

Roosters Crow Newsletter

Over Forty Years of Friendship & Community Service
Ending Childhood Hunger
Volume 165, December, 2024



**ROOSTERS
FOUNDATION**
OF ORANGE COUNTY

President's Message

Greg Bates

2024 President, Roosters & Roosters Foundation



Dear Fellow Roosters and Friends,

We've had another successful year, and I congratulate you all for your efforts to make a difference in the lives of needy children here in Orange County. If you feel like doing more to help out next year please let me or Lou Gardner, our President elect who takes over in January, know how you'd like to help. I'd planned on a lengthy article until I read Lou's message to you and realized he'd really said it all...!

I give a big thank you to this year's Board who made it all work. I've been asked what it was like to be Roosters President again 16 years later and I've got to tell you that every meeting and Board and General meeting were so much easier to run, and everyone helped and made it fun and easy, I would not be adverse to be President again - it was that much better! Please give some of your time and serve on the Board and a committee.

We couldn't have done it without your financial donations and time to put on the events. I appreciate you all and encourage you to see what else you might do to enhance our events and spread joy to those who need it most. I say JOY because when we help meet the most basic needs of the children and their families, they then have time for the joy of living, and the parents are less stressed because their kids are better taken care of. Let's keep up the good work.

Happy Holidays to you and yours!

Dec 7 is our Holiday luncheon at Michaels on Naples, a great restaurant and chef who is always there for us at the Chefs Experience, see your invite to RSVP or call Alison.

Dec 14 is our Food packing day! Its always a fun morning and you can go out with other Roosters afterwards; you have to sign up in advance online or call Alison Cotton.

With respect and thanks to you all,
Greg Bates,
Roosters President, 2024

Vice President's Message

Lou Gardner



Sister and Brother Roosters, 2024 has been but a "blinking of the eye". All Roosters should be pleased with accomplishments made and the fun we had. Greg Bates did a great job as our president in 2024. Out of the love he has for the Roosters, he found a way to serve despite a very busy life schedule. His sacrifice will not be forgotten. Our Social events were unique and memorable. Social Chair, Barbara Foster brought a sense of creativity to our Socials, not experienced for some time. Speaker Director, Bleu Cotton through his experience of photographing the Rich and Famous has brought dynamic thought provoking speakers to our lunches and social events. Our Membership Chair, Rob Ward, brought new members but also formalized the process by which one becomes a member of the Roosters. It has always been my personal belief that once becomes a Rooster, they are always a Rooster. The reason for this opinion for myself and others is we were influenced by the Original founders of the Roosters who drove into all of us the importance of this organization. The spirit of those original Roosters lives in Rob Ward. Ambassador Chair, Jon Giberson did a great job of welcoming new Roosters and making all of them feel a part of the Rooster family. Jon is a Rooster's Rooster. His compassionate but strong nature was the winning combination in his successful role of Ambassador Chair. The Food and Wine Celebration and the Chef Experience is the glue behind our ability to provide grants to Orange County Charities focusing on children in need and at risk. Those who serve on the committee headed by Joann Leatherby and Pat McAuley have broken our fund-raising goal for 2024. The committee comprising of past president, John Trapani, Larry Greene, Rob Ward, president, Greg Bates and countless others are a godsend to the Roosters Foundation. Feeding Orange County Co-Chairs, past president Paul Robidoux and Larry Mandell have kept our tradition alive of not only feeding families during the Holidays but also feeding families during the year. Their ability to get most of our membership to participate in boxing food is an example of their steadfast leadership skills. Peter Smith, lifetime Rooster, lives half the year in France and yet is responsible for publishing The Crow every month. We owe a lot of gratitude to him for taking the time every month to help keep our membership and charities informed of our activities. Communications Director, Alison Cotton has been invaluable to the Roosters Foundation. We have grown exponentially through Social Media and other outlets as a result of her efforts. Finally, Events Coordinator, Penny Strenger is undoubtedly the best of the best! Her ability to keep the ship sailing in the right direction during our critical stages of Rooster sponsored events is the reason the Roosters Foundation has gained the notoriety befitting a well run organization. The 2024 Roosters Board and membership set the bar for the work and fun ahead in 2025. I hope all members, especially our newest members, will experience the special sense of belonging to an organization that truly makes a difference in the lives of children.

Lou Gardner,
Roosters Vice President, 2024



**ROOSTERS
FOUNDATION**
OF ORANGE COUNTY

Calendar of Events

Updated as of 11-25-24

Saturday December 7th - 11am

Holiday Luncheon - with entertainment
Michaels on Naples
5620 2nd St, Long Beach, CA
(Carpool - parking is tight)

Tuesday Dec. 10th - Board Meeting

Populaire - South Coast Plaza - 5 - 8pm

*Please note: dates and events
may be subject to change.*

Calendar will be updated as needed.

*Check date of calendar at top of page, and
email*

*RoostersCommunicationsDirector@gmail.com
if you have questions or need a refreshed
calendar.*

Saturday, December 14th

Feeding OC

8am

OC Food Bank at 11870 Monarch St.
Garden Grove.

Scan code here:



Thursday Dec 19th

Roosters Boat Parade Party

Rooster Bob McCaffery's home
After 5:30 - 9pm evite to come in Nov with
address and parking info.

Saturday, Jan. 18, 2025 6-10 pm

Presidents Banquet

March 29, 2025 Wine Celebration

Laguna Beach
Festival of Arts! NEW LOCATION!

May 2-4 2025

Hoag OC Running Festival

The Roosters will be one of 25
Charity Partners!
This will be a HUGE event we will be
involved in



Facebook Group

All members and significant others are
welcome to join this group. Contact Ali if
you would like to join but are not presently
on Facebook.



Run for The Roosters



**2024 ROOSTERS FOUNDATION
OF ORANGE COUNTY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

www.roosters.org



Greg Bates
President



Louis Gardner
Vice President



Gary Draper
Past - President



Jon Giberson
Ambassador Director



Rob Ward
Membership Director



Jessie Bullis
Treasurer



Thad Sandford
Recording Secretary



Jill Caron-Rauen
Charity Director



Bleu Cotton
Speakers Director

**2024 ROOSTERS FOUNDATION
OF ORANGE COUNTY
OFF-BOARD**

www.roosters.org



Joann Leatherby
OCFWC
Lead Chair



Pat McAuley
Chefs Committee
Chair



Paul Robidoux
Feeding OC
Co-Chair



Larry Mandell
Feeding OC
Co-Chair



John Trapani
Wine Celebration
Steering Committee



Greg Bates
Wine Celebration
Steering Committee



Rob Ward
Wine Celebration
Steering Committee



Larry Greene
Wine Celebration
Steering Committee



Peter Smith
Crow Editor



Penny Strenger
Event Coordinator



Alison Cotton
Dir. of Comm.



Barbara Foster
Social Chair

**ROOSTER DECEMBER
BIRTHDAYS**



Gary Draper



Jennifer Moriarty



Cindy Shin



Jill Caron-Rauen



David Selleck



Ambassador's Corner

All 2023 and 2024 Ambassadors:
Please register to come to our Christmas
lunch on December 7th AT 11:00 AM!
Michaels on Naples, 5620 2nd St. Long
Beach.

Plan to arrive early as parking will be
hard to find.

We will have name badges and member
certificates ready to present.

Please RSVP to the Evite and ASAP so we know who is
coming.

Warm Regards, Jon Giberson, 714-345-0714 cell



Speaker's Corner

What a great year for speakers it has been!
Our last speaker of the year was a hit as well.
Antoinette Naddour, co-founder and executive
Director of the Veterans Legal Institute was
educational, humorous and inspiring. Looking
ahead for 2025, we will have some very
interesting and educational speakers on the horizon. I'm looking
forward to seeing all of you at our next one in December for our
Holiday luncheon at Michaels on Naples, cheers and happy
holidays to all.

Thanks!
Your Speaker Chair,
Bleu Cotton



Charity Committee

It is final!

We have ten charities that will receive grants of between \$8,500.00 and \$11,000.00 this year, with a grand total of \$100,000.00!

The charity committee made the recommendations, and the grant review committee and the board approved them. The checks will be given to the advocates at the holiday luncheon.



Jill Caron-Rauen
Charity Committee Chair

I would like to thank everyone on the charity committee, and everyone who participated in this process. These are the people who donated their time to make this happen.

Congratulations Roosters!

Jill Caron-Rauen
Charity Chairperson
Work: 714-536-8603 Cell/text: 714-552-4216 jill@jdcaron.com

We are pleased to announce the 2025 Wine Celebration date and location! March 29th 2025 at Laguna Beach Festival of Arts! Let's make this the best Fundraiser in Roosters History!

 **SAVE the DATE**
Roosters Food & Wine Celebration
Saturday, March 29, 2025
NEW LOCATION:
Festival of Arts - Pageant of the Masters
Laguna Beach



MARTY
GOLDEN,
ROOSTERS
MEMBER
AKA "THE ICE
MAN"



2024 Charities
Receiving Grant Checks
Totaling \$100,000
from
The Roosters
Foundation of Orange County

Advance! On to College
Devil Pups
Family Promise
Fish For Life
Friendly Center
Fristers
H.O.P.E.
Hope Harbor/Laurel House
Parentis Foundation
Stand Up For Kids
Summer Harvest



Helping Roosters Help Kids
www.Roosters.org

Dues are Due!

DUES invoices will be going out Nov 1st and due by December 31st.
All members with dues paid by the end of the year will be given a free dinner ticket to the president's dinner.
Pay on Website www.RoostersFoundation.org

All other Roosters bills needing to be paid, please forward to roosterspayables@gmail.com
This way it has a specific email and will not get lost in all the communications

Thanks, Jessie Bullis, Secretary Treasurer

Help Roosters take a BITE out of Hunger!

16% of kids in Orange County
go to bed hungry.
We need your help
to help them!

\$25 will fund 1 box of food.
Please make a donation of any
amount for our
**Roosters Feeding OC Program
Holiday Food Drive
December 14, 2024**



<https://qrco.de/bfVdCm>
Scan this QR code
with your phone to donate



**Our GOAL is \$52,000 to enable us to distribute 2000 boxes
this December 14th.**

Make it a recurring donation!...
You can donate every month by checking "MONTHLY"

Roosters Socials

ROOSTERS SOCIAL EVENTS FOR 2024

Mark your calendars for our Annual Social at Rooster Bob McCaffrey's house on Dec 19th when we watch the boat parade together.



Barbara Foster, Social Chair

Please check your emails for the "EVITE" providing details on the socials scheduled for each month.

Hoag Marathon Running Festival

We will be announcing our participation in the Hoag Marathon Running Festival May 2-4, 2025.

Thanks to Rob Ward, we have been selected as one of the 25 nonprofits to benefit from this event.

To do this, we must recruit runners who will register to run or walk either a 5K, half or full marathon.

They will recruit sponsors who pledge to donate to that runner.....all donations go directly into our Roosters Charity Account, so the opportunity is great to receive up to \$10,000 if we are successful in recruiting runners.



**Run for The Roosters Foundation
May 3-4, 2025
Costa Mesa, CA**

<https://runsignup.com/Race/133058/Charity/28294>

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME VINO???

We are gearing up for what promises to be one of BEST Roosters Wine Tastings EVER!!!

Save the date March 29th.

We'll be going to beautiful Laguna Beach where the renowned Pageant of the Arts is performed. The entry point to the pageant is where our event will take place. This over the top location will be a huge draw due to its variety of activities, the beach, art galleries, restaurants, bars, unique boutiques, etc.

Pricing will come out soon but let your family and friends know to save this date...you might consider this a holiday gift.

We look forward to seeing you there!!! - John Trapani



March 29, 2025

Festival of Arts

Laguna Beach, CA

www.OCFWC.com



Join the Planning Committee today!

Holiday Food Drive 2024

On December 14, we will once again be packing food boxes for the holidays. Like last year we will be filling about 2000 boxes that will go out to needy families in OC as we continue to fulfill our mission.

We have opportunities for all Roosters to help this special tradition happen... and ask YOU to be a special sponsor.

Would you like to be the DONUT, BAGEL and COFFEE SPONSOR?

Would you like to be the Cardboard Box Sponsor - \$2500

Would you like to be the Printing of the Flyers Sponsor (we attach these to the boxes when they are closed) - \$250



If you cannot sponsor the whole amount, please let us know what you can donate, and we will add you to our special sponsor thank you list, to be featured in our January Roosters Crow!!

(We also still have the \$25 fund a box link to donate to!)

Please scan the QR Code to fund a box, sponsor the event, and soon, to sign up!
or click here to go to sign up page: <https://qrco.de/bfVdCm>

Details of the event....

We will start at 8 AM and continue until all the boxes are filled. It should take about 2.5-3 hours. We need about 100 people to accomplish the task in this amount of time so we need volunteers. There will be an on-line sign-up sheet so we can track the number of volunteers and the jobs people want.



Like the past few years we will be at the OC Food Bank at 11870 Monarch St., Garden Grove.

We appreciate all of you who have kept this special tradition going for over 25 years! Let's make more memories and smiles for 2000 families this holiday season!

Larry Mandell and Paul Robidoux



Food Drive

Notes from
Alison Cotton, Communications Director

Our communications team uses:

- Evite (Download the Evite App on your Phone)
- Facebook Group (Download the Facebook App on your Phone)
- Constant Contact (Make sure our Crow Newsletters are not going to your email JUNK folder)
- Our Member Directory is on our website in a Members Only Section
- Instagram – LIKE and SHARE our posts!
- YouTube – Please subscribe and watch!
<https://www.youtube.com/@roostersfoundationofoc>

Thank you in advance.

RoostersCommunicationsDirector@gmail.com

or txt 949-254-6563

How can you share The Roosters Foundation's mission with others?

- * Post about us on your Social Media.
- * Invite others to our events, and encourage membership!...
- * Buy and wear our Merch! Check out our store online! (address in this Crow!)
- * Get creative like Gary Draper...
He added a custom license plate frame to his car!
"The cost is about \$21. If you like this license plate frame, you can order it on Amazon. Contact Gary or Ali for more details on the amazon seller.

Roosters Charitable Fund Endowment

The fund guarantees that the Roosters Foundation's mission of helping Orange County's children will continue forever. Thanks to the generosity of supporters, this endowment creates a steady stream of income that will always be available to fund programs that make a real difference in the lives of these local children.

Want to help? Scan the QR code to donate directly to the Roosters Charitable Fund Endowment. Your contribution, whether a one-time gift or a monthly donation, will ensure that the Roosters Foundation can continue its vital work for generations to come.

<https://www.oc-cf.org/funding-opp/roosters-foundation-charitable-fund/>

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-Marty Burbank



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Roosters Around the World & In the News

Grandfolks Collection!

Jude, age 23 months, and Crew age four, watch over their new baby sister, Charlie Jo Roberts, born on October 9, 2024. They are the children of John and Maggie Hinson's younger daughter, Laurel Roberts and her husband Cal.



Roosters Luncheon Celebrates Veterans

Our last speaker of the year was a hit. Antoinette Naddour, co-founder and executive Director of the Veterans Legal Institute was educational, humorous and inspiring.



Save The Date!

FESTIVAL OF ARTS LAGUNA BEACH FOOD & WINE TASTING!

March 29, 2025

Festival of Arts, Laguna Beach

A cozy afternoon of wine tasting for a good cause
to Help Roosters Help Kids.



Did Someone Say WINE?...

Sip, savor, buy and learn from passionate winemakers...

But wait, there's more!

Spirits, Beer, Music, Hors-d'oeuvres & Auction Items.

ALL included with your ticket



ROOSTERS  ORANGE COUNTY
Food and Wine
CELEBRATION™

Your proceeds will help support
18 small charities that feed, protect,
educate and nurture
children and their families.

www.OCFWC.com

www.RoostersFoundation.org

Contact us below for more information to volunteer, become a member,
receive a donation form, or to be added on our mailing list:

RoostersCommunicationsDirector@gmail.com



Roosters Hub
Follow our Social Media
for more info!

Roosters Golf Classic, November 18

From Davi Wilson, Roosters 2025 Board Member, Ambassador Chair:

A group of friends and I had the pleasure of playing a round of golf together at the Old Ranch Country Club, which hosted a charity event to support the Roosters Foundation and their chosen charity, Parentis Foundation.

Everything was so nice and organized, from the check-in process, breakfast, on course cocktails, lunch and dinner. It all felt seamless.

It was a day of fun, friendship and making memories, all for a great cause!

Penny Strenger did an amazing job of organizing this event!



We had 32 foursomes, (almost sold out) of an amazing day of golf on a private course. Golfers received a tee gift of a 130 piece tool kit from Roosters, and a golf towel from Old Ranch, Breakfast from Chik fil A, Bloody mary and screwdriver bar sponsored by Nolets/Kettle One Vodka, Lunch sponsored by Katella Deli, KIND bars from Bill Ross, silent auction and amazing spread of food from Chef Polo at Old Ranch Country Club (charcuterie, beef Wellington, Shrimp, Beef sliders, wings, bacon wrapped dates, spring rolls, and more!). What a great day with friends to help those who need our support. I'm thinking if you don't golf, you should learn so you can join the fun next time! What a great day!

Membership



Hello Roosters!

We wrap up 2024 with 6 new members, and we already have 2 prospective members starting the application process looking to join in 2025.

Great job everyone!

Membership is the lifeblood of our organization. The more members we have, the more fun we have, and the more money we raise for our charities.

Membership dues drive a lot of our activities. Speaking of dues, it is that time of year to pay your 2025 dues.

On 11/2/2024 you should have received an invoice for your 2025 dues. The invoice will have come from our bookkeeper; Jeanette Robertson. The email address she sends from is jeanette.robertson@outlook.com.

If you have not seen the invoice, please check your spam folder.

You can also go online to the Rooster website and pay 2025 Dues.

Remember, your paid dues include (1) ticket to the 2025 President's Award Banquet, that will be held on Saturday, January 18th at the Burra Corvette Museum in Laguna Hills. Details coming soon.

So far, we have collected 23% of the 2025 dues and I would love to be at 100% before the Banquet.

Happy Holidays Roosters!

Thank you for your help and your support!

If you have a prospective member, have them, contact me at rward@eis.agency or 949-274-6274

Sincerely,
Robert F. Ward
Membership Chair

Honorary Roosters - we are happy to have the ongoing support of the following:

Cherri Farah
Gary Eisenberger
Margarita Martin
Mark McDonald
Dan Pederson

Floyd Pickrell
Peter Smith
Stephanie Bauer
Penny Strenger

Holiday Food Boxing Sign Up



Roosters Store!

You can still order MERCH from our online Store!
Roosters' store is open to order Under Armour shirts and Richardson 112 Twill/Mesh Snapback hat – all embroidered with Roosters' logo. Prices include taxes and shipping! Orders will be shipped in batches once a month, so get yours this month!

Our supplier is....
Cedarstream

https://stores.cedarstream.com/roosters_foundation/shop/home



Culinary Heroes!

Thank you to all of the generous chefs and restaurants who helped us raise over \$288,000!
Please visit these restaurants and let the chefs know you are a Rooster!



- * Chef Eric Samaniego and Michaels on Naples
<https://www.michaelsonnaples.com>
- * Chef N'tasha Delgado and Chef Jemille Cruz and Old Ranch Country Club
<https://www.invitedclubs.com/clubs/old-ranch-country-club>
- * Chef Ugo Allesina and Prego
<https://www.pregoooc.com/>
- * Chef Alan Moran and The Pacific Club
<https://www.thepacificclub.org/>
- * Chef Ross Pangilinan and Catering by Mix Mix
<https://www.mixmixkitchenbar.com/>
- * Chef Nick Weber and Populaire Modern Bistro
<https://www.populaireoc.com/>
- * Chef Alfonso Ramierz and Leatherby's Café Rouge
<https://www.patinagroup.com/leatherbys-cafe-rouge/about>

Roosters of Orange County
17602 17th Street Suite 102-252,
Tustin, CA 92780

www.roostersfoundation.org



Roosters of the Year - 2023
Pat McAuley, John Trapani,
Jennifer Moriarty, Joann Leatherby

Roosters Creed

An organization that stands for friendship, fellowship, charity and good times. It stands for busy, worldly people who take the time to give those less fortunate a helping hand. It stands for warmth, strength, and shared laughter.

Mission Statement

To facilitate and encourage lifelong friendships while performing charitable works on behalf of children in need.

Mission Statement for the Roosters Foundation of Orange County

To raise necessary funds for disadvantaged and at-risk children in the Orange County area and to support public and private programs with necessary services for children in need.

We respectfully request that all Roosters and the friends of Roosters patronize the businesses and establishments that support and foster Roosters charity causes. We are grateful!



**ROOSTERS
FOUNDATION**
OF ORANGE COUNTY



Crow Editor
Peter Smith

**Birthdays?
Anniversaries?
Marriages?
Congratulations?
For sale?
Need?
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Found?**

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