

California  
Workforce  
Connection

EDUCATION ★ INNOVATION ★ OPPORTUNITY

WWW.CALIFORNIAWORKFORCECONNECTION.ORG

Orange Peal  
News

Jan - Mar 2024



## ORANGE EMPIRE CHAPTER OFFICER ELECTION

*Election of officers for 2024-2025 is coming up and the more the merrier. Competition adds an exciting flavor to the process so we encourage each of you to consider running for an office or nominating one of our members. Submit candidate names by June 6. Serving on the Board is not just rewarding and fun, it is a strong addition to your resume. You have an opportunity to demonstrate and develop leadership skill as well as personally meet and work with influential leaders.*

### SUMMARY OF LOCAL CHAPTER OFFICER DUTIES

#### Local Chapter President

Schedules and presides at monthly Zoom Board Meetings and General Membership Meetings. Attends all State Chapter CWC Zoom or in person Board of Director Meetings or appoints a proxy. Any necessary travel expenses are paid plus \$75 for the number of hotel nights voted on by the Directors. Submits quarterly sub-chapter activity report Summary and Score Sheet electronically. Local Chapter Presidents have a vote on California Board. Past chapter officers are mentors and advisors. You are not expected to do it alone!

#### First Vice President

Acts as President when president is unable to attend a meeting. May act as Education Chair for local chapter and arrange training sessions.

#### Second Vice President

Assumes duties of President or first vice in their absence. May act as Membership Chair for local chapter.

#### Treasurer

Maintain records of income and expenditures. Pays the bills, deposits checks, and reconciles the account. Prepare and submit quarterly reports to California Chapter treasurer. Must be computer literate and able to use Quicken.

The Secretary is appointed by the president and attends local meetings to record minutes. The Secretary also assists with preparation of the quarterly report and may be editor of Orange Peal News.

President will appoint chairs for office representatives, legislation, retiree, veterans, and awards. Send nominations to Nanette Bowman by text to 714-269-0612 or email [cwcsecretary2023@gmail.com](mailto:cwcsecretary2023@gmail.com)

## CALENDAR 2024

### **FEBRUARY 2024**

7 Bybee Presentation  
12 Local Board Meeting  
19 Holiday

### **MARCH 2024**

11 Local Board Meeting  
15 Cal-Liope Articles Due  
31 Easter Sunday

### **APRIL 2024**

8 Local Board Meeting  
20 Orange Peel Articles Due  
27 State Board Meeting

### **MAY 2024**

2 State Board Meeting  
3 State Conference  
13 Local Board Meeting  
15 Cal-Liope Article Due  
27 Holiday

### **JUNE 2024**

10 Local Board Meeting  
10 Local Officer Election

### **JULY 2024**

15 Local Board Meeting & Officer Installation

## **Katalyst**

### **“Vision: You can see Clearly Now! Part 2” By Michael Kane**

Now take me, as a child I knew I wanted to be manager or leader over something. The problem was I didn't exactly know what I wanted to manage or how I was going to get there. I made sure my grades were good enough to maintain some good choices, but I did not do my best all the time, like a roller coaster of commitment to the pursuit of my objective. When I graduated high school, I had A's and B's, not bad but just not my best because my vision was still formulating, and indecisiveness had overwhelmed by cerebral cortex. I agonized over what to do with my life. In the interim, I had good jobs, not so good, and challenging/rewarding ones along the way. Nevertheless, I was blessed every step of my journey.

It is natural to vacillate while we are finalizing our vision, while we are considering all our options. Seeing clearly takes time and patience. But equally important it takes consistent action. Like Peter Pan, you need to tap into your heart and spirit, not just your mind. Logic is good and may take you far, but insufficient regarding matters of the heart and purpose.

Once you identify your gifts, talents and interests then marry them with your cause then you are able to embark on your vision journey. A cause is what stirs you up inside. That thing that makes you get up early and go to sleep late in the night. It's the "it" that drives your ambition and that burns the fires of desire. This vision journey is akin to Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tin Man and the Cowardly Lion on their sojourn to the Land of OZ to meet the great Wizard. You see these four fictional characters risked life and limb hoping and wishing the Wizard will grant them their heart desires, i.e., their goals and dreams. There were obstacles for sure between the start of their journey to the end of it. The Wicked Witch of the West had other plans for them. Naturally, wicked plans that meant utter doom for the quartet. Poppy fields, flying scary monkeys and terrifying soldiers and much more were tools to stop them from realizing their destiny.

You too will likely face the bad and ugly on your road as you implement your vision. Like our Wizard of OZ heroes, you must face your fears, hostile combatants and life challenges. Much can be learned from these characters. Despite the next obstacle in their path, they continued regardless of their negative feelings at the time. They took the left foot and then the right foot and kept going until they reached their destination. The same is true for you. You must not give in to lack of courage but press through until the courage dissipates replacing the fear at some point. The show must go on fear or not.

Were Dorothy and the crew scared? Absolutely! Were people or creatures trying to hurt them and stop them? Absolutely! Did they have doubts and fears? Absolutely! Did isolation in an unknown world block and detour them from their road? Absolutely! Did they experience failure? Absolutely!

I believe the greater your vision, the greater the enemy will be to attempt to stop you. In reference to stories in books, TV or film, is the antagonists stronger or weaker than the protagonists? Typically, the bad guy is bigger, smarter and more intimidating than the good guy. At least initially, then as the story unfolds and runs its course, the roles reverse, and the hero whips the villain and the goons in the end. You see the hero fails, receives bruises and fails and is discouraged on his/her journey. There is no road free from pitfalls and challenges designed to prevent you from reaching your destiny or purpose. What happens to the hero? The hero grows from the inside and out developing character and inner strength as the fiery darts zoom at her doing their best to take her down. In many of non-fictional and fictional stories, the hero does get taken down. But as the sun arises, so does the hero, in continuing or even struggling to finish the vision journey. The hero may get bruised, beat up and broken and experiences outright failure; despite all of those negatives the hero finds inner strength to persevere.

Like our fictional hero, we all have already experienced some type of loss, some pain and suffering in the real world. What do we do? We process the loss, grieve, cope as best we can and somehow, we deal with it. At some point the good days outnumber the bad days.

Setbacks in life will happen due to no fault of our own. In many instances or points in time as we walk through life, situations will happen that are totally out of our control. Yes, we will beat ourselves up, losing sleep and cursing our own existence. No matter how much we take responsibility the fact is we could not change the course of whatever negative that happened. I am sure you have watched movies or television shows where a character travels back in time to prevent a catastrophe from happening. Each time they go back they alter history but something bad still occurs, perhaps even worse than the original circumstance.

**Please follow me at: [katalyst.beehiiv.com](http://katalyst.beehiiv.com)**

## Orange Empire Chapter

### EXECUTIVE BOARD ZOOM MEETING

*Monday, February 12 & March 11, 2024*

*6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.*

ALL MEMBERS WELCOME

REQUEST ZOOM LOG IN FROM

NANETTE BOWMAN, SECRETARY

714-269-0612

[cwcsecretary2023@gmail.com](mailto:cwcsecretary2023@gmail.com)

## **Inventing Your Life**

### **“Milestones”**

**By**

**Rob Claudio**

After the beginning of a New Year, many folks think about the future and attempt to plan what they would like to accomplish in the ensuing time period. I think about this to an extent, however, I like to take a look back to see what was achieved previously for an even greater perspective. By looking at the last 5 and 10 years, I can almost guarantee that personal growth and wisdom has been part of your accompaniment. Part of the inspiration for this column was a news story that captured my attention about six sisters from Brooklyn, NY, who had to overcome many barriers from the beginning of their lives. Their family struggled financially and they were homeless at times. Although they sometimes slept in a car, they all spoke about the fact that they still did their homework and ensured that their education continued to be a priority. Not knowing where you will be sleeping and having the common necessities we take for granted of sleeping in a warm bed and having food on the table, can easily enable us to forget that others yearn for these comforts. For these sisters, despite their circumstances, they were able to overcome all of their adversity and all of them had the exact same lifelong dream of becoming nurses. When the news story caught up to them in present day, all of them already had achieved a masters in nursing degree and they were all finishing specialty programs and training, as they were seeking to achieve their next milestone of entering the world of healthcare. This is what prompted me to begin to think about the different types of breakthroughs that we all achieve over the course of time and we sometimes forget what achievements all of us have had. Just like these six incredible sisters who are the prime example to all of us of not being defined by your circumstances or your past, while keeping your dreams alive and ultimately being able to achieve them. I suggest the

walk back in time just for a brief moment to contemplate what once may have been dreams, as you look around where you are today and take stock of those things that you have been able to bring to fruition. For a different perspective, I would also suggest asking some folks in your trusted inner circle to provide you with some feedback of what they believe are some of your successes. I preface this by saying that this exercise is not to be self-centered by any means, just to listen to what others have observed about some of the feats that you have been able to attain, without any bias. When

I thought about this, I found that I had minimized some of my own accomplishments as I didn't think I added the particular importance that was actually associated with them. Ultimately, it is nice to take a deep breath after having revisited some facets of your life knowing that as much as has transpired in prior years, there is still have much to look forward to. As we progress into the ensuing year ahead, be mindful of all that you have been able to realize as you plan for new goals and objectives that may add value to you and those closest around you. Think big and bold as there is no such thing as impossible. For reference, remember the story of the six nurse sisters as you seek to enter into your next phase of a well lived life. Having overcome a difficult beginning to your life, can be the pathway to a different second half of living. When you are able to bask in the milestones that have become a roadmap to what you have achieved thus far, one can still look forward to a great and fulfilling next chapter ahead.

**“I look at victory as milestones on a very long highway.”**

**-Joan Benoit**

**Remember to follow the blog at: [inventingyourlife.blogspot.com](http://inventingyourlife.blogspot.com)**



## California Workforce Connection Annual Education Conference

**“Navigating and Meeting Challenges for Tomorrow”**

### Registration Form

**May 3, 2024**

Ontario Airport Hotel  
700 N. Haven Ave., Ontario, CA 91764

Room reservations are \$129 single/\$139 double plus tax.  
Hotel registration [LINK](#) or Call 1-800-654-1379 before April 20, 2024 to get this CWC rate  
\*Free self-parking

**Zelle Registration use the QR Code (See below)**  
**Eventbrite Online Registration Link (Processing fees will apply)**  
*Online Registration ends April 20, 2024*

*Register Early and Save!*

Early Registration Prices: • Member: \$35 • Non-Member: \$75 • Retiree: \$35 • PI: \$35 • YEOP: \$35

After April 7, 2024: • Member: \$75 • Non-Member: \$85 • Retiree: \$55 • PI: \$55 • YEOP: \$40

#### **2024 CONFERENCE CHECK REGISTRATION FORM**

Complete and mail this form (one form per person) with your check (payable to CWC) to:  
California Workforce Connection, Attn: Phil Dwyer, 12550 Calle Tamega #125, San Diego, CA 92128

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_ ZIP code: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Local Office Name and ARU #: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member? Yes  No  If yes, which Local Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Meal choices (*select one*): Herb Roasted Chicken  Marinated Tri-tip Roast

Please indicate dietary restrictions: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check Number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Postmark your Registration by April 15, 2024**

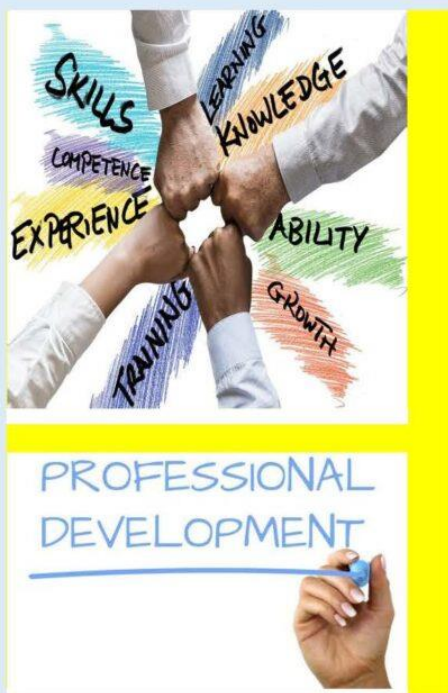
**Registrations are non-refundable.**



**CWC BENEFIT SERIES:**  
*The Bybee Application Process*  
Via Zoom



*District II Presents*



**Presented by the Bybee Board:**

- Arlene Bautista (Bybee Chair)
- Tom Sims (Board Trustee)
- John Szeibert (Board Trustee)



**Learn how to submit a complete  
Bybee application packet.**



**Review the eligibility requirements.**



**Discover what the grant can and  
cannot be used for.**

**February 7, 2024 6:30 – 8:00PM**

**[Click for Zoom Link-](#)**

**Or use**

**Meeting ID: 890 0508 1907**

**Passcode: 496123**



## Sparks of Love Toy Drive 2023

Orange Empire Chapter donated \$200. The Disability Office 219 in Santa Ana filled a collection box. Susanna Gonzalez share the following pictures demonstrating the empty box and how well the contributions filled it up. She delivered their donations to the fire station.



**Orange Empire Member Recruitment Contest ends May 1, 2024**

**\$50 to the recruiter for signing up 3 new members**

**Only Orange Empire members are eligible to win**

**New member must join Orange Empire Transfers don't count**

## Orange Empire Collects Labels for Education



As easy as downloading the APP and scanning receipts or clip and mail to:

Diamond Elementary School  
1450 S. Center St., Santa Ana, CA 92704  
[www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com)