

The Review

May 21, 2025

The latest news, views, and announcements (interim Zest)

**Established May 20,
1992, South Orange
County Exchange Club
is a National Exchange
Club (1911) in the
CA/NV District**

Mission Statement

The South Orange County
Exchange Club is a
networking group of
professional men and
women dedicated to the
highest standards of
competence, community
service, and professional
integrity.

Our purpose is the
exchange of business
ideas, business referrals,
and service to the
community for the
livelihood we receive.



Crime Survivors Founder/CEO Patricia Wenskunas

MAY 28, 2025

CALL TO ORDER 7:30

DAVE BLACK

INVOCATION

SHIRLEY KOHLMEIER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

DOUG GRAHAM

MISSION STATEMENT

BOB WILSON

GUEST INTRODUCTIONS

DAVE BLACK

HAPPY \$ DOLLARS

CHRIS TIEMANN

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMITTEE CHAIRS / ALL

PROGRAM

TOM SCHEIL, ANYTHING CIVIL ABOUT ENGR?

SPOTLIGHT

SHIRLEY LASHMETT

2024-2025 Officers

President Dave Black

Secretary Johnny Tai

Treasurer Ron Lashmett

Imm. Past President Tom
Scheil

Directors

Jennifer Butterworth

Doug Graham

Shirley Kohlmeier

Shirley Lashmett

Harvey Schuster

Chris Tiemann

Exchange Birthdays:

5/27 Ron Lashmett

5/27 Jim Oesterle

(Uncle Jim)

Upcoming Events:

6/4 Business Meeting

6/11 Russell
Etzenhouser, Scouting
America

6/18 Krista Goddard,
Laura's House

6/25 Janis Patten,
Watercoloring

7/2 Business Meeting

7/9 Romy Lampert,
Sleeping in 2025

Key Takeaways:

- On May 28th, historical events like the signing of the [Indian Removal Act](#) and the first climb of Mount Everest shaped the world. Scientific breakthroughs, political milestones, and cultural events also left their mark.
- May 28th marks the birth of iconic figures like James Bond creator Ian Fleming and actress Carey Mulligan. It also commemorates the final episode of "Seinfeld" and the release of "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire."

HISTORICAL EVENTS

- **1830:** The Indian Removal Act is signed into law by President Andrew Jackson, resulting in the forced relocation of thousands of [Native Americans](#).
- **1953:** Sir Edmund Hillary and [Tenzing Norgay](#) become the first climbers to reach the summit of Mount Everest, the highest peak in the world.
- **1999:** The International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia indicts Slobodan Milosevic, the former President of Serbia, for war crimes and crimes against humanity.
- **2002:** The Mars [Odyssey](#) spacecraft begins its mission to map the surface of Mars and study its climate and geology.
- **2019:** The European Parliament elections take place, determining the composition of the European Union's legislative body for the next five years.

SCIENTIFIC BREAKTHROUGHS

- **1892:** The Sierra Club, a prominent environmental organization, is founded by John Muir in San Francisco, [California](#).
- **1928:** Scottish scientist Alexander Fleming discovers penicillin, which revolutionizes the field of medicine and becomes the world's first widely used [antibiotic](#).
- **1951:** The first fuel cell is demonstrated by Dr. Walter N. Coughlan and Dr. Thomas Grubb at the [University of California, Berkeley](#).
- **1975:** The first portable cell phone call is made by Motorola engineer [Martin Cooper](#) in New York City.
- **1998:** NASA's Deep Space 1 spacecraft successfully flies by the asteroid 1992 [KD](#), becoming the first spacecraft to encounter an asteroid.

POLITICAL MILESTONES

- **585 BC:** The Battle of Halys takes place between the Medes and the Lydians, reportedly ending in a [solar eclipse](#) that leads to a truce.
- **1940:** Belgium surrenders to [German forces](#) during World War II, marking the end of the Battle of Belgium.
- **1961:** [Amnesty International](#), an international human rights organization, is founded in London, England.
- **1987:** Mathias Rust, a West German pilot, illegally lands his plane in [Red Square](#) in Moscow, Russia, causing a major embarrassment for Soviet authorities.
- **2014:** Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi is sworn in, marking the beginning of his tenure as the 14th [Prime Minister of India](#).

CULTURAL EVENTS

- **1983:** The trailer for the film "Return of the Jedi," the [third installment](#) in the original Star Wars trilogy, is released.
- **1998:** The final episode of the sitcom "Seinfeld" airs, bringing an end to its nine-season run on television.
- **2000:** The fantasy novel "[Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire](#)" by J.K. Rowling is published, becoming a global bestseller.
- **2010:** The South African Football World Cup kicks off, marking the first time the tournament is held on the African continent.
- **2017:** The rock band U2 performs at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California as part of their "[The Joshua Tree](#) Tour 2017.

BIRTHS

- 1779: Thomas Moore, Irish poet, singer, and songwriter known for his lyrical poems and Irish melodies.
- 1888: [Jim Thorpe](#), American athlete and Olympic gold medalist in track and field, football player, and professional baseball player.
- 1908: Ian Fleming, British author and creator of the iconic fictional spy character James Bond.
- 1944: [Rudy Giuliani](#), American lawyer, businessman, and politician who served as the Mayor of New York City from 1994 to 2001.
- 1985: Carey Mulligan, British actress known for her roles in films such as "An Education" and "Drive."

NOTABLE DEATHS

- **1533:** Thomas Münzer, German preacher and rebel leader during the German [Peasants' War](#).
- **1891:** Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky, Russian composer who composed some of the most well-known classical music pieces, including "Swan Lake" and "[The Nutcracker](#)."
- **1937:** Alfons Mucha, Czech painter and decorative artist, known for his distinctive Art Nouveau style.
- **1987:** John Howard Northrop, [American scientist](#) and Nobel Laureate in Chemistry for his work on the isolation and crystallization of enzymes.
- **1998:** [Phil Hartman](#), Canadian-American actor, comedian, and voice artist known for his work on the sketch comedy show "Saturday Night Live."

SOCE Newsletter

Announcements

The upcoming speakers next week is Tom Scheil.

On June 11th, after our morning meeting with our guest speaker from Scouting America, we have our 10am field trip in Irvine at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary, the Fledgling Loop Trail Tour.

Guest Speaker



Guest Speaker – Patricia Wenskunas, Crime Survivors Founder and Chief Executive Officer

Patricia started the organization in Irvine over 20 years ago, 2003, and now serves many areas. Her personal trainer came in, acted violently, and threatened the life of her and her 12-year old son at that time. She readily admits that she has taken it afar in the other direction and works way too hard. She has been recommended by many to take a vacation. When she finally went to Hawaii, the fires unfortunately occurred. She had another situation where someone significant in her life had passed away. Now, she's a little cautious about taking vacations.

Patricia notes that the climate is much worst for victims now. Though the D.A. and Sheriff who are in place today do care for victims, she has seen many criminals released continuously, driven previously with Gascon. If they release the Mendenez Brothers, she points out, it will open a whole new wave where people would re-open their cases.

Chris' Happy Bucket



Ron and Shirley Lashmett are both happy our speaker Patricia is here. Shirley added that The Field of Honor is going on. Shirley contributed a sad dollar as the Newport Harbor Club has 40 members, but only 4 show up, where she is one of the four.

Chris Tiemann provided an update on Uncle Jim, where he now needs 12 hours of care daily. She is also sad of the losses of her brother and the daughter of a best friend.

Shirley Kohlmeier had a sad dollar as The Meridian is closed down without power until 2pm today due to solar panel installation.

Tom Scheil is excited that he will be participating in a Car Show at The Meridian on Father's Day. They magically find some way to display many cars and parking for the visitors, despite the challenges of parking there.

Bob Wilson has returned from 10 days in Oklahoma. He loved the weather as they had no tornado, no rain, then Hell broke loose the day

Victims are scared to death with these releases. How do you prevent things from happening?' becomes the question of concern.

Her group helps all victims of violent crimes, though children that have been abused and domestic violence are the main areas they have been focusing on more recently. Unexpectedly, 4-6 year olds are performing violent sexual acts, where they have been seeing it in video games and social media. One may be victimized, but Patricia emphasizes that one does not have to live a victim's life.

Patricia is proud of the relationships with law enforcement and the resource center her group has in Santa Ana. They are housed in 1500 square feet of a donated space by Dr. Choudary.

As an example, many children with their parents come in for baby wipes, sanitary goods, and basic necessities, as well as gift cards for groceries and food. They also offer classes such as Art for Healing and Self-Defense. The number of attendees can range from as little as 56 to 270 people. They also have peer-to-peer support group.

Advocates are leaving as they burn-out, and they are trying to take care of their staff to minimize attrition. They have events such as Wrap around the Holiday where gift giving is involved to their Halloween Harvest. Many survivors come back and help support financially or become mentors. 1200 people last year were involved in Christmas. Over 750 Christmas Stockings were given away last year. Every penny matters, 92-94 percent go back to the community. They maintain a small staff to keep liabilities down. They now help over 3000 people annually now.

They now partner with all the local shelters and the Chapman University local hospital, rape kits, Domestic Violence strangulation. Forever 21 is unfortunately now closed, as they use to donate \$200k worth of clothing.

They encourage having a safety plan in-place. They are now seeing young adults killing their parents, 18 incidents in Southern CA in recent times.

DUI's are higher now than they have been. Mental health is a crisis, including teenager suicide, where they recently seen one of an 8 year old.

Patricia sees hope in our kids, despite noting that we can never go back.

Doug believes a public hanging or guillotine would readily address our social ills, though would take 'business' away from Patricia, unfortunately, as he points out that there are not enough consequences in our society today.

Patricia notes that some victims may say 'they're not a bank' or 'a whooping bag', noting where things are out there. Whether you win a baseball game or not, everyone gets a prize. The minimum wage has

after they left. They had 14 family members from WA, CA, ID, and TX that visited.

Doug Graham is happy that he is a grown up. He has 3 days of soccer for Jed's tournaments in Norco. Tom noted the name Norco was derived from North Corona.

Johnny Tai unexpectedly saw 2 straight days of faces, a smiling one in his hair product and the other on his yogurt lid. The phenomenon is called pareidolia.

M.I.A. (Missing In Action) Members: As Dave Black is in Texas today visiting his son, Tom did a great job as Acting President. Harvey Schuster is M.I.A. Romy unfortunately is unable to attend due her scheduled extensive work day, likely the great Memorial Day sales at Sleep Number.

gone up to over \$20. The kids today want to start at the management position, whereas it took someone over 30 years to become one in the past. The ills of society are very apparent.

Tom asks Patricia, 'have you had contact with those when you began your organization?'. Patricia notes that she does with the law enforcement agencies, such as Irvine Police. She brought many of them back after 10 years, at their gala, to recognize them.

Patricia notes that the undocumented have been bouncing to different locations. There were some that noted they were victims of crime and they were not. She doesn't want to doubt someone, given the circumstances, yet she now has to ask if they have a police report, to distribute the gift cards (to the true victims).

A woman with a child were sitting outside the post office. She would pinch the kid's leg to make the kid cry, when someone would walk by, to entice donations. People tend to give when a kid is in pain. Scams! The woman was taken in by the authorities.

One fella would drive up to a kid (potential for human trafficking) and tell the kid that he is picking up the kid on behalf of the kid's parents. One woman would pull up afterwards, act concerned for the kid, and say 'what are you doing to the kid?'. The kid would move towards the woman for safety, and then becomes a victim of human trafficking.

Teachers are not speaking out these days, as they are afraid. Meanwhile, a 6th grader is smashing the head of another 6th grader outside.

Patricia concluded with her presentation by noting she is grateful for the work SOCE is doing and would love to partner again.

Patricia clarifies that their address is not publicized for safety purposes, particularly of their victims. For donations, they do have a P.O. Box. One example, a guy with a machete came after staff members of another non-profit.

Patricia emphasizes that bullying is going on and they do bullying prevention. The bullying is on another level today, especially found in grade school. As an example, they are all vaping in 6th grade per a conversation she had with one parent.

Always know where every penny of your child goes, per Doug (it reveals things).

Patricia emphasized 'don't let kids sleep over a friend's house, as you do not know who is there. Some become sexual victims.

The room applauded Patricia for the reality check she had shared with our members today.

50/50 Winner: Patricia's number was picked. Congratulations!