



Baldwin Park Woman's Club Newsletter

The Lark Notes



baldwinparkwc@gmail.com

www.baldwinparkwomensclub.org



"Celebrating 120 years of service"

NOV 2026 Volume 77 Issue 2

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BPWC Executive Board Members

President: Cruz Baca

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

Symbol: Hummingbird

Color: Royal Blue **Flower:** Gardenia



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Hello Ladies! Hope you are all enjoying this cooler fall like weather. On October 10th, seven club members attended the Area B Conference. I believe we all found it very informative and we had lots of fun. Great to get new ideas and bring them to our club. I especially liked the idea of publishing stories about our projects and sharing how we impacted a particular person or family. I can see that as a good way to market our club so others can see our impact, understand our hearts and learn what we are all about.

These stories from individuals in the club can be part of our social media outreach as we promote our charities and ask our community to support our mission. We'll be asking Maureen and Vida to integrate your stories into articles of interest on our social media platforms. More about this project will be shared at the November meeting.

We are fast approaching the time to write our annual reports. Please remember to turn in your Event Report when you are "Chair" of an event. We have forms so you don't have to guess what information we need. We also want to know about your personal charitable activities outside our club. Information you give will be assigned to a category where it's best suited. Sharing all we do is first, a good way to share how we benefit others bringing attention to important projects and second, we get awards at Convention. Let's brag about the work we do to benefit our community. Awards are icing on the cake, but they give our club credibility and standing.

"For there is no friend like a Sister in calm or stormy weather. To cheer us on. To help one if one goes astray. To lift one if one falls down. To strengthen while one stands."

Be well everyone.

In Sisterhood, Cruz Baca, President

Phone: 626-806-9583

NOVEMBER 2026 CALENDAR

"Season of Gratitude"

01 - Daylight Savings Time Ends

05 - Set up for Meeting 9 am

06 - Reg Luncheon Meeting 10 am - 1 pm

10 - Lark Notes Due for Dec

11 - Veteran's Day (holiday)

12 - Set Up for Annual Craft Sale TBA

13/14 - Annual Craft Sale 9 am - 3 pm

13/14 - Lunch Service 11 am - 2 pm

18 - Executive Board Meeting 10 am

23 - Thanksgiving Meals Boxes Prep TBA

26 - Thanksgiving (holiday)

Please call and RSVP for activities that require it, especially the Luncheon Meeting on Nov 6th. If you miss the deadline but find you can attend; RSVP late. Events are better with **YOU!** Visit **PAGE SIX** for all the details on all events. If you need a ride, call another member, we love to carpool!

For **Daylight Savings**, roll clocks **BACK one hour** on November 1st!

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DEANS MESSAGE

There is no Dean's Seminar in November but your new Co 1st VP's are ready to tackle their duties together! The election for the vacancy of 1st Vice President was held in October. **Cuca Rodriguez** will represent as our 1st VP at District Meetings, managing voting and official duties with district and during BPWC Luncheon meetings. **Maureen Foster Davis** will attend SGVD Zoom Meetings and organize Dean's Seminars. At luncheon meetings she will facilitate her Co-Secretary duties. Both of our friends will provide oversight and assist Chairman as needed as Co - 1st Vice Presidents!

**"Teamwork divides the work
and multiplies the success!"**

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We celebrated September and October birthdays, at the October luncheon meeting. Dawn Cervantes is our new Birthday Sweets member. Here she is introducing birthday girl Carol Woods. Happy Birthday Carol, *may you have great health this year!*



Great news! Prospective member **Cathy Nava** is now officially a new member. At the next meeting she attends we will plan to initiate her and welcome her officially to our club. Cathy is a local BP resident who we welcome with open hearts!

Alice Konopasek, 2nd Vice President
Phone: 626 512-3548

BEANIES, BLANKETS AND SOCKS DRIVE

The collection box still needs a few more fleece blankets, beanies and socks. Bring to our Nov 6th luncheon meeting or to the Craft Sale dates of Nov 13th and Nov 14th. The need is great and we appreciate your support for this annual project. Our friends at the Tiny Homes appreciate your generosity.



WAYS and MEANS

Thank you to everyone who enjoys the raffle baskets at luncheon meetings. I know it's a change from the 60-40 but so far it's been a financial success! If you win, you can always give your basket to someone special if it's not your style.

*For the record...*the IRS have strict rules on cash raffles for non-profits. All monies collected for raffles are *supposed to go directly to the organization*, making a 50-50 style cash giveaway unacceptable. Raffles that give away prizes or gift cards are acceptable. I think this change is perfect and remember *it is optional to purchase tickets*.

We are sorry to announce that the **Casino Trip** scheduled for **Saturday, November 21st has been cancelled by the Casino**; there is no bus available for our use. **We will reschedule in early 2027!**

In the meantime, please plan to stop by for lunch at the annual **Craft Sale** on **Nov 13 & 14th**. Lunch will be served lunch from 11 am to 2 pm. Stop in and have lunch with friends or get a meal for Take Out. Please support our club raising funds for charity. If you can help with the lunch, please let me know!

Rosie Breceda, 3rd Vice President
Phone: 626-523-2263
Email: rmrbreceda@gmail.com



*Grateful For:
Family, Friends
& Faith; Good Health,
Financial Security,
Purpose in Life &
My Club Life!*

HEALTH and WELLNESS

How important are words of comfort? If you have ever suffered a loss you know what it means to hear from friends and loved ones that they care.

In our club we have many chairmen but one that often flies under the radar is Spiritual Values. Our shared Chairmen are Alice Konopasek and Diana Asmundson who take time before every gathering to prepare words of inspiration, humor, wisdom or of God's grace. These words may seem like a small gesture, but in reflection, words offered in comfort, sympathy or support are never small.

Words are stronger than any rock, more impactful than any book and more profound than any scripture. If they are from the heart, they are meaningful tools to give comfort to someone we care for. My word to you all is to love one another with intention and live your life with purpose, for a life well lived is God's reward. *Blessings for a wonderful Thanksgiving.*

Cruz Baca, Health & Wellness Chairman
Phone: 626-806-9583
Email: cruzsembello@hotmail.com

PRAYERS FOR OUR FRIEND, LIA RITTER

My prayers and condolences are with Lia and her family. Her Daughter-In-Law recently passed away. May the Lord bring Healing and Comfort to your heart. Always here for you.

Your friend in all things, Cruz

THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

The winds are no longer warm, they have a chill as we officially start the holiday season. Don't forget that **DAYLIGHT SAVING ENDS on November 1st!**

In this month we honor our Veteran's/11, and give thanks for our blessings on Thanksgiving/26. You can also celebrate passed loved ones on Día de los Muertos/2.

If your birthday is this month the **flowers** are the **chrysanthemum** and the **peony**. Together, they capture the essence of late autumn: the chrysanthemum's exuberant color brightening the season's final days, paired with the peony's lush elegance that inspires reflection and gratitude. Your traditional **birthstone** is **Topaz** with warm hues of mostly yellows, oranges and browns. It symbolizes love and affection. It is believed to give the wearer increased strength and intellect.

This month is also a great month for **Zodiac signs**. First is **Scorpio** with dates from Oct 23 to Nov 21. The symbol is the Scorpion. The power symbolized in this water sign is of intimacy, intensity, power, control and obsessiveness; all Scorpio traits. **Sagittarius** is the second sign with dates from Nov 22 to Dec 21. The symbol of the Archer, with its pointed arrow, shows Sagittarius' desire to aim higher in life. Generous, idealistic, great sense of humor are basic traits of this fire sign.

November is **Veteran's and Military Families Month**; let's take time to thank our soldiers and their families for their sacrifices and show our deepest appreciation.



06-Vivian Reyes 28-Rosy Breceda

NOVEMBER
BIRTHDAYS

COLLECTING OLD GLASSES

Bring your old prescription glasses and place them in the collection box at meetings. **We can help**, the Lions Club as they take old glasses; refurbish them, giving them to people who need glasses.



PAST PRESIDENT CUCA RODRIGUEZ

Our current President Cruz Baca recently presented Cuca with her CFWC Past President's pin. Just another opportunity to thank Cuca for a great 4 years of Leadership. Wear your pin proudly!



SILLY TAX NOTICES

These will be passed out at the November 6th meeting and mailed out as needed. As a member we "Tax" for fun and silly items or you can just send a donation of \$20 or more. This **fundraiser** will help us get two students to the HOBY Conference. Please send your Silly Tax Remittance by December 10th!



CONSERVATION CORNER



CLUB RECYCLING PROGRAM

Hey **Club Members**, let's keep the good vibe growing by bringing your plastic water bottles and aluminum cans to our luncheon meetings so we can recycle together! Most of us alone don't have a lot to recycle for cash but together our cans and bottles add up! Just bring them in a bag and we'll get them to our club recyclers! Please bring only single use water bottles and aluminum cans.



AMERICA RECYCLES DAY is NOVEMBER 15th

HOW IMPORTANT IS RECYCLING?

Landfills are filling up fast and recycling efforts are something we can all do to help it slow down. Recycling does not just apply to glass, plastic and aluminum but to all materials like tin, steel, paper, etc. Be sure to use your recycling bin wisely, cleaning plastics and glass before tossing.

You can also think of donations of used items like appliances, clothing, yard tools, household items and collected art as **RECYCLABLES**. We donate so they can be recycled to new uses or so they can be useful to new users. If we all use our best practices to **Reduce, Recycle & Reuse**; landfills will take a lot longer to fill!

Visit www.epa.gov for info on recycling!

THANK YOU COLE and VERONICA



Many Thanks to guest speakers from **Seed to Serve LA**. Cole Lim and Veronica visited our club to share the story of their nonprofit, feeding hungry folks with great food. We appreciated their talk; they even brought a potluck to share!

SGVD NOVEMBER 2026 CALENDAR

- | | |
|--|----------|
| 13 - SGVD Fall Council @ PPWC* | 10 am |
| 16 - DVAC Meeting @ Covina WC | 11:30 am |
| 18 - SGVD Club President & 1st VP Zoom | 7:00 pm |

* Pio Pico Woman's Club, 9214 Mines, Pico Rivera

Visit the districts website for event fliers and look for **"The Key" Newsletter** at www.sgvd.org.

We carpool to meetings as part of a day out with friends. Let me know if you plan to attend, there is usually lunch and a cost for the meal, but you can bring your own lunch if preferred.

Vivian Reyes, District Registrar

Phone: 626-827-7457

Email: aginuzy@aol.com

HIGHLIGHTS FROM AREA B CONFERENCE

What a great 'Fiesta' we had at the Area B Conference hosted by our own San Gabriel Valley District. It was a great program, excellent food and we had such fun networking! Our club group included Barbara Ottem, Vivian Reyes, Cuca Rodriguez, Cruz Baca, Maureen Foster Davis, Alice Konopasek and Rosie Breceda. Our club was recognized by CFWC for our 120 years of service! The program included several speakers and a service activity.

**Thanksgiving is a time to give thanks
and count the blessing we have.**

***"Don't just count your blessings,
be the blessing that others count on!"***

SGVD did a great job of hosting and we really enjoyed the Conference. Attending SGVD or CFWC events is a great way to make your Woman's Club experience more fulfilling. If you want to attend any similar activity, just inquire with Vivian Reyes.



HOLIDAY CRAFT SALE

Fri, Nov 13th

Sat, Nov 14th

9 am to 3 pm

Lunch 11 am – 2 pm \$10



Don't miss our annual Holiday Boutique. This sale will help us fund local charities and you might just find a few great gift ideas!

Please stop by, have lunch and shop! Don't miss this club holiday tradition. Contact Margarita Vargas if you would like to help.



**SMALL GIFTS,
CRAFTS & LUNCH**

SAVE THE DATE – SPUD BUNCO 2027

Wednesday, January 20, 2027

11 am to 2 pm

\$15 includes lunch and Bunco

Join the fun of our traditional Spud Bunco. Great spuds, lot's of great toppings and Bunco.



HOLIDAY PARTY

Friday, December 18, 2026

11 am to 2 pm

Lunch is a POTLUCK

\$15 Gift Exchange

Don't miss the fun of our Holiday Party. There will be a Potluck lunch so plan to bring something delicious! We also host an optional gift exchange. Wear your best holiday sweater and plan to celebrate good food, warm friendships and maybe we'll play some Holiday Bingo! There will be a sign up sheet for food at the December 4th meeting and please **SAVE THE DATE! Guests are welcome.**

CASINO TRIP

The planned Casino Trip for **Saturday, November 21st** has been **CANCELLED.**

The Casino officials informed our club that they did not have a bus available for this date. We will revisit scheduling a Casino Trip in early 2027! Thank you everyone who supported the fundraiser!

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NOVEMBER 6th LUNCH ASSIGNMENTS

Lunch Chairman Vivian Reyes
Committee Dawn Cervantes, Suzanne Perez
Hostess..... Karen Garnier
Décor/Theme Vida Flores

We will meet on **Thu, Nov 5th at 9 am to set up** for the Friday meeting. *Anyone can help!* This lunch is \$10 and RSVP's are required by Nov 1st. **Call Vivian Reyes to RSVP, 626-827-7457.**

Our program will celebrate our **Past Presidents** so we hope that many of them can join us.

Come and **meet our 2026 HOBY attendees**, they will be our guest speakers and we look forward to their inspirational stories about this leadership conference. During the November meeting Members will receive their "Silly Tax Notices"; this fundraiser benefits the HOBY program. Come see where your dollars are spent and how great this opportunity is for these students.

FACEBOOK and SOCIAL MEDIA

TRAFFIC on our sites is important. Please visit our **Facebook** page and **Website**! Every month we upload the new newsletter, add photos and both look great! Visit our website at:

www.baldwinparkwomansclub.org

When you visit our sites on the internet, that is referred to as traffic and the internet collects that data. The more traffic we show the more likely that people are to return. Our Facebook page is updated with each new event, find us on Facebook at:

Baldwin Park Woman's Club

We are doing our part to keep new photos and updated information on all our social media so please do your part by visiting!

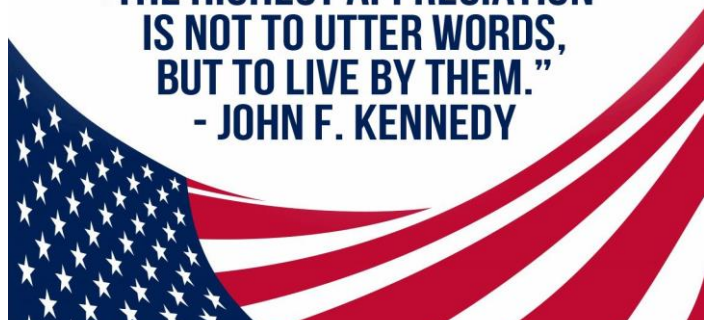
Vida Flores, Social Media/Facebook Chairman
Maureen Foster Davis, Website Editor

Website designed on



VETERAN'S DAY

**"AS WE EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE,
WE MUST NEVER FORGET THAT
THE HIGHEST APPRECIATION
IS NOT TO UTTER WORDS,
BUT TO LIVE BY THEM."
- JOHN F. KENNEDY**

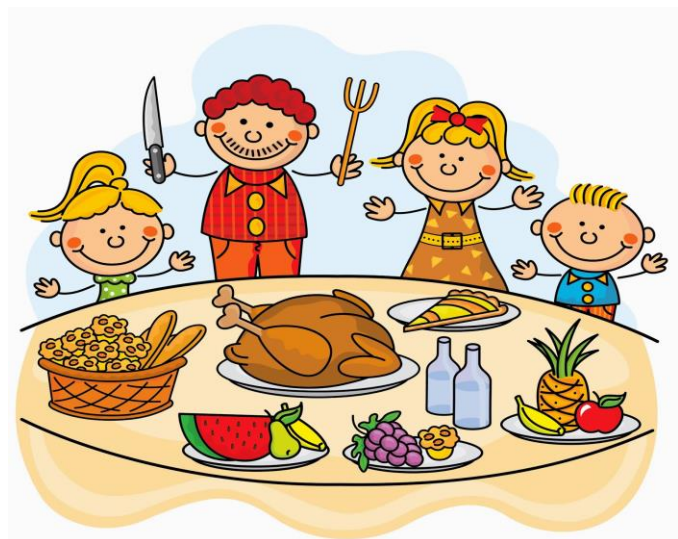


THANKSGIVING MEALS

Our club is committed to preparing special Thanksgiving meal boxes for a few families in need. On Monday, November 23 (before the holiday) we'll gather at the BPWC to put together boxes with all the good food needed to have a great holiday meal for a family. Here's our priority list:

1. Locate local families in need
2. Create bountiful boxes to include lots of good food they can prepare
3. Invite them to pick up their meal at the clubhouse

There will be more information at the November 6th Meeting. If you are interested in helping us shop or want to donate CASH to help defray the costs, please do so! If you know a family in real need; maybe unaware of the city give aways, let us know and provide their information to the club. We will do our best to support their family in helping them have a traditional meal to share as a family. The number of boxes/meals will be dependent on resources available.



***"Let us give thanks for our family who gather
together to share in life's blessings,
offering comfort to each other."***



Cheers to our members; we are thankful for you all! Many blessings for a wonderful holiday.

PAJAMA DRIVE FOR GARDENVIEW REHAB

In this holiday season, we ask that you consider helping us provide pajamas for the residents at the Garden View Rehab Center. Many come straight to rehab with just hospital gowns and many who are without strong family ties really appreciate our gesture. Having real pajamas give confidence to those patients to engage with others as they improve their health. Wearing just hospital gowns often interferes with their health improvement because engagement is avoided.

Bring **PAJAMAS** for women (gowns okay) sizes Medium, Large and X Large to any meeting, socks are also welcome. We will collect and deliver on December 16th when we visit the center.

SAVE THE DATE for **Christmas Caroling** at the Garden View Rehab Center on **December 17th**.

We will plan to practice singing prior to this visit and hope that many of you plan to join us so we can bring some cheer to these residents. We'll have more information at the November Meeting. Remember, none of us sing professionally, this is to bring cheer to others and all are welcome!

NEED TO KNOW- 'Chairmanships'

If you are a new Chairman or Co-Chairman, this article is for YOU! Every Club Member who steps up in a leadership role is given a bit of latitude to make your project, section or planned activity your own. In general, the expectation is that you will be...

Raising Funds for your project thru funding activities like drives or Game Days to meet a goal. **Raising Awareness** thru articles or presentations. **Raising the Spotlight** on a charity or cause while we benefit that cause through your active leadership.

If you share the task with another, communicate your ideas and share your expectations. Create a partnership so you each bring something of value to the outcome. If you have a question about what is expected, just ask and recruit committee members!

You have some creative leeway when you host a Game Day or Funding Drive as scheduled in our Yearbook but first relay your plans to the Executive Board and get input. You can then put your plan into action, and our club will help you succeed. New ideas and new ways are welcome. If there is something off limits due to By Laws, protocols or policies, we can help when you relay your plans and help steer you to success! **Early planning is key.**

Your Chairmanships lasts from September 2026 thru to June 2027. We encourage Chairmen to give monthly updates at meetings as well as write articles of interest for our members in our newsletter. **It's all up to you!**

QUESTIONS?

Your Co - 1st Vice President's are here to help!

Cuca Rodriguez **626-674-9087**

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

**"A good plan enables success,
no plan ensures chaos"**

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.