



# FOSTER CARE AUXILIARY E-mail Newsletter

June 2006

Issue 32

"OUR MISSION IS TO ENHANCE THE LIVES OF ALL ORANGE COUNTY FOSTER CHILDREN, AND TO SUPPORT AND RETAIN ORANGE COUNTY LICENSED FOSTER FAMILIES."

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## Foster Care Auxiliary Board Member Focus on.... Barbara Martinez-Current Treasurer



Barbara Martinez is one of the newest members of our board. She is an ESH foster parent and does respite for many including me when the need arises. Barbara relieved me of my responsibility of treasurer and is doing a great job of keeping our finances in order.

Heidi Martinez, Barbara's 16 year old granddaughter who has lived with Barbara since birth says of her grandmother, "She has a big heart...she opens her house up to anyone. Everyone goes to Barbara with their problems...she's always there to help. She is willing to do anything that anyone asks her to." Heidi said that she has had foster siblings since she was about four years old.

Nikki Martinez, Barbara's 17 year old granddaughter who has lived with her since she was six years old says, "She always puts other people's needs before her own." Nikki said that most of the time being part of a foster family is good, although sad when some of the kids leave, and added, "It's nice to know what will be expected of us when we have kids." Nikki says that her sister Heidi and she are like best friends.

Heidi and Nikki became part of Barbara's life after she married their Grandfather, Danny Martinez, 18 years ago. Barbara had already finished raising a son and a daughter as a single parent while working as the office manager for a concrete company. Barbara made the decision to become a foster parent with her husband Danny to fulfill the need she had to give her love to babies.

The Martinez family lives in a house in Huntington Beach that was moved more than 50 years ago from Santa Ana where extended family always returns for holidays. Barbara fills their home with old style charm and Danny makes many of the wood pieces in the house. They spend time each year on a rented houseboat and have a boat of their own that enjoy fishing from.

Good friend, Nina Yamasaki, says one of the outstanding tributes that Barbara has is her continuing connection with many of her former foster children. This willingness to stay involved and help when she is asked is what makes Barbara such a valuable asset to the Auxiliary.

## Category of Links

**Visit our new web site and encourage others to visit and donate with the new easy Pay Pal. Even \$1 will make a difference and is appreciated.**

<http://www.fostercareaux.com>

**Click below to find out about FCAOC Scholarships for foster and former foster youth**

<http://www.fostercareaux.com/scholarship.html>

**Check out Sharon Dooley's recognition as one of the county's 2006 "Volunteers of the Year"**

<http://www.ocgov.com/hr/volunteer/volunteers06.asp#9>

**Check out the Spirit of Volunteerism Honorees where you'll find FCAOC Board Members Tina Marie Schuhrke and Nina Yamasaki**

<http://www.volunteercenter.org>

**Visit the link below to see an up to date calendar of Auxiliary Activities.**

<http://calendar.yahoo.com/fostercareaux>

**Find answers to many questions on SSA web site**

<http://www.oc4kids.com/>

## Presidents Letter

The picture at the right was taken at our May board meeting, which gives me a chance to convey to you the work and planning that goes into what the Auxiliary has to offer. Not that we don't have a good time...Our membership chair made tacos for everyone at this meeting in addition to serving us hard workin' gals strawberries with brown sugar and sour cream...gotta love that guy! All members are welcome to join at any board meeting...if you can't join us but have something to say, just contact me and I will be happy to relay your thoughts.



I was recently sorting through the early Auxiliary records for information needed for funding. (If you have any ideas for funding- I'd love to hear them.) I learned that the Auxiliary was formed in 1986 and began its service of providing a Thrift Store in 1991 open two days per week. Our current location was opened in 1998 and has operated at a profit in all but one very current year since opening. Only in the last few years have we honed in on our current focus of promoting donations from the community and distributing them to you – our members. We see the need and the opportunity to help the foster care community with this avenue and hope you agree that our direction is what you want.

Our next newsletter will be the one newsletter of the year that is mailed to all Orange County Licensed Foster Parents in Orange County. If you know of a business or organization that would like to offer a minimal donation to have us put their business card in our newsletter as advertising- or just to show their support of our efforts, have them contact me by June 20<sup>th</sup>. See the samples at the end of this newsletter...and yes, Martin and I did pay our advertising fee even though I doubt there are any quilters out there in the foster parent world, but I support our cause all the same.

Speaking of support - we are collecting ink cartridges and cell phones for recycling. Please bring them to the Thrift Store or Distribution Center and drop them in our recycling bin. You will be helping to earn money for the Auxiliary and reducing the millions of pounds of toxic cartridge and cell phone waste dumped into landfills each year. If you can let your friends and neighbors, children's schools, and local companies know to save them for you, we can make a big difference. If a company is going to donate regularly we can get a collection bin for them.

Kathy Harvey, President  
Foster Care Auxiliary of Orange County

## Contact Us

<http://www.fostercareaux.com>

[fostercareaux@yahoo.com](mailto:fostercareaux@yahoo.com)

**FOSTER CARE  
AUXILIARY OF  
ORANGE COUNTY**

333 S. Brookhurst  
Anaheim, CA 92804  
Auxiliary

714 778-3383

Thrift Store

714 778-1650

### Thrift Store Hours:

Mon. & Sat. 9am-4pm

Tues, Thurs, & Fri. 11-6

Closed Sun. & Wed.

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**Members Only Distribution Days** - A representative from Tupperware will be available to fundraise for FCAOC on Saturday while you are shopping. Orders may also be placed from the fundraising catalogue on Friday and Monday with all sales benefiting the Auxiliary.

\*Please remember to bring your ink cartridges and cell phones in for recycling\*

\*\*Shoppers, Bring your own Bags on Member Shopping Days! \*\*

Friday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 11am-2pm, Saturday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9-noon, Monday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 9:00-noon

Every member can shop one time per month choosing between the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday, or 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of most months...please note that July shopping will take place the 2<sup>nd</sup> week to avoid the holiday.

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## Thrift store special

June 10<sup>th</sup>, Saturday is Bag Day....everything you can stuff into our bag – you get for only \$5

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## Birthday Cakes for All is Born

Please meet **Laura Colerick** who is donating several birthday cakes each month for our kids! Make sure you fill out your ticket at member distribution day if you have a child with a birthday in the following month. Several winners will be drawn each month and Laura will contact you.



I am 37 years old, I am married and have two wonderful children (steps, but they feel like they are mine), Allison is 17 and Aaron is 14. I work for St. Joseph Health System in Orange. I have always been a creative person and for a while I tried painting. I liked it but wasn't thrilled with it. I have always been a good baker and decided to take a cake decorating class and I was hooked.

After seeing an interview with Maria Shriver I realized that I had a part in this world and would need to find it. I always thought my contribution to the world needed to be a big thing with trumpets blaring, once I realized that it could be something simple the doors opened right up.

At one point I was making so many practice cakes that I had extra and no one to give them to. I realized that I needed to figure out something to do with them. So while praying one night, I was talking to God about the direction for my talents and it came to me, children in hospitals. I called but hospitals already give cakes from their cafeteria. Then I prayed more and started thinking of the children in foster care, and then with a great peace I knew I would donate cakes to children in foster care. I love the fact I can create something beautiful and give it to someone to enjoy.

I feel blessed to have the resources and ability to share these cakes with your group and I hope those who receive the cakes feel blessed as well.  
Laura Colerick

## 2006 FCAOC Board

President & Web  
/Newsletter Coordinator:  
Kathy Harvey  
kharvey@socal.rr.com  
714 891-2468

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Pres. & Event  
/Volunteer Director:  
Nina Yamasaki  
yamasaki5@aol.com

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President:  
Tina Marie Schuhrke  
everydaymom2@msn.com

Secretary: Sharon Dooley  
sydnjtd@socal.rr.com

Treasurer:  
Barbara Martinez  
barbdanm@excite.com

Social Services Rep:  
Joanna Hussey  
Joanna.Hussey@ssa.  
ocgov.com 714 704-  
TALK

Circle of Concern:  
Diana Suber

Advisory Board Rep:  
Karen Templeton  
KarenCA6@aol.com

Membership:  
Martin Harvey  
mharvey@socal.rr.com  
714 891-4098

Truck Drivers &  
Maintenance Coordinator:  
Jerry Looker

Donation Coordinator:  
Shirley Jandron  
shirol@socal.rr.com

Past Pres. & Grievance  
/Allegation Support:  
David Reger  
dvdnan@aol.com

## Membership



If you are thinking of signing up a friend, you might want to wait and do it between July 1<sup>st</sup> and September 1<sup>st</sup>. Not only will anyone signing up after July 1<sup>st</sup> be signing up for 2007- they will be getting the remaining months in 2006. Also as an added bonus for the renewing member, for each new member that signs up with them, they will receive a \$10 savings on the price of their membership for up to three memberships. Please see the special membership form on the Events page of our web site. [www.fostercareaux.com](http://www.fostercareaux.com) Another plus to signing up at or before the picnic is that you will be entered in a special 'Early Bird' membership drawing.

Remember that all members who joined before July 1<sup>st</sup> 2006, have memberships that will expire on December 31<sup>st</sup> 2006.

## Scholarship Deadline Nearing

Have you noticed the scholarship fund donation wall behind the cash register at the Thrift Store? I want to thank every one who has donated so far to help with our 2006 scholarship fund and remind any graduate who is or has been in the Orange County Foster Care System to apply for one of our grants.

### Scholarship Application Instructions

- Two (2) academic scholarships will be awarded annually.
- Applicant must have resided, or be residing in an Orange County licensed foster home.
- Applicants must submit a completed and signed application by July 31.
- Applicants must be applying for, or already be in a post-secondary training/education program or college that will help applicant to achieve his/her goals.
- The final determination of the scholarship award will be made by the selection committee.
- Applicants will be notified of the results of their application by September 1.

## Help the Environment - Help the Auxiliary

We are collecting ink cartridges and cell phones for recycling. Please bring them to the Thrift Store or Distribution Center and drop them in our recycling bin. You will be helping to earn money for the Auxiliary and reducing the millions of pounds of toxic cartridge and cell phone waste dumped into landfills each year. If you can let your friends and neighbors, children's schools, and local companies know to save them for you, we can make a big difference. If a company is going to donate regularly we can get a collection bin for them.





## Strawberry Fields Forever

The above pictures were taken On April 29<sup>th</sup> by volunteer, Melissa Wong, as a group of very lucky foster families got to spend the day at Tanaka Farms touring the organic vegetable farm and tasting the produce picked right before their eyes. The end of tour was at the strawberry field where the children each got to pick a pint of strawberries and eat as many as their bellies could hold. Thanks to National Charity League for helping us with the event.

We also hosted a very successful CRIS training at our last quarterly meeting on April 20<sup>th</sup>. I would have had pictures of Dodie Dome with the quilts she won at the meeting to show; unfortunately, my camera has been stolen. The picture I took of Dodie and her quilts along with some of the foster parent conference hadn't been downloaded to my computer yet.

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## Upcoming events:

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### Volunteers Appreciation Tea: June 17<sup>th</sup>

How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world. ~Anne Frank

To express our gratitude and appreciation for our Thrift Store and Distribution Volunteers we are inviting all those who have volunteered in either capacity to a very informal 'tea' at the Distribution Center on June 17 at 11am. If you have volunteered and can make it please R.S.V.P. by June 14 to [kharvey@socal.rr.com](mailto:kharvey@socal.rr.com) or phone 714 891-2468. It is because of our volunteerism that the Auxiliary survives and we wish to honor them in this small way for their continuing contribution to our success. If you are not a volunteer but would like to help in honoring the volunteers, contact me to discuss any help you'd like to give.

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## Newport Dunes Beach Party



### Foster Care Auxiliary of Orange County

Invites you to their 10th annual Beach Party at Newport Dunes,  
August 13, 2006 - Sunday at 11am

Newport Dunes: 1131 Back Bay Drive, Newport Beach, CA  
cabanes 4 and 5

RSVP by August 7th to  
[kharvey@socal.rr.com](mailto:kharvey@socal.rr.com) or 714 891-2468 or  
[yamasaki5@aol.com](mailto:yamasaki5@aol.com) or 714 846-7470



• All Auxiliary Members who are Orange County  
Licensed Foster Families are invited.  
Please rsvp to help us plan your lunch and  
activities.

Check our web site for further details.  
[www.fostercareaux.com](http://www.fostercareaux.com)

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## Picnic- September 16 - save the date

The Flyer is available on our web site. [www.fostercareaux.com](http://www.fostercareaux.com) on the events page.  
Please mark your calendar and plan on attending. Note that it is a new location.

We have a few volunteer opportunities concerning the picnic. One is this Saturday June 3, from noon – 3. We will be sorting toys and prizes to be used at the picnic. If you'd like to help, let us know by emailing [kharvey@socal.rr.com](mailto:kharvey@socal.rr.com) or [yamasaki5@aol.com](mailto:yamasaki5@aol.com) or give me a call 714 891-2468. If you know of anyone who might want to donate a prize or help with the picnic we sure would appreciate it. Help from everyone is what makes the picnic successful. If you'd like to attend our picnic committee meeting, just show up on June 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am at the Distribution Center.

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## YMCA Carnival Funday - Saturday June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2006

Your foster children are invited to join the YMCA for their Summer Carnival and Picnic Funday! They will have games, clowns, a bounce house, slide, tasty food, crafts, therapy dogs, prizes, Fishes and Loaves comedy group and much, much more!

11 am – 3 pm for ages 6 – 16 years

\*All Kids must RSVP in advance.\* RSVP with Mark Demers 714 838-0181 ext. 114

If you RSVP your children, it is assumed they will be attending the event. If for some reason they cannot attend, please inform us so we can accommodate children on the waiting list.

Where: Wakeham Park: 3400 Smalley St., Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Directions: Taking 405 S, exit Bristol St-turn **Left**, Pass mall, Turn L on Sunflower, Turn L on Smalley  
Taking 405 N, exit Bristol St-turn **Right**, Pass the mall, Turn L on Sunflower, Turn L on Smalley

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### Thanks to...



to those who make our mission possible.

To the following who have contributed \$2500. or more:

- R.C. Baker Foundation
- Boeing Employees Community Fund
- Orangewood Children's Foundation
- National Charity League, Pacific Coast Chapter

To the following who have contributed \$100 or more:

- First Presbyterian Church of Santa Ana, 600 N. Main, 714 542-7253
- Wal-Mart #2546
- Dr. Richard Mungo
- Ellis G. Evans
- Wiechelman & Associates, CPA
- To Orange Grove Quilters Guild who has made hundreds of pillowcases for our children.  
[www.orangegrovequiltersguild.com](http://www.orangegrovequiltersguild.com)
- To Pullman & Miller, Attorneys at Law for their sponsorship of our May 2006 newsletter.  
[www.fosterparentlawyers.com](http://www.fosterparentlawyers.com)
- To our 2005 'Friends of Foster Family' award recipients for helping us to keep our distribution center stocked: Crate & Barrel #504, Wal-Mart #2546, Crate & Barrel #510
- To Orangewood Children's Home whose ongoing support contributes to the success of the Auxiliary
- To Miguel Cuebas and Hometown Buffet for their contribution of food at special events
- To Yvonne and Chris Knutsen and Grocery Outlet for their donation of food at special events
- To Mary Villamore and Boeing for printing and folding Auxiliary Brochures
- To Laura Colerick for her continuing contribution of cakes for our children
- To the following who have contributed to our 2006 scholarship Fund
  - \$1 - Cypert Family, Cabanas Family, Villamor Family, Linda Meyers, Cypert Family, Dolores G Miranda, Denise Anderson, Cypert Family, Matt & Ashley Andis, Harvey Family/  
Jane C., Janer C., Susan C., Joshua C., Kyle, Corona Family, Maria corona, Corona Family,  
Alex, Shawn, Mary D., Corona Family, Vicki A., Vicki Andis, Corona Family
  - \$5 - Patrick & Le Family, Vicki Andis, Harvey Family/  
The Jandron Family, The Harvey Family, Mary D
  - \$10 - Deborah Adisin & Sheila, The Cano Family, Sheila Cantrell, Harvey Family /  
The Harvey Family
- And to YOU for being a member and participating.

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## Visit our on-line calendar for the latest information

<http://calendar.yahoo.com/fostercareaux>

info also available on our website [www.fostercareaux.com](http://www.fostercareaux.com)

*June 12, 10am - Picnic Planning Meeting at the Distribution Center*

*June 15, 7pm – FCAOC Board Meeting, place to be determined*

*June 17 – FCAOC Volunteer Appreciation Tea at the Distribution Center*

*July – Member Shopping will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday, Friday and Saturday of the month*

*August 13– Beach Party at Newport Dunes*

*September 16 – Foster Family Picnic*

*November – Elections and Quarterly Meeting*

Monthly Board Meetings are generally the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday evenings of each month...location will be announced and will usually be at one of the board members homes. Contact any board member or check the web site for current information.

To be removed from this email list send an email to [kharvey@socal.rr.com](mailto:kharvey@socal.rr.com) with 'remove me from FCAOC e-mailings' in the subject line. Make sure you include your name as that's how the emails are filed.

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## Our Advertising Sponsors...Add your card for \$10 per issue

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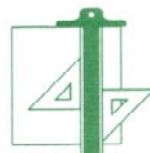
By Kathy Harvey

15651 Monroe St.  
Midway City, CA 92655  
(714) 891-2468  
[sweetrelish@socal.rr.com](mailto:sweetrelish@socal.rr.com)  
[www.sweetrelishquilting.com](http://www.sweetrelishquilting.com)



### Martin Harvey

Architectural Illustration



15651 Monroe Street  
Midway City, CA 92655  
Phone (714) 891-4098  
Fax (714) 908-7687  
[mharvey@socal.rr.com](mailto:mharvey@socal.rr.com)