



News & Views

GFWC / CFWC

Hacienda Heights Women's Club

P.O. Box 5565, Hacienda Heights, CA 91745

President: Angie Valenzuela
Editors: Mary Tang & Valerie Tang
douea@aol.com
(626) 274-2946

June 2026

The creation of a thousand forests is in one acorn.

President's Message - Angie

Dear Ladies,

As we prepare to welcome summer, our June meeting gives us the opportunity to come together one more time before we go dark for the season — to celebrate friendship, service, leadership, and the incredible impact our club continues to make in the community. Please join us for this very special meeting where we will recognize our scholarship recipients, honor our past presidents, and enjoy a very informative speaker presentation on the hot topic of data centers. This meeting is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate all that we have accomplished together this year through friendship, volunteerism, and community involvement. Your dedication, kindness, and support continue to make the Hacienda Heights Women's Club such a special organization. I truly hope you can join us as we wrap up another successful club year and head into summer with pride in all we have achieved together.

"The only person you are destined to become is the person you decide to be."
— Ralph Waldo Emerson

Warmly,

Angie Valenzuela

President, Hacienda Heights Women's Club



Announcements

- View the San Gabriel Valley District "Key" newsletter at sgvd.org / resource. June Key highlight is message from new District President, Denise Jackman. She's got lots of new ideas, and ready to go! Other items of interest are new officers' reports, District calendar, and flyers from neighboring clubs.
- Equity and Access on-going donations: Personal hygiene items, small detergents and cleaning products, school supplies, canned goods, boxed cereals, mac and cheese, bags, fast food and restaurant coupons with highlighted expiration date.
- We'll be working on the Yearbook during the summer. Please send changes, updates, and comments to Mary T at douea@aol.com, or text (626) 274-2946.
- Our website is: <https://hhwomens.club/>
- Our Facebook is: <https://www.facebook.com/hhwomensclub>



Hello
Summer

~~ June ~~

Thurs., 6/4	WC General Meeting "Summer, Scholarships, and Past Presidents" Marie Callender's, 1560 Albatross, City of Industry, 11 am * Hostesses: Terry E, Connie M, and Betty C * Inspiration: Carol N * Patriotic Moment/Pledge of Allegiance: Carol N * Program: Speaker Robert Cudd on Data Center & Battery Storage Facilities
Sat., 6/6	Making Spirits Bright Orchid Sale, Chili's Parking Lot 707 Grand Ave, Diamond Bar -- 9 - 11 am (see flyer)
Fri., 6/12	District Kick-Off Party, Pio Pico Clubhouse, 9:30 am (see flyer)
Thurs., 6/18	HHWC Board Retreat
Sun., 6/21	Father's Day



*June is our last meeting until Thursday, October 1, 2026
 Enjoy your summer!*

**June Birthdays:**

Betty C, and Rachel K



Save the Date: 4th of July Parade in Hacienda Heights! - Alitzah W

Saturday, July 4th, 2026

- 7:00 AM – 8:15 AM: Parade applicant check-in at Mesa Robles
- 8:30 AM: CHP street closures begin
- 9:00 AM: Parade starts from Library at La Monde down Stimson to Steinmetz Park
- 10:00 AM – 1:00 PM: Festival at Steinmetz Park

Special Guests: Honorary Grand Marshall: Hilda Solis; in attendance: Senator Archuleta
 Festival Highlights

- Entertainment: Car show (classics and lowriders) with a car show contest, live entertainment, kid-friendly fun jumpers, and a petting zoo.
- Food & Information: Various food truck vendors and informational booths.
 - CHP Bike Rodeo: Free bike helmets for the first 200 children (while supplies last). CHP will also raffle eight free bikes throughout the festival; winners must be present to win.
 - La Habra Fire Truck

Parking: Overflow parking is available at Dibble Adult School, located next to Steinmetz Park.

The Hacienda Heights Women's Club is a Platinum Sponsor this year which means we will have a full page ad in the program and a booth at Steinmetz Park. Volunteers are welcome!
 Contact Lynn M.

Scholarships Awarded to 4 High School and 4 Adult Grads - Edna M and Betty Y

On May 14, 2026, four scholarships of \$1,000 each were awarded to some very deserving high school seniors. These students demonstrated high academic achievements and are planning to continue their education. They all have excellent citizenship and have contributed to the community by volunteering in various capacities.

Congratulations to:

Manha Naqvi and **Genesis Alvarado** from Wilson High School and
Neveanh Lango and **Dalilah Valencia** from Los Altos High School
 They will be recognized at the HHWC meeting on Jun 4, 2026.

Hacienda La Puente Adult Education, HHWC Scholarship Awardees are:

Alexis Diaz, LVN
Lilian Romers, Psych Tech
Andrea C. Merlos, Cosmetology
Jamie E. Burch, Automotive Technician
 Congratulations!



May 10th, Memorial Day - Leslie Ann and son, Rob

"When you go home, tell them of us and say, 'For your tomorrow, we gave our today.'"
- John Maxwell Edmonds

Many comrades traveled together from the states of Oregon, Washington, Nebraska, Utah, Texas, and Washington, D.C., as they continue to honor Airman Controller Master Sergeant John A. Chapman. These men have made it an annual tradition to reunite each year. This year, they first gathered to honor John with the placement of a plaque they personally purchased to be displayed at Mt. Soledad Memorial Park in La Jolla.



A little piece of history —

this beautiful cross was once scheduled to be removed, but through the courage and determination of many supporters, including NY Mike (whom you may remember for his inspiring presentation on the lyrics of The Star-Spangled Banner), it was preserved.

John received the Medal of Honor and made the ultimate sacrifice while saving a team of Navy SEALs during the Battle of Takur Ghar, Afghanistan, in 2002.

You may also remember the speaker we hosted at the Women's Club who discussed the book *Alone at Dawn*, which tells the story of this mission. Many of our members still remind me what a wonderful and meaningful program that was. ❤️ ❤️



June 21st, Father's Day

"No man stands taller than when he stoops to help a child."

- Abraham Lincoln

The Soundtrack of our Family – Dawn A



My dad was known to many as “The Leader of the Band,” but to me he was simply Daddy — the smartest man I ever knew. He taught me the love of music, the joy of reading and learning, and how to face life with courage and perseverance. He believed deeply in giving back to others and worked tirelessly to keep music and the arts available to children because he believed creativity gave young people confidence, purpose, and opportunity. He taught music simply because he loved it and believed in the difference it could make in a child’s life. Music was not just something my father did — it was who he was. He was happiest when conducting, playing, or surrounded by fellow musicians. Through him, our family learned that music is a universal language capable of bringing people together beyond words or borders. As I continue carrying on his musical legacy, I still feel his presence and hope to make him proud by continuing the traditions he loved so dearly.

I cannot speak about my father without speaking about the love of his life — my mother, Mary, lovingly known as “Red.” Their shared love of music brought them together and carried them through life side by side. Though my father passed away in 2016, the memories, music, love, and lessons he left behind continue to guide our family every day. His legacy lives on in every note we play and every tradition we continue together. And I know somewhere he is still leading the band — that big band in the sky.

Tribute to my dad, Jim Hastie - Betty C

“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.”

– Proverbs 22:6



Jim & Little Betty

One of my earliest memories was when my dad came home from the service during WWII on leave. My mom said it was my second birthday, and he wanted to make a tricycle. There was a metal shortage, so they went to the dump and he looked for parts. As my grandparents owned a farm, he put all the pieces together and the pedals were wooden blocks so my feet would reach. He painted it red. I remember, that I was so happy. He was really good at fixing things. He said that when you grow up on a farm, you have to be able to fix everything.



A member of the greatest generation or “silent generation” in WWII, my dad served under Eisenhower whom he admired. He survived the “Battle of the Bulge” in Ardennes, which had tremendous casualties. He prayed that if he could just survive to get back to his family, he would study the Bible daily and serve the Lord. He kept that promise. The duties he had in the war deeply affected him. My mother said that he became quieter and she told me not to ask him about the war because then he would “fight at night”

in his sleep. He never complained. He was from Scottish heritage where the motto was “suck it up and carry on” and he did just that. I really never knew how deeply it affected him until we went camping. A deer ran through the camp when we were sleeping and my dad jumped up half asleep, grabbed a broom and pointed it in the direction of the deer. He laughed and said he felt like he was back in the war. Needless to say we didn’t go camping again.

Modeling the integrity of keeping his promise, every day he rose early to study the Bible. He would always say there is an answer there for every question, and I still treasure his well-read and underlined family Bible. I think of him often as I prepare the Bible based lesson for Sunday school each week. I also never understood until I was older, his quote “Satan get thee behind me” when he was tempted to do the wrong thing. Jim Hastie also modeled being a servant leader in the church ushering weekly and was an Elder in the Presbyterian Church. His grandfather was the minister of Scotch Ridge Presbyterian Church which is still in operation near Des Moines. I got to visit and saw where I was baptized by my Great Grandfather. I have fond memories going to the farm on weekends and my dad teaching me to ride a horse and letting me hold the wheel of the tractor plowing for the corn to be planted. My dad loved to plow and even in El Paso he would volunteer to plow our friends’ cotton fields by the Rio Grande. He said it gave him a sense of peace and accomplishment. Now we know through research that the smell of the dirt in gardening gives us “endorphins” and helps the immune system. No wonder it gave him peace! Wherever we moved, he would dig holes for around 22 rose bushes and a cactus garden to please my mom. The last house he built was on a cliff in El Paso, and he built a double ladder so my mom could go over the wall to look at cactus and find pretty rocks, but he still planted the 22 rose bushes.



Mom & Dad

When I was in 4th grade, he had just built his dream house overlooking his favorite golf course, when I came down with pneumonia again. The doctor suggested my parents keep their travel plans to visit my aunt in Arizona to see if the dry climate would help. I got better, so my parents decided to move to Arizona for my health. He gave up a job he loved and started over. He planted the rose bushes, built a softball diamond for all the kids to play, and dug a sand pit for track season broad jumping. He even supported me playing football but when I complained the boys were tackling too hard he said “Suck it up; if you want to play with the boys, you have to toughen up”. Now we know that people who have played on teams make better leaders. There was never a question he wouldn’t quietly answer from a man’s perspective, which surprised me sometimes. He modeled patience, and kindness and supported my every interest. Now we know that children learn more from what they see. As Dad said “Actions speak louder than words”. He used to say “Do as I say, not as I do”, but I didn’t understand it until I was older because he ALWAYS

did what he said. When he passed away from Parkinson’s at 83, the Pastor said he was like Abraham because he moved us far away to sacrifice for the health of the family. He built a new successful life and I thrived because of their sacrifice. Now I understand after having my son. It made me so happy when he was born; my best friend said “James looks exactly like your dad!” My mother-in-law had suggested we should name him James. Even though grandma called him “Yames”, he loved his special name.

For Fathers’ Day Sunday School preparation, I looked up the qualities of a father and his job to reflect God’s love through loving sacrificially, leading by example, modeling prayer, honesty, integrity, forgiveness, humility, self-control, and showing love for his family. That was Jim Hastie and I was so blessed to have him as a parent.

*"A good father is one of the most unsung, unpraised, unnoticed,
and yet one of the most valuable assets in our society."*

- Bill Graham

April & May Highlights



4/24 District Convention with President Gina in red, Ampe, Senator Archuleta, Betty C, and Connie M.
- Ampe gave our Club report.
- Betty C delivered a moving inspiration

Hawaiian Mother's Day



Betty C created and presented new HHWC banner.
Beautiful job Betty!



Decorations by Connie M and Mary T



Officers and Chairs for 2026-2027



Terry E gave the inspiration



VP Ampe presented Mary R with a certificate for "Club Woman of the Year"



Marissa sang "Over the Rainbow" and played ukulele
Dedicated beautiful rendition of "Wind Beneath My Wings" to her Mom, Angie
Closed with "Ave Maria" - standing ovation





Presented by:
San Dimas Rotary Foundation
dba Making Spirits Bright

SAVE THE DATE

ORCHID SALE



Supporting Military Families

06.06.26 SAT

Time: 9–11 AM (or until sold out)

Patriotic Speakers at 9 AM

Location: Chili's Parking Lot
707 Grand Ave, Diamond Bar



Scan QR Code
to reserve
Payment Method:
Cash or Check
Payable to:
Making Spirits Bright
Memo: Orchids



Text For Assistance: 626-379-4113

Hosted by San Dimas Rotary Foundation dba Making Spirits Bright Tax ID: 87-4390475



San Gabriel Valley District
Invites you to our 2026-2028

SUMMER KICK-OFF

Party

FRIDAY, JUNE 12TH

at the Pico Pico Clubhouse
9214 Mines Ave. Pico Rivera



BRING YOUR SUNGLASSES & HATS!
THE FUTURE IS LOOKING BRIGHT!

Bring a friend!

OPENS AT 9:30 AM FOR COFFEE AND DONUTS

MEETING STARTS AT 10:00 SHARP!

EVERYONE IS
welcome here