

Rotary



Club of Lancaster West



Club Leaders

Monica Grado

President

Ron Johnson Jr

iPast President

Tylor Simi

Treasurer

Ryan T Garza

Club Programs Chair

Matthew Buchanan

Club Director

John A Currado

Club Director

Howard Harris

Club Service Chair

Makenzie Smith

Club Service Chair

Mike Massari

Membership Chair

Dean Fourr

Sergeant-at-Arms

Payton Zamrzla

Sergeant-at-Arms

Stan A. Ulvin

Rotary Foundation Chair

Regina L. Rossall

Youth Service Chair

Events

February 26th

**Lancaster West Weekly
Club Meeting**

March 2nd

**Lancaster West Rotary
Club's 44th Annual
Charity Auction**

March 4th

**Lancaster West Weekly
Club Meeting**

March 7th

**Lancaster West Avenues
of Service Meeting**

March 7th

**Lancaster West
Membership Committee
Meeting**

March 7th

**Lancaster West Club
Service Meeting**

March 11th
[Lancaster West Weekly Club Meeting](#)

March 18th
[Lancaster West Weekly Club Meeting](#)

March 21st
[Lancaster West Monthly Board Meeting](#)

March 25th
[Lancaster West Weekly Club Meeting](#)

Birthdays

Ryan T Garza
March 2nd
Charles Hoey
March 6th

Wedding Anniversaries

Barbara Frazier
March 1st
George Andrews
March 10th
William R Buck
March 14th

Years of Service

Giovanni R. Simi
07-01-1991
33 Years
Mark Hemstreet
07-01-1991
33 Years
Geoff Yeager
07-01-2018
6 Years

Committee List

LWR Club Service
LWR Board
LWR Charity Auction
LWR Charity Golf
Tournament
LWR Community Services
LWR Disaster Preparedness
LWR International Services
LWR Lobster Dinner
LWR Membership
LWR Vocational Services
LWR Youth Services (New Generations)

Club Meeting

Lancaster West
Meets at JP Eliopoulos
Hellenic Center
43404 30th Street West
Lancaster, CA 93536
Time: Monday at 12:00 PM

Mondays with Monica!

Monica called the meeting to order with a solid ring of the bell. This was followed by an invocation by Ron Johnson Jr., the flag salute led by Ryan Garza, and the song led by Connie Williams. Two guests were announced at the meeting, John Smelzer of the USL Antelope Valley, and Connie Williams's grandson, Brandon.

Announcements from the Floor

Annual Charity Auction: Monica announced that the event is this Saturday, **March 2, 2024** at the Hellenic Center. Doors open at 5:00pm. There will not be a meeting this Thursday because Friday is set up day! We need everyone's help at the Hellenic Center from **9:15am-11:15am** and **2:00pm-4:00pm** to help prepare for the event. We will also, if needed, be finalizing the set-up starting at **3:30pm** on the day of the event. If you have any last minute items for the silent auction, please let Monica know. **We need everyone to sell at least their 4 tickets that they were given. More are available.** Please provide the names of your attendees to Connie if you have not done so already. **We want to fill the room on Saturday!**

No Monday meeting on 3/4/24 following the auction.

Avenues of Service: If you have a grant proposal you want to sponsor, then email the proposal to Gina and bring 10 copies to the meeting and be prepared to present the proposal to the committee for consideration. We will also be discussing the auction planning as part of this meeting. The next regular meeting will be **Thursday, March 7, 2024.**

Club Service: No Announcement

Remember to sign up and register for the **District conference cruise June 21-24, 2024.** Registration is available online through the DACdb website. If you go to the calendar for those dates you will find the link for registration.

Membership Committee: If you know anyone that you think would be a good addition to our club, then please discuss with Mike Massari.

Annual Charity Golf Classic: Mike Massari announced that this year's tournament will be held on **Friday, May 10, 2024,** and we will be changing venues from the AV Country Club to **Rancho Vista Golf Course.** Let Mike know if you want to help support this year's event.

Program Speakers needed! If you have ideas for good programs or know people that would be interesting speakers, then please reach out to Ryan Garza to help schedule those programs.

Sergeant-at-arms, Dean, was in attendance today and was just about ready to forego the levy of any fines today until Barzin walked in and, well let's just say, that changed. In addition to the fines he was charged, Barzin was also tasked with auctioning off the flowers donated by Linda Bishop, Fashion Flowers, which Barbara Frazier bought for a record low \$25.00.

Program Speaker "John Smelzer, USL Antelope Valley

Today's program was presented by John Smelzer the owner of the new USL Antelope Valley professional soccer team. John gave us an update on the scheduled conversion of the Lancaster Municipal Stadium from baseball to professional soccer. The plans are under way and the construction is anticipated to start in June 2024 with construction completed in time for the March 2025 start of play.

Mr. Smelzer spoke about the long-term community benefits of the stadium and bringing professional soccer to this region. This will be only the fourth professional soccer facility in southern California. The organization intends to focus on growing and developing local player talent. The soccer season will be from March to October annually. There are 14 teams in the league.

Mr. Smelzer is trying to establish several levels of ticket prices ranging from under \$20, so a family of four could attend a game for under \$100, then, depending on seat type and location, the price could range up to about \$90 for "club" seats. They have selected a coach for the team and a name for the team. Both will be announced as part of a branding release event sometime around April/May 2024. So stay tuned.

Today's program gave the members in attendance an update on the exciting progress of bringing professional soccer to the city of Lancaster. We would like to thank John Smelzer for taking the time to share this information with our Club. It is having great speakers like this that makes for great Monday meetings.

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