

November 2025

downeykiwanis.org

THE DOWNEY KIWANIAN

Serving the Children of the World

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Downey Kiwanis Joins the Possibility Project

Downey Kiwanis is embarking on one of its most exciting and visionary efforts yet — The Possibility Project — a five-year initiative of the Kiwanis International Children Fund, will strengthen our legacy of service and expand our ability to bring new funding directly into our community. Through this campaign, we'll join Kiwanis International's global effort to empower children and families through innovative, grant-driven service. (Continued on next page)

Congratulations to the Los Angeles Dodgers - Back-to-Back World Series Champions!





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As an official Impact Club, Downey Kiwanis Club will commit \$37,500 over five years, anchored by the Downey Kiwanis Foundation's \$30,000 investment for 30 Hixson Fellowships. This shared commitment, supported by member contributions and annual fundraising, exemplifies our collective dedication to service, vision, and community impact.

Participation in The Possibility Project will make our club eligible each year to apply for Kiwanis International Children's Fund grants — creating direct funding opportunities for local youth mentorship, literacy, hunger relief, and educational enrichment programs right here in Downey. This initiative isn't just about giving — it's about creating possibilities that will shape the future. Every dollar invested strengthens opportunities for children to thrive and builds on our historic leadership in global service projects like IDD and Eliminate. But now, the rewards come home fueling new partnerships, lasting impact, and renewed service for Downey's youth and families. Each member can play a vital role by purchasing a Hixson Fellowship, supporting fundraising efforts, volunteering for service projects, and helping share our story to inspire others. Together, we'll ensure that Downey Kiwanis remains a leader not only in the California-Nevada-Hawaii District but across the Kiwanis world.

Let's stand united — members, friends, and community partners — to make The Possibility Project a reality. By giving globally, we strengthen our ability to serve locally. Let's make possibilities happen — together.



THE DOWNEY KIWANIAN

Serving the Children of the World

Reflections of Thanksgiving from our Lt. Governor Douglas Hall



It is hard to believe that it is the first of November, yet here we are. As we enter into the beginning of the holiday season, we should take time to reflect on all the many blessings that we have, as well as remember those that may be less fortunate.

Th<mark>anksgiving stands</mark> out as one of the most meaningful and **beloved holidays for many of us.** It is a time marked by gratitude, togetherness, and tradition. For many, Thanksgiving is more than just a day for a festive meal; it is an opportunity to pause, reflect, and appreciate the good things in life, both big and small.

Today, Thanksgiving is synonymous with a hearty meal, often featuring roast turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce, and pumpkin pie.

Lt. Gov. Douglas Hall

Families and friends gather around the table, sharing food and stories. Many households have their own special customs, such as watching the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade or a favorite football game, volunteering at local shelters, or taking a walk after dinner.

Thanksgiving encourages us to count our blessings. In a world that often feels fast-paced and demanding, setting aside a day to express thanks—whether for loved ones, health, achievements, or even simple daily joys—can be both grounding and uplifting. Practicing gratitude has been shown to improve well-being and foster stronger relationships.

Thanksgiving serves as a reminder to appreciate what we have and to connect with others in a spirit of kindness and generosity. Whether through sharing a meal, reaching out to those in need, or simply pausing to reflect, the holiday invites us to focus on what truly matters. In doing so, it helps cultivate a sense of hope and unity as we enter the holiday season.

As Kiwanians, Thanksgiving should have additional meaning to us. This is a time to reach out to those in our community that are in need, especially the children. Do they need a meal, a pair of shoes, a backpack? We must remember those who are less fortunate and continue to reach out to those who need our help. Providing for the children is our mission.

I wish you all joy and happiness for this holiday season. May we all continue to be blessed so that we may carry out our Kiwanis mission of helping others!



2025 - 2026 Club Officers

Phil Requejo President

Adam Dygard President - Elect

Art Montoya Vice President

Rose Schneeberger Secretary

Erica Vasquez Assistant Secretary

Leslie Jones Treasurer

Gary Nesbit Assistant Treasurer

Jesse Padilla Immediate Past President

2025-2026 Officers and **Directors**

















Board Members

Stephen Chu

Jason Cierpiszewski

Stephanie Reynoso

Amy Scott

Brian Tello

















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Objects of Kiwanis International

The six permanent Objects of Kiwanis International were approved by Kiwanis Club delegates at the 1924 Convention in Denver, Colorado. Through the succeeding decades they have remained unchanged.

- To give primacy to the human and spiritual rather than to the material values of life.
- To encourage the daily living of the Golden Rule in all human relationships.
- To promote the adoption and the application of higher social, business, and professional standards.
- To develop by precept and example, a more intelligent, aggressive and serviceable citizenship.
- To provide through Kiwanis Clubs, a practical means to form enduring friendships, to render altruistic service and to build better communities.
- To cooperate in creating and maintaining that sound public opinion and high idealism which make possible the increase of righteousness, justice, patriotism and good will.

WIN PRIZES!

You're invited! @ 🍆

Join us for a fun-filled Annual Turkey Shoot!

When: Thursday, November 13 @ 12:00 PM

Where: Rio Hondo Golf Club

What: Friendly dart-throwing competition and turkey-themed

targets, and WIN PRIZES!

Who: Members, guests, and prospective members—bring a

friend!

We'll enjoy a quick meeting, lunch, and then let the feathers fly with festive dart-throwing, bragging rights, and plenty of laughs. All skill levels welcome; equipment provided.

Let's pack the room and a little friendly competition. See you at the Turkey Shoot!



Save the Date! Roaring '20s Casino Night Returns!



Get ready to step back in time for a glamorous evening of fun, friendship, and fundraising! The Downey Kiwanis Club invites you to mark your calendars for **Friday**, **March 20**, **2026**, as we host our spectacular Roaring '20s Casino Night at the beautiful Azar Event Center in Santa Fe Springs

This much-anticipated celebration promises to be a night to remember — with casino-style gaming, music, great food, and a festive 1920s flair! Whether you're rolling the dice for a good cause or just there to enjoy the music and company, every moment will help support Kiwanis' ongoing mission to serve children and strengthen our Downey community.

A Night of Purpose and Celebration

All proceeds from the Roaring '20s Casino Night will benefit Downey Kiwanis Club projects, helping fund our sponsored student programs and support many initiatives that change lives every day. By joining us, you're not just having fun — you're investing in the future of our community's children.

Event Details

Date: Friday, March 20, 2026

Location: Azar Event Center - Santa Fe Springs, CA

Theme: Roaring '20s Casino Night

How You Can Get Involved

- Save the Date and Spread the Word! Tell friends, family, and colleagues.
- Sponsorships and Tickets will be available soon stay tuned for details.
- Dress the Part! Don your best 1920s attire and join the fun in style.

This is more than an event — it's a celebration of service, friendship, and possibility. Together, we'll make a difference while having an unforgettable night of glitz and giving. Let's make it a roaring success — one spin, one laugh, and one good deed at a time!

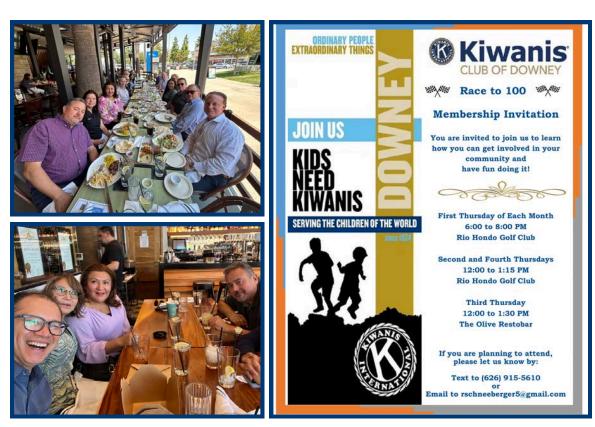




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Downey Kiwanis Round Table Luncheon at The Olive Restobar



Our October 16 Round Table @ The Olive Restobar was another wonderful gathering filled with good food, great conversation, and even better company. Thank you to everyone who joined us in keeping the Kiwanis spirit of friendship and service alive!

We invite all members—and encourage you to bring a prospective member—as we work toward our exciting "100 for 100" centennial membership goal. The Round Table meets every third Thursday of the month at The Olive Restobar, offering a chance to enjoy a delicious lunch, connect with fellow Kiwanians, and share ideas that strengthen our community.

Join us for the next Round Table on **Thursday**, **November 20** at Noon. Bring a friend and be part of the conversation!



Rancho Los Amigos Food Drive Inspires Service and Community Spirit





The spirit of service was on full display at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center during this month's Food Drive, where Downey Kiwanians joined staff, and volunteers for a morning of giving and gratitude. With smiles and teamwork, our members helped bag and distribute food to support Rancho patients and families in need—reminding everyone what true community looks like.

Adding to the excitement, special guests and future Kiwanians joined in the effort, learning firsthand what it means to serve with purpose and compassion. The event reflected the heart of both Rancho and Kiwanis—ordinary people doing extraordinary things to uplift others.

It was a day filled with inspiration, connection, and even a little hometown pride — Go Dodgers!



Downey Kiwanians Bring Smiles to the Rancho Pediatric Carnival









Downey Kiwanis members rolled up their sleeves and served hot dogs and chips with heart at the annual Rancho Pediatric Carnival! The event brought together children, families, and staff from Rancho Los Amigos for a day of fun, laughter, and community spirit.

Our dedicated Kiwanians were there to make sure everyone was well-fed and smiling. It was a perfect example of Kiwanis service in action—ordinary people doing extraordinary things for the community we love.



SLP Highlights





The Key Club Advisors Maria and Jose Hernandez had a great time chaperoning the Lakewood Key Club Night Market! It's always inspiring to see our students lead with enthusiasm, teamwork, and community spirit.



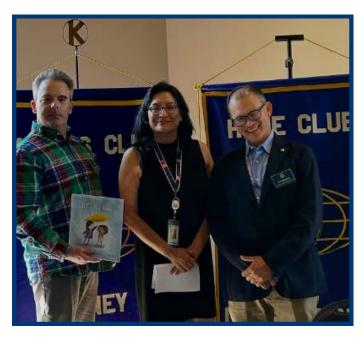


The Key Club Advisors Evelyn and Tony Aguilar proudly supported the Regional Training Conference at Cabrillo High School in Long Beach! Over 400 students from across Southern California came together for inspiring workshops and a spirited session of leadership and service.

We're so grateful to everyone who attended and made this conference both impactful and memorable!



October Meeting Highlights



The Downey Kiwanis had the honor of welcoming our longtime partner, Luz Perez from True Lasting Connections (TLC). She shared the incredible stories of support and resources the program provides for students and families in Downey. We are so grateful for the dedication, commitment, ongoing partnership that continues to strengthen our community and create brighter futures for our youth.





2025 Champion Gary Nesbit proudly receives the newly recreated Bob Henderson Memorial Plaque. Gary holds a remarkable record of seven victories—the most since the contest's debut in 2003. Originally organized by Lee Powell at the Rio Hondo Golf Club in honor of the late Robert J. Henderson, the event has grown into a cherished Kiwanis tradition. This year's ceremony was especially meaningful as the newly recreated traveling plaque replaced the original, which mysteriously disappeared years ago during golf club renovations. The restored plaque will once again bear the names of future champions, carrying forward a legacy of fellowship, fun, and friendly competition.

The Downey Kiwanis Club had the honor of hosting Julie Garcia, President of Gangs Out of Downey (GOOD)! Julie shared the incredible work her organization is doing to keep our community safe, strong, and free from street gangs. We're grateful for all that GOOD does to make Downey a better place to live and thrive.



Upcoming Events

2025

November

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5 Birthday Rene Curiel	Rio Hondo Board Meeting 6 © 5:00 pm Rio Hondo Club Meeting Possibility Project © 6:30 pm	7	8
9	10	11 Birthday Jose Hernandez	12	13 Rio Hondo Turkey Shoot @12PM	14	15
16	17	18 Rancho Los Amigos Food Project @ 8:15AM	19	Birthday 20 Tom Houts Roundtable at The Olive Restobar @	21	22
23 Birthday Erica Vasquez	24	25	26	27 Thanksgiving	28	29
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Proud Sponsors of the Downey Kiwanis Club Website





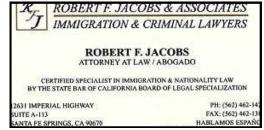




















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