

Roosters Crow Newsletter

Over Forty Years of Friendship & Community Service
Ending Childhood Hunger
Volume 166, January, 2025



**ROOSTERS
FOUNDATION**
OF ORANGE COUNTY

President's Message

Lou Gardner

2025 President, Roosters & Roosters Foundation

Happy New Year to the Roosters membership! As was mentioned in last month's Crow, we accomplished much in 2024 and we had fun in the process.

For all of the new members who became Roosters in 2024, I want to welcome you to this very special organization. It is my goal to help you to get engaged with Rooster events in 2025.

We certainly will need "all hands-on deck" as we host The Food and Wine Celebration on March 29th in Laguna Beach: Festival of Arts, Pageant of the Masters location.

We then move on to the Hoag 2025 Marathon Running Festival on May 2-4. The event will take place in Costa Mesa. Jon Giberson has initially taken on this event but needs help and suggestions in getting the word out and signing up runners. This can potentially become a big money maker for the Roosters and at the same time get our name out to the Orange County community in a very positive manner.

Our showcase fund raiser is The Chefs Experience, slated for September 28. This event has become legendary with participation of top chefs in Orange County and unique auction items presented.

The Roosters also participate in feeding programs throughout the year. We will certainly give notice when such an events are scheduled.

A major ingredient for achieving success with our fund-raisers and community events is to mark your calendars now and join the various committees associated with the events you may be interested in giving your time and talents to.

Below are important dates for you to place in your calendars now.

- March 29 Food and Wine Celebration, Laguna Beach, Festival of the Arts location
- May 2-4 Hoag 2025 Marathon Running Festival, Costa Mesa
- September 28 The Chefs Experience, Old Ranch Country Club, Seal Beach
- Roosters Board Meeting: Second Tuesday of every month- Location TBD each month
- Roosters Luncheon: Second Thursday of Every Month- Location TBD- Evite is sent to all members
- Charity Committee Meeting: TBD Jill Caron Chair- Evite to be sent out to all members.

I look forward to serving as your Roosters president in 2025. As stated in my opening comments, my goal is to help our new members become engaged and experience the magic of being associated with this very special organization we call Roosters.

Lou

Louis Roybal Gardner
Roosters President, 2024



Speaker's Corner

Jan 9th Luncheon guest speaker will be Gary Kutscher, Event Manager of the Hoag Marathon Running Festival.

Rob Ward has arranged for Roosters to be one of the 25 charities that will receive proceeds from this event, to be held on May 2nd 2025. Please visit their web site to see more details. <https://ocmarathon.com/>

Gary will explain how we can earn from \$2-10,000.00 by recruiting runners, register to run ourselves and recruit sponsors to support you if you run. See our section in Crow of schedule of the weekend and QR code how to donate.

Thanks!

Your Speaker Chair,
Bleu Cotton

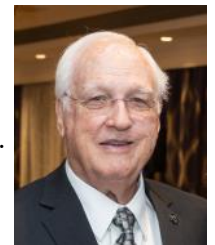


Ambassador's Corner

Davi Wilson, a member for only one year has attended every board meeting and has agreed to take over the responsibilities of the Ambassador Chair. Davi will do a great job of welcoming new members and help them to get quickly integrated into the membership.

Congratulations Davi and welcome to the board of directors.

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



FLASH MOB Jan 28th Terrace by Mix Mix

We plan on every 4th Tuesday. Please check evite and rsvp so we can have a headcount for Chefs!

Our Flash Mobs are impromptu, informal gatherings of Roosters Members and friends to show our appreciation of chefs and businesses around the area who support us in our work to benefit disadvantaged and at-risk children.

Please join us for this fun event, a time to really get to know your Rooster brothers and sisters and have fun!

Calendar of Events

Updated as of 1-9-25



**ROOSTERS
FOUNDATION**
OF ORANGE COUNTY



Run for The Roosters

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.

Tustin Street Fair and Chili Cook Off

Sunday June 1st

Volunteers needed! Details coming soon.

Contact Rob Ward for more info;
rward@eis.agency

Culinary Masters - September 28 2025

Old Ranch Country Club

Please contact Joann to join her planning
committee.

Thursday Jan 9 - Luncheon

Pregos 11:30am

rsvp on Evite

Hoag OC Marathon info shared!

Tuesday Jan. 14th - Board Meeting

Lou's Office, see Evite - 5 - 8pm

Saturday, Jan. 18, 2025 6-10 pm

Presidents Banquet

Burra Corvette Museum

22952 Alcalde Drive

Laguna Hills -rsvp on Evite

OCFWC Committee Meeting Jan 22

Contact Larry Greene to join!

Tuesday January 28 6pm

Flash Mob - Terrace by Mix Mix

rsvp on Evite

Thursday February 20th

Social Benchmark

Procurement Party - Bring Auction items
for upcoming fundraisers

Tustin Sip N Stroll, February 22nd

Details coming soon.

Contact Rob Ward for more info;
rward@eis.agency.

March 29, 2025 Wine Celebration

Laguna Beach

Festival of Arts! NEW LOCATION!



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.

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.*

**2025 Roosters Foundation of Orange County
Board of Directors**



Louis Gardner
President



Vice President
Larry Greene



Greg Bates
Past President



Rob Ward
Membership
Director



Davi Wilson
Ambassador
Director



Jill Caron - Rauen
Charity
Director



Bleu Cotton
Speakers
Director



Jessie Bullis
Treasurer



Recording
Secretary TBA

**2025 Roosters Foundation of Orange County
Off - Board**



Joann Leatherby
Culinary Masters
9-28-25 Chair



Larry Greene
OC Food & Wine
3-29-25 Chair



Jon Giberson
Run for The Roosters
Hoag Marathon
Liason



Paul Robidoux
Feeding OC
Co-Chair



Larry Mandell
Feeding OC
Co-Chair



Social Chairs
Joann & Greg
Leatherby-Bates



Penny Strenger
Events Coordinator



Alison Cotton
Dir. of Comm.



Peter Smith
Crow Editor

**ROOSTER JANUARY
BIRTHDAYS**

Take one of them to lunch!



Kirk Adams



Scott
Zimmerman



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](https://stores.cedarstream.com/roosters_foundation/shop/home)



Ron Guidry

It is with profound sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved Ron Guidry. A cherished member of the Roosters, Ron's presence was a source of joy and inspiration to all who knew him. His dedication, kindness, and unwavering spirit left an indelible mark on our community.



Ron was more than just a fellow Rooster; he was a friend, and a guiding light. His laughter, wisdom, and generosity will be deeply missed. Ron's commitment to the Roosters and Orange County Children was evident in everything he did. He embodied the true spirit of the Roosters' mission to serve the children of Orange County.



As we mourn his loss, we also celebrate the incredible life he lived and the countless memories he leaves behind. Ron's legacy will continue to inspire us, and his and Peggy's spirit will forever be a part of the Roosters.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to Ron's family during this difficult time. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you. We will share details about his services as soon as they are available.

Rest in peace, Ron. You will always be remembered and cherished.

Marty Burbank, on behalf of all Roosters



Roosters on the Run!



Michael Krever saw some familiar faces while in Sebastian FL in December.

Meanwhile, Davi and Ali spent a beautiful evening at the Segerstrom Center watching The yearly production of Scrooge.



The Roosters have fun together at official gatherings and also outside of the Group, so make sure you share photos of your activities with us here, in the Crow!

Charity Committee

Happy New Year! Did you see all of the photos of the advocates giving checks to our charities that help disadvantaged children?

This is why the Roosters exist, and it is the end goal of the charity committee each year. Please consider joining the committee!

If you are interested, or have any questions, please contact me.

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



Jill Caron-Rauen
Charity Committee Chair



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

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"

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

Feeding OC Program – Holiday Food Drive

Larry Mandell and Paul Robidoux

We thank all of the Roosters, friends and families who helped to box 2000 meals for those who needed some holiday cheer this season.



What I enjoyed was, seeing Roosters who had been there for over 20 years participating, new Roosters and their friends who were there for their first or second time, and also the families of Roosters who came...even if the Rooster was unable to come this year themselves...we know we have a tradition when this event has volunteers who make this as a permanent part of their holiday celebration.



We even had some kids who were volunteering who I overheard say "Wow, this is the hardest I've worked in my life!" I had to smile as I believe they will walk away with a sense of pride knowing that their hard work helped put food on the table of someone less fortunate. We are sharing with the youth what giving is all about...it may be hard work at first, but their hearts grow bigger and helping others becomes easier the more it is done.

Alison Cotton – Communications Director



Feeding OC Program – Holiday Food Drive

Boxes went to:

- Miracles For Kids
- Boys & Girls Club of Capistrano Valley
- Boy's & Girl's Club of Tustin
- Family Assistance Ministries FAM
- Family Promise
- Friendly Center
- H.O.P.E. Helping Others Prepare For Eternity
- Laguna Food Pantry
- Serra's Food Pantry (Father Serra's)
- Share Our Selves (SOS)
- Society for St. Vincent de Paul at St. Justin Martyr Church
- Crime Survivors
- Grandma's House of Hope
- Families Forward
- Pathways of Hope Fullerton FIES
- Summer Harvest Food For Kids



Roosters Charities in the News

Fish For Life, one of the charities that Roosters supports, had an amazing year celebrating their 15th Anniversary.

The charity takes special needs children, a parent, and a skilled sportfishing person to assist each child on a day of ocean fishing on a charter sportfishing boat. A typical trip supports about 30-40 youth and includes fishing, singing, parading about the boat, lunch, snacks, awards and a mermaid encounter. The kids and parents have a blast, and often get to see dolphins, whales and sea lions during a trip.

This year, according to Jim Holden (Executive Director for "Fish For Life") they were able to increase the number of trips due to generous contributions from the Roosters and a number of other organizations. Jim is enthusiastic that they are expanding the program to several other fishing ports around the country, all they need are new leaders willing to organize trips and raise funds for them using the template Jim has developed over the 15 years.

To get a real sense of what a trip is like Jim suggests you go to his website Photo Gallery at <https://www.fishforlife.org/> to see for yourself or coordinate with Marty Golden (Rooster Fish For Life Advocate) to participate on one of the trips. The same website can be used to sign up eligible children to go on one of the Fish For Life Trips.
Advocate Marty Golden



Marty Golden presenting the Rooster grant check to Jim Holden

And more of our charities receiving their Roosters Grant checks...



In 2024 we distributed:

- Advance ! on to College \$8, 500.00
- Family Promise \$11,000.00
- Devil Pups \$8,500.00
- Fish For Life \$8500.00
- Friendly Center \$9,500.00
- Fristers \$10,000.00
- H.O.P.E. \$11,000.00
- Hope Harbor/Laurel House \$11,000.00

- Parentis Recipients of golf tournament
- Stand Up for Kids \$11,000.00
- Summer Harvest \$11,000.00



Roosters Holiday Lunch, December 7

at Michael's on Naples for the second year. We truly love the space and the food and the team there. Candid photographs were taken by Rooster Davi Wilson



As we welcomed 3 new transitions from Ambassador to full Member



And during our lunch we also enjoyed the presentation of Roosters Grants checks to our Charity Liaisons by Jill Caron, Charity Chair:



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Totaling \$100,000
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Frisers
H.O.P.E.
Hope Harbor/Lazard House
Parents Foundation
Stand Up For Kids
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Helping Roosters Help Kids
www.Roosters.org

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Helping Roosters Help Kids
www.Roosters.org

Secretary Treasurer: Jessie Bullis

DUES are due!

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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

Hoag Marathon Running Festival

Gary Kutscher, Event manager of the Hoag Marathon Running Festival will be our guest speaker at the Jan 9th Luncheon.

Rob Ward has arranged for Roosters to be one of the 25 charities that will receive proceeds from this event.

It will be held on May 2nd 2025.

Please visit their web site to see more details. <https://ocmarathon.com/>

He will explain how we can earn from \$2-10,000.00 by recruiting runners, register to run ourselves and recruit sponsors to support you if you run.

Schedule:

Friday, May 2nd - 3-7pm

Lifestyle & Fitness Expo – OC Fair & Event Center - 88 Fair Dr. Costa Mesa CA

Saturday, May 3rd - 10-5 (Expected attendance 25,000; Roosters will have a booth to recruit new members.)

Kids Run the OC – 8:00am

Lifestyle & Fitness Expo – 10am-5pm OC Fair & Event Center - 88 Fair Dr. Costa Mesa CA

Celebrate OC – 2:00pm-7:00pm – Enjoy brands and bands and sports teams from the OC.

Celebrate OC 5K – 5:30pm

Sunday, May 4th

OC Lifestyle & Fitness Expo – 10:00am-5:00pm - Over 75 Fitness and Fun Brands

Full & Half Marathon – 5:30am

Half Marathon - 6:30am

Ultimate Finish Line Party at the OC Fair & Event Center – 7:00am-12:00pm

Both marathon events begin at Fashion Island and end at OC Fair & Event Center

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME VINO???

We are gearing up for what promises to be one of the 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



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

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

A vertical poster for the Roosters Orange County Food and Wine Celebration. At the top, "ROOSTERS" is written in black, "ORANGE COUNTY" in orange, and "food and wine" in green and purple. Below that, "CELEBRATION" is written in large, black, uppercase letters. The date "March 29, 2025" and location "Festival of Arts Laguna Beach, CA" are listed in purple. The website "www.OCFWC.com" is at the bottom. Two small images show wine being poured into a glass and a person holding a glass of wine. At the bottom, it says "Join the Planning Committee today!" in blue.

ROOSTERS ORANGE COUNTY
food and wine
CELEBRATION
March 29, 2025
Festival of Arts
Laguna Beach, CA
www.OCFWC.com
Join the Planning Committee today!

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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"You helped me get a loan I thought was impossible...will save me \$100,000+ over the life of the loan versus any other lender." - Michael Krever

"He was able to save us about \$40,000 on our loan. I have since referred him to many of my clients both for reverse mortgages and regular mortgages."
-Marty Burbank



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Membership



Happy New Year Roosters!
I am back to serve on the Board again as the Membership Chair.

In 2024 we added 6 new Roosters! Let's double that in 2025. So far, I have received one application and expect another one early this year. Dave Welch will attend the January Board meeting for approval. See Dave's Bio in this month's Crow.

In 2025 we will have the Rooster membership booth at the following events:

- Tustin Sip N Stroll, February 22nd.
- 15th Annual Roosters Foundation OC Food and Wine Celebration, March 29th.
- Orange County Marathon, May 2nd to May 4th.

If you have an event that you need the Roosters's membership booth at, please contact me ASAP so that we can get it on the schedule.

Don't forget, your 2025 dues are due. So far, we have collected 59% of the dues. Remember, included with your dues is (1) ticket to attend the President's Banquet on January 18th. Let's get those dues in so that we can continue to fund all of the fun we will have in 2025.

Cheers to a prosperous New Year!

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

Cherri Farah
Gary Eisenberger
Margarita Martin
Mark McDonald
Dan Pederson

Floyd PickrellSmith
Stephanie Bauer
Penny Strenger

Proposed New Member – Dave Welch

Sponsor: Thad Sandford

Dave is the Founder and CEO b.spoke, a personal image tailor to the executive and professional athlete community.

Dave and his company have been long time supporters of Roosters and have donated stylish auction items to Chef's Event for several years running. Now after so long seeing the good work Roosters do in the community, Dave is keen to help deepen his relationship with the organization by becoming directly involved himself.

Dave lives in Placentia with his beautiful wife, Kim and his 2 daughters, Taylor Grace and Macy Ryan and their 3 dogs Sophie, Oliver and Zoe.



Roosters Socials



Our Annual Social at Rooster Bob McCaffrey's house on Dec 19th was fantastic!

We thank Bob for hosting this incredible evening. What a view and what a great way to enjoy the holidays together!

????????????, Social Chair

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

Roosters Boat Parade Party - a Jolly Time was had by all!



Romance in the Vineyards

VALENTINE'S DAY EXTRAVAGANZA
AT GIRACCI VINEYARDS

14 FEBRUARY 2025



Spend an amazing evening romancing your love to the smooth sounds with the famous jazz singer Andrea Miller, International performer and favorite of the late Al Jarreau.

Andrea is featured in 4 episodes of the ABC Drama "Doctor Odyssey" andreamillersings.com



Opening for Ms. Miller is our very own Michael (Sinatra) Cipolla, celebrity producer, singer and song writer (Not to mention Cowboy Canyon Owner & Winemaker) of our popular Italian Nights production which sells out every year!

MichaelRCipolla.com

Giracci Vineyards has a special Valentine's 4 course menu planned for you including your choice of Entree, Salad, Artisan Rolls Seasonal Vegetables, Garlic Red Mashed Potatoes, Cupids Surprise Dessert & Coffee

YOU CAN PURCHASE TICKETS AT GIRACCI.COM

**FOR 175.00 or 130.00 per person with discount promo code:
ROOSTERS ENTERED AT CHECK OUT**



Culinary Heroes!

Thank you to all of the generous chefs and restaurants who helped us raise over \$288,000!



You are invited to join the planning committee, and mark your calendars for sept 28th 2025!

Please visit these restaurants and let the chefs know you are a Rooster!

- * Chef Eric Samanigo 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>

Save The Date!

FESTIVAL OF ARTS LAGUNA BEACH FOOD & WINE TASTING!

March 29, 2025

3-6 pm (VIP entry at 2pm)

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 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?
Lost?
Found?**

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SPACE for classifieds!**