

BULLETIN

Kiwanis Club of Claremont

Serving Claremont and the world since 1924

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Volume LI Number 1 – October 1, 2026

Kiwanis Meeting on October 1, 2026

Written by Steven Llanusa

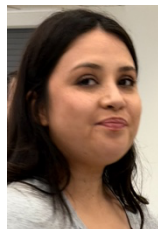
Edited by Steven Llanusa

Photographs by Rowena Schiller

After planning to park on the streets, we were given a parking lot reprieve until next week. Unfortunately, There was no such reprieve from the heat.

We enjoyed a Mexican meal of beef enchiladas, beans, rice, green salad, chips, salsa, sour cream, guacamole, sliced jalapenos, etc. Dietary options of potato enchiladas and fried tofu were also offered. Dessert included fresh fruit and cake.

Newly installed President JoJo Treadwell called the meeting to order at 12:30



Julie Olesniewicz led our The Pledge of Allegiance. Steven Llanusa conducted us in the patriotic song "America the Beautiful" for this beautiful day. Tori Alvarez offered an invocation extolling the virtues of community service and uplifting others

Guests

Barbara Rugeley introduced Sandy Parker from around the U.S. and her daughter Jen Parker.

John Townsend was happy to host his wife Donna Bernard.

Raul Rodriguez brought his neighbor Mark Beckett.

JoJo Treadwell presented her partner of 13 years Scott Jacobs.

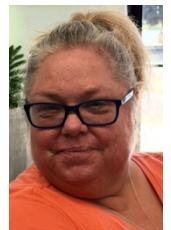


Shout Outs

JoJo Treadwell began the Shout Outs and wanted to give a shout-out to Steven Llanusa, because he produced three different bulletins in a very short period of time: the Bulletin for the Installation of Lieutenant Governor Linda Clinton, the weekly meeting Bulletin, and a photo Bulletin for the Route 66 Party.

JoJo also gave a glorious Shout Out to Julie Martin and Cindee Gee for their amazing work on the Route 66 Party. She called for a standing ovation for the amazing amount of work these two Kiwanians did.

Julie Martin then gave a Shout Out for Al Plummer because of all the days he spent working in her office on the Route 66 Party. She also thought she would have to put Cindee Gee on the payroll because of her being in her office daily for the party.



Announcements

Julie Martin informed us of the Ability First Harvest Open House this Saturday, October 3. There will be a pumpkin patch, petting zoo, photo ops, and a coffee bar. There should be about 300 people included Dave Barry.

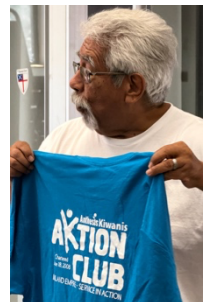


John Thompson told us we would have our See's Candy sales at the old Hibbard location we've used in the past. Unfortunately, there won't be any water flowing because that bill has not been paid. Water bottles for drinking will be provided.

However, a request for 2.5 gallon containers i.e. kitty litter or one gallon containers, all delivered full of water, will be used manually flush the toilet. [Editor's note: perhaps don't provide bottled water and reduce the need for flushing?]

Raul Rodriguez announced Division 15 has two trainings coming up, and anybody in our club is welcome to join these 50-minute training sessions, which will be held on Zoom. One of them is how to use the ZEFFY system which is a way of collecting donations and other monies. The other training is Lieutenant Governor 101 if anyone has Lt. Gov. aspirations.

Raul then showed T-shirts which were silk screened by Inland Empire Aktion Club. These shirts cost \$20 each. Aktion Club is a part of our service program that we are a sponsors of, designed to work with developmentally delayed adults.



The Village Venture Sign-up Clipboard is being circulated. Volunteers are needed for every shift except the 8:30 – 10:30 one. A truck that can be used to transport tables and chairs to Village Venture from Memorial Park at 6:30AM is needed.

Jerry Feingold wanted to remind everybody that he is taking reservations for the Citrus College holiday show called Christmas Is.... It's always a great show and sells out. The show is at 2:00 on Saturday, December 12.



Steven Llanusa said, speaking of Bulletin shout-outs, he expressed deep gratitude to Jim Wylie for editing and taking photographs for the two weeks he was in Europe. He also thanked Barbara Rugeley and John Thompson who each wrote one of the Bulletins during the two weeks he was gone. Steven gave all three Kiwanians a jar of imported miel (Spanish for honey).

Steven asked for volunteers to help on future bulletins. Members willing to write the text or take pictures are needed to continue producing the weekly Bulletin. He circulated a clipboard so people could sign up to volunteer.

Only Cass Armstrong signed up to write the text for the next meeting. Rowena Schiller signed up and will take the photographs. A transcript of the meeting will be given to any person who volunteers to write the Bulletin.

New Member Inductions

Jess Swick began the Inductions by introducing the sponsors of Scott Jacobs and Sandy Parker to be members of our wonderful club.



JoJo Treadwell told us she and Scott Jacobs have been a couple for 13 years. They share three of his children, three of her children, and



three grandchildren. He drove a very scary-looking truck on the 4th of July and then spent the summer grilling with us. She is so glad he is joining us.

Jess Swick introduced Scott by saying he went to UC Santa Barbara and likes to do grant writing. Jess has seen Scott flipping hamburgers and he is a positive and energetic worker.



Scott Jacob started by stating, "I'm really excited to be a part of this group. I am joining primarily because I saw how poorly Mason, Jess and Al have been cooking burgers. I have been a vegetarian for 26 years, and I have always been told I cook burgers and meat really well."

"I went to UC Santa Cruz--go banana slugs! I double-majored in surfing and nude drum circles, honors in both.

We could do a fundraising activity. You all know how amazing my partner JoJo is"

Jess Swick then gave background on his relationship with Sandy Parker. He met her husband Art who was a member of Pomona Kiwanis and passed away a few years ago. Jess saw their daughter Jen grow up, now a teacher at Vista school.

Barbara Rugeley explained she met Sandy when they were both wives of Pomona Kiwanians, were both pregnant, and both about the same age. Barbara's children were lucky to



have Sandy as their music teacher when they were in preschool, and she was wonderful.

Sandy Parker said she was born in North Carolina. She went to Stetson University in Florida. She has been active in her church and around town. Sandy enjoys singing and playing hand bells.

She met her husband Art in Florida while they were in high school. Though they went to separate colleges, they got back together and got married.

Art's first job offer was at Cal State Bakersfield so they moved to California. When he taught at Cal Poly Pomona, he joined Pomona Kiwanis when Juan Gamboa was its president.

Sandy is a cat fancier and would travel with four Siamese cats. She and Art would sneak them into hotel rooms since back then pets were not allowed.



Both new members were presented with the traditional Kiwanis swag: cap, apron, shirt with their name on it, a certificate of membership suitable for framing (and it already was framed) and a name badge with five ribbons. Each ribbon represents a task new members complete: attend a Committee Meeting of their choice, go to a local Interclub meeting, bring a guest, participate in a service project, and endure a Board Meeting.

Raffle

Lanella Maurer picked the winning ticket after TURNING THE DRUM SLOWLY enough to actually mix up the tickets. Donna picked the Queen of Hearts and won \$10



Auction

Steven Llanusa brought back an item from Europe for the auction. He suggested the bidding start at \$25 explaining it was item for adult consumption. Tori Alvarez said the bag was heavy. When told the contents should be sipped finely, Cass Armstrong cast the winning bid of \$51.



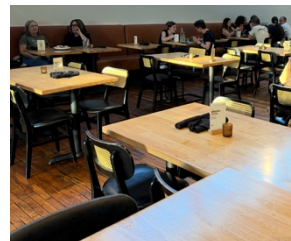
True Confessions

Jerry Feingold said the Dodgers and Angeles have the same performance records this season: Dodgers have 100 wins and the Angels have 100 losses.

Steven Llanusa confessed he forgot to announce that he found a new location for Trivia Contests in Claremont. Mozwell restaurant in the Packing House behind Eureka Burger and the Claremont Forum should be a better fit for Kiwanians. The restaurant is not noisy and is spacious.

Though we cannot bring in our own food, Mozwell does offer a full menu and bar.

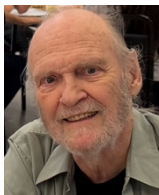
Julie Olesniewicz attested to the tastiness of the empanadas there. Tuesday, October 20, at 5:45 will be our next Trivia Night.



Daniel Tilton explained that he missed the last meeting because he had a bad fall. Although the ambulance ride was very exciting, he was sorry to fall. He used to walk about 9,500 steps a day.

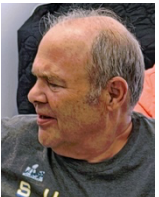


Laura Bray loved going to RAICES, the Third Annual Claremont Hispanic Heritage Event with Christine and her daughter Nickki last Thursday, September 24, at Padua Theatre. Cultural Impact and Community Legacy Awards were presented.



Tail Twister

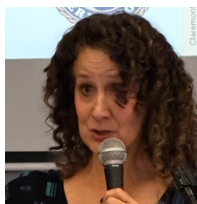
Tori Alvarez is looking for volunteers to serve as Tail Twisters. She stressed how important Tail Twisting is for the financial well-being of the club, and it will end at 1:00 each meeting. Tori can also put together a Tail Twisting script for people who are willing to do it but aren't sure how to get started.



Greg Negrete was fined for leaving early. He announced he would have to leave at 1:15.

Program

JoJo introduced herself explaining she had previously been a coach for Weight Watchers. She described herself by saying, "I'm more a facilitator than a teacher. So I'm excited to share my vision for the year, but this involves a lot of, well, I hope, participation."



Christine Duran had some JoJo facts from Linda Clinton.



- Born in Amarillo, Texas
- Her military family moved every 3-4 years
- Earned a B.A. and Masters in Social Work
- She plays Mah Jongh
- Sings and dances with talented abandon



JoJo continued her presentation by asking for participation. She thanked us all for trusting her with the honor of serving as our president this year. She left "Ask Me About Kiwanis" buttons for everyone to wear. We should be prepared to tell people what we love about being a Kiwanian.

There were also yellow cards on our tables which are invitations to people to come of one of our meetings and see if we are a good fit.

JoJo talked about moving every three or four years when she was a child. "Even when I got out of college and I started working, I always felt like it's time to go. Claremont was the first place I moved to, and that was 2001, so 25 years ago. Claremont is where I felt like this is where I belong and this is where I want my home to be."

We were asked to describe why we joined Kiwanis. JoJo shared that her first exposure was to Kiwanis at Concerts in the Park. She and her family loved the concerts and the snack bar food. That Kiwanis helped create such a wonderful event every city would want is why she joined Kiwanis.

She asked us to think about why we joined Kiwanis.

Laura Bollinger was in Covid lockdown during 2020 and stated, "I was so tired of being home and not seeing people. I came to this thought with my soul and said, 'How am I going to get into my community more?' I'm already on so many committees and boards, but they meet once a month. They have one annual meeting a year. Kiwanis is in the community all the time"



Mike Conley was in Watertown, South Dakota when he retired from the Air Force. A colleague invited him to a Kiwanis meeting there. It was a vastly different group of people and at 60 he was one of the youngest people there. When he moved here, Kathy Ables invited him to a meeting and he liked the club.



JoJo talked about how important happiness is. Happier people make healthier choices. If we're happier here, we'll have better meetings which are more enjoyable for everyone.

Evolution doesn't have to erase tradition. JoJo said, "I think that my vision is that we embrace change, some of the change that we want, some of the change we don't want, and that we still honor our past while embracing some of the new opportunities that we have."

JoJo asked, "If money was no object, what is a project that you would love to see our club accomplish?"

- Tori Alvarez would like to see a golf tournament fundraiser.
- Al Plummer would like to see meaningful contributions to the Student Resource Center.
- Jim Kohnman liked fundomg Shoes That Fit.
- Julie Olesniewicz explained with Super El Niño looming, items to keep students coming to school in inclement weather is needed: galoshes, jackets, rain coats, umbrellas etc. are needed.
- Christine Duran would like 5K or 10K to raise money or have an entrance fee of a blood donation.
- Barbara Rugeley would like to see \$50,000 to help foster kids get to school.
- Daniel Tilton would like to support the unhoused elders.



JoJo wanted us to describe what we do well.

- Raul Rodriguez likes how we create community within ourselves even when we disagree with each other.
- Julie Olesniewicz states that we always answer the call.
- Al Plummer notes supporting an organization means sacrificing time and finances to function well

JoJo asked what we're known for in the community.

- Jim Wylie - Service like Opera event for seniors.
- Julie Martin - Rotary writes checks but we work.
- Cass Armstrong - Beer Walk and Wine Walk.



LaNelle Maurer is our Membership chair, but we are all the Membership Community. Let's think about what we could be doing for trivia nights or a happy hour in one of our backyards. Events where we all just bring something, meet up for coffee, or get-together if there's a big game.



JoJo asked all members present to please complete the surveys that are on the table. There are two sides to the survey and the data we get from those forms will help us be a better club this upcoming year!



We need volunteers to work Village Venture! This event is a great way to raise our visibility in the community.

Kiwanis Club Calendar

October 8	Weekly Meeting	St. Ambrose	Thursday	Noon
October 14	Board Meeting	1050 N. Mills Ave	Wednesday	5:15 PM
October 15	Weekly Meeting	St. Ambrose	Thursday	Noon
October 20	Trivia Night	Mozwell 590 W. 1st St.	Tuesday	5:15 – 8:00
October 22	Weekly Meeting	St. Ambrose	Thursday	Noon
October 24	Village Venture	Downtown Claremont	Saturday	ALL DAY

Programs

October 8 – CUSD Bond Measure CS
 October 16 – Roberts Campus Sports Bowl
 October 23 – Youth Protection Training
 October 30 – Ontario Airport Update

Kiwanis is a global organization of volunteers dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time. — *Kiwanis defining statement, adopted October 2004.*



Bulletin Team: Cass Armstrong, Linda Clinton, Peggy Constantine, Sara Mae Heady, Barbara Jefferson, Steven Llanusa, Barbara Rugeley, Rowena Schiller, Jess Swick, John Thompson, and Jim Wylie



Kiwanis CLAREMONT

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT – JoJo Treadwell
 PRESIDENT ELECT – ???
 VICE PRESIDENT – Conrad Nicoll
 TREASURER – Raul Rodriguez
 SECRETARY – Jim Wylie
 IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT – Linda Olin

DIRECTORS

2025-2027
 Cindee Gee
 LaNelle Maurer
 Rowena Schiller
 John Thompson
2026-2028
 Mike Conley
 Steven Llanusa
 Julie Olesniewicz
 Al Plummer

COMMITTEE CHAIRS



Check Back Next Week