



# Baldwin Park Woman's Club Newsletter

## The Lark Notes



baldwinparkwoc@gmail.com  
www.baldwinparkwomansclub.org

**President: Cruz Baca**

**Theme:** "May the joy and resilience of the Hummingbird, inspire us to create beautiful things together"

**Symbol:** Hummingbird

**JUL-AUG 2026 Volume 76 Issue 10**

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Contributors: *BPWC Chairmen, BPWC Executive Board Members*



### PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



Hello! Members,

Here we are starting a new BPWC term with lots going on right out of the gate! "Members" are coming forward filling "Chairmen" positions and so many have great new ideas; wonderful for our club. So nice seeing you take a leap of faith in the club and yourselves!

Don't forget we have our **Day of Beauty Hair Cuts** on **Wed, June 24<sup>th</sup>**. If you made an appointment, don't miss it! The **next date** is scheduled for **Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>** and for that date you will need to contact Rosie Breceda direct for your appointment time.

Our BPWC Independence Day Celebration AKA **Summer Party** is coming up on **Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup>**. It promises to be a fun evening with good food. We hope you celebrate with us! See page 6 for the details.

Our first "**Casino Trip**" in years is on **Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup>**. Just \$35, read page 6 for all the details. Let's make this a success...Woo Hoo!! Please join us!!

We continue working hard to make a difference in our community. Planning Day on June 17<sup>th</sup> was a great day! We shared ideas and our hope is that our calendar of activities will inspire you. Thank you for having faith in me to be your President again. Cuca's shoes will be hard to fill, but I am counting on all of you to lend a hand. Together we are mighty!! Happy Summer!!

**Cruz Baca, President**

**Phone: 626-806-9583**

**Email: cruzsembello@hotmail.com**

### JUL-AUG 2026 CALENDAR

#### JULY

- 04 – July 4<sup>th</sup> Holiday
- 10 – Event Set Up 9 am to 1 pm
- 11 – Summer Party 4 to 7 pm

#### AUGUST

- 05 – Hair Cuts, Day of Beauty 9 -11 am
- 10 – Lark Notes Due for Sept
- 10 – Deadline to pay for Harrah's Trip
- 15 – Harrah's Turnaround Trip 8:30 am to 7 pm
- 19 – Executive Board Meeting 10 am
- 28 – Taco Bar Fundraiser 11 am to 2 pm

#### NOTICE TO ALL BOARD MEMBERS & CHAIRMEN:

These Lark Notes are your voice. If you want to submit articles, photos or provide info to our members, please do so! I will correct grammar and may edit for space or content clarity. Submissions are due by the 10<sup>th</sup> of every month to my email. Thank You – **Maureen Foster Davis, Editor**

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## DEANS MESSAGE

The position of First Vice President will be filled in over the summer months by Maureen Foster Davis. She will be the Acting 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President until such time as we can elect someone to that position. We will hold a special election at the October meeting to fill this vacancy. Let us know if YOU are interested!

## UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION

We are in the process of developing the next term's Yearbook. If your personal information needs updating please let us know by August 1st! Do you have a new cell or new email; give us a call.

**Vivian Reyes** – 626-827-7457

**Maureen Foster Davis** – 951-674-8407

## YEARBOOKS FOR THE NEW TERM

Our Yearbooks will be getting a makeover as a cost saving measure. We no longer get enough ads to pay for printing, so we are going to a new size and format but more affordable.

If you missed our **Group Photo** on June 17<sup>th</sup>, our **Make Up Group Photo** for the Yearbook, will be July 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm at the Summer Party! Want to place an ad? Call Vivian today!

**DON'T FORGET!** – We post **birthdays** so you can send a card or good wishes to friends. **Bettie Nixon's** birthday is coming up on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. We know she'd love to hear from you with a card or a call. Her information is in the Yearbook! Reaching out to friends who can no longer join us is a great summer to do list project!

## PAJAMA DRIVE

**THANK YOU EVERYONE!** We donated pajamas to the Garden View Rehab Center because YOU were so generous. We'll keep you posted on future projects! Thank You to Vivian Reyes for delivering!



## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We welcomed officially as new club new members **Dawn Cervates** and **Raine Brussard**. See here with 2<sup>nd</sup> VP **Alice Konopasek** and President **Cruz Baca**.



Both are already making an impact! Dawn jumped in to get termite inspection reports and Raine is our Fashion Coordinator! Greet them both with smiles and hugs! Welcome on-board ladies...

**Alice Konopasek, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President**

**Phone: 626 512-3548**

## WAYS and MEANS

Our **Casino Turn -Around Trips** are back but we need **you** for them to be successful. First, let's all promote, see attached to these Lark Notes a flier you can copy and pass out!

We also need **gift cards** and **small gift items** for the bus trip to the casino for the fun we plan. See page 9 for donation details.

Everyone ages 21+ is invited, we'll do the driving in an AC cooled bus with great fun planned along the way! It's a summer road trip with friends! See page 6 for all the event details. **Bring donations to the July 11<sup>th</sup> Summer Party!**

**Rosie Breceda, 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice President**

**Phone: 626-523-2263**

**Email: rmbreceda@gmail.com**

## HEALTH and WELLNESS

In the business of our lives we often rush around and don't stop to take time *intentionally* for ourselves. Here are a few tips, I hope they help you like they do me. **Ways to Take Care of Yourself:**

If you feel overwhelmed, step outside for a few minutes. Look at the sky, stretch, breathe; feel the air. Stroll your garden, enjoy your patio or just be with nature. Being in nature does not have to mean a forest; time well spent among our own flowers can be calming.

Limit endless scrolling on your phone, computer or TV. Try stepping away from technology and do something that rests your mind like listening to soft music or just sitting in the quiet, meditating. Remember how that old James Taylor album made you feel?

Rest when you're tired. Seriously, sit down, nap or just find a quiet corner and stare out the window. You're allowed to take time for yourself. You will feel a sense of rejuvenation after a nap and slowing down quiets the mind leaving it available for more important things.

Try small grounding rituals like morning coffee or tea in silence, lighting a candle, gratitude journaling, saying a short prayer or affirmation to start or end your day. These are essential to a healthy mindset; you choose what is best.

Many of us do not take the time we need for ourselves to feel well and happy!! Taking care of yourself first ensures you are there for those you love!!

**Cruz Baca, Health & Wellness Chairman**



### JULY

03 - Bettie Nixon  
04 - Cuca Rodriguez  
08 - Gloria Fierro  
24 - Diana Dzib  
24 - Cristina Mondragon

### AUGUST

02 - Linda Helsey  
06 - Elena Lara  
08 - Cruz Baca  
22 - Maria Orozco



## THE MONTHS OF JULY & AUGUST

In these months of summer, we hope whether you plan a vacation, have family stopping by for BBQ, or just plan to take a well-deserved break, enjoy your summer! **Happy Birthday America!**

**July's** traditional **birthstone** is the **Ruby**. Rubies were thought to calm anger and help the wearer navigate passionate social situations.

**July's** warmth is mirrored in its stunning birth blooms. This month, we celebrate the **lotus**, **larkspur**, and **water lily**, flowers that embody resilience and purity.

**August's** traditional **stone** is **Peridot**. It was thought that keeping the stone close during dark hours repelled nighttime evil spirits due to its brilliant green hues.

**August's** birth blooms, the **poppy** and **gladiolus**, bring a dramatic flair to the late summer landscape. These flowers are not just visually striking but also carry rich symbolic meanings of peace and strength with the poppy and integrity with the gladiola.

With summer, our hot dry California weather is in full swing. Keep yourself cool and hydrated. This is the time to use that AC and carefully plan your hours for outside excursions. Try to travel in the cool morning hours and even change your gardening habits so you water or garden in cooler moments; like early AM or later PM.

If you feel overly tired and out of sorts, drink your cool water and rest; over exertion is easy when it's hot! *Those dishes in the sink can wait!*

## IN CELEBRATION OF OUR MEMBERS...

We celebrated our friends who had milestone anniversaries. Each one is an important part of our legacy and we salute their service these past years.

5 Year - **Alice Konopasek**, 15 Year - **Cruz Baca**, **Anna Grehova** and **Enedina Tamayo**, Congratulations ladies, enjoy your Iris's, they are ready for planting!



## AFTERNOON OUTING TO THE THEATRE

We had a few members recently share an outing to the Covina Playhouse Theatre for a showing of an inspirational true-life story. "**The Women of Lockerby**" was sad but incredibly portrays over coming grief after a horrendous accident. In the photo below, see everyone except Alice who was camera shy. From left are Cuca, Enedina, Mary, friend, Cruz and Margarita. Next play is in December and is ... It's a Wonderful Life". Let's get more members to attend as our participation helps this small theatre thrive with wonderful showings that inspire! Thank you to Cruz Baca for sharing these tickets with our Sisters! *Popcorn anyone?*



## ANNUAL MEMBERS FEES

Thank you everyone who was able to pay your annual dues of \$50 by the July 1<sup>st</sup> deadline. **If you still owe dues**, please remember that you may mail in your payment to our P O Box. **After July 1<sup>st</sup> the fee will be \$60** because a late fee of \$10 is accessed when paying late per our Standing Rules.

If you need more time, contact me so you are not accessed the late fee. **Paid by July 1<sup>st</sup>, dues are \$50.**  
**Paid after July 1<sup>st</sup>, dues are \$60.**

**Suzanne Perez, Financial Secretary**

**Phone: 626-862-7182**

**Zelle** can be used to make payments for things like our annual dues or activities like the Casino Trip. Use **bpwclub1@gmail.com**

Be sure to write in the memo box what it is for!



## FROM THE SENATORS OFFICE...

State Senator and 20-year BPWC member Susan Rubio sent along Elena Robles from her office to congratulate Cuca on her fantastic 4 years! What a treat to be recognized for all her efforts and nurturing leadership. *Thanks Elena for joining us.*

The topping on the cake for Cuca's administration is that our club received the **SGVD Leadership Award** during Convention. Out of 27 clubs and 2 affiliates we were the sweepstakes winner and now a hundred dollars richer! *We are a small but mighty group!*



## SGVD SUMMER SCHEDULE

The District will be on break over the summer months. In the fall, pay attention to the locations of meetings as they will rotate between the Covina Woman's Club **CWC**, Pio Pico Woman's Club **PPWC** and the Baldwin Park Woman's Club. Check out their website for other club's events and **'The Key' Newsletter** at [sgvd.org](http://sgvd.org).



Thank you SGVD President Gina Morales for helping us install the new board. *Gina posed for a picture with outgoing President Cuca Rodriguez.*

## EXECUTIVE BOARD OFFICERS AT THEIR MAY INSTALLATION CEREMONY



*Congratulations to our new Executive Board! We are excited to get started with a new President and a new theme. From left, installing our friends is outgoing SGVD President Gina Morales, Karen Garnier, Rosie Breceda, Suzanne Perez, Alice Konopasek, Margarita Vargas, Maureen Foster Davis and Diana Asmundson. Not shown: Laura Santos, Carmen Vargas and Cruz Baca. Good luck to all in their positions! Team work makes dream work...*

Salute to USA's 250<sup>th</sup> Year!

## SUMMER PARTY

SAT, JULY 11, 2026

4 to 7 pm

Take Out or Dine In



Adult Meal \$20, Childs Meal \$10 – menu varies

Meal is main dish, 2 sides & beverage

Desserts are separate @ \$5

We are cooking up some great food you might have at your own backyard BBQ along with special deserts. There will be displays, entertainment and lot's of great cooking! There will be a \$50-50 cash raffle! *Cha-ching!*

We would love every club member to get in the spirit of 76 and 'Salute to our 250th Year' which is our theme for our 2026 Summer Party. Our party is just a week after the official July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday so those patriotic outfits will be ready for a great meal and celebration! **Please plan to invite family and friends.** You can drop in for a take out meal, or dine in for a meal or just desert; come on by and celebrate with friends.

**There will a photo booth for great memories!**

RSVP to 626-337-4192 or [baldwinparkwc@gmail.com](mailto:baldwinparkwc@gmail.com)



**\$35**

**\* MUST BE 21**

## Harrah's Turn-Around Casino Trip Fundraiser

**Sat, Aug 15, 2026**

**BPUSD Parking Lot- 3699 Holly Ave**

**Meet at 8:30 am Depart at 9 am**

**Return time is 6 to 7 pm**

**Payment by Cash, Check or Zelle**



## Mexican Loteria Bingo



## & Taco Bar

Friday, August 28, 2026

11 am to 2 pm

**\$15 per person \***

\*includes Taco Bar and 3 games Loteria

**\$10 Taco Bar only** (Chicken & Beef w/sides)

We hope you'll join us for great Mexican food and a great time! Monies raised will fund Music Scholarships for students. We'll play Loteria; so much fun! There will be beautiful plants as prizes for winners! **RSVP- Call 626-337-4192 or email [baldwinparkwc@gmail.com](mailto:baldwinparkwc@gmail.com) by Aug 24<sup>th</sup>.**



We will meet and depart from the BPUSD Parking Lot located at 3699 Holly Street. Your \$35 gets you a seat on the AC Cooled bus with 1 complimentary drink and snack bag. We will be playing games for prizes and sell additional food/drinks as we travel to Harrah's Hotel and Casino in San Diego County. *So much fun, invite everyone you know, we have 54 seats to fill!*

**PLEASE RESERVE YOUR SEAT BY AUG 10<sup>th</sup>**

RSVP to [baldwinparkwc@gmail.com](mailto:baldwinparkwc@gmail.com)

626-523-2263 (Rosie) 626-806-9583 (Cruz)

Seats are limited, payment in advance is expected by Aug 10<sup>th</sup>

Payment by Zelle is [bpwclub1@gmail.com](mailto:bpwclub1@gmail.com)

## FASHION SHOW HIGHLIGHTS

A great time was had by all. Great lunch, fun fashion, awesome models! Another great year of friendship and fun!



*Thank You  
Everyone!*



## A TOAST TO OUR FRIEND AND LEADER, PRESIDENT REFUGIO 'CUCA' RODRIGUEZ



We thank Cuca's family for joining us as we toasted her leadership these past years and welcome her back into membership without the obligation of management.

Cruz and Cuca have worked as a well oiled machine and we look forward to our new steward at the helm. Good luck to Cruz as she leads us forward.

***"Friendship is not defined by outcomes but by efforts. May we all endeavor to be that friend".***

## THANK YOU TO OUR EXECUTIVE TEAM

Cuca Rodriguez has spent the last 4 years leading our club as President with two full terms back to back. She welcomed talented and special ladies who made up the Executive Board in every year and those who played key roles as Chairmen. Here we are celebrating everyone who took on a leadership role this past year during our 'toast' festivities. Our friends were given sweeties in these beautiful butterfly boxes as an ode to Cuca's symbol of the 'butterfly'. Thank you everyone for making a sweet success of it! Our awards from convention speak volumes about what we can accomplish together!



*From left, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP/Recording Secretary–Maureen Foster Davis, Arts Chairman/Yearbook–Vivian Reyes, Parliamentarian/Corresponding Secretary–Karen Garnier, HOBY Chairman–Laura Santos, Calling Committee–Lia Ritter, Citizenship–Barbara Ottem, Treasurer–Suzanne Perez, 1<sup>st</sup> VP/Music Chairman–Cruz Baca, President Cuca Rodriguez, Kitchen Supervisor/Co-Craft Chairman–Enedina Tamayo, Co-Craft Chairman/Clubhouse Chairman–Margarita Vargas, Past President Advisor/Financial Secretary–Diana Asmundson and 2<sup>nd</sup> VP – Alice Konopasek. In the words of someone famous – “ **We can't do it alone, therefore, together then!**”*

## SUMMER BIRTHDAYS TO CELEBRATE



In June, we celebrated our Birthdays for June, July & August. Our friends got a bag of sweet treats! *Above from left, Cruz Baca, Vida Flores, Suzanne Perez, Cuca Rodriguez and Maria Orozco.*

## DONATIONS WANTED FOR CASINO TRIP

It had been so long since we took a road trip together! We are all set to take a really fun bus ride to Harrah's in San Diego County at Rincon. The bus is cool and the fun will be hot! To make this trip ever so fantastic we'll play games; that's where you can help! We need prizes.

If you can donate 'stuff' or you can donate cash so we can purchase prizes or supplies; please do so! Gift Cards are preferred but small items work too!

Bring to the Summer Party on July 11<sup>th</sup> or contact Rosie Breceda and she'll work out getting your donation before the trip on August 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Do something fun for you** this summer and plan to join us. Even if you don't gamble, Harrah's offers great food joints and the people watching is top notch! Just spending the day together out in a Vegas style casino will be like a mini vacation.

**Rosie Breceda, Ways & Means**

**Phone: 626-523-2263**

**Email: rmrbrededa@gmail.com**

## DID YOU KNOW?

We have a few NEW MEMBERS, so it's time for a 'Did You Know'. Each summer all Woman's Clubs in the nation take time off to spend quality time with friends and family. They plan vacations, take cruises and welcome out of state relatives. All this time off is so that when you return in the fall, you are happy to see your friends again, and get back to it...

Our club tries to stay connected by hosting fun activities over the summer months. See page 6 for details on all our events/fundraisers planned for July and August. The Executive Board will continue to meet and plan the Yearbook but when we meet this summer, it's all about fun!

We will return with regular 'business' meetings on Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup> with a Dean's Seminar and our Ice Cream Social to raise funds for HOBY.

Until then, we'll see you at the Summer Party on July 11<sup>th</sup>, Hair Cuts and Day of Beauty on Aug 5<sup>th</sup>, the Casino Trip on August 15<sup>th</sup> and our Taco Bar on August 28<sup>th</sup>.

## WE LOVE OUR LEADERS!



A view of two leaders. Cruz and Cuca at the SGVD convention in April as Cuca gave her club report.

*"May the success of the past,  
seed our future endeavors."*

## DONATIONS NEEDED FOR BACK-TO-SCHOOL BACKPACK PROGRAM

Within our community, families struggle to afford the supplies that schools cannot provide. **WE CAN HELP!** Several organizations need donations to make up over 3,000 back packs that go to kids in need. Please help us supply school supplies to local kids. Here is a list of items we need;

**Pencils      Markers      Crayons**  
**Notebooks   Glue Sticks   Sharpeners**



**\*Bring items to the Summer Party on July 11<sup>th</sup>.** We will donate to those local organizations providing Back-To-School backpacks filled with supplies!

Whether you purchase supplies on line or shop at the back to school sales at places like Doller Tree, Walmart or Staples, **every donation helps!**

## DONATIONS FROM OUR BABY SHOWER



*Miles of smiles from incoming President Cruz Baca, Chief Lopez and outgoing President Cuca Rodriguez as we support our Crisis Cupboard at the BPPD with your generous donations of diapers, formula and baby gear.*

*Day of Beauty*  
**HAIR CUTS**            **\$15**

**9-11 am**

**WEDNESDAY**  
**AUGUST 5<sup>th</sup>**

Haircuts date is **Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>** from 9 am to 11:30 am (30 minute appt) This is for members, friends and family. Don't forget:

- > **Hair must be clean with no sprays, wet is best.**
- > **Arrive 15 minutes before your appointment.**

Our **Day of Beauty** includes sharing brunch with friends. If you would like to stay after your cut and enjoy bunch it will be \$10 for brunch. **For a total of \$25** you get a great haircut and as a bonus we can spend brunch together. Contact Rosie direct to get an appointment time for the August date.

**Rosie Breceda, Ways & Means**  
**Phone: 626-523-2263**  
**Email: [rmbrecedagmail.com](mailto:rmbrecedagmail.com)**



Happy May Birthdays to Lia Ritter and Karen Garnier!

*The Lark Notes Newsletter is intended to inform members of the Baldwin Park Woman's Club about our general activities; it is not intended for public distribution. Do not forward or copy for non-Club Members.*