



Torrance Rose Float Association

Newsletter

February/March 2023

President's Message

A very big thank you to all of our members for the wonderful job you did in decorating our beautiful float.

It is rare that a float the size of ours should win such a prestigious award. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the Celebration Dinner but heard it was huge success. Thanks to everyone who made the event possible.

We are starting a new year with a new board of directors, and we are looking forward to another award-winning float.

We have received the students' submissions for the design of our 2024 float entry and the TRFA board will soon be meeting with our float builder and judges to select the design which will represent our wonderful city.

Please make sure to check the save the date for all upcoming events and remember that our Restaurants for Roses fundraisers help to pay for our Decorating Week expenses.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our coming events.

Bev

Thank You!

Big Thank you to all our generous donors



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A Family Tradition

By
Lynn
Robinson



Left to right: Bob Valdez, Evan Valdez, Matthew Valdez, Nikolas Valdez, Anthony Zacha, Mercy Valdez, Monica Lujan, Michael Zacha, Brian Zacha and Jessica Zacha.

Irene Valdez was a long time Torrance float decorator. Since she passed away her family has continued the decorating tradition and places a rose vial on the City of Torrance Rose float in her memory each year.

Among the family members who decorated our 2023 float was Irene's grandson Navy chief Petty Officer Brian Zacha and his wife Chief Petty Officer Jessica Zacha and 2 of their 4 children. At the time they were decorating Brian was assigned to the Naval Base in San Diego while Jessica was on leave from her assignment at the base in Yokouska, Japan as a hospital corpsman.

It is not unusual to have families decorate or honor a loved one with a rose vial. What makes this family special is that while they were decorating on December 29, 2022 they were also packing and getting ready to move to Japan on January 9, 2023! While on leave and in the middle of preparing for a move they joined their other family members to continue the tradition of decorating the Torrance float.

Brian retired from the Navy on January 23rd and has returned to school as well as becoming a househusband and caring for their children ages 19, 16, 4 and 1. He said it was important that they spent the time before they left with the family honoring his grandmother's memory. Brian wanted his teenage sons be a part of the experience and hopes they will continue the family tradition.

February 2023 Celebration Dinner

It's A Wrap!

What a fun event! Over 110 people attended the **TRFA Celebration Dinner** on Saturday, February 4. With our MC's, Roseanne Villalobos & June O'Neill, the program ran smoothly as we ate, laughed, and participated in our Silent Auction, Donated Baskets, and our Rose Garden Gift Cards.

The Rose Queen & her Princesses were presented handmade scarves (thank you Margaret) and gift bags (thank you, Michelle).

Our centerpieces were splashed with our infamous butterflies!

As we gathered to line-up for dinner, provided by SNAX, we got to see a video showing our decorators and the winning 2023 float – “For the Love of Nature” – which won the President's Award for the best use of floral design.

In attendance, were 3 of our Float Riders – Councilman Sharon Kalani, Ann Strong & Debbie Hays. Sharon had such a good time – ***“I would love to ride the float every year!”***

Perhaps YOU can add riding the Torrance Float on YOUR bucket list for 2024!

Mayor George Chen installed our 2023-2024 Torrance Rose Float Association Board. Thank you, again, to all the volunteers, decorators, donors, and fans who have supported our Celebration Dinner 2023.

By Carol Gilles

See next page for
more Celebration
Dinner Photos!

All photos courtesy of
Carol Gilles



The dessert cake with a beautiful photo of our award-winning float!

Celebration Dinner Photos

All photos courtesy of Carol Gilles



There were opportunity baskets galore!



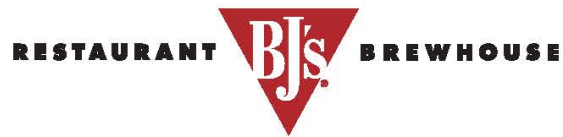
Guests perusing the wide selection of opportunity baskets.



Silent auction items were a big success and help us raise funds!



Mayor Chen installs the TRFA 2023/2024 Officers and Board of Directors



JOIN US FOR A DELICIOUS WAY TO **RAISE MONEY!**

Date: Feb 22, 2023

Time: 11:00AM to 11:00PM

For Dine In, Takeout or Curbside at this BJ's Location:

3525 W Carson Street Suite 168
Torrance, CA 90503
310-802-6440

Enjoy delicious food in a fun atmosphere along with your family and friends while earning funds in support of:

Torrance Rose Float Association

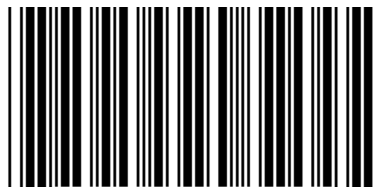
WITH EACH FLYER PRESENTED DURING THIS FUNDRAISING EVENT, BJ's WILL DONATE 20% OF FOOD AND SOFT BEVERAGE SALES TO THE DESIGNATED ORGANIZATION!

VISIT US IN PERSON, ORDER ONLINE OR PLACE A TAKE-OUT ORDER

When dining in: Present this flyer to your server at any time during your meal.

When ordering online: Enter the 6-digit fundraiser code below at the time of checkout.

When placing a take-out order: Present this flyer to a BJ's team member upon your arrival.



F E B 5 7 2

Valid for dine in, takeout or curbside when applicable. Not valid toward alcoholic beverages, Happy Hour specials or for delivery orders. Please do not distribute flyers on site during the event.





Dine & DONATE

FUNDRAISING EVENT

Dine In • Carryout • Delivery*

SUPPORTING

Torrance Rose Float Association

Wednesday, March 8th

From open to close

Torrance Diner | 24021 Hawthorne Boulevard

Present this code at the diner or enter the 9-digit number online at BlackBearDiner.com to credit 20% of your food order to this organization. Delivery orders must be placed through BlackBearDiner.com.



533-537-330



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Association
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