



FOSTER CARE AUXILIARY E-mail Newsletter

September 2006

Issue 35

"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...Karen Templeton, Advisory Board Rep.

Karen serves as the Advisory Board Representative and brings issues of concern to the Advisory Board for discussion and action. She has a knack for bringing up controversial items without judgment or anger which makes her perfect for this position. Karen and her husband, Lyle are pictured-right, with their presently youngest grandchild...more on the way! From Karen:



I have been attending the Foster Care Advisory Meetings for more than 10 years, and have been on the Auxiliary Board for 4 years. I usually have a houseful of special needs children, but try to attend the Auxiliary meetings and functions to show our support. Lyle and I have been foster parents for 20 years. We have always felt truly blessed to have our four healthy children and spent many years as our children got older, fostering one infant at a time. We are still surrounded by children now, and it just seems natural to us.

After the rewards of fostering a five year old with muscular dystrophy about 14 years ago, I was hooked on caring for special needs children. Since then we have cared for many children with various physical and mental disabilities... a joy giving child with Down syndrome, a brave young cancer survivor, a beautiful little girl with Dandy Walker's Syndrome, and 15 autistic children. What a challenge they are, but it is rewarding to be able to help them come out of their little world, to learn to speak and communicate with others, and most importantly to be able to live in a family and function out there in the world.

We have shed many tears when the children have moved on, but it is a joy to see them with their happy families... who celebrate their "specialness". It is so wonderful to have had a small part in their growth and know that they will always remember how much we loved them.

Our 9 grandchildren (well #9 is on the way) love to play with Grandpa and Grandma's kids. One of our grandsons calls me the Grandma with the lotta kids. So that makes my Mom the Nottalottagrandma and me the Lottagrandma. Most of them now live in Phoenix so we travel there often with our kids. It is a joy to see them being so good and gentle with our children; helping them with their braces, pushing wheel chairs, tucking them in at night and just being a part of their lives.

Being involved with the Auxiliary has been so rewarding to all of us and we have made so very many friendships. There is no better place to be and to spend our fun times than with such good people that have so many things in common as we all work together to better the lives of foster children and the families who have chosen to care for them. It is exciting to see how the Auxiliary is growing and changing. There are a lot of very talented people offering themselves and their time to accomplish some very ambitious goals. It is a blessing to be a part of it all.

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

www.fostercareaux.com

Click below for Foster Family Picnic Flyer

<http://www.fostercareaux.com/html%20flyers/'06%20Picnic%20Flyer.htm>

Click below for FCAOC Membership Form

<http://www.fostercareaux.com/html%20flyers/07EarlyBirdMembership.htm>

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>

Find a tutor for your foster child at Professional Tutors of America

<http://www.professionaltutors.com>

Presidents Letter

Wow! FCAOC is the best! The before and after photos later in this newsletter are just astounding. The extraordinary work and effort that 29 volunteers accomplished is phenomenal. I'm sure the volunteers know that their efforts go a long way in helping the foster families in our community. I am pictured here with Joanna Hussey, our Social Services Agency Representative who spent the better part of her day on August 13th working with us to get this job done.



FCAOC is really looking to the future and how we can better serve the needs of foster families. It is my pleasure to introduce Rachel Pradhan as our newest member and board member. Rachel and her husband Nirzhar, designed our web site and have graciously offered to keep it up to date for us. Make sure you say hello to her at our picnic.

Another addition to our board is Chrysty Hodson, who will be in charge of managing our furniture donations and also one of my 'unsung heroes'.

I would like to recognize a few 'unsung heroes' in this newsletter....*Ron Kozima, Tom, Jeff McConnell, Chrysty Hodson, and Jody Steputis.* Ron just showed up out of the blue to help us one day when we were unloading a truck of donations for foster families. He was the only one who responded to a request in the Orange County Register and he has been showing up like this when I put out a request ever since....I'm talking the manual, nitty-gritty stuff. Ron is not only giving of his time and labor, but has bought needed items and repaired plumbing for us without any charge. Tom has been spending his spare time lately patching the damage done from our leaky roof and painting the bathrooms at the Thrift Store and Distribution Center and has plans to help us with the tile floor in addition to other ideas of help. Tom doesn't ask for any help or compensation...a former foster child....just looking for a way to help out or 'enhance' the lives of foster families. Jeff is a new member and has jumped right in to help at the Auxiliary along with his wife Edna. We find them at most meetings and in times when we've needed volunteers. They are willing to participate, find funders, donations, and go out of their way to help the Auxiliary with its mission. In addition to helping reorganize the Distribution Center on August 12th, Chrysty has been putting the furniture donations together and separating the pieces that won't work. Chrysty makes repairs and finds solutions to many of the furniture items so that families can use them....again helping the Auxiliary with its mission. Lastly Jody, whom we rarely see, but if there is an opportunity basket or nicely wrapped prize, chances are that Jody had a hand in it, many times buying articles needed to enhance a basket or getting donations for the baskets. All of these things help the Auxiliary enhance the lives of Orange County Foster Children while supporting and working to retain Orange County Licensed Foster Families. I want to commend these five volunteers for giving above and beyond. There are many more 'unsung heroes' out there and I thank all of you for your part in our success.

I hope to see all Orange County Licensed Foster Families regardless of membership in the Auxiliary and any Kinship or other Agency Foster Parents who are Auxiliary members at the picnic on the 16th. Note the new location.

Kathy Harvey

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

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

2nd Vice President:
Tina Marie Schuhrke
everydaymom2@msn.com

Secretary: Sharon
Dooley
sydnjtd@socal.rr.com

Members Only Distribution Days

**** Back Packs Available for Back to school! ****

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

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

Friday-Sept 1st, 11am-2pm/Saturday-Sept 2nd, 9-noon/Monday-Sept 4th, 9:00-noon

Every member can shop **one** time per month choosing between
the 1st Monday, 1st Saturday, or 1st Friday of most months.

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

Tupperware Fundraiser still going on during member shopping.

THRIFT STORE SPECIAL-Saturday-Sept 2nd

Everything in the Thrift Store....

YES, EVERYTHING will be ½ price!

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



Anyone signing up after July 1st be signing up for 2007- they will be getting the remaining months in 2006. 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 1st 2006, have memberships that will expire on December 31st 2006.

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.

Winner of Quarterly Quilt Drawing~ Jeff McConnell

Our quarterly meeting consisted of me calling speed bingo...trying to be heard over the load cranking bingo thing-a-ma-jig. Not my proudest moment, but I hope everyone had fun. Our next quarterly will be in November...the elections of 1stVP and Secretary. If you have any nominations or want to run for one of these offices let us know.



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

Truck Drivers &
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

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

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

- 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 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 Costco of Garden Grove for the donation of back packs

Our two scholarship recipients have been invited to our picnic...please join us in welcoming and congratulating Unique Waites and Chelsea E Renfrow. A big thank you to the following who contributed toward their scholarships.

- \$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/ Vicki Andis, Tierra Pene #1 Daughter of Monika & Alfred Pene, Roe Ramos & Annette Ramos, Yaseng & Taliya, Keoni Pene #1 Son of Alfred & Monika Pene, Matt & Ashley Andis, Mary Daetwieler, Taliya, Harvey Family/ Fetner Family, Mary D, Monse y Jose, Mary D, Angie, Vicki Matt & Ashley Andis, Gloria Smity Jasmine Lopez, Jamie Hogan Marquez Family, Medina S. Family, Linda Meyers, The McLaughlin Family, Thomas Family, Summer O, The McLaughlin Family, Bauer Family, Jeanette Gaxiola, Moreno Family, Harvey Family, Claudine & Claudelle, Kudzai Tinashe Tariro, Mimi D, Gloria S, Jasmine L, Katrina, Quynt Duhn, Mary Daetweiler, Rukudza Mutambara
- \$5 - Patrick & Le Family, Vicki Andis, Harvey Family/ The Jandron Family, The Harvey Family, Mary D/ Anabella & Mikal & Steven Soltero & Val Sanchez, Mary Daetwieler, Templeton's, Shirley J., Patrick Family, Harvey Family/Marquez Family, Harvey Family, the Tubbs Family, Mary D & Vicki A, Harvey Family, The Vanegas'
- \$10 - Deborah Adisin & Sheila, The Cano Family, Sheila Cantrell, Harvey Family / The Harvey Family/Annette Harrison & Joe Ramos, Cano Family, Harvey Family/ Harvey Family, Cano Family, Harvey Family

- And to YOU for being a member and participating.

Newport Dunes was the site for a fun filled day for the Foster Care Auxiliary of Orange County.

Two of the beautiful Yamasaki girls joined in the fun on August 13 with crafts, food, sand toys, games and splashing in the gentle waves.



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

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

September – Member Shopping will be the 1st Monday, Friday and Saturday of the month

September 16 – Foster Family Picnic – Kiwanis Land

September 21 – Wrap Up Picnic and FCAOC Board Meeting, Echhoff Annex

October 7 – noon-2pm at the Distribution Center - FCAOC Board Meeting

October – Member Shopping will be the 1st Monday, Friday and Saturday of the month

November – Elections of 1st VP and Secretary and Quarterly Meeting

December – Auction at Agency Dinner and Training

Monthly Board Meetings are generally the 3rd 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 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.

Foster Care Auxiliary of Orange County has been selected by the Los Angeles Clippers Foundation for a 2006 Grant for their 'Operation Organization' Project.

The purpose of 'Operation Organization' is to organize our thrift store and distribution center so that we will attract more volunteers and be more productive with the volunteer hours we have. We hope to do this by making our self sustaining charity which operates and pays most bills from income produced at our thrift store more productive. More productivity will result in more thrift store sales which will enable us to better serve foster families.

The Foster Care Auxiliary is a non-profit group who offers support, events, encouragement, training, scholarships and a distribution center filled with donations from the community. Foster Parent members come each month to choose among the donations that help them meet the needs of their families. The Foster Care Auxiliary is run by twelve unpaid board members who put many hours each month into making these services available to foster families. We rely on the generous donations in our community and the generosity of our volunteers.

The Foster Care Auxiliary has already started making the changes of 'Operation Organization'. (See the attached photos.) On August 13, over 116 hours were spent by 29 volunteers to install new shelves in the stock area of our Distribution Center. In a short five hours we emptied the stock area and organized and labeled everything while new shelves were installed. Then the organized and labeled boxes were put neatly on our new shelves. This will make the job of stocking the distribution center and finding the donations needed so much easier. There is still much to do...to offer your help, contact the Auxiliary at fostercareaux@yahoo.com or call 714 778-3383.

An 'Operation Organization' committee is being formed...if you would like to be involved and come to the meetings contact Martin Harvey at mharvey@socal.rr.com or 714 891-4098. The next meeting will be at 12:30 at the Distribution Center on Saturday, September 2nd. If you would like to be on the committee, please let committee chair Martin Harvey know.



Before..... and After....let's keep it clean and organized!



Tom painted our bathrooms while Martin, Steven, Bob (pictured), along with Jeff, Kim, and Ron put together our new shelves.



Chrysty, Jeff and Nina sort supplies.



Kathy Harvey and Joanna Hussey admire the results of 116 hours and 29 volunteers.

We had volunteers from Helping Hands, our members, and other community volunteers. It took them all to get this job done.

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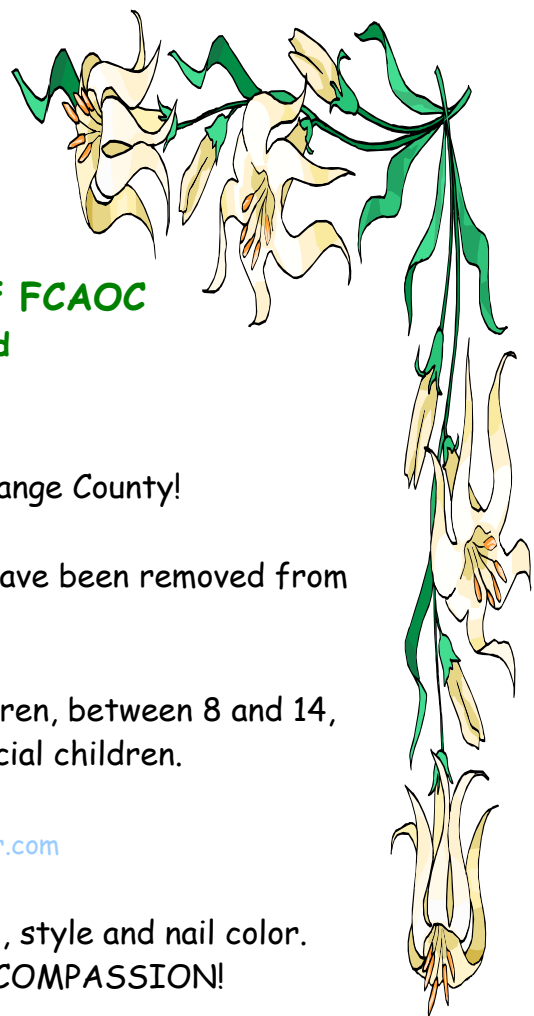
Serves
entire county

A Day of Beauty

Offered to Foster Parent Members of FCAOC

Generously organized and offered

By Cathy Dobyns



Enhance the beauty of girls in foster care of Orange County!

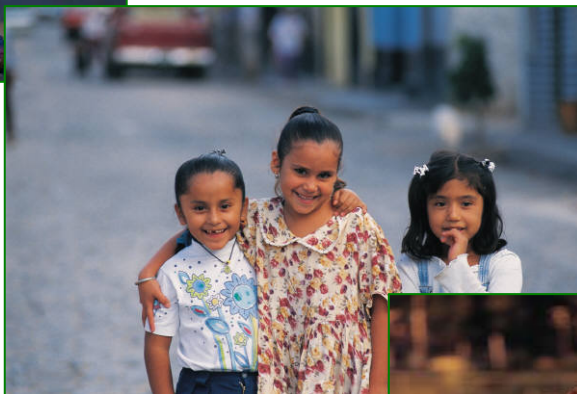
Please join me to give back to the children who have been removed from their home.

If you are a Foster Parent and have female children, between 8 and 14, please join us to enhance the beauty of your special children.

To RSVP contact Kathy Harvey at Kharvey@socal.rr.com with 'day of beauty' in subject line.

By Sept. 8 to schedule a time for shampoo, style and nail color.

Thank you for your SUPPORT, LOVE, and COMPASSION!



Location:

726 E. Katella
Orange, CA. 92867
Date: Sept. 10, 2006

Picnic- September 16 - save the date

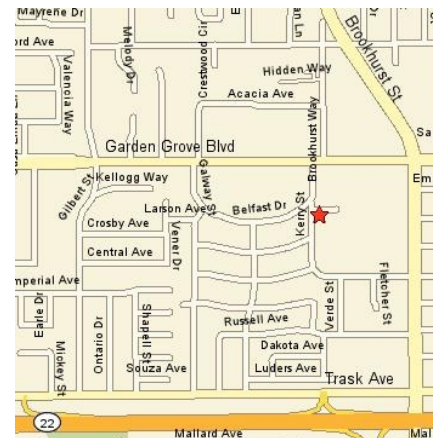
The Flyer and better map is available on our web site www.fostercareaux.com on the events page.
Please mark your calendar and plan on attending. Note that it is a new location.



All Orange County Licensed Foster Families Are Invited to Attend the Annual **2006 Foster Family Picnic**

September 16th 11:00 – 3:00
(lunch served 12 – 2)

Kiwanis Land, 9840 Larson Ave, Garden Grove, CA
(Main Cross Streets; Brookhurst St & Garden Grove Blvd)
Off Garden Grove Blvd. take Kerry to Larson Ave.



*Sponsored by Orangewood Foundation,
Department of Social Services
& Foster Care Auxiliary of Orange County*



Bugs Bunny & Daffy Duck will be visiting our foster families...provided by Six Flags Magic Mountain

Join the Auxiliary as they put on the 22nd picnic for the foster families of Orange County Social Services. There will be fun, food, rides, entertainment, & prizes. It is our biggest event of the year....you DON'T want to miss it!

Please park only in legal parking spaces at the Boys and Girls Club next door.
Put this flyer on your car dashboard so it can be seen while you are parked.

There will be special prizes for early bird Auxiliary Membership....remember your present membership only lasts through the end of 2006...sign up now to be included in the drawing for some wonderful prizes and receive special gifts at the picnic, and so you don't miss any member shopping days or any of our fun events and activities. To join fill out the enclosed membership form or go to our web site, www.fostercareaux.com to print out a registration form and mail it to Martin Harvey; 15651 Monroe St., Midway City, CA 92655 to be included in the special drawings at the picnic. You may also join while shopping at the Store on member days or at the picnic! Email kharvey@socal.rr.com for more information on membership or the picnic. We hope to see everyone there!

Membership is NOT required to attend the picnic....all Orange County licensed foster families are invited!

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Join Now!



FCAOC Membership

Foster Care Auxiliary of Orange County 2007

333 S. Brookhurst St., Anaheim, CA 92804

www.fostercareaux.com

The Foster Care Auxiliary of Orange County is a proactive group of foster parents, Social Workers and community members dedicated to working together to provide high quality care of dependent children, foster parent support, legislative advocacy and continuing education. As our association grows, we can be stronger advocates for both our children and our families. If we truly believe we are professional foster parents, we need to belong to a professional organization.

The Auxiliary operates and fills a distribution center with donated new items for members to 'shop' from on specific days (normally the 1st Monday, & the 1st Saturday of each month- 9am to noon and the 1st Friday of each month from 11am-2pm) in addition to running a thrift store which helps to support the Auxiliary. We maintain a website to keep members informed and send email newsletters and announcements of services available to Orange County Licensed foster/kinship family members. The Auxiliary plans and host a yearly picnic for all Orange County licensed foster families and has other events, activities, trainings and functions throughout the year for members who are Orange County licensed foster/kinship families. The Auxiliary provides two scholarships and two 'friend of foster family' awards annually, and has an experienced board to advise and represent you concerning foster care.

Membership is \$50 per family per calendar year & 12 hours of volunteering which will be suited to your talents, abilities and needs is appreciated.

To join, please fill out the application below. Make your check payable to "FCAOC", & mail to

Membership chair: Martin Harvey, 15651 Monroe St., Midway City, CA 92655

For more information call 714 891-2468 or email kharvey@socal.rr.com

Foster Care Auxiliary Membership Application 2007

Please print neatly so that we will be able to transfer the information

Name(s) _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ *E-Mail _____

Amount enclosed _____ check _____ cash _____

Please check one: Orange County Social Services foster parent ___ Kinship Care foster parent ___

Who is your licensing worker? _____

agency staff ___ Thrift Store employee/volunteer ___ interested community member ___ Adoptive Parent ___

FFA home ___ -Who is your agency? _____

How did you hear about us? _____

***note, one of the ways we keep you informed of events is e-mail...please provide one if possible.**