



Kiwaniis®

THOUSAND OAKS

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

April 1, 2026

"Stars are RISING" - No April Fool's



Participating in the induction ceremony were President Brian McMahon, Past President Paul Lopez, Past President Larry Levine, Past President Dave Biedebach, new member Justin Dyer, Past President Doug Ryan and Immediate Past President Robin Britt.

Indeed, we are plucking these "Rising Stars" youthful folks right out of the sky. Today, we welcomed new, YOUNG, handsome Justin Dyer into our membership. More below.

President Brian began the meeting bringing up Moi for the morning song. I ALMOST had the crowd fooled, ready to sing their non-favorite Baba-laba..., but - April Fool! I broke in with "You Are My Sunshine." A sigh of relief was heard throughout the room. But I don't give up that easily.

Reina Paredes led the flag salute. Bob Engler shared inspirational thoughts about how our U.S. Constitution was written to secure our religious and other freedoms. Yes, it is a prayerful time of year for many religious sects. Let us always respect and honor choices of belief.

No birthdays to celebrate this week, but Kim Carnazzola celebrates her two-year anniversary with our club. She and husband Tom Skinner jumped right in to being advisors of the Builders Club at Los Cerritos Middle School. THANK YOU!



Sherrill Hyink led the club in singing “You Are My Sunshine.” Reina Paredes led the Pledge and Bob Engler offered the inspiration.

Comedian Doug Ryan’s joke today had to do with the Catholic Church dealing with poker chips winding up in the collection baskets at Catholic Churches in Las Vegas. How do they get those chips turned into cash? Just ask the “Chip-Monks”!

Presidential Announcements

We started the morning with the installation of Justin Dyer, a young gentleman from the Rising Stars group. Many

Past Presidents assisted in the procedure. We welcome Ryan as a new member.

Another applause erupted when Brian announced a special award for one of our VERY deserving members - Lori Olbrich. She will be receiving an honorable CRPD Community Service Award for her many years working in that area. The dinner will take place on April 27th at 5:30. More info to come. We love you, Lori!

Friday Night Evening Edition meeting will be April 10th at Chuck Huffer’s home. Plan to come with a food treat and enjoy the camaraderie. The next DCM is April 9th at the Ventura ARC. Paul Lopez will be running the show and has the information.

Upcoming Speakers

Committee Reports and Announcements

President Elect Jerry Westby took the podium to scattered but semi-sustained applause.

Meals on Wheels - delivery this coming Monday will be handled by the Kween herself. Also, she (moi) reminded her Lunch Bunch sackers that tomorrow is delivery day for the Harbor House food distribution at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. We sack-um and they backpack-um. All is GOOD!

Community Service - Gloria is lassoing as many healthy helpers as possible for two shifts for the Aut2Run on April 26th. Lots of FUN important tasks as we execute a pancake breakfast in...“feeding the 3000.” Let’s help her out.

Thanks to Gloria and her crew of members, the event at My Stuff Bags was fun, informative, and helpful. An assembly line was formed and as the duffle bag was passed to your station, you stuffed your article in and passed it along. Bags go to children who must leave a home quickly for whatever reason and have left everything behind. Kiwanis serves!

Youth Services - Chuck (Rudolph bleached nose) Huffer is gearing us up for the Touch a Truck event on June 20th at Thousand Oaks Community Park, next to Thousand Oaks High School. We monitor an EASY primary game booth



Doug Ryan serves up another of his weekly jokes.

for the young children who are wandering around. Plan to join us - Clipboard soon.

Don Christie was ready with a clipboard for just cooking and serving food at the T.O. Girls’ Softball event on Sunday April 19th. Two shifts available. Let’s help him out - BATTER UP!

Scrip - Lynn Burdick continues to hawk gift card purchases AND three AUTHENTIC Kiwanis aprons ... for when you flip pancakes at the Aut2Run!

Arnie Rudman continues to invite help each Wednesday 1-2:00 food handout at the T.O. Methodist Church on Janss Rd. Last “hawker” - Mike Mathews had extra Kiwanis shirts from Lord knows where, but they were free. They looked pretty BIG to me. Maybe I could make a skirt out of one ... when is the last time I wore a SKIRT? Do you remember hula hoops?

Health and Caring - Roger Meyer shared that our fun Kirk’s Jeweler guy, Steve Weiss, is suffering from severe back pain and was not with us this

More pictures of the installation.





During the raffle, Gloria Dyok had a good toss but was unhappy about the result.

OK - Arnie Rudman had a few dollars as he celebrates the Passover Season and wishes peace throughout the world. He also has high regard for the spaceship Artemis II as it rockets to the moon and beyond today ... hopefully. Prayers for a safe, exciting, informative trip. Speaking of Moon Exploration - on a weekend 57 years ago as astronauts first walked on the moon, I was in the delivery room birthing my first son. Which was more exciting ... and painful? (LATE NEWS; ARTEMIS HAS LAUNCHED SUCCESSFULLY!)

Dave Biedebach had high praise for fellow Roger Meyer (retired contractor) - who came OUT of retirement to do a fabulous job on problem areas in Dave's house. Roger is soft on Kiwanis member requests, so tuck THAT into your back pocket.

Katy Porter gave a great welcome tribute to new member, Justin Dyer. She shared not only are there so many opportunities to serve, but joining our club, is like having another big happy family.

morning. We send healing thoughts and prayers.

Roll of the Dice

No BIG winners this morning. Those that tried - Gloria \$4, Reina \$2, Tim \$2, Paul \$3. Maybe enough for each to buy a stick of gum.

Fine Period

Lots of information shared today, but I will stick to my Awesome Threesome (saves time and energy). Before I choose, several members honored Lori Olbrich and her work, not just with CRPD, but in her position as Secretary for our club. We applaud your dedication, Lori.

Casa Pacifica Shines

Vice President Kathy Smiley introduced Kerra Lewis, who is an integral part of the nonprofit Casa Pacifica Center in Camarillo. It is the largest nonprofit provider of children's mental health services in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties. I believe Kerra oversees the Transitional Youth Program at



Guest speaker Kerra Lewis talked about Casa Pacifica and was thanked by Vice President Kathy Smiley, right.



ca.org and see where YOU can make a positive difference.

Stick Draw

The man was in the house TODAY - Jerry Westby! I can't recall the prize, but just having your winning name called gives a smile. [Editor's note: it's a \$20 dues credit.]

President's Message

Words of Wisdom... from somebody "Volunteering is at the core of being human. No one has made it through life without someone else's help." (Amen to that! Thanks, John for editing this bulletin.)

Over and out - Kween Sherrill Hyink

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

the facility. Casa Pacifica specializes in treating children and young adults who struggle with complex mental health challenges such as emotional dysregulation, self-harm, anxiety and depression.

The Transitional Youth Services (TYS) Department offers a lifeline of comprehensive support and services for system-involved or impacted young adults (ages 18-25) who are navigating the complexities of early adulthood and are at risk of housing insecurity. Nearly one in three foster youth in the U.S. will experience homelessness by age 21. At Casa Pacifica, they believe every young person deserves a chance to thrive - not just survive.

As with many nonprofits, major fundraisers are the life strand for support and survival. As Kerra mentioned, there are MANY ways we, as Kiwanis members, can support this important worthwhile organization. Go to website casapacifi-

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

April 9, Thursday: DCM at ARC, Oxnard is the host. 6:00 pm.

April 19, Sunday: Girls Softball. Don Christie will have the details.

April 26, Sunday: Aut2Run pancake event at CSUCI.

May 7, Thursday: DCM at Moorpark Presbyterian Church, 13950 Peach Hill Rd. 6:00 pm.

May 9, Saturday: Teen Club Dance. 4:30 to 6:30.

June 6, Saturday: Ride On cooking event.

June 7, Sunday: The Love Run

June 11, Thursday: DCM at ARC in Ventura. 6:00 pm.

June 20, Saturday: Touch-A-Truck

June 24-27, Int'l Convention, Manila

July 9, Thursday: DCM at ARC in Ventura. 6:00 pm.

July 26, Sunday: Caravan for Cancer event, we will be grilling, 4195 E. TOB

August 13, Thursday: DCM at CLU Oxnard.

September 10, Thursday: DCM Moorpark Presbyterian Church, 13950 Peach Hill Rd. 6:00 pm.

October 8, Thursday: Corks and Kegs

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

Paul Lopez

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

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