

November 2006

Issue 37

"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...Martin Harvey, Membership Chair.

Martin serves as our Membership Chair, keeping track of everyone's membership and making sure we have an up to date list. He has also agreed to run for the new elected position to the executive FCAOC Board, 'Thrift Store Operations Chair' and is the Chairman of the Operation Organization Project. He has a lot on his plate with the Auxiliary and also has his own drafting and design business, which in addition to spending time with his family, pretty much fills his days.



I was born in London England to working class folks. I am an only child. We moved to America when I was seven years old, Ozzie and Harriet we were not...I joined the army when I was 17 years old happy to be out of the house. Because it was the draft time of the war in Vietnam and I wasn't old enough and not a citizen I was used as a cook until my security clearance and then sent to Korea to work as an engineer. I rode around in a truck for a while with the other 17 year olds building floating bridges and then was invited to be in the Atomic Demolition Munitions platoon which was big fun for a kid. Who doesn't want to blow stuff up? I was the clerk typist. Clearly this was a mistake and I was miscast as a typist but I did my best and was able to get out early because of the 3 year draft and some genius who thought it cost too much to send me to some other duty for the short time I had left. So after 19 months I was free to come home. I vowed to continue my education when I got out. After some adjustment period I put myself through school and had a blast, married Kathy while I was in junior college and had a son and ended up with a master's degree in fine art printmaking.

I worked as a draftsman during the school years and still do. In my first years I worked in a swimming pool company building pools and drawing renderings. Later I started my own drafting and design company and have not worked for anyone else since 1979. The business has evolved into design and management since all the drafting is outsourced to Vietnam and India. I miss the drawing part but now I just design all the projects which is still fun after all these years.

I wanted one child because I thought about the world population and I thought I had a pretty good life as an only child, and I was pretty stupid. Kathy wanted a hundred kids so we became foster parents to try to balance our wants and desires. Kathy wanted a bunch of kids to take care of and I desired to stay married. We adopted Steven 11 years ago and he has been a treasure for us. My oldest son Brian has just passed away and we are trying hard to maintain but I couldn't do it without the help of our family and friends. So thank you for everything.

It has been an emotional roller coaster being foster parents. Where else can you get to be so challenged by kids with gifts and baggage like you have never heard of before? We have had a few horrible experiences, Kids with cancer and mental scares that they will never recover from. We have helped a lot of children lead happier lives, and helped their parents get on the right track for a healthier future free of drugs and other problems. Being a parent is a big responsibility and it rewards you every day. We have tried our best to lead by example, to show a structured life and to give these kids security and love.

I have never met a nicer group of people in my life than foster parents in the Auxiliary. I am proud to be one. Thanks for having me.

## Category of Links

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

[www.fostercareaux.com](http://www.fostercareaux.com)

**Renew your membership! visit**  
[www.fostercareaux.com](http://www.fostercareaux.com)  
**and click on the membership page**

**Visit**  
[www.fostercareaux.com](http://www.fostercareaux.com)  
**and click on the events page for a Quarterly Meeting Flyer with Sandy Spurgeon McDaniel**

Search the web with [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and earn money for FCAOC!

**Visit**  
[www.fostercareaux.com](http://www.fostercareaux.com)  
**and go to our events page to get the link for an up to date calendar of Auxiliary Activities.**

Find answers to many questions on SSA web site  
<http://www.oc4kids.com>

**Find a tutor for your foster child at Professional Tutors of America**  
[www.professionaltutors.com](http://www.professionaltutors.com)

## Presidents Letter

I am so thankful to have my wonderful Foster Care Auxiliary Friends to lean on in this very difficult time. Only someone who has been through the loss of a child can understand how deeply and utterly painful it is. Since we opted to ask for donations to the Auxiliary in lieu of flowers for Brian, I am finding comfort that the money being sent in (almost \$3,000 so far) will be put to such a good cause and I will think of him often when we embark on new projects that might be possible partly because of him. When I found out that the flowers on top of a grave are thrown into the trash after two days, I knew that Brian would not have wanted that waste! I know that I'll be able to smile and laugh again and share stories of my wonderful son and what a beautiful, bright young man he was...but until then, I'll just keep putting one foot in front of the other, waiting for the pain to subside a bit, and I know that you will all understand that I'm not quite up to speed yet. The Auxiliary always has plenty of work that needs to be done, and I'm trying my best to make sure nothing gets left undone. I don't mind reminders if I'm neglecting something...I also don't ever mind getting some help.

Kathy Harvey



## Members Only Distribution Days

**\*\* !!TOYS-TOYS-TOYS-TOYS!! \*\***

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

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

**Friday- Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>, 11am-2pm/Saturday-Nov 4<sup>th</sup>, 9-noon/Monday-Nov 6<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.

**Non member foster parents are welcome to come in on member days for free t-shirts... for every foster family!**

**\*\*Remember when you are picking up your monthly distributions to fill out a coupon for a drawing for a birthday cake if you are a foster parent and have a child whose birthday falls between November 8 and December 8\*\***

## THRIFT STORE SPECIAL

November 2-7 All blankets, household items, skates, sport equipment, videos and shoes, bags, belts and purses are only 25 cents each. Everything in the two shelf units and the back left wall of the store plus the stationary. Additional special...books are 20 for \$1!

## Membership...yours will expire on 12/31/06

Anyone signing up after July 1<sup>st</sup> be signing up for 2007- they will be getting the remaining months in 2006.

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.

## Contact Us

www.fostercareaux.com

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.

## 2006 FCAOC Board

President & 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

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## 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.

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## Quarterly Meeting on November 17<sup>th</sup> at 7pm (The Auditorium in the SSA Annex Building: 744 N. Eckhoff St.)

Special presentation by Sandy McDaniel, immediately following our 2007 election.

Training hours will be given for attending this meeting and Sandy McDaniel's books will be available for purchase.

Positions up for election:

### **Secretary....**

Chrysty Hodson has been nominated for **Recording Secretary**. Any other nominations are welcome.

Edna McConnell has been nominated for **Corresponding Secretary**. Any other nominations are welcome.

**First Vice President** Nina Yamasaki will run for another term for this position. Any other nominations are welcome.

There is also a new elected position being added to the board which is **Thrift Store Operations Chair**. Martin Harvey is running for this position. Any other nominations are welcome.

The Auxiliary is also in the midst of forming committees for a variety of tasks...let me know if you'd like to join us.

Immediately following our elections we are proud to present:

### **A Positive Parenting seminar by author**

**Sandy Spurgeon McDaniel**

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

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Maintenance  
Coordinator: Jerry  
Looker

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

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

Web Site Design &  
Maintenance:  
Nirzhar & Rachel  
Pradhan  
Rachel@blazeinteractive.com

Furniture Donations  
Chair:  
Chrysty Hodson  
chrystyh@hotmail.com

# "Getting out of the Spin Cycle"

## A Positive Parenting seminar by author

### Sandy Spurgeon McDaniel

Wrap yourself in laughter as you learn how to get your children to:

- ◆ Make wise choices
- ◆ Do what you ask the first time you ask
- ◆ Stop fighting, arguing, and whining without anger
- ◆ Do chores, homework, listen, etc.

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Sandy writes a successful weekly parenting column for the Orange County Register newspaper. The creator of **parentingSOS.com**; She is the author of RECIPES FROM PARENTING, LEAVE YOUR BAGGAGE AT THE DOOR, and co-author of PROJECT SELF-ESTEEM. Sandy has successfully raised two children. She has 44 years of experience in the field of child development. For over 24 years she has used spontaneous humor, warmth and her laser ability to solve everyday parenting problems. Her parenting products are wonderful! They offer at-home support for the techniques learned at her seminars. Please visit our web site to download an entire flyer for the presentation...on the events page. [www.fostercareaux.com](http://www.fostercareaux.com)

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## Thanks 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
- Clippers Foundation

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

- Gene Noonan
  - First Presbyterian Church of Santa Ana
  - 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.
  - To Pullman & Miller, Attorneys at Law for their sponsorship of our May 2006 newsletter.
  - To our 2006 'Friends of Foster Family' award recipients, National Charity League, Pacific Coast Chapter and Vicki Andis
  - 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 Costco of Garden Grove for the donation of back packs
- 

...And to YOU for being a member and participating.



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Here are a few photos from our September picnic. There are more photos of the 2006 picnic on our web site...make sure you take a look and thank our new web master, Rachel Pradhan for her efforts!



This photo, also taken at the picnic shows Adrian Santillan and the Director of Social Services Agency, Ingrid Harita with First District Supervisor, Lou Correa and his Executive Assistant, Tammy Tran.



This photo, taken by Kaja Donikowski shows her son, Weldon Bobcat with popcorn and a churro while he is eyeing the cake that Kathy Adams donated for our picnic!

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This photo was taken as we presented our Friend of Foster Families Award to National Charity League, Pacific Coast Chapter. The plaque is being held by Linde Sutton with Nina Yamasaki to the right of her and Kathy Harvey to the left, the NCL President, top right Carol Kent and surrounded by some of the NCL 'Tictockers'...these mother/daughter teams really know the meaning of philanthropy!



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## Foster & Adoptive Parent Open Forum; Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> 6pm to 8pm

Wednesday, November 8, 2006

6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

744 N. Eckhoff St., Orange

The forum provides an opportunity for foster and adoptive parents to meet with Children and Family administration to address, ask questions and voice concerns. Please send agenda items to Joanna Hussey...704-TALK

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## Please make [www.GoodSearch.com](http://www.GoodSearch.com) your home page.

What if Foster Care Auxilliary of Orange County earned a penny every time you searched the internet? Well, now we can! GoodSearch.com is a new search engine that donates half its revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. You use it just as you would any search engine, and it's powered by Yahoo!, so you get great results. Just go to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) and be sure to enter Foster Care Auxilliary of Orange County as the charity you want to support. Just 500 of us searching four times a day will raise about \$7300 in a year without anyone spending a dime! And, be sure to spread the word!

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Upcoming events: Visit our on-line calendar for the latest information

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

November 8<sup>th</sup> – Foster Parent Forum, 744 N. Eckhoff, Orange 6pm-8pm

November 17, 7pm – Elections of 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Secretary, & TS Operations and Quarterly Meeting with speaker, Sandy McDaniel- 744 N. Eckhoff, Orange

December 6<sup>th</sup> – Auction at Agency Dinner and Training

**Monthly Board Meetings are generally the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday evenings of each month...location will be announced. 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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## Your Page

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This is your page...what would you like to share with other foster parents? What are your needs and what do you have to offer?

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Here is a cute shot of Christine & Manny's twins on their third birthday with a cake made by Laura Colerick.

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Do you have any photos you'd like to share?

Wanted by fellow foster parent: Pediasure Infant Formula

Did you know that if you have extra formula you may bring it to the distribution center to share with other foster parents who might need it?

Wanted by Foster Care Auxiliary: Auction items....we'll be preparing the baskets during the second week of November.

**\*\*Any member who sees this and mentions it to me on one of November's shopping days may ask me for a \$3 voucher to spend in the Thrift Store the same day. Cool, huh? It pays to read the newsletter!\*\***

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