

Orange County
**The Beak
Speaks**
Long Beach



Summer 2026

**Kiwi
Kalendar**

**Upcoming
Luncheons**

September 16th

Stadium Brew
Calley O'Henley
Linda Polese

October

TBD

**Happy August
Birthdays**

Mary Kay Swanson - 11th

Judy Doyle - 19th

Joann Prendergast - 27th



President's Message

What a wonderful way to end the year! Thank you Barbara Gray and Janie Fretz for all the beautiful decorations, desserts and for just putting our luncheon together. We appreciate you both. We had a handful of guests attend as well and hope that they will join us again!

I want to personally thank the outgoing board members for everything that they have done this past year. It really does take a village and none of us can do it alone (like a meal service, right?) I'd also like to thank Barbara Gray for all her work this past year. She has put together new rosters, by-law books, published the newsletter and then stepped in to take over the position of club Treasurer. Barbara, you are just plain awesome in my book!

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the generous gift card to one of my favorite restaurants - Luciana's! It was unnecessary but greatly appreciated!

Krystyna Kisting will be our new Treasurer with Janie Fretz taking over Linda Barker's position as Second VP. Linda will now be First VP (Lunch Lady). Speaking of luncheons, I don't know which openings we have, but I know there are some. Please help us out with this and consider hosting one. Linda Polese and I will host the luncheon in September. I think we're going to have a very exciting new year and I so much look forward to seeing you all in September for our first meeting. The new board will have a ZOOM meeting August 19th at 10:00am.

Have a wonderful summer everyone and please be safe!

Dan & I are back from our anniversary river cruise out of Budapest to celebrate our "never ending 50th". I'll make sure to share the pics!

Calley

OFFICERS 2024 - 2026

PRESIDENT

Calley O'Henley
949-322-1147

FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Krystyna Kisting
714-797-4917

Second Vice President

Linda Barker
951-520-3959

Secretary

Pat Jones
949-522-0718

Treasurer

Joann Prendergast
949-613-3854

Parliamentarian

Judy Carroll
949-632-4595

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Newsletter Editor

Barbara Gray
949-212-5248

Membership

Bobbie Gulbrandson
949-293-1895

Historian

Linda Barker
951-520-3959

Convention

Sandy Burns
949-212-4710

Communication

Linda Polese
480-816-0481

Sunshine/Shadows

Mary Kay O'Neill
714-330-0463

Badges

Janie Fretz
949-929-3550

WINGS Liaison

Connie Leifheit
714-309-8651

Photography

Judy Doyle
562-434-3361
Susie Seitz
949-307-2977
Pat Cross
626-354-3201

National President

Vicki Valenciano Kubal

National Kiwi Website:

www.thekiwiclub.org



The Kiwi Club - Founded in 1952

A Social and Charitable Organization of former and current American Airlines Stewardesses/Flight Attendants, and former and current Stewardesses/Flight Attendants of airlines acquired by or merged with American Airlines.

The results are in for selecting the recipients of our charity donations, in addition to our annual donation to WINGS, the membership voted to support Canine Companions & Tunnel to Towers:

2026 Selected Charities



Founded in 1975, Canine Companions provides service dogs to adults, children and veterans with disabilities and facility dogs to professionals working in healthcare, criminal justice and educational settings. 8000 graduate teams have been placed since 1975. There are 4,300 active volunteers nation wide. The Southwest CC training center is located in Oceanside, CA. More information on: canine.org



Trauma Intervention Program

TIP of Orange County is a nonprofit organization that provides immediate emotional support and assistance to people affected by tragedy. Specially trained volunteers are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, responding at the request of law enforcement, fire departments, and hospitals to comfort victims during the first critical hours following traumatic events. Through compassionate care and emotional first aid, TIP helps survivors begin the healing process when they need it the most.

tiporangecounty.org

Installation Luncheon *June 18. 2026*

DANA POINT
YACHT CLUB



Orange County/ Long Beach Kiwis celebrate in Dana Point



Welcome Kiwis!



Flowers for the
incoming board



So Bay Kiwi Lilli Dabov with
OC/LB President Calley O'Henley



Hosts: Barbara Gray &
Janie Fretz



Happy Birthday Judy Carroll



Barbara Gray, Pat Cross, Janie Fretz
and guest Diane Prchal



"Will you accept this rose?"



Pat Jones, Karen Witteg,
guest Dottie Prohaska and Linda Polese



Guest Roz Crowell, Judy Carroll,
guest Dottie Prohaska with Karen Witteg



Connie Leifheit, Nancy Bonner,
Karen Ford and Sandy Burns



Birthday girls, Debbie Wilterink,
Krystyna Kisting and Pat Cross
(Looking very youthful)



Incoming OC/LB Board Members 2026-2028



Lilli Dabov with daughter, Dana and Pat Jones



Guest Roz Crowell, Mary Kay O'Neill and Calley O'Henley



Linda Polese and Krystyna Kisting with guest Kaylene Aukema



Judy Doyle and birthday gal Debbie Wilterink



Thank you to the outgoing board for a job well done!



Karen Ford and Linda Barker



Minutes for OC/LB Kiwi Club June 18, 2026

The June meeting was called to order by President Calley O'Henley at the Dana Point Yacht Club in Dana Point, CA. There were 23 members and 5 guests. Calley thanked Barbara Gray and Janie Fretz for hosting the luncheon. She then welcomed our guests: Roz Crowell, Dottie Prohaska, Diane Prchal, (all former American flight attendants) and Kaylene Aukema who flew for Air Cal. Another guest was Dana Debov who came with her mother, Lilli Dabov.

The following members received Birthday Tiaras: Krystyna Kisting – May 20, Pat Cross- May 23, Janie Fretz- May 24, Judy Carroll- June 6, Ann Delaney -June 11, Debbie Wilterink- June 25. Bobbie Gulbrandson -May 26 was ill and not able to attend.

Calley reported from the Convention that Kiwis have donated over \$800,000 to the Wings Foundation, of which \$21,160 went to the Endeavor Charity in 2025. Wings assisted 113 flight attendants last year providing \$500,000 in critical support. The next Kiwi Convention will be held at The Omni Rancho Las Palmas Resort, May 3-5, 2028.

It was moved, seconded and passed that Judy Carroll, the executor signer on the Kiwi Club Treasury checking account, is authorized to close the current account at Wells Fargo Bank, as the club transitions its banking service to another financial institution.

President Calley thanked and honored the outgoing board members, presenting each with a gift in appreciation of their service: **First Vice President:** Krystyna Kisting; **Second Vice President:** Linda Barker; **Secretary:** Pat Jones; **Treasurer:** Joann Prendergast, Judy Carroll, and Barbara Gray; **Parliamentarian:** Judy Carroll; **Newsletter:** Barbara Gray; **Membership:** Bobbie Gulbrandson; **Historian:** Linda Barker; **Convention:** Sandy Burns; **Badges:** Janie Fretz; **Wings Liaison:** Connie Leifheit; **Communications:** Linda Polese; **Photography:** Judy Doyle and Pat Cross; **Sunshine and Shadows:** Mary Kay O'Neil.

The installation of the new 2026-2028 Board was done with President Calley offering each a red rose. Ten of the outgoing board are continuing in their same positions: **President:** Calley O'Henley ; **Secretary:** Pat Jones; **Parliamentarian:** Judy Carroll; **Membership:** Bobbie Gulbrandson; **Historian:** Linda Barker; **Convention:** Sandy Burns, **Badges:** Janie Fretz; **Wings Liaison:** Connie Leifheit; **Communications:** Linda Polese; **Sunshine and Shadows:** Mary Kay O'Neil. New positions are: **First Vice President:** Linda Barker; **Second Vice President:** Janie Fretz, **Treasurer:** Krystyna Kisting; **Newsletter:** Karen Wittig; **Photography:** Judy Doyle and Linda Polese.

Krystyna presented President Calley with a thank you gift from the club for her leadership and work during this last two years and for continuing to be our President.

The annual Board Meeting will be held on August 19th at 10:00 on Zoom.

The first meeting of the new term will be on September 16th at the Stadium Brew in Aliso Viejo.

There was discussion on reinstating a meeting in November. Judy Carrol moved to have it on November 11, 2026, and she will coordinate the White Elephant event. It was 2nd and passed.

Barbara Gray had, previously in the meeting, passed out ballots to each member to vote for two of the four charities they would like our chapter to support for the next two years. The choices, as presented in the June issue of The Beak Speaks are: At the Door Ministry, Canine Companions, TIP Orange County, and XLH Network. The ballots were counted and the two chosen were TIP, and Canine Companions.