her to join our team.

We have a very special guest speaker July 24 – former Dodger great Ron Cey. ("You don't cey," cracked Arnie.) We're moving to the big room for that meeting and we're trying to get a head count – guests are welcome, but they will cost \$18 each to pay for their meal.

Committee Reports and Announcements

President-Elect Robin Britt didn't get

a break, as she remained at the dais to call for Committee reports and Club announcements.

Meals on Wheels – Sherrill Hyink reported that Steve Weiss will drive our Monday route.

Spiritual Aims – No formal report, but despite four people (allegedly) scheduled for one meeting, give Dave Biedebach a call to join our inspirational team.

BrewFest – Sherrill Hyink shared her Kiwanis history as a lead-in to her call for donations to the BrewFest silent auction. Basically, she's declined pleas that she go through the chairs so that she can remain a grunt worker – if she were President who would be the grunt and get the work done. She'll be knocking on your door if you promised something and haven't delivered.

Brian McMahon announced the BrewFest sign-up sheet is out. You can sign up at a meeting or on the Club member website. BrewFest is our largest fundraiser and our ability to serve the community depends on the money raised at BrewFest and our other big fundraisers, Conejo Uncorked and Turkey Day Dash. It is "all hands on deck" time.

Community Service - Gloria Dyok is looking for volunteers at Safe Passage on July 13. She said she is also a grunt worker, but no one ever asked her to be President (Editor's note: liar!). Patrick Connolly offered to drive a carpool to Simi Valley tomorrow for those helping



After getting his ticket picked for the raffle, Don Christie tried and failed to pick the winning marble.

the Simi Valley Kiwanis Club.

Loteria

The prize was at \$35 this week, and birthday boy (and second-string invoker) Don Christie held the lucky ticket. But, too bad, so sad, after close inspection it was determined that the marble he pulled was a blue one, not the clear marble he sought. Other scratcher winners were Patrick Connolly, Sharon McMahon, and our program speaker, Seth Wilmoth.

Fine Period

It took a little bit of prodding by Robin to get the auction for the Fine Free Badge going. It was pretty much no contest, with Sharon McMahon claiming it for \$35.

Arnie Rudman led off the Fine Period by dropping in \$10 to announce that he has been selected as the sole artist to display his works at the National Park Service Santa Monica Mountains headquar-



Sean Leonard introduced his guest, Karen Jackson. She is a local independent CPA and interested in serving the community.



While President Paul Lopez was off to the International Convention in Denver, President Elect Robin Britt took over the reins and ran a tight ship.

ters at King Gillette Ranch during August.

George Groen was \$20 worth of thankful to live in the land of the free and home of the brave. Teta Van Omeren also paid for our wonderful nation celebrating its birthday.

Dave Biedebach parted with \$17 - \$2 for missed meetings, \$5 as an apology to Rick Herrera for bumping him from the Invocation this morning, and \$10 for a great visit to Scandinavia with his daughter. He's proud of his proficiency in Swedish, but there is still much to learn. "Bra jobbat fortsätt så, Dave!"

Another story from Jim Stephenson. He sends out dues invoices at midnight on the 1st of the month. He gets an email back when a member pays. Larry Levine, a convicted early bird, paid at 4:30 a.m., but the earliest payment came from Steve Allen at 2:30 a.m. So Jim checked with him – why so early? Had to use the

facilities, replied Steve, apparently an expert multi-tasker.

Lynn Burdick enjoyed our night at CLU for the play "Much Ado About Nothing," and thanked Tim Hengst for organizing the outing. Patrick Connolly reported that he will miss a meeting and that the contractor working on his remodel was in a car accident. He's OK, but the project will be delayed a bit.

Don Christie dropped in a "Happy Birthday" dollar. He too enjoyed the play at CLU. He also displayed a reprint of an article from the Jamestown newspaper in 1776 reporting on the adoption of the Declaration of Independence.

Sherrill Hyink congratulated Arnie Rudman on the quality of his artwork, and that it merited such a prestigious display. What will you donate to Brew-

Fest, Arnie?

Doug Ryan missed last week because of a jury duty summons. Rick Herrera informed us that the Declaration of Independence was voted on July 2, 1776, but not signed until July 4.

Robin Britt put in happy dollars – her son is engaged to be married. Doug Morrison said that the Declaration of Independence was an act of sedition, punishable by death, against the English crown.

Learning About Agriculture

Vice President Brian McMahon introduced our guest speaker, Seth Wilmoth, who is the Educational Program Director and Operations Coordinator for the non-profit, Students for Eco-Education and Agriculture (SEEAG). Its mission is to educate students and the larger community about the farm origins of food and agriculture's contribution to nutritional well-being.

Seth told us how important agriculture is to Ventura County and the State. Agricultural production in Ventura County is valued at \$2.1 billion. The principal crops are strawberries and avocados. Lemon production is declining, and avocado production is rising.

SEEAG works with schools to offer educational programs tailored to the grade level, including field trips where students can see what it takes to operate a working farm, learning about soil, water, the plants, and insects, beneficial and



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otherwise.

Another program SEEAG offers is Farm Day. They have one in Santa Barbara County in August and one in Ventura County on November 2nd. Local farms, ranches, and wineries open their doors to the public for tours, product tastings and other activities. (Social Committee take note.)

SEEAG's emphasis is really on educating students at various levels through other programs, such as Farm-to-Food lab for third graders, STEM Career Pathways in Agriculture for middle and high schoolers, and Youth Wellness Initiative for all levels. These programs are provided free of charge to the students and the schools, even including bus transportation on field trips.

SEEAG's funding comes from multiple sources, including foundation and government grants, corporate sponsorships and individual donations.

Stick Draw

Stick draw winner this week was lucky Bill Steele. He was in the house and pocketed the \$20 dues credit.

President's Message

President-Elect Robin Britt read a message from President Paul Lopez. "Dear Kiwanian brothers and sisters, tomorrow our beautiful and free country will be celebrating one more anniversary of our independence. Let's all be thankful for all our blessings to be living in this GREAT country. God bless the USA and God bless you."

Written and edited by John Prescott. Photos, production and distribution by Mike Mathews.



Vice President Brian McMahon thanks guest speaker Seth Wilmoth for his presentation.

A Kiwanis Club of Thousand Oaks Charity Event
Diamond Sponsor **BANC OF CALIFORNIA**



AUGUST 4, 2024
2-6 PM



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KIWANIS CALENDAR

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE KIWANIS CLUB OF THOUSAND OAKS

2nd Saturdays: 9:00 am to 11:00 am:
Safe Passage food distribution. 1707
Calle Diamonte, Conejo Creek Condos.
See Gloria Dyok. **Next date is July 13.**

July 3-6: International Convention in
Denver

July 5, Friday: Friday: Friday night
meeting at the home of Cristy Warner,
6:00

August 2, Friday: Friday night meeting
at the Connolly's, 6:00.

August 4, Sunday: Brewfest at Conejo
Creek North.

August 8, Thursday: DCM at ArtTrek,
703 Rancho Conejo Blvd., Newbury
Park. We are host club.

August 8-10: District Convention in Ko-
na, Hawaii.

September 6, Friday: Friday night meet-
ing at Van Ommerens, 6:00.

September 14, Saturday: Governor's vis-
it.

September 26, Thursday: Soroptimist
Margarita Mixoff.

September 29, Sunday: Club Installation
Banquet at Goebel Senior Center.

October 5, Saturday: Relay for Life at
CLU.

October 10, Thursday: Conejo Un-
corked.

November 28, Thursday: Turkey Dash.

Club Officers

President

Paul Lopez

President Elect

Robin Britt - Committees

Vice President

Brian McMahon - Programs

Secretary

Lori Olbrich 9/2024

Treasurer

Jim Stephenson 9/2024

Director (Ass't Secretary)

Gloria Dyok 9/2024

Director (Ass't Treasurer)

Chuck Huffer 9/2024

Immediate Past President

Mary Sepe - Membership

Director

John Prescott 9/2025

Director

Steve T. Smith 9/2025

Director

Jerry Westby 9/2025

Director

Doug Morrison 9/2024

Director

René Solem 9/2024

Director

Teta Van Ommeren 9/2025

Director

Don Christie 9/2024

Meeting Location

Our club meets Wednesdays at the Los Robles Greens Golf Course located at 299 S. Moorpark Rd. in Thousand Oaks. We meet at 7:30 a.m. in the banquet room just off the snack bar.

Club meetings are also held via Zoom until further notice.

Committees

Chamber of Commerce

Steve Weiss

Social

Donna Orraj / Kim Baumann

Interclub

Steve T. Smith

Bulletin

John Prescott

Web Site

Jennifer Chebi

House

Dave Freeman / Larry Levine

Health and Caring

Roger Meyer

Social Media

Kim Baumann

Youth Services / YCP1

Teta Van Ommeren

Spiritual Aims

Dave Biedebach

Community Services

Gloria Dyok

Sponsored Youth

Cristy Warner

Fundraising, Paul Campbell

Meals On Wheels, Sherrill Hyink

BBQ Wagon, Mike Mathews

Strategic Planning, Tony Antonelli/ John Prescott

Contact Us

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www.tokiwanis.org