

KIWANIS CLUB LA CAÑADA LA CRESCENTA-AM November 6, 2024



2024-2025 Officers President

Christie Crahan

President Elect

Vice-President

Treasurer

Martha Burns

Secretary

Rosemary Hook (Asst.)

Immediate Past President

Chris Ecker

www.lckiwanisam.org

LCLCKiwanisAM@outlook.com

Fiscal Year Oct 1-Sep 30

PO Box 1255

La Cañada, CA 91012

Wednesdays at 7:30 am
LCIF Parish Hall or Zoom
1700 Foothill Boulevard
La Cañada, CA 91011

Surviving 911 ~ Kevin Danni



NEXT MONTH AT A GLANCE... ZOOM or IN-PERSON

Pledge/Flag Salutes:

11/20/24 – Chuck Johnson
11/27/24 – DARK (No Meeting)
12/04/24 – Brian Hummel
12/11/24 – Tom Petersmeyer

Inspiration:

11/20/24 – Susan Johnson
Happy Thanksgiving!
12/04/24 – Jack Labrie
12/11/24 – Joy Gibson

Song Leader:

11/20/24 – Christie Crahan
12/04/24 – Brian Hummel
12/11/24 – Christie Crahan





Turkeys for the Bailey Center

A heartfelt thanks to everyone that supported our Turkey project, we are thrilled with the outcome and so is the Bailey Center!

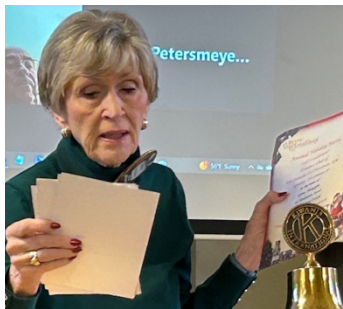
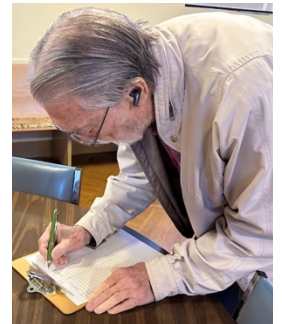


Club members: Carol Scheck, Lynne Thompson, Dick Barley, Salli Dokko, Barbie Eland, Rose Velasquez, Brian Hummel, Insook Park, Joyce Ruygrok, Marie Hyland, Dani Hydar, Bob Burlison, Elaine Harada, Chuck Hughes, John Ryan, Chuck & Susan Johnson, and Christie Crahan (along with several of her nonmember friends) donated a total of \$1,820. **Thank You!**

Maureen O'Keefe was thrilled to receive that check this morning! She is already coordinating the purchase of 52 Turkeys and might be able to negotiate the purchase price to get even more!

Announcements:

- **Bell Ringing for Salvation Army** will be on Saturdays at Ralphs in La Canada, Joy has a sign-up sheet at meetings. A festive time of year to give our service.



- **Our annual Holiday Party is on Sunday, December 8th at 5:00 p.m. at Lynne Thompsons house** in La Cañada. Lynne has a sign-up sheet at meetings or email her to RSVP. See flyer attached. We are collecting jackets to a worthy cause of giving warmth to those in need this season, and they can be new or gently used in good condition. If you want to contribute, please bring to the party.

- **Adopt-a-Family:** Christie announced that we will be adopting a family for Christmas by participating in this opportunity with St. Bede Church.



NEXT MEETING at Church Fellowship Hall & ZOOMED at 7:30am PST.
Come chat at 7am. Zoom meeting ID is 81544355138 and passcode is 505812
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81544355138?pwd=eDBvZmhMcng5NGV6dXBGQVN0NGhMZZ09>
If you get booted out, JUST go to the link above and log back on.

Programs/Speakers:

11/20/2024: Journey House – Jesse Aguiar
Journey House in Pasadena provides services for former foster youth in housing, education, employment, and independent living counseling.

11/27/2024: DARK (No Meeting)

12/04/2024: Alfie Singers – Nancy Abbott
The singing group of Assistance League Flintridge surely entertains.

12/11/24: La Cañada Elementary 5th/6th Grade Choir – Barb Drange
A wonderful choir performance to get us in the holiday spirit! We are so lucky to have them sign for us, a favorite program for sure.

Howl at the Moon – Our club donated \$750 to the Glendale Police Foundation for the comedy night to benefit the K9 unit. A nice event of dinner, K9 & their handlers, and comedians! The K9 unit is an amazing program, and the K9 dogs provide crucial assistance in search, apprehension and safety to the public and officers. A very worthy cause to support! We enjoyed seeing fellow member John Wray and his wife Donna too, had we known they were going we would have arranged to be at the same table.



Martha was delighted to see her longtime friends Ron & Rosalie Youra at the event. They received special recognition for a very generous donation, they donated the newest K9 member to the team. K9 Tess (named in honor of their dog), a 1-year-old puppy already training in preparation to serve our community!

WOW, it would be incredible if our club donated a dog!

TODAY ...

Hospitality: Courtesy of Barbie Eland

Members in Attendance: 11 members & 6 guests in-person, and 5 members on zoom.

Guests: Kevin Danni (guest speaker), Maureen O'Keefe (bailey center), Jim Canfield, Pete Hultine, Evie Barley, and Rose Velasquez (membership in process).

Birthdays: John Ryan 11/18

Anniversaries: none

Zoom Operators: Chris Ecker & Brian Hummel
Newsletter Editor: Cindy Bradford

H.A.M.S.

Dick Barley - \$10: He is thankful that he served our nation in WW2, and shared that he was a driver for a General for a year in Japan. His Veteran poster is hanging in the marketplace across from City Hall in La Canada.

Joy Gibson - \$1: He shared a silly joke about postal workers collecting money for a lady that wrote a note for the post office. Where does he find these weekly amusements ... funny!

Christie Crahan - \$5: She expressed appreciation to all that supported her Turkey project for the Bailey Center. A proud accomplishment for a very worthy organization helping those in need!





PROGRAM:
Surviving 911 ~ Kevin Danni

Kevin is a St. Francis High School Alumni, a friend of Barbie Elands son (Rob), and a La Cañada resident. Immediately after high school graduation in 2001, he was hired by Morgan Stanley as an intern. His 6 week sales training in New York began on 9/10/2001, he arrived a day early to explore the city. He recalls looking down outside the highrise hotel to see the Statue of Liberty which looked tiny from way up there! There were 300 people taking the sales

training in the Morgan Stanley offices in the World Trade Center. During the first day of training he made plans to meet another trainee on the observation deck on the 110 floor / top of the World Trade Center the next day during a break after a morning session.

9/11/2001

His morning began on the bus from the hotel to the World Trade Center, the weather was just beautiful so he was looking forward to seeing the sights from the observation deck. The speaker in the first training session spoke 15 minutes longer than scheduled, which meant that the free time before the next session was not long enough to visit the observation deck as planned.

Had he gone up as planned, he would not be here today!

Instead he was in the Morgan Stanley office on the 61st floor of the South Tower in the World Trade Center, he was 20 feet from the window and could see what looked like confetti falling outside. At closer look he saw that the North Tower was on fire. An alert instructed everyone in the Morgan Stanley offices to stay in the office, but Richard Rescorla (Morgan Stanley's vice president of security) ignored that alert and called for immediate and mandatory evacuation of employees and insisted that everyone use the stairs. Kevin did as told and started down the stairs and at each floor the stairwell more and more people were entering so it became very crowded. He recalls people trying to be helpful to those that needed help navigating the evacuation. One of the managers carried a women down 30 floors to the ambulance. When he was on the 55th floor, the plane hit the building. Kevin continued down the stairs and passed at least 40 fire fighters going UP the stairs on their way to help everyone they could. Kevin reached the ground level and exited the building and when he turned around and looked up he saw that both towers were on fire. He is thankful that he did not witness any jumpers that day. He was walking away from the buildings so that he could call his family. When he was 10 blocks away, the tower collapsed and he started running away in hopes to stay out of the dust cloud coming his way. He was young, and fit and was able to out run it thankfully. He went back to the hotel where all the trainees where staying to check in. There were 20 trainees missing, come to find out that they were people that lived in NY and they went directly home instead of the hotel.

He shared that Richard Rescorla supervised the evacuation of Morgan Stanley's employees from the burning building. Among the 13 employees and consultants who were unable to exit the building safely was Rescorla. He was last seen climbing up the stairs to make a final sweep for other employees minutes before the building toppled. His actions that day are credited with thousands of lives, he left no man behind.



A white rose next to his name on the memorial on his birthday.

Kevin stayed in New York for one more day, then took a train to Boston to stay with his uncle because there were no car rentals or planes flying. After a few days in Boston he was able to fly home to be with his family, and as he entered the airplane the captain was there to assure passengers that he would get everyone there safely.

He chooses to focus on the amazing courage of the rescue workers. All of the survivors from his company were committed to recognizing local fire fighters in their hometowns and actually visited in person to express appreciation for their bravery.

Kevin shared that there were K9's on site searching the rubble. Some of the dogs were trained to search for live survivors, and some dogs were trained to search for cadavers. Unfortunately, the dogs were showing depression because they were not finding anybody alive so the rescue workers were hiding so that the dogs could find pleasure in finding people. Wow.

Kevin survived the near death experience that day, and was given a 2nd chance. In 2017, he went to the 911 Memorial in NY. A very emotional experience.

After the disaster, 50 of the 300 trainees quit. The Morgan Stanley office moved to New Jersey. Currently, there are 10 of this group still working with the firm. And ... 24 years later, Kevin is still working for Morgan Stanley in Pasadena.

~ Kevin did a wonderful job sharing his story with us, and we are thankful. ~
Hopefully he will visit us again soon!



Kevin Danni
Morgan Stanley (Finizio Danni Group)
First Vice President, Wealth Management, Financial Advisor, Investment Management Consultant

<https://advisor.morganstanley.com/the-finizio-danni-group>
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