

S U M M E R 2 0 1 7



the
Bulletin
Southern California Mothers of Multiples Club

SCMOMC 2017-2018
Executive Board

President

Melissa Lewis
Ventura County MOMs
president@scmomc.org
805-642-7616

Vice President

Patricia Johnson
High Desert MOMs
vp@scmomc.org
760-514-3221

Treasurer

Melissa Carter
Santa Clarita MOMs
treasurer@scmomc.org
818-207-0717

Recording Secretary

Angie Dargavage
Orange Coast MOMs
rsecretary@scmomc.org
562-896-3138

Corresponding Secretary

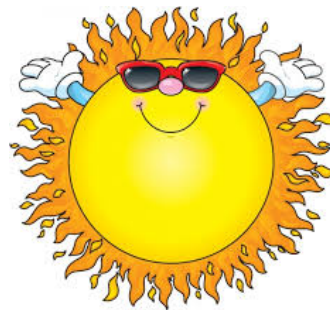
Kristen Kring
Santa Clarita MOMs
csecretary@scmomc.org
661-312-4472

Parliamentarian

Jenny Davies
Road Trip MOMs
parliamentarian@scmomc.org
310-322-8672

Happy Summer!

Wishing all of you a safe and fun
summer with your families and friends!



Save the Date!

July 2017

[28-31] NOMOTC
(Multiples of America)
Convention, Kansas
City, MO

September 2017

[1] SCHOLARSHIP
Applications
available online

[8] First Call to
Workshop 2017 sent

[26] BULLETIN
Deadline – Articles
Due to Editor

October 2017

[1] Board Meeting
Notices E-Mailed

[3] BULLETIN
emailed

[6] DEADLINE for
Workshop 2017
Registration

[6] DEADLINE for
Reports to the
President and copy to
VP and Officer in
Charge (OIC)

A Word from the President

Melissa Lewis

president@scmomc.org

Happy Summer to All,

First, let me tell you a little about myself for those that don't know me. I have been a member of Ventura County Mothers of Multiples since 2005, when my identical boys were almost a year old. I am the secretary for my club and enjoy spending time with the ladies of VCMOM. I am also a 6th grade teacher in a Jr. High in Oxnard. My husband Randy and I have been married for 22 years and we have a 19 year old son to go with the 13 year old twins. I spend my free time doing all types of crafts, currently I am making jewelry and learning different lettering styles.

Next, I want to thank you all for being part of this wonderful organization. During Convention 2017, I found myself thinking back to all of the stupendous women I have met and spent time with because of this group. I am in awe of all of you "Super Mommas" and all you have accomplished.

I hope you all have a relaxing season, I know I will or at least that is the goal. I am looking forward to joining the Meeting Planners and Chairpersons of the next few events to look at venues. Please plan on joining us at Workshop 2017 where I am sure that the High Desert MOMs will outdo themselves giving us an entertaining weekend to reconnect.

If you have a question, please contact me. ☺

Melissa Lewis



Patricia Johnson

Vice President

vp@scmomc.org



Hi Multiple Mommies,

My name is Patricia Johnson and I am your new SCMOMC Vice President. I'm with High Desert Mothers of Multiples as the State and National Rep and was previously the Corresponding Secretary and Chair for Workshop 2014 with State. I'm mom to 9 year-old twin girls and a 12 year-old boy. All 3 seem to be in the throes of puberty right now which makes for an interesting household. My amazing husband Will and I have been married for 20 years and together for 25. I am currently working as the Program Director for a taekwondo studio and my family and I will be testing for our black belts together this August. I want to thank everyone for being so supportive during my hiatus last year due to my surgery, especially to Lisa Rey and Linda Grise who checked on me constantly! This sisterhood is why I keep coming back and volunteering my time and I am very happy to be back.

Please make sure to keep your club info updated using the club update form as we have many prospective members seeking out local clubs now and be sure to give them my contact info if you hear of any interest in starting up new clubs.

Patricia Johnson, SCMOMC Vice President

Melissa Carter

Treasurer

treasurer@scmomc.org

Happiest of Summertime MOMs!

I am honored and excited to be returning for my second year as your Treasurer. Being part of our board has been an awesome opportunity to grow and learn through very rewarding service. I have especially loved getting to know more of our members while also learning so much more about all aspects of our awesome organization. I am currently in the process of switching our book keeping to a more streamline system. I am very excited about this as it should minimize the occurrence of human error, simplify things for the Treasurer position, and make it easier to pass the position from person to person.

For those of you that may not know me yet, I will tell you a little, or a lot, because let's be honest, I have the tendency to get wordy..... I am a Santa Clarita Valley MOM. My husband, Joe, and I met in our high school church youth group and are celebrating 10 years of marriage on 07/07. We welcomed our identical twin girls, Presley and Makenzie, in November 2011, and then our little man, Jackson, in November 2012. I have a teaching/training/project management background and recently started as the Director of Operations for a back office support company. I am a self-proclaimed Disney enthusiast that is always up for an adventure and is happiest when spending time with family and friends. I love traveling, reading, being active, entertaining, shopping, decorating, and since I was a kid, summer has always been my very favorite times of the year. I just love everything about it; the longer days, the sunshine, the vacations, the warm nights, the BBQs, spending time at the beach or by the pool. Now that I am a mom, it has been so special to share my love of summertime with my own family. Whether you love this time of year as much as I do or not, I hope this time of years brings you lots of good times, relaxation, and rejuvenation. And make sure to save the date now for the November (11/2-11/5) workshop as I would love to see you there!

xoxoxox,
Melissa Carter



Angie Dargavage

Recording Secretary

rsecretary@scmomc.org

I would like to thank Ventura MOM's for the wonderful Convention. Everything about it was so much fun. I look forward to "Boots, Chaps and Cowboy Hats" hosted by High Desert Mothers of Multiples. Sounds like the perfect shoppportunity to search for attire!! I am so happy to back on the Executive Board as your Recording Secretary. See ya all in November!

Angie Dargavage



Remember to mark your
calendars for May 4 - 6,
2018 "Cheers to 50
Years" Convention!

Jenny Davies

Parliamentarian

parliamentarian@scmomc.org

What an honor to have been appointed Parliamentarian by our SCMOMC President, Melissa. My husband Edd and I will be celebrating our 33rd year Anniversary in December. Yes we have survived the baby, toddler, teen and now living with young adults --- it is so much fun to have them want to spend time with us and we do enjoy spending time with them! Our oldest, Tracy will be 30 in November and lives in Seattle with her husband. Our fraternal Twin Boys, Taylor & Tyler turned 26 in June. In 1991 I became pregnant with twins and my neighbor encouraged me to join a brand new club that was just starting 'Beach Cities Parents of Multiples'. Within a year of joining the club I became the State Rep and encouraged our members to attend state activities. It is through this State Organization that I have gained friendships that have lasted a quarter of century! My husband and I remain very active within the Masonic Organizations and we support the Shriners Children's Hospitals for Children. We enjoy traveling and go as often as we can. I am very lucky that I have both of my parents still with us --- my mother is 92 and my father is 90, and as you can imagine both take up quite a bit of my time. As Parliamentarian I am here to assist not only SCMOMC but also our local clubs. Therefore if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming Workshop in November!

Twincerealy,
Jenny Davies
SCMOMC Parliamentarian
SCMOMC Past President

Hi Ladies. I am so happy and honored to stay on for another year as your Scholarship Chairperson. I had the amazing opportunity to work with a great committee last year to process almost 30 applications for the Scholarship Award. I'd like to thank Leanna Ackles, Rocki Davidson, Carol Medina, and Yve Sharkey for their amazing commitment to the Scholarship committee. Our 2017-2018 committee is Lorrie Seigel, Carol Medina, Kathy Gould and Katie Bhargava. I cannot wait to work with you and have another great Scholarship year.

In May of 2017, we were able to narrow it down to 2 very deserving candidates who were both able to attend Convention to receive their award. The recipients were Annika Ercoli and Allison Cuff. Annika is a twin and a hard-working high school senior who will be attending Cal State Monterey Bay, undeclared major. Allison, a mom of twins plus a singleton, will be continuing her education at Orange Coast College and continuing on to Cal State Long Beach to major in Social Work. It was so fun to welcome both of them plus a guest to our Convention, see the looks on their faces at the outpouring of support and at the awesome opportunity drawings and talk to them about their plans for the future. It gives me great pride to be part of such a supportive organization as SCMOMC.



Jennifer Gardner

Scholarship Chair

scholarship@scmomc.org



Wendy Leonard

Insurance Liaison

insurance@scmomc.org

I have identical twin boys that are 31 years old!! One is married the other one is not. I have been married to my husband for 25 yrs. We celebrate every anniversary by me planning all the details for the odd years and my husband the even years. Can't repeat locations, and you make every decision for the get-away (If we go away) the only thing you know is how long, and weather so you are able to pack the proper clothing. So each year it's a surprise. My husband is recently retired and we babysit are 2 1/2 year old granddaughter full time! Our daughter-in-law is due any day with our 2nd grandchild (it's a boy). We have a second home in Lake Havasu City, AZ which we try to go to at least once a month! We love to take cruises and travel!

I joined my local club and the state club when my boys were born. When the boys were in junior high and high school I took a break but came back. The friendships I have made are the friendships I will always cherish!! I am not new to the board, I did insurance liaison last year.

Hope to see everyone in November in Ontario, CA!!!
Wendy Leonard



50 years of fun, friendship, education, support and fabulous MOMS. SCMOMC will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary in 2018.

Carla Hall

National Representative

Riverblond@sbcglobal.net

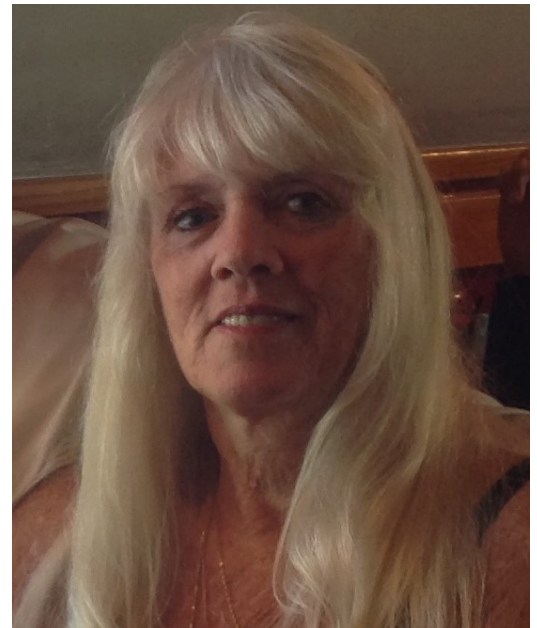
Howdy...I'm Carla Hall from Act Two Moms. I'm a Past President of State. I have 6 kids, Rick, John, Twins, Brian (deceased) and Steven and Twin girls, Brandy and April and with step kids...and theirs...I have 23 grandkids and I'm 29 and holding 😊.

I stay involved in Twins Club for the friendships, the opportunities to meet new moms and to share my past experiences. With social media today, you can get instant answers to your questions, but the one on one friendships that you develop, you'll have answers for the rest of your life. Like my pediatrician told me years ago, if you don't MAKE time for yourself, you'll regret it down the road, and if you get away for a weekend, you will appreciate your husband and kids more after hearing the trials of other moms.

I am also very active on the National level where I am the Bereavement Coordinator. I have friends throughout the US and Canada thanks to twins club and if YOU need a shoulder to cry on, I'm here. Have a great summer.

There may be 10 to 12 of us attending convention in Kansas City at the end of July, decent turnout. Thank you to Diana Long who submitted the ad for the booklet.

Not much to report as of now, but will let everyone know next time about the fantastic time you missed! Have a great summer!



Hear ye - Hear Ye
Read all about it
SCMOMC is turning
50!

Laura Teague Meeting Planner

meetingplanner@scmomc.org

Happy Summer Mothers of Multiples!



Thank you to everyone who attended Convention 2017, hosted by my local club, Ventura County Mothers of Multiples. I am a proud 26year member of this club that is celebrating its 65th anniversary this October! That is a lot of moms and years and years of twins, triplets and we even had our “awesome foursome”, the Nethercutt quads – who just graduated from High School in Murrieta this year! I am grateful for the support over the years and the friendships that I have made.

Workshops and Conventions are truly a great opportunity to get to spend un interrupted time with your local club members and, also network with other area club members. We have some terrific events coming up that you will want to mark on your calendar NOW!! You deserve a weekend away!

November 3-5, 2017 “Boots, Chaps and Cowboy Hats”

Hosted by High Desert Mothers of Multiples

Chairman- Lisa Rey Co- Chairman – Jan Sgarlata

Doubletree Ontario Hotel \$119. 00 single or double occupancy, king or double queen bed rooms

Includes complimentary internet in the guest rooms, free parking and shuttle to Ontario Airport and the Ontario Mills Mall

May 4-6, 2018 “Cheers to 50 Years”

Hosted by SCMOTC Past Presidents

Chairman- Linda Grise Co-Chairman Diana Long

Crowne Plaza Costa Mesa \$135 SDTQ Double Queen beds

Includes Free Wi-Fi and parking

Workshop 2018 Dates to be determined “Candyland”

Hosted by Mixed Doubles

Chairman- Cris Hepler Gamboa Co- Chairman Koleen Medina

This summer we will be visiting hotel sites in the cities of Palm Springs, Cathedral City

Laura Teague, Meeting Planner & Past President/Advisor

Diana Pedersen Coe

Nominating Committee District 2

dlrpc2x2x2@gmail.com

Hello there my fellow MOMs

This year I have the privilege to hold the office of Nominating Committee for District 2.

A little about me now...

A long, long time ago in a dusty, Poppy filled valley I was born. After many years of growing up I was blessed with 2 sons, Donald (1980) and Charles (1981). Then in 1986 God decided my sons needed 2 sisters to help mom keep things in order. Virginia and Danielle arrived in all their glory. 7.5 lbs, 20 inches long each. So began my next adventure as a divorced mom of 4 I joined the Antelope Valley MOT Club. The support I received and the fun with these gals showed me I made the right decision. With their awesome friendship I have been able to get through some pretty tough times. Then I was talked into going to a SCMOTC convention in Buellton CA. My goodness I was scared to leave my babies for the weekend, but I did and I got "hooked". That was in 1988 and I have been attending SCMOMC workshops and conventions ever since.

In 1995 my fellow MODD Squad ladies branched off of the Antelope Valley club and formed a new one Mothers of Double Digits and we have continued to be a part of SCMOMC since then. We have hosted and co-hosted many Workshops and Conventions throughout the years. Having met so many of our friends through all of our activities. I've made lifelong friendships and that is what it is all about.

I myself have held a position on the Board of Directors every year since I can remember. I find it very satisfying to be involved with such an awesome group of ladies from all over Southern California. And meeting new ones every time along the way.

Oh goodness, even attending National Conventions has be worth every mile I have traveled.

At this time I am a proud G-mom of 3 (and counting). That is all about me in a nut shell. How about you? Next time you see me at an event, please come up and say HELLO again, or even if you are a new comer, say HELLO ole' timer.

Thank you to all of those fellow MOMs and when you attend your next event, bring another fellow Mother of Multiples. She just may have a new story or advise to share with us.

Thank you again
Diana Pedersen Coe
President MODD Squad
Nominating Committee District 2



We're at 801 members in our
SCMOMC Facebook Group

👍👍👍

[Click here to join!!](#)

Lisa Rey
Workshop 2017 Chairman
lrey3@yahoo.com



WANTED

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA MOTHERS OF MULTIPLES
49TH ANNUAL WORKSHOP WEEKEND OF....**

**BOOTS,
CHAPS
AND
COWBOY
HATS**



HOSTED BY HIGH DESERT MOTHERS OF MULTIPLES

**NOVEMBER 3-5, 2017 AT
THE DOUBLE TREE HOTEL, 222 N
VINEYARD AVE, ONTARIO, CA 91764**

REWARD
Dead or Alive

Get in your Cowboy boots, Cowboy hats, and Chaps if you got em (or are brave enough☺) and Join the High Desert Mothers of Multiples for the **49th Annual Workshop "Boots, Chaps and Cowboy Hats"**. A fun filled weekend November 3-5 @ the Doubletree Hotel Ontario. We are putting together some workshops we really hope everyone will enjoy. Don't forget to get those first timers to attend as SCMOMC is still honoring the registration incentive. We look forward to see all your smiling faces in November.

Maxine Moro-Reynolds

Chaplain

chaplain@scmomc.org



Hi All,

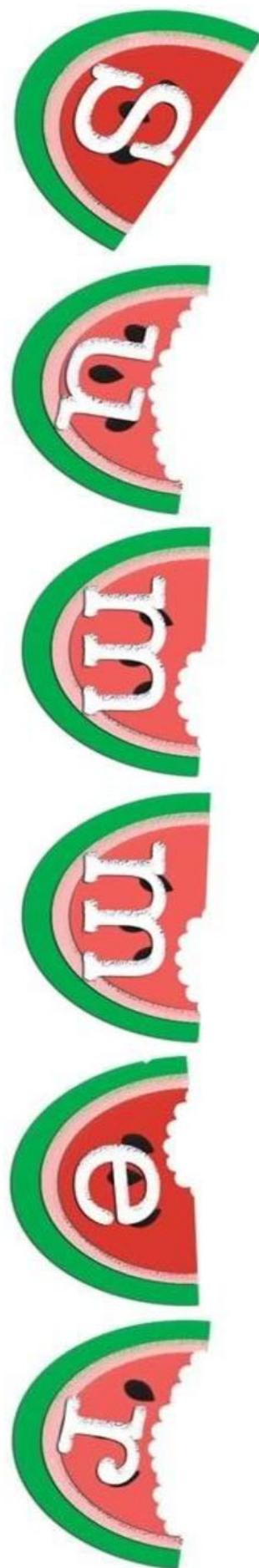
My name is Maxine Moro-Reynolds and I'm the proud mother of four beautiful girls. My oldest is 28 and my triplets; who just turned fourteen, will be starting high school in the fall. Where did the time go? Luckily, my oldest wants to be a high school math teacher. This way, she can practice on her siblings, while I focus on assisting them with their other subject matters. I have a wonderful husband, who takes an active role in parenting our children and volunteering with their activities, when he is home.

I'm pleased to be SCMOMC's Chaplain for 2017-2018. Should you need a card sent to one of your club members, please don't hesitate to send me an email. I will gladly send them a card, on behalf of SCMOMC, letting them know we are thinking of them.

In the unfortunate event that a family needs our assistance, please send in a Silver Pitcher application, so we can vote on the submission(s), this coming November. There have been so many worthy beneficiaries of this much needed program; that I encourage your groups to keep making your very generous donations, to keep this program funded. Hopefully these next several months will be uneventful and everyone we know will be graced with good fortune. However; should this not be the case, SCMOMC will be there to support the cause and be of assistance. This is what makes our group so wonderful!! We are there to support each other, through thick and thin.

Please keep the following members in your thoughts and prayers: Norma Devine (mother recently passed), Donna Matanane (knee surgery) and Stephanie Tu (grandmother passed).

Triple thanks,
Maxine Moro-Reynolds



Kathy Gould

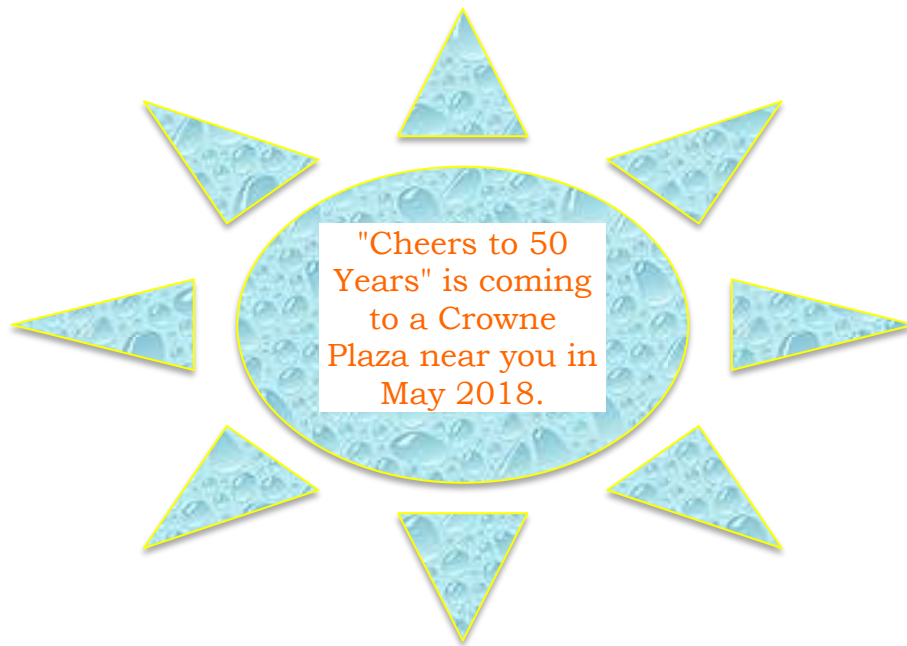
Scholarship Committee

widowthalman@earthlink.net

Hi my name is Kathy Gould,

I am a mother of twin 7 year old twin boys Nicholas and Jackson. I live in Thousand Oaks and belong to Conejo Valley Mothers of Multiples. I have held positions of President, 1st VP, 3rd VP and currently Treasurer. I am assisting the SCMOMC with the Scholarship Committee. I am a Registered Nurse working as an Infusion Specialist for Optioncare, a division of Walgreens.

I enjoy time with my family, hiking, traveling and scrap booking.



Rocki Davidson

State Representative

rocki@wlapom.org

Hi Everyone,

Happy Summer! Very excited to be this year's State Representative. I'm from the West Los Angeles Parents of Multiples and I have twin girls who are 5 years old. I have been active on SCMOMC's Board for the past 2 years. If you have any questions I can help answer, please reach out to me anytime at rocki@wlapom.org.

Warmest regards,
Rocki

--

Rocki Davidson
(310) 945-5383
WLAPOM Co-President & Fundraising Co-Chair
Mommy to Betty and Alexandra, 5 years old



8 Things NOT to Say to a Mom of Twins

This mom of twins has heard it all—a thousand times. But that doesn't mean it's okay for you to say it.

By Alesandra Dubin

Originally published in Parents magazine online – [read online here](#)

When I was pregnant with my twins, whom I carried to full term, I got a lot of attention because my size made me a spectacle on the street. At that time, a friend who already had twins told me, "Oh, don't expect that will get better after you actually deliver—in fact, it gets worse!" And now that I'm a proud mom to a pair of toddlers, I'm here to report she was fully right.

These days, we still get a ton of attention, often from well-meaning strangers who are just trying to make conversation. Like probably every other twin mom in America, I hear the same comments over and over again—whether intentionally negative or not—that make me cringe. Here are some of my least favorites.

1. "Are they natural?"

This one always tops my list because it's 50 shades of wrong, for so many reasons. It's like asking, "Nice boobs—*are they natural?*" At the heart of the question is nosiness about an issue that's none of your business if we're strangers. And, of course, to imply that human beings are anything other than "natural" is downright obnoxious. No civilized person should ask a question that tactless!

Of course, what people who say this really want to know is if the twins were conceived using fertility treatments—which would make them somehow less worthy?! Again, those people can file that question under None of Their Biz.

2. "Do twins run in your family?"

This question seems like an innocent one. But whether or not people realize it, they are often fishing for the answer to the same question about fertility treatments. And believe me, mostly they realize it.

3. "Are they identical?"

This one isn't a mean-spirited question, but it is often ignorant, especially in my case. One is a girl, one is a boy... so they cannot be identical. (Never mind the fact that one is also a curly brunette, and the other is a straight-haired platinum blonde.) The askers of this question can have a pass though... I didn't know the first thing about twins either, before I had my own!

4. "Who is the smart one?"

Both. Duh.

Another woman in my multiples club came up with the ultimate clap-back for this one: "People always ask me, 'Who is the mean one?' I'm just going to start answering 'me' and walk away! I'm super open to answering a ton of questions but don't ask me to put a negative label on one of my children."

Con't from "8 Things Not to Say to a Mom of Twins"

5. "Who is older?"

While I am not personally offended by this comment, I always find it interesting that so many people seem to really care about birth order. My son is one minute older, and we're happy to share that info. But a lot of twin parents find it much more sensitive.

"Many parents of twins choose not to tell their children who was born first because the idea of one being older is a false construct and can cause unnecessary friction," said one mom in my multiples club.

Another pointed out, "Then they try to draw conclusions based on the answer, using irrelevant generalizations from singleton siblings. Like, 'That's why this one is taller,' or 'Oh, you must act like the oldest.' A singleton parent once tried to convince me that which twin was born first really did make a difference in their personalities... which are different regardless of who came out first or second!"

6. "Two babies, and a third on the way!"

Thanks to the enormous pressure on my body, I ended up with diastasis recti after delivery. Beyond that, my uterus needed time to shrink back down to size. So to the woman who peered into my stroller at Target when my babies were only days old, and then glanced at my belly and made this remark—and to all those who made similar comments in the early days postpartum—just... nope. Don't say it!

7. "So you're done!"

Actually yes, I plan to have just these two kids, a decision I made with my husband. But for one thing, my family planning is none of strangers' business. And for another, why does two kids have to be the magic number for everyone? (Answer: It's not.) People especially love to make this comment after noting that I have "one of each," a boy and a girl. Needless to say, I think a family is complete whenever the parent or parents feel it is—not after achieving an arbitrary boy/girl balance.

8. "You must be miserable."

The bride's cousin literally said the following sentence to me at a wedding: "Twins?! I wouldn't wish that on my worst enemy." I thought it was almost unspeakably shocking, until another mom in my multiples club said she's heard the very same words—verbatim.

Are you kidding me? We probably don't have to even discuss why not to say these words out loud, but I'll dignify them with a short response: No, having twins is no cakewalk, in particular the pregnancy part and the newborn part. And neither is anything else in this life that's rewarding on a deep level.

My standard answer to any comment about my home life with twins? "Piece of cake," I say... just for fun.



Simi Valley Mothers of Twins and Triplets at the 49th Annual SCMOMC Convention.



A beach-side hotel with waterfalls and Koi ponds was the setting for their 5 Club Members who were able to attend: Lori Warling, State & National Representative, Lynne Ullery, Alternate Delegate, Denise Esswein, Lenore Virzi, & Bette Honea.

“At the luncheon there was Club Mixing & Mingling. We got to play a fun game where we got more acquainted with people by playing “Blackout Bingo” & asking fun questions like, “Has been sky diving,” “Has been to a foreign county,” “Has more than 3 pets,” & “Speaks another language.” Met the Scholarship Recipients & Bette won the “Family Portrait” Raffle Prize!!”



After our convention they spent a relaxing Saturday afternoon walking and window shopping down Main Street in Ventura. Then watching the movie, “How to be a Latin Lover,” and having a delicious pizza dinner.

Very VERY special thanks to the Southern California Mothers of Multiples Club! 111 mothers collected items/money for our animals! These are just a couple (MOMs) from our VCMOM chapter! 😊:) THANK YOU!

Santa Paula Animal Rescue Center



Picaboo Fundraising Opportunity for Clubs:

Picaboo, a web-based imaging publishing and printing service is extending an offer to any local club to partner with them on their Cards for Causes program for 2017. They will work with you on a photo holiday card for your organization that can be customized. Supporters can upload pictures and order online. 50% of the proceeds will go to your club as a fundraiser. There are normally 15 slots available each year but my contact has opened this up to any of SCMOMC's member clubs who are interested. For more information, or if you would like to sign up, please contact me directly so I can forward a list of interested clubs to Picaboo. You can reach me at vp@scmomc.org and put "Picaboo Fundraiser" as the subject. You can also go to: <https://www.picaboo.com/non-profit-holiday-cards/> to see the 2016 non-profits that they partnered with.

Patricia Johnson
vp@scmomc.org
(760) 265-5230



Amanda Armitage
SCMOMC Editor
editor@scmomc.org