

KIWANIS CLUB LA CAÑADA LA CRESCENTA-AM

April 23, 2025



2024-2025 Officers

President

Christie Crahan

President-Elect

Vice-President

Treasurer

Martha Burns

Secretary

Rosemary Hook (assistant)

Immediate Past President

Chris Ecker

<https://www.lcfkiwanisam.org>

LCLCKiwanisAM@outlook.com

Fiscal Year Oct 1-Sep 30

PO Box 1255

La Cañada, CA 91012

Wednesdays at 7:30 am
Lutheran Church
(Fellowship Hall) or Zoom
1700 Foothill Boulevard
La Cañada, CA 91011

Hospice Fraud Mike Devine



Mike is also the [Scoutmaster of local Troop 507](#). Wow, I bet he brings a fantastic program to that troop! Our club supports his troop with an annual donation, and we gave him a \$300 check today. He was thankful and appreciates our continued support!

NEXT MONTH AT A GLANCE...

ZOOM or IN-PERSON

Pledge/Flag Salutes:

04/30/25 – No Meeting

05/07/25 – Chuck Hughes

05/14/25 – Prayer Luncheon

05/21/25 – Lynne Thompson

05/28/25 – Tom Petersmeyer

Inspiration:

04/30/25 – No Meeting

05/07/25 – Jack Labrie

05/14/25 – Prayer Luncheon

05/21/25 – John Ryan

05/28/25 – Christie Crahan

Song Leader: Brian Hummel





President's Announcements: Christie Crahan

- Scholarship Dinner 4/16/25 – She sincerely thanked ALL club members for making this event a great success! 10 student recipients signed up to join us in the parade.
- Division 3 (DCM) – She attended the meeting this month and learned that our Scholarship Dinner can be counted as an Open House event because we used the evening to promote and inform about our Kiwanis club. The Verdugo club is having a BBQ on 5/18 in support of the American Legion in Glendale. The Glendale club is gearing up for their annual Duck Splash on 5/3 at Verdugo Park.
- **Fiesta Days Parade** – is on Monday, May 26th. Club members are invited to ride in the truck down the parade route. Communicate with Christie Crahan about the details if you are interested. Les Tupper Award winner, Brian Hummel, will also be in the parade in a special car waving to the crowd! LCF Chamber of Commerce & Community Association has lots going on that weekend ... check it out <https://www.lacanadaflintridge.com/fiesta-days/>
- Reminder when you leave the weekly meeting: put chairs under the tables, put trash in the waste can, turn in your name tag and make sure lights & both thermostats are off.



Other Announcements:

Prayer Luncheon with St. Bede Builders Club – is on May 14th @ noon so there will be no morning meeting that day. Club members are encouraged to join this special event, so let Brian Hummel know if you would like to attend.



French Toast Breakfast – is on May 24th and we need lots of support from members, please sign up on the volunteer sheet or contact Cindy at 818-421-2177 to sign up. There are many things we need help with. Tickets will be available for purchase during any meeting, ask Cindy or Martha. See flyer.



H.A.M.S.:

- Martha Burns \$10: to welcome Mike Divine, our guest speaker. She is excited to leave today for her cruise from Athens to Venice, and after the trip she will enjoy time in Italy.
- Marie Hyland \$10: She enjoyed our Scholarship Dinner, and was thrilled that one of the parents mentioned that our event was short & sweet in comparison to others events ... and that she may visit some of our meetings during the summer!
- Joy Gibson \$2: His sad buck was that he was in a minor car accident last week and his truck is being repaired, he asked for someone to do his food run this Friday and Barbie Eland volunteered. Today's joke was about a golfer / attorney ... funny!
- Chuck Johnson \$5: He thanked Insook Park for the leftovers from the scholarship dinner that fed him for a couple of meals. Yum!
- Chris Ecker \$10: Because his friend Matt came to our meeting today, and shared a memory of going to Catalina Island many years ago weeks after Matt become a pilot.
- Christie Crahan \$55: She is thrilled to be going on the cruise with Martha. She is very proud of our club for our Scholarship program, and that our dinner was wonderful.
- Mike Murray \$5: Chris's friend enjoyed hearing that our announcements were truly about service to others and NOT about frivolous attention that some non-profit members spend time complaining about. What a nice acknowledgment, thanks Mike!

TODAYS MEETING

Hospitality: Barbie Eland

Attendance: 12 members in person & 4 on Zoom & 2 guests in person.

Guests: Mike Devine (guest speaker), and Matt Murray (Chris Eckers friend)

Welcome Back: All members that missed the Scholarship Dinner last week.

Birthdays: Bob Burlison (4/15), Marie Hyland (5/1), Susan Johnson (5/5)

Anniversaries: Tom & Barbara Petersmeyer (4/12) ... 56 years! Chuck & Susan Johnson (5/3) ... 51 years!

Ribbon Cuttings: None

Zoom Operators: Chris Ecker & Brian Hummel

Newsletter Editor/Photos/Website: Cindy Bradford

Program/Speaker: Hospice Fraud - Mike Devine



VERY Interesting topic, and it would be interesting to hear lots more ... but here are some tid bits. Hospice is now a 22-billion-dollar industry rampant with fraud and abuse. In California, hospice fraud has been one of our top types of fraud for several years, with the number of cases increasing each year. Fraud Issues: Medical necessity includes battle of the experts, and terminal diagnosis. Extended hospice care is normally approved in 6-month intervals. He had a case where the member was requesting their 11th approval (5 ½ years).

Churn and burn: Fraudulent Hospice locations are shut down, and many re-open as a new entity.

Alert ... don't give your medicare card to groups offering free samples, etc ... they can steal your identity and use it for fraudulent purposes!

L.A. Care Hospice Fraud Initiative



L.A. Care Health Plan's Special Investigation Unit (SIU) took a task force approach. Working together with the Utilization Management Department along with support from the Advance Analytics Lab (AAL), the SIU began investigating the wrongful billing of Revenue Code 0650 (routine home care – high rate) rendered after 60 days from hospice admission.

Hospice Fraud Initiative

- The AAL identified approximately 300 hospices that wrongfully billed routine home care rendered after 60 days from admission under Revenue Code 0650.
- By falsely representing they were entitled to be paid for these services at a higher reimbursement rate, these hospices filed fraudulent claims.
- The total amount of wrongful billing of Revenue Code 0650 is approximately \$4.8M.
- To date the SIU has sent out recovery letters for some \$4.2M.

Hospice Fraud Initiative

Hospice	Sum of amount paid (2019-2022)	Validated Recovery Letter Amount
B HOSPICE, INC.	\$ 3,857,127.00	\$588,132.38
GA HOSPICE, INC.	\$ 2,968,180.00	\$475,767.48
G of A HOSPICE INC.	\$ 2,748,653.00	\$414,095.13
B HOSPICE CARE, INC.	\$ 2,723,577.00	\$384,080.54
A HOSPICE, INC.	\$ 1,701,317.00	\$250,662.11
HH HOSPICE CARE INC	\$ 898,924.00	\$132,237.81
R C & C HOSPICE, INC	\$ 1,054,582.00	\$177,486.11
HOSPICE OF C H INC	\$ 815,852.00	\$137,888.86

Interior of a Hospice Office Location

Where is the computer?



Scholarship Dinner was a great success last week! Our scholarship program is aimed at recognizing students who demonstrate exceptional leadership qualities, strong commitment to community service, and enjoyment in extracurricular activities. We do NOT focus on high GPA like so many other organizations. We awarded 14 scholarship awards this year, after receiving 24 applications for consideration. Scholarship categories include Community Service, Girl Scout Gold Award, Hillside School, JROTC, Key Club, and Scouting America Eagle Scout Award. The Johnson Scholarship is for a student heading to an Accredited Trade School. The Journey House Scholarship supported a young adult recently aged out of the foster system to support her continued college education.



NEXT MEETING:
April 30 at 7:30 am.
Church Fellowship Hall
& Zoom.

ZOOM Meeting ID: 81544355138, **passcode is** 505812.
If you get booted out JUST go to the link and log back on.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81544355138?pwd=eDBvZmhmMmcg5NGV6dXBGQVN0NGhMZz09>

Programs/Speakers:

04/30/25 – No Meeting

05/05/25 – Board Meeting (Cinco de Mayo) at 7:30 am at church conference room

05/07/25 – Prom Plus – Jon Allen

05/14/25 – Prayer Luncheon with St. Bede Builders Club (no morning meeting)

05/21/25 – French Toast Breakfast Prep

05/24/25 – French Toast Breakfast

05/28/25 – LCUSD Superintendent – Wendy Sinnette

06/04/25 –

06/11/25 – Pasadena Humane – Michelle

06/18/25 –

06/25/25 – USC-VHH Community Resource Center for Aging – Adria Navarro

Volunteer Opportunity:

- **SLP Advisors** – Our club sponsors Kiwanis Builders Clubs at Middle Schools, and Kiwanis Key Clubs High Schools. A club member that steps into the SLP Advisor role attends the short meetings at the school site as a casual supportive Kiwanis representative. The student-led club is completely run by the student board members and supervised by a school faculty leader, so it is very easy. We would love to have some more club members become SLP Advisors to represent our club in supporting these valuable programs for youth, it can be very rewarding. Please consider going with our advisor to a meeting to see what it's all about. Contact our SLP Director, Elaine Harada, eharada@sbcglobal.net or 323-791-3656 to learn about this opportunity.

Reminders:

- If you have a suggestion for a guest speaker, service project, field trip ... please talk to Christie, Martha or Cindy. We NEED help! You can give details (website, speaker contact info, etc.) to Martha Burns or Cindy Bradford as they are our schedulers. Guest speakers can join us in person OR on Zoom so anyone near or far might be a good candidate.
- Please let **Martha or Cindy** know if there are any changes in your personal info we have on file-like phone#, email or address change etc.

Health News: Contact **Insook Park** if you know of a club member who needs a card or some cheering up.

Monthly Events:

Club Board Meeting-7:30 am, 1st Monday of the month (except on holidays then 2nd Monday) at small room near Fellowship Hall. Club members are welcome to join these meetings.

Division 3 (DCM) Board Meeting-5:30 pm, 3rd Monday of the month at the Elks Lodge, 120 E Colorado St, Glendale.

KEY CLUB/BUILDERS CLUB MEETINGS

Meetings are during their lunchtime, about 30 minutes, usually 1-2 times per month.

St. Bede Builders Club - 12:15pm on Wednesday, Parish Center with Patrice Fontes. Kiwanis Advisor: Brian Hummel.

Rosemont Builders Club - 1:00 pm on selected day, Multi-purpose Rm with Jessica Cole. Kiwanis Advisor: NEED

St. Francis HS Key Club - 11:45 am on 2nd or 3rd Wed., Rm #104 with Patrick Davitt and DARK during holiday season & summer. Kiwanis Advisor: Barbie Eland

Franklin Key HS Club - 12:22 pm on Tues., Rm #530, with Davy Mouremann and DARK during holiday season & summer. Kiwanis Advisor: Elaine Harada

Crescenta Valley HS Key Club - 12:17 pm every Tuesday, Rm #7205 or North Gym with Saul Sheridan and DARK during holiday season and summer. Kiwanis Advisor: Elaine Harada

Clark Magnet HS Key Club - 11:50 am on even-dated Wednesdays, Rm #5215 with Ms. Violet Mardirosian and DARK during holiday season and summer. Advisor: Elaine Harada

Village Christian HS Key Club - 12:30pm on Tuesday, Rm #B-2 with Ms. Lilit Vartanian and DARK during holiday season and summer. Kiwanis Advisor: Elaine Harada