



Kiwaniis®

THOUSAND OAKS

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

October 29, 2025

"Spooktacular" Meeting

Members arriving for breakfast were treated to an array of table decorations and mood music reflecting a Halloween theme. And Kathy Smiley further propelled us into the mood by reading a spooky poem for this morning's inspirational message. Sherrill Hyink engaged us in teamwork with the opening song "Chairs to Mend" sung in the "rounds" format. To this scribe's untrained ear, it was rendered quite melodiously. Martha Coronado led the Pledge of Allegiance.

To lighten the mood as the meeting began, President Brian McMahon called on Doug Ryan to provide a joke, which he did. Seemed to have something to do with a hard of hearing chicken, but it was funny and well-delivered. Doug could quit his day job and become a stand-up comic, except he doesn't have a day job, so what's the use.

Teta Van Ommeren introduced her guest, Michelle Anderson, a long-time friend visiting from Alabama.

One birthday this week – Steve Allen – and two club anniversaries -Robin Britt (six years) and Lynn Burdick (three).



Chet Smiley was asked by President Brian if he would lead club announcements in the absence of President Elect Jerry Westby. Not really sure of the format, Chet winged it admirably.

Presidential Announcements

President Brian asked us to support Lieutenant Governor Paul Lopez' Division 42 signature project by bringing in jackets and (unused) pajamas, which will be collected Division-wide and distributed to children in need.

He then called Steve T. Smith to the podium to receive the banner patch that our Club earned for its exceptional Inter-Club participation last year.



Sherrill Hyink led the opening song "Chairs to Mend" sung in the "rounds" format. Martha Coronado led the pledge and Kathy Smiley gave the inspiration, which was a spooky poem..

In other news, we have a Friday Night Evening Edition meeting coming up November 7th at the home of Betty and Tom Stapleford and a DCM November 13th at 6:00 pm at CLU. Our November 19th breakfast meeting will be held at Thousand Oaks Inn, and we will be dark November 26th, December 24th and December 31st.

Committee Reports and Announcements

Upcoming Speakers

- 11-05 Deborah Kahn, Conejo Free Clinic
- 11-12 Kelley Dooley, Big Brothers, Big Sisters
- 11-19 Kyle Jorry/Robin Britt, Turkey Dash

Meals on Wheels – Sherrill Hyink will drive our Monday route next week.

Turkey Day Dash – Robin Britt began circulating clipboards with sign-up sheets for the Turkey Day Dash. We have three opportunities to serve - Monday November 24 putting together the runners' swag bags, Wednesday November 26 handing out the bags to runners, and Thursday at the Dash itself.

Youth Services – Teta Van Ommeren gave us advance warning that the next Mentorship event will take place on March 5, 2026, at Thousand Oaks High School.

Social Committee – Sharon McMahon reminded us of this Sunday's Country Line Dancing social event and administrative fundraiser at Mikey's Restaurant. Mikey has augmented the regular menu



Doug Ryan was asked by Brian to tell a joke. After threatening something NSFW, he told a good one.

just for us. Cost to attend is \$15. Food and beverage are available for purchase.

Community Service - Arnie Rudman made his weekly pitch for Wednesday to help sacking food at the Methodist Church on Janss Road at 1:00 until roughly 2:30. Gloria Dyok reported that our next Safe Passage food distribution event is November 8th. Gloria also informed us that the toys and gifts we collect at our Holiday Party will be donated to Big Brothers/Big Sisters this year, and that gift cards collected will go to Many Mansions for residents they serve.

SLP - the biggest Key Club event of the year is the Fall Rally at Magic Mountain on November 15. This year, 150 kids from our region are expected, and Bob Engler put out the call for chaperones.

Health and Caring - Roger Meyer asked Jim Stephenson to give an update on his wife Alice's condition. Jim reported that she has a disease that causes



President Brian McMahon presents Inter-club Chair Steve T. Smith with a banner patch for the club's achievement.

shunts to grow arteries and veins. These are usually weak and subject to leaks. She is undergoing treatment to locate and stop the bleeding. Roger also let us know that Don Shewmon suffered a stroke that left him unable to speak and with one side paralyzed. There is a hopeful prognosis, however, and he is beginning to respond to therapy.

Jim Stephenson later informed us that Nick Cigan is ailing and that Steve Kammerer has recently had knee replacement surgery – his knee clicks now, literally. No sneaking up on anyone, Steve.

Kathy Smiley called our attention to the Halloween-themed centerpieces at each table, and the bid sheets next to them. Proceeds go to the administrative fund.

Lynn Burdick announced that we have a wide selection of Scrip available for the holidays, and the See's Candy campaign is up and running. You can order online for delivery anywhere, or order for pick up at a Club meeting. For the latter option, you'll need to order by



Gloria Dyok won the raffle and rolled a 3 and collected \$3. Gloria was also vocal during the meeting in her support for a certain Canadian baseball team.

November 15 for pick up in early December.

Roll of the Die

Gloria Dyok won the opportunity to roll for two sixes but failed, earning a meager \$3 instead of the \$40 on the line. John Prescott (with an assist from Robin Britt – John was asleep at the switch when his number was called and Robin woke him up) won \$6, Lanny Arrowsmith \$5, and Teta Van Ommeren \$2 in their consolation rolls.

Fine Period

Larry Levine was forced to part with one of his own dollars this morning since everyone signed in, Kathy Smiley getting in just under the wire.



Brian awarded certificates to Robin Britt and Lynn Burdick for their years of service to the club.

Lanny Arrowsmith generously donated his \$5 raffle winnings to the Club. Steve T. Smith shared his experience with hearing loss, such as mis-hearing “must be present to win” as “must be President to win,” and in a conversation with his wife about the recent robbery at the Louvre, thinking he heard that the robbers “dropped a clown” as they fled the scene, instead of “dropped a crown.”

Arnie Rudman dropped in \$3, hoping for better health of those who are ailing. Teta Van Ommeren contributed \$5 for her guest and health of the members.

Sherrill Hyink shared happy dollars for a weekend visiting her son in Pacific Grove.

Supporting Conejo Schools

Today’s speaker was Lana Clark, the Executive Director (and sole full-time employee) of the Conejo Schools Foundation (CSF). The Foundation is a private non-profit whose mission is to sup-



Today's speaker was Lana Clark, the Executive Director of the Conejo Schools Foundation (CSF).

port student success throughout the Conejo Valley Unified School District (CVUSD). She likened it to a District-wide PTA.

Lana shared a wide variety of ways the Foundation accomplishes its mission. One means is through making grants to teachers every year. In 2024, CSF made grants to 285 teachers in the total amount of \$77,000, its largest grant cycle ever. CSF also partners with the Chamber of Commerce to present a "Teacher of the Month" award in their classroom.

A project that Lana is particularly proud of is All-District Music Festival. CSF partners with CVUSD and the Conejo Recreation and Park District to bring together 3,600 students for musical performances at the Kavli Theater.

CSF supports students who are unhoused or underhoused with the donation of backpacks and school supplies and items from the "Conejo Closet, a collection of clothes and basic supplies that



Vice President Kathy Smiley thanks Lana for her presentation this morning with a Kiwanis mug.

are available throughout the year. Lana told us that 700 children qualify for this type of support.

CSF gets its funding through private donations from individual donors and from grants, including from the City of Thousand Oaks. Lana also expressed appreciation for the way non-profits here work together to address community needs, rather than competing for donor support.

Stick Draw

Patrick Connolly was present this morning. He gets SOMETHING, namely a \$20 dues credit!

President's Message

"The smallest act of kindness is worth more than the grandest of intention." – Oscar Wilde

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

Country Line Dancing

\$15
ADMISSION

Class

FOOD & DRINKS
ARE ON YOU!

LEARN OR JUST WATCH

Sunday, Nov 2nd at Mikey's Restaurant
579 N. Ventu Park Rd, Newbury Park



LINE DANCE PARTY

NOVEMBER

JOIN THE
PARTY!

SUNDAY

2

SUNDAY

BOOT
SCOOTIN'
FUN!

2025

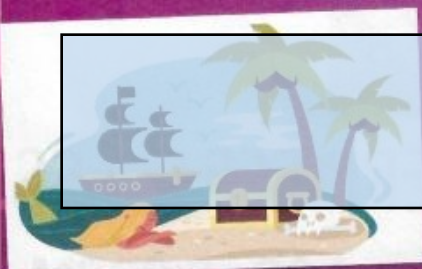
4:00 - 7:00 PM

PROFITS GO TOWARD THE KIWANIS ADMIN FUND

CONTACT KATHY SMILEY (805) 390-9323
OR SHARON MCMAHON (805) 368-1347

UPCOMING EVENTS KIWANIS

SOCIAL & FUNDRAISING COMMITTEES



OCT 3

**FRIDAY NIGHT
6:00 MEETING**

PIRATES & MERMAIDS NIGHT

Shiver me Timbers, join in on another FUN Friday night "Theme" meeting! Dress up if you want, but we'll have photo-op props too! Meeting starts at 6:00, Potluck first. Steve T. Smiths house. A door Donation of \$10, please!



OCT 16

**THURS NIGHT
4:00 - 6:00PM**

FALL CENTERPIECE CLASS

Create Fall Pumpkin Centerpieces with us on the McMahaon's Newbury Park patio! We supply the pumpkins & materials, just bring your imagination! 4:00-6:00PM - Stay after if you want to enjoy Sambuca's band rehearsal! \$25



NOV 2

**SUNDAY AT
4:00 - 7:00PM**

COUNTRY LINE DANCING CLASS

Join us at Mikey's Restaurant in Newbury Park and learn how to scoot those boots like real cowboys and cowgirls! \$15 per person for the lesson and fun! Dinner and drinks are on you!



DEC 7

**SUNDAY
EVENING**

KIWANIS HOLIDAY PARTY!

A wonderful Holiday Party at a new local venue! Time and place details to follow. Wear your Denim and don your Diamonds! This will be the funnest Holiday party yet!

**KIWANIS - WE HELP KIDS
AND WE HAVE FUN!**

KATHY SMILEY - Social Committee Chair
(805) 390-9323

SHARON McMAHON - Fundraising Chair
(805) 390-9323

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 is 11-08.

Every Wednesday. Food distribution at Westminster Clinic at 1:00.

November 2, Sunday: Line dancing at Mikey's, \$15.

November 7, Friday: Friday Night meeting at the home of Betty Stapleford, 6:00 pm.

November 8, Saturday: Cooking for Girls Softball, 9-3. Don Christie is the lead.

November 8, Saturday: Boys and Girls Club Gala. See Sean Leonard, \$150.

November 13, Thursday: DCM at CLU. We'll meet at CLU Swenson Hall 101-102 Memorial Parkway. At 6:00.

November 15, Saturday: SLP Fall Rally at Magic Mountain. All day, see Bob Engler.

November 19, Wednesday: Our club meeting will be at the T.O. Inn. Food from the Pizza Cookery.

November 26, Wednesday: WE ARE DARK.

November 27, Thursday: Turkey Day Dash at CLU.

December 5, Friday: Friday Night meeting at the home of Chuck Huffer, 6:00 pm.

December 7, Sunday: Holiday Party. Westlake Hyatt, theme is denim and diamonds.

December 11, Thursday: DCM at CLU.

December 24, Wednesday: WE WILL BE DARK.

December 31, Wednesday: WE WILL BE DARK.

January 8, Thursday: DCM at CLU.

January 30, Educational Conference, Burbank

February 12, Thursday: DCM at ArtTrek

March 5, Thursday: Mentorship at TOHS.

March 12, Thursday: DCM at CLU Oxnard

April 9, Thursday: DCM at CLU Oxnard.

April 26, Sunday: Aut2Run pancake event at CSUCI.

May 7, Thursday: DCM at CLU Thousand Oaks

June 11, Thursday: DCM at ArtTrek in Newbury Park.

June 24-27, Int'l Convention, Manila

August 13, Thursday: DCM at CLU Oxnard.

Club Officers

President

Brian McMahon

President Elect

Jerry Westby - Committees

Vice President

Kathy Smiley - Programs

Secretary

Lori Olbrich 9/2026

Treasurer

Jim Stephenson 9/2026

Director (Ass't Secretary)

Gloria Dyok 9/2026

Director (Ass't Treasurer)

Chuck Huffer 9/2026

Immediate Past President

Robin Britt - Membership

Director

John Prescott 9/2027

Director

Tony Antonelli 9/2027

Director

Mike Mathews 9/2027

Director

Lynn Burdick 9/2026

Director

Sharon McMahon 9/2026

Director

Patrick Connolly 9/2027

Director

Cristy Warner 9/2026

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.

Committees

Chamber of Commerce

Sean Leonard

Social

Kathy Smiley

Interclub

TBD

Bulletin

John Prescott

Web Site

Jennifer Chebi

House

Dave Freeman / Larry Levine

Health and Caring

Roger Meyer

Social Media

Norbie Gregory

Youth Services / YCP1

Teta Van Ommeren/Sean Leonard

Spiritual Aims

Dave Biedebach

Community Services

Gloria Dyok

Sponsored Youth

Bob Engler

Fundraising, Sharon McMahon

Meals On Wheels, Sherrill Hyink

BBQ Wagon, Mike Mathews

Strategic Planning, Tony Antonelli/ John Prescott

Contact Us

Kiwanis Club of Thousand Oaks

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www.tokiwanis.org