



Connie is Hitting Her Stride?

Connie, rang the bell solidly to call the meeting to order. Four meetings in and youâ€™d think Connie would be hitting her stride, practically on cruise control. Well, that is if she can remember the name of our club when she welcomes everyoneâ€”it took a minute, but she got it out. This was followed by an invocation by Ron Johnson, the flag salute led by Mark Hemstreet, and the song led by Mike Massari. We had two guests today, Juan Blanco, our program speaker, and his wife.

Jay Duke and that silly hat were back at the podium and Jay was making up for missed time. First, Jay fined all the past SAAâ€™s in the room for reasons unknown, he then levied the monthly birthday/anniversary fines, and lastly he tried to fine both Gina and Monica for some absurdly obscure reason.

Compounding the absurdity, Jay won the Lucky Lincolns and then successfully auctioned the flowers donated by Linda Bishop at Fashion Flowers to himself.

Announcements from the Floor

The monthly board meeting for August, Thursday, August 15, at 7:30 am at Crazy Ottoâ€™s Diner on Avenue I. The current yearâ€™s board should plan to be in attendance. All members of the LWR are welcome to attend.

Connie requested that everyone send her their RSVP for the District Governorâ€™s official visit. The meeting is tentatively planned for August 21, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. The clubs are trying to finalize the headcount to finalize the venue choice.

Connie also mentioned a new joint club service project that will be a â€œBreakfast for Vetsâ€ to be held each time there is a 5th Saturday in the month. Details and event calendar are being finalized.

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. The grant applications are available to LWR members in the â€œClub Filesâ€ section on DACdb. The next regularly scheduled meeting for Avenues of Service is on **Thursday, September 05, 2024.**

Club Service:

No announcement

Membership Committee: If you know anyone that you think would be a good addition to our club, then please discuss with Mike Massari. Reminder that the next bring a guest to the meeting day will be Monday, August 26, **Invoices for 2024-25 rotary year member dues have been sent via email to all and the payment is due upon receipt.**

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 or Bridget Cook to help schedule those programs.

Program: Juan Blanco â€œ Coffee 4 Vets

Todayâ€™s program was presented by Juan Blanco, the founder of the *Coffee 4 Vets* organization. Mr. Blanco is a veteran and was formerly the local NAACP liaison to veterans. Juan started the organization and coffee events originally as a means for local veterans to meet periodically for camaraderie. The early events had about 6â€10 attendees and now these events have grown to be up to almost 100 attendees in some months. Crazy Otto supports and hosts these events.

The group has also expanded their range of services and support that they offer veterans and their families. The group is partners with other organizations like Edwards Air Force Base, *Homes 4 Vets* and *Vets 4 Vets* for greater reach and support to local veterans. The group has recently expanded to the Santa Clarita area and holds *Coffee 4 Vets* twice a month in Santa Clarita.

The group also advocates for veterans through holding town hall meetings with local politicians to discuss issues that impact veteransâ€™ affairs. In addition to the weekly coffee events, the Annual Veteransâ€™ Military Ball is held to honor selected veterans at a formal attire event for veterans and their families to attend and join in honoring the award recipients.

Todayâ€™s program gave the members in attendance an overview of this important grassroots outreach program that supports our local veterans and their families. We would like to thank Mr. Blanco and his wife for taking the time to share this information with our Club. It is having interesting speakers like this that makes for great Monday meetings.

Visit www.lancasterwestca.org

Club Leaders

Connie J. Williams
President

Andrew Ward
President-Elect
Fundraising Chair

Mark Hemstreet
Club RYLA Chair
Vice President

Monica Grado
IPast President

Jennifer Zellet
Secretary

Tylor Simi
Fundraising Chair
Treasurer

Matthew Buchanan
Bulletin Editor

Dean Fourr
Club Service Chair

Regina L. Rossall
Community Service
Chair

Vocational Service
Chair

Youth Service Chair

Ron Johnson Jr
International Service
Chair

Past President

Mike Massari
Fundraising Chair
Membership Chair

Jay R. Duke
Sergeant-at-Arms

Howard Harris
Rotaract Advisor

Stan A. Ulvin
Rotary Foundation
Chair

Payton Zamrzla
Fundraising Chair

Bridget L. Cook
Programs Chair

Ryan T Garza
Programs Chair

Events

August 12th
**Lancaster West
Weekly Club Meeting**

August 15th
**Lancaster West
Monthly Board
Meeting**

August 19th
**Lancaster West
Weekly Club Meeting**

August 26th
**Lancaster West
Weekly Club Meeting**

September 2nd
**Lancaster West
Weekly Club Meeting**

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Birthdays

William R Buck
August 6th
Matthew Buchanan
August 10th
Scott F. Gaudineer
August 15th
Morris Fuselier III
August 17th
Michael Giovannini
August 25th
Mike Massari
August 28th

Wedding Anniversaries

Steven Derryberry
August 27th
Stan A. Ulvin
September 3rd

Years of Service

Giovanni R. Simi
07-01-1991
34 Years
Mark Hemstreet
07-01-1991
34 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

