



Kiwaniis®

THOUSAND OAKS

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

July 8, 2026

Lopez, Porter Report on KI Convention

President Brian McMahon was back from vacation this morning, so we were treated to the raucous rubber chicken squawk for the first time in three weeks. Did anybody else miss it?

Sherrill Hyink determined that our gathering this morning was of sufficient size to allow singing in rounds and so “Chairs to Mend” it was. Madeline Carden led the Pledge of Allegiance and Robin Britt handled the inspirational moment – keep the needs of others in mind and if you can do more, do more.

We greeted two guests this morning – Greig Best and Alan Santisteban. Greig is back for the second time and is a potential new member.

Doug Ryan dished the joke of the week – this one about a supermarket that recently opened in Thousand Oaks. Each section of the store features aromas reminiscent of the product offered, like the smell of sizzling bacon in the meat section. Accordingly, he doesn’t buy toilet paper there anymore.

It’s a big week for birthdays – Steve Kammerer on the 10th and both Mary Sepe and Lanny Arrowsmith on the 13th. Brian also honored Steve with a certifi-



Today’s program speaker was Mostafa Ghous, Vice President of Student Support at Moorpark College.

cate commemorating 25 years of membership. Other Club anniversaries celebrated this week are those of Karen Jackson (2 years) and Kelly Cannan (1 year).

Presidential Announcements

The July DCM is tomorrow (July 9) at 6:00 pm at the ARC in Ventura. Santa Barbara will be the host club. The Cal-Nev-Ha Annual Convention is August 13-15 in Sparks, Nevada. Our Club Installation Banquet is September 20. And the Rising Stars group is meeting tonight at



Sherrill Hyink started the meeting by having us sing a round robin of “Chairs to Mend.” Madeline Carden led the Pledge of Allegiance and Robin Britt gave the inspiration.

Bandits BBQ. Harbor House Executive Director Denese Cortes will be there.

Committee Reports and Announcements

President-Elect Jerry Westby took Committee Reports and announcements from the floor. Pretty light duty today.

Meals on Wheels – Steve Weiss will handle our Monday route, so reported Sherrill Hyink. She also mentioned we have now collected 282 items for the troops, exceeding the goal of 250.

Community Service – Lori Olbrich, reporting for Gloria Dyok, said we need a few more volunteers for cooking at Mando’s “Unity in Community” event

Upcoming Speakers

on Saturday July 11, particularly the second shift, from 2:30 to 5:00.

It’s Wednesday and Arnie Rudman invited members to assist Westminster Free Clinic’s food distribution efforts at 1:00 this afternoon for an hour or so. The location is United Methodist Church on Janss Road.

Kiwanis International Convention

Lieutenant Governor Paul Lopez and Trustee Katy Porter recently attended the Kiwanis International Convention in Manila and gave a rundown of activities there. The breakfast buffet on the opening day was a highlight – even better than our weekly breakfast. Katy said it was eight times as big and Paul corrected that to twenty times.



Lieutenant Governor Paul Lopez and Trustee Katy Porter reported on the Kiwanis International Convention in Manila.

The Keynote Speaker was Lei Wang, who was very inspirational. She is a record-setting mountaineer and executive coach. Her message was that confidence leads to action which leads to success.

The Convention elected Hope Markes, of the Hanover, Jamaica, Club as the new KI President. Former Cal-Nev-Ha Governor Valerie Brown-Klingelhofer was elected to a seat on the organization's Board of Trustees.

Both Paul and Katy thoroughly enjoyed meeting other Kiwanians from all over the world and learning at the various educational seminars held during the convention.

Next year's KI Convention is in Dallas.

Raffle

With the pot up to \$120, President Brian (pleasantly) shocked the room by declaring that hereafter the prize would be available to any roller that rolled two



Steve Allen rolled a six to collect \$6 during the raffle.

sixes, not just the person whose raffle ticket was drawn first. Note to Jim Stephenson - this change quadruples the chances of a payout on any given Wednesday. Do we need a budget adjustment?

Steve Allen was up first, and he opened by rolling a six but just rolled a three on his second try. So, \$6 for him. Patrick Connolley, Roger Meyer, and Teta Van Ommeren rolled a collection of twos and threes. Whew! The Treasury is safe for another week.

Fine Period

If anyone thought that the absence of Larry Levine would translate to a free ride for not signing in, they were mistaken. Eagle-eyed Dave Freeman nailed Katy Porter (also late) and Jim Stephenson this morning. Did they each put a buck in the fine pot? The record does not reflect that. Tsk. Tsk.

Robin Britt's journey to the meeting was impeded by a rabbit in the road, but she arrived on time. Dave Biedebach re-



President Brian McMahon presents Steve Kammerer with a certificate honoring his 25 years of service to the club.

counted an emotional visit to the cemetery at Normandy Beach with his daughter, moved by the sight of the final resting place of so many heroes of World War II.

Lynn Burdick survived five days of herding grandkids and is proud of the new projector she acquired for our PowerPoint presentations. Much clearer images on the screen. Roger Meyer paid two sympathy dollars for Chuck Huffer and the U. S. soccer team.

Jim Styephenson tuned a batch of old coins into \$42,500 with Steve Weiss' help. Steve T. Smith thought the Thousand Oaks 4th of July Fireworks show was fantastic, especially the finale. Sherrill Hyink agreed and thanked Chuck Huffer for including her in a group that got front row seats up at the CRPD offices on the hill.

Jerry Westby welcomed our guests and put in some bucks for the World Cup. Teta Van Ommeren contributed a

couple for dollars for a trip to Minnesota to see her daughter and family. Her five-month-old grandson has some health challenges and is in the hospital. She also went to San Diego for the 50th reunion of her grade school graduating class.

Greig Best dropped in two dollars. He's looking forward to membership and has already been to a DCM and helped with the Key Club Officer Training in Camarillo. He said he can only make the meetings every other Wednesday, and that's why he had two breakfasts this morning.

Rick Herrera thanked Steve Coyne for giving him some L. A. Rams swag. Rick is a long-time fan. Steve Kammerer paid for some missed meetings and \$58 for his birthday.

Brian McMahon closed with happy dollars for a Canadian vacation with his and Sharon's daughter and her family. Nice country, eh.

Moorpark College

Did you know that Ventura County is home to one of the top five community colleges in the nation? No? Well, now you do. It's Moorpark College. Today's program speaker was Mostafa Ghous, Vice President of Student Support at Moorpark College.

Mr. Ghous has more than 30 years' experience in educational leadership and has been in his position at Moorpark College for two years now.

He began his talk by providing information about the student body at the College.

There were 14,267 students enrolled in the Spring 2026 semester, of which more than 4,700 were first generation college attendees in their families. About half the students are from Moorpark, Simi Valley, and Thousand Oaks, the three cities closest to the College. Most of the other students are from other Ventura County communities, but a fair number live in the western San Fernando Valley. Most students are in their late teens or early twenties, but a significant number are older. Mostafa said that the College plans to focus more on the older demographic in the future.

Many students who graduate from Moorpark College transfer to a four-year college to gain their bachelor's degree. Mr. Ghous was proud of the fact that Moorpark College transfer students have a very high rate of acceptance, compared to other community colleges in the state. Instructors at the College are fully focused on helping their students meet the learning goals that have been set by the State.

In the Q&A session at the end, both Doug Ryan and Aaron Podell praised Moorpark College for being the right fit for their sons and helping them succeed.



Brian presents a commemorative coin to Mostafa Ghous to thank him for his informative talk.

Popsicle Stick Draw

The fix was in. Today's winner was Sharon McMahon. She was present, so she gets ... a \$20 DUES CREDIT!

President's Message

"You make a living by what you get. You make a life by what you give." Winston Churchill

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

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.

July 9, Thursday: DCM at ARC in Ven-
tura. 6:00 pm.

July 10, Friday: No Friday Meeting

July 11, Saturday: Mando, cooking burg-
ers at the Safe Passage food distribution
site on Calle Diamonte. 2:00-5:00 pm.

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

August 7, Friday: Friday Night meeting
at the home of the Englers, 6:00.

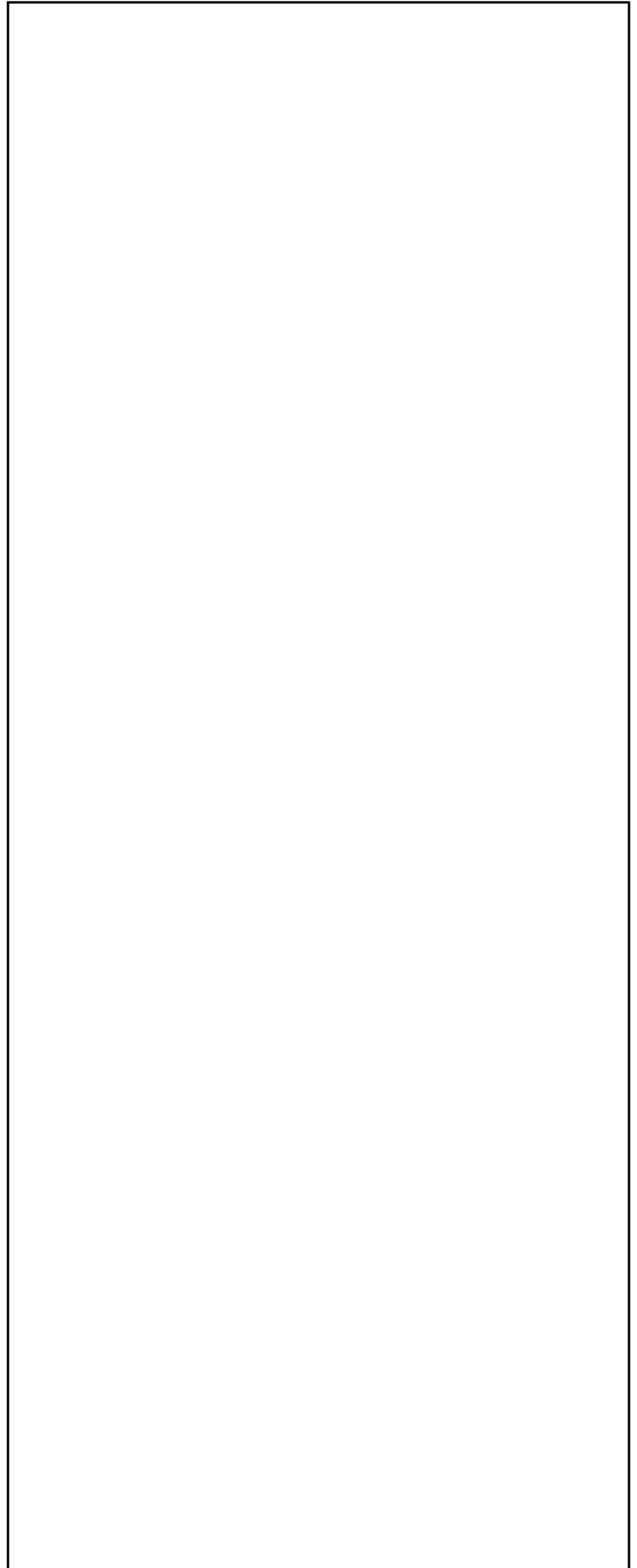
August 13, Thursday: DCM at CLU
Oxnard.

August 21, Friday: Triunfo Ball

September 11, Friday: Friday Night
meeting at the home of Teta Van Om-
meren, 6:00.

September 20, Sunday: Club Installation
at Dover & Hendrix Park.

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

Madeline Carden

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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