

Kiwanis Community



Kiwanis® CLUB OF MARTINEZ

October 2026 Newsletter

Kiwanis is a global organization of men and women dedicated to improving the world one child and one *community* at a time

101st Installation Celebrated

The One Hundred First Annual Installation of the Kiwanis Club of Martinez was celebrated on September 24 in the garden of **Steve** and Carrie **Francis** in the presence of Kiwanis “royalty”; the Kiwanian of the year trophy was awarded, “Buckshot and Friends” provided the music, and **Connie Chapman was installed** as President 2026-27. A large crowd of Kiwanians and guests enjoyed the perfect weather and the good times with good friends.



The scene



The old and the new Presidents

The “royalty” in attendance consisted of past CalNevHa District Governors **Patti Barsotti** and **Rocci Barsotti**. Patti presided over the installation of President Connie, President Elect **Dawn Manley**, co-secretaries **Bob Braun** and **Jane White-Rose (Schumer)** and the members of the Board. For the second year in a row, Steve sang “Sweet Caroline” with the band; is this becoming a tradition? Despite his singing, Steve was presented the Kiwanian of the Year award by **Denis Smith** for outstanding service “above and beyond” as president during our centennial year. Steve is a 41 year member and also received the award in 1986 and 2001.

New Officers and More Awards at Installation



President **Connie Chapman**



President Elect **Dawn Manley**



Co-Secretaries **Bob Braun** and **Jane White-Rose** are congratulated by **Denis Smith** and **Patti Barsotti**



Belma Mirvic receives Heart of a Hero pin from **Denis Smith** with **Igor Skaredoff** who shares a similar family history

Members Approve Meal Charge Change

Immediate past president **Steve Francis** reports that the members have approved the changes in meal charges submitted to them. Starting October 1, regular members will pay a quarterly meal charge of \$17 per meal, service members will pay \$20 per meal when attending, and a member will be charged \$15 per guest, but no charge for potential members for up to 3 meals. All present and future members may elect regular or service status.



Thank You Steve and Carrie our Hosts

Great Programs Make Great Meetings

September's programs were entertaining , informative and inspiring, Thank you impresario **Roy Jeans!**



Belma Mirvic told us about growing up in war-torn Sarajevo as a child, how she came to and stayed in America and how her family survived and prospers in Bosnia today. Her story was truly inspiring.



Jeff Magidson of Duo Gadjo played the steel guitar and told us about the development of the instrument and "Gypsy Jazz" with a French influence that developed in the Paris of the 1920's and '30's. We were informed and entertained, and no cover charge!



Bruce and Cassie Campbell (alias Martinez Santa and (don't call me)Mrs Claus) told how they play the Santa role in the Martinez North Pole booth each holiday. Bruce shared some questions children ask and his responses to tough ones.



Christmas in July Delivered



Santa's helper **Perry Picchi** has delivered our toy donations to worthy recipients at (L to R) Community Violence Solutions' Children's Interview Center, John Muir Hospital's pediatric unit, and Bay Area Crisis Nursery.

What is a DCM?

A Division Council Meeting (DCM) is a monthly gathering of clubs in our Division 26, which includes clubs in central and eastern Contra Costa County. The Division is headed by a Lieutenant Governor elected by the clubs; currently it is Cecilia Stone of the Pittsburg club. Meetings are hosted by rotating clubs but usually meet in the Kiwanis Youth Center on the 3rd Wednesday of the month.

Meetings of the DCM are open to any Kiwanian to attend. In addition to dinner provided by the host club, subjects discussed are activities common to the clubs. It is a great opportunity to share friendships, news and ideas from other clubs.

Currently the following clubs are in Division 26: Brentwood Promoting Literacy, Concord, Delta (Antioch), Martinez, Pleasant Hill (a brand new club), Moraga Valley (Moraga), Nor Cal Literacy, Pittsburg, and San Ramon Valley (Danville).

What is a SLP?

A Service Leadership Program (SLP) is a name given to a host of student leadership and character-building organizations that are part of the international Kiwanis family. They include Circle K (college), Key Clubs (high school), Builders Clubs (middle school), K-Kids (elementary school), and Aktion Clubs (adults with disabilities).

Our club sponsors two Key Clubs (at Alhambra and College Park High Schools). Each club is student run with their own officers and programs, with a Faculty Advisor to assist and a club advisor for adult supervision and liaison with the sponsoring club.



Consider joining us for East Bay Alzheimer's Walk - Team Belma!



We're proud to support the Alzheimer's Association®. To help raise awareness and rally our team, we're hosting the 2026 Walk to End Alzheimer's - East Bay and would like to invite you and your family. Join Team Belma: Because Memories Matter today to support!

Contact our office at belma.mirvic@edwardjones.com by 10/16/2026 to RSVP. We're excited to see you!

Contributing to a cause and participating or volunteering for a charitable event is a personal decision and completely voluntary.

> edwardjones.com | Member SIPC
EXP 30 JUN 2027

Please consider signing up today at alz.org/edwardjones.



Belma Mirvic

Financial Advisor
367 Civic Dr Suite 8
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523
925-798-5297

Join our Walk team today!

tinyurl.com/teambelma
Bishop Ranch
2700 Camino
Ramon San
Ramon, CA
94583

October 17th, 2026

Registration at 8 AM
Ceremony at 9:30 AM
Walk at 10 AM

30054124



News About Members

We offer condolences to Lt. Governor **Cecilia Stone** on the passing of her husband, former Lt. Gov **Tim Stone**.

President-elect **Dawn Manley** was at the installation dinner despite being in the midst of a long recovery from a knee injury.

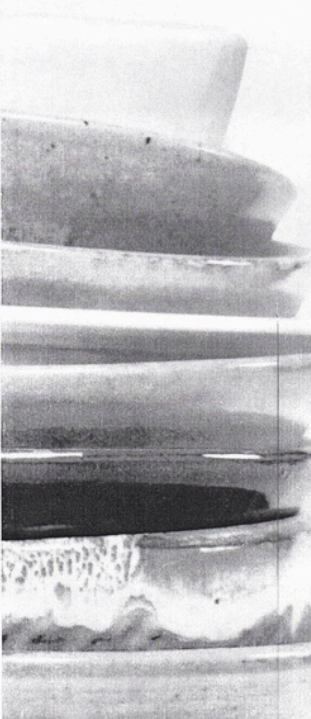
Igor Skaredoff reports that his wife Shirley is recovering nicely from her fall at home with their daughter helping out, but the wall she hit is not mending. Best wishes Shirley!

Best wishes also to **Frank Hall** who is also recovering from a fall.

Check out the flyers on this page. Join **Belma Mirvic** as she walks to defeat Alzheimers. Support Food Bank by enjoying a bowl of soup. Both events are on October 17 but at different times.



HELP FILL EMPTY BOWLS



Concord - October 17, 2026
Fairfield - October 24, 2026
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM

**Your favorite fall event is back
and tickets are on sale now!**

Join us at our locations in Concord and Fairfield for an afternoon of good feelings and good soup in support of your neighbors facing hunger.

Enjoy a meal of delicious signature soup prepared with love by our partners at Loaves and Fishes and Bay Area Rescue Mission and take home your own handcrafted bowl to remind you of the bowls you've helped to fill in our community.

For more information, visit:
foodbankccs.org/empty-bowls



Kiwanis Club of Martinez

750 Allen St., P.O. Box 1886, Martinez CA 94553, www.martinezkiwanis.org

[You can find this newsletter on the website](#)

Officers 2026-2027

President **Connie Chapman**

President-Elect **Dawn Manley**

Treasurer **Patty Winsor**

Co-Secretaries **Bob Braun and Jane Schumer**

Immediate Past President **Steve Francis**

Directors-Trustees 2025-2027

John Noon

Donald Pallotta

Perry Picchi

Bill Patt

Directors-Trustees 2026-2028

Phil Harrington

Jay Howard

Jane Schumer

Marylee Taylor

Committee Chairs

Bocce Capo **Les Johnson**

City Liasion **Donald Pallotta**

Chamber of Commerce Liasion **Phil & Michelle Harrington**

Community Grants **Donald Pallotta**

Centennial Grants **David Gerson, Steve Francis**

Dolly Parton Book Program **Susan France**

Safeway Food Bank Drive **David Gerson**

Loaves & Fishes **Maureen Cowger**

Meals on Wheels **Bill Patt**

Membership **Denis Smith**

See's Candies fundraiser **Patty Winsor, Maureen Cowger, Connie Chapman**

Service Leadership Programs (SLPs):

Alhambra High Key Club **Kristin Connelly**

College Park High Key Club **Denis Smith and Andrea Hand**

Scholarships **Carol Walsh**

Social Media/Promotion **Dawn**

Manley/Connie Chapman

Newsletter Editor **Tom Watrous**

Staff Photographer **Denis Smith**

Kiwanis Kalendar

Monthly Program Chair (a team effort TBA)

Th Oct 1 noon; club meeting: Invocation **Andrea Hand** ,

Program: Sean Sharkey, Feet First Foundation

Th Oct 8 noon; club meeting: Invocation **Michelle**

Harrington; Program: TBA

Th Oct 15 noon; club meeting: Invocation **Phil Harrington**;

Program: TBA

Th Oct 15 1:30pm Board Meeting at clubhouse

Sat Oct 17 8am East Bay Alzheimers Walk-Team Belma at Bishop Ranch (see flyer p. 4)

Sat Oct 17 4-6pm Food Bank "Empty Bowls" Concord (see flyer p. 4)

Wed Oct 21 6 pm; Division Council Meeting (DCM) at clubhouse

Th Oct 22 noon; club meeting: Invocation **Jay Howard**,

Program TBA

Th Oct 29 noon; club meeting: Invocation **Cathy Ivers**,

Program TBA

Meals on Wheels Drivers



Oct 6 **Don Sanders**

Oct 13 **Bill Patt**

Oct 20 **Perry Picchi**

Oct 27 **Bob Braun**

Kiwanians Celebrating...

Birthdays

10/15 **John Noon**

Wedding Anniversaries

10/16/1971 **Barbara and Denis Smith**

Kiwanis Anniversaries

10/1/2018 **Connie Chapman**

10/1/2025 **Casey Rose**

