

California
PAL
MAGAZINE

California Police Activities League

Volume 2
Number 1
Fall/Winter 2005



FORE!

Inside

- Honor Roll of Donors
- Growing PALs
- Blythe Softball
- PAL's "Big Event"



Even as adults, they remain forever our “PAL Kids”

From the Executive Director

The past year was another great one for California PAL and all our members. During 2004, 90 of the 121 PAL chapters participated in one or more of the 18 different California PAL activities. Several PALs participated in eight or more programs, including Calexico, LAPD Hollywood, Huntington Park, Los Banos, Imperial County, Monterey County, Watsonville and El Centro. Membership also increased this year with seven new PALs joining the organization and over 300,000 kids participating in PAL programs throughout the state.

In each of the California PAL events, there are stories of kids who had never left their city or town, kids who had never been more than 50 miles from home; thanks to PAL, they are traveling to places they had previously only heard about. There are so many kids who experience things for the first time through PAL, such as swimming in the Pacific Ocean, playing in snow, playing basketball in a college gym or simply riding in a bus or staying in a hotel room. These are all life changing experiences.

The only way that we can provide these experiences for the kids is through the generous donations made by individual donors who give to California PAL every year. There are thousands of great people who believe in the PAL cause and who want to make a difference in PAL. Some supporters are able to give a great deal, others give less; but every dollar makes a difference and we are so grateful that the citizens of California believe in our cause. We owe these individuals our gratitude!

One last parting comment, as PAL officers and directors we work with hundreds if not thousands of kids every year in after-school programs and activities. So many of our kids grow up to be outstanding citizens, teachers, secretaries, lawyers, computer programmers, truck drivers, police officers and a number of them join the military. Even though these young adults leave PAL and move on, they will forever be “PAL kids” to us. Please take a minute to remember our PAL military kids, those working to keep us safe at home and those who are serving our country in a foreign land. We wish them all a speedy and safe return home.

Who We Are

The California Police Activities League (California PAL) is a California 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization incorporated in 1971. California PAL is California's largest juvenile crime prevention program with 121 member chapters and the active participation of over 300,000 youth. Each PAL member chapter is operated by law enforcement officers who network within their respective communities to create collaborative relationships with youth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gregg Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gregg Wilson
Executive Director

California PAL MAGAZINE

Features

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>3 PAL Kids Tee Up!
California youth learn the joy of golf</p> <p>5 Summer Beach Play Day
More than 750 youth take to the sand and surf</p> <p>6 Growing PALs
PALs around the state meet the challenge of locating space to accommodate growing program needs</p> <p>7 Starting a PAL in My Community
Creating the bond between cops and kids</p> <p>8 Planning for Life After High School
California PAL kids attend Youth Directors Conference at CSU Monterey Bay</p> | <p>11 Chief Carlos Bolanos
Understanding the value of youth programs</p> <p>11 Outdoor Discovery
Camping is a popular PAL activity</p> <p>12 Girl's Softball Tournament
Blythe hosts this year's event</p> <p>13 Chowchilla PAL Boxing
Home of future champions</p> <p>14 Honor Roll of Donors
Showing appreciation to PAL donors</p> |
|--|--|

Departments

- 3** **How to Give**
Your donation helps
- 4** **PAL Alumni News**
Where they are now
- 9** **Letters to the Editor**
From our readers
- 10** **YouthSpeak**
Youth voices are heard
- 13** **Member Moves**
Recognition and changes
- 20** **PAL Highlights**
Chapter news
- 24** **PAL Membership**
Locate a PAL in your community
- 26** **Calendar of Events**
What's happening



The "Big Event"

Page 23

Eighty-four young boxers from California and Nevada participated in the PAL Boxing Tournament.

Columns

- 2** **From the Editor**
Planning for Life
- 19** **The Art of Management**
Elements for success

Cover Photo: Angie Aguilar and Crystal Olmedo, both of Los Angeles Police Department Newton PAL, strike a pose before a round of golf at the California PAL Golf Tournament held at Del Rio Country Club in Brawley, CA.

Above: Two young boxers were fierce competitors before shaking hands and posing for a photograph together after the match at Oxnard PAL.

From the Editor: Planning for Life

The fall/winter issue of *California PAL Magazine* highlights PALs that successfully planned new programs, built new youth centers, or remodeled old space to fit new needs. Their plans helped them to inspire others to share their vision and support the goal of helping kids in their communities. Read about "Growing PALs" and share their vision.

Ron Exley had a vision, as well. The California PAL Director of Membership & Government Affairs wanted to offer PAL kids help in planning their futures. From that idea was born a partnership with California State University Monterey Bay. Last summer, more than 200 PAL kids from around California got a lesson in planning for "Life After High School." Read more about it on page 8.

Funding your vision is always a challenge. Fundraising consultant Jeanne Schmelzer offers some advice on things to consider before launching a fundraising campaign to raise capital for your new construction project. PAL programs require buildings, fields, courts, golf courses, equipment and gyms, all of which need donor support to become reality.

Finally, we'd like to thank Bruce and Marie Rosenblatt, a Bay Area couple who established in 1992 a community service scholarship program to provide summer internships for students at California State University Hayward. Over 255 students have benefited from this program, which is also supported by Chevron Texaco, Inc., and Target, Inc. California PAL was selected to work throughout the summer with undergraduate student Annabelle Valerio Blackman of San Leandro. Read her stories in this issue. Blackman learned about how nonprofit organizations operate. We learned to see our work through the eyes of a bright, young person who is ready to change the world for the better.



Victoria A. Emmons

Victoria A. Emmons



"Building the bond between cops and kids... because every kid needs a PAL."

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California PAL is a member of:

- The National Association of Police Athletic/Activities Leagues
- California Chamber of Commerce
- California Association of Nonprofits
- San Leandro Chamber of Commerce
- Silicon Valley Council of Nonprofits

Our Mission *California Police Activities League unites law enforcement officers and communities by providing youth programs that develop discipline, positive self-image, mutual trust and respect.*

Our Vision *Build a bond between cops and kids by creating safe communities and enriching young lives.*

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Tee up!

California PAL youth learn the joy of golf

The warmth of the summer sun didn't seem to bother the eager, young golfers who participated in the annual California PAL Golf Tournament July 11-12, 2004, at Del Rio Country Club in Brawley, CA.

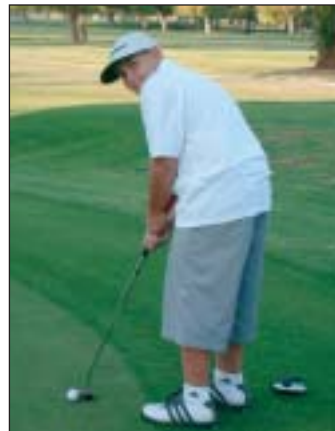
Hosted by Imperial County Sheriff's Activities League (SAL), the four-player scramble attracted seven PAL chapters, including Barstow, Imperial County SAL, LAPD Newton, Modesto, Salinas, Vacaville and Watsonville. Teams included both male and female players ages 12-17 with each foursome consisting of three youth and one adult.

Winning teams included:

- 1st – Modesto PAL
- 2nd – Salinas PAL
- 3rd – Barstow PAL



Special thanks to Community Services Officer Jerry Godsey, director of Imperial County SAL, and his team for helping to make the golf tournament a memorable event for the youth. These youngsters are up and coming players, so watch out, Tiger! □



Top Right: A young golfer selects the right driver before the tournament begins.

Above Left: Golfers prepare for the scramble.

Above Right: Andrew Moreno, Imperial County SAL, practices putting.

Bottom Right: Watsonville PAL team members from left to right: Samantha Rivera, Katrina Rodriguez, Iysha Jimenez and Officer Steve Nakamoto.

How you can help

Make an Annual Gift – Your cash or in-kind donation helps more kids attend our programs.

Matching Gift Program – If your company has a Corporate Matching Gift Program, double your support with a matching donation.

United Way Campaign – Designate your gift to California PAL through your local United Way.

Albertsons Community Partners – Albertsons will contribute up to 4% of your purchases to California PAL when you use your Albertsons Sav-on Preferred Savings Card and indicate our Community Partner #49001001246. To register, just click on "In the Community" to find the Community Partners links at www.albertsons.com.

Honor or Memorial Gifts – Honor someone special in your life with an Honor or Memorial Gift in their name.

Leave a Legacy – Designate California PAL as a beneficiary in your estate planning.

Donate your Car or Boat – Tell us about your vehicle and we do the rest!

Volunteer your Time – Call us at (510) 544-4300 if you'd like to volunteer to help make PAL programs even better.

PAL Alumni News

If you were once a PAL kid anywhere in the USA, let us know what you're doing today. We'll share your story with our readers. E-mail PALmagazine@calpal.org or write to PAL Magazine, 2000 East 14th Street, San Leandro, CA 94577. Be sure to name your PAL and the years there, and provide your phone number or email for confirmation.

Terrance Colbert (*Oxnard PAL*) is studying criminal justice at Oxnard College. Based on his experiences at Oxnard PAL, Colbert is planning to become a police officer. He credits his career aspirations with his decision to depart from the "wrong crowd" he was involved with in middle school and join PAL. He came to PAL for its basketball program, but soon found that he got much more from the program by building relationships with staff who served as positive role models, helped him with homework to improve his falling grades, and took time out to advise him. Colbert participated almost daily in PAL sports and community service. After high school graduation, he volunteered 20 hours per week and coached volleyball.

David Rodella (*Oxnard PAL*) won the U.S. Nationals Boxing Tournament 2003 for his weight class (132) hosted by USA Boxing at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado. The winner of the California PAL tournament in 2003, he also won the Black Gloves award in Texas. A member of Oxnard PAL since the age of 14, Rodella, 21, ran the Winter Olympic torch in Oxnard last summer.

Remembering PAL Kids

Jonathan Christian Wallace (*Oakland PAL*) is mourned by fellow members of Oakland PAL. Wallace, 19, was killed in an automobile accident in Placer County earlier this year. The former Emery High School and Ohlone College

basketball star began playing basketball at Oakland PAL at age seven, thanks to the encouragement of John Thomas, the father of Oakland Tech graduate Quentin Thomas. Wallace earned All-Bay Counties League-East honors as a senior at Emery and helped the Spartans to the BCL-East playoff championship in 2002. He also played for Derek Smith in the Oakland Rebels AAU program.

"He had high goals and was a high achiever," said Wallace's mother, Velma Wallace. "He always competed with himself to do better, even when he did his best."

Terrance G. Kelly (*Richmond PAL*), 18, was killed August 12, 2004, in Richmond in a senseless act of violence. A former Richmond Steeler youth football player and De La Salle High School standout, "T.K.," as he was known by friends, was on his way to begin his first year with the University of Oregon on a full football scholarship. His death devastated his fellow football players, his family and friends at Richmond PAL. "I thought T.K. was really going to be something special," said Nick Aliotti, a defensive coordinator for the Oregon Ducks who recruited Kelly. "I loved being around him, not just because he was All American at De La Salle and not just because he would have been All American at Oregon, but because he was an All-American person." [Read T.K.'s own words below.]

"I am determined not to end up like so many of my peers."

Terrance G. Kelly, 1986-2004

Despite doing all the right things in his life, Richmond PAL alumnus Terrance G. Kelly was fatally shot in the chest the night of August 12, 2004, the day before his scheduled departure to begin his freshman year at University of Oregon on a full football scholarship. His family shared their son's poignant letter to the university admissions staff with C.A. Robertson, the now-retired Richmond PAL officer and director who knew T.K., an honor student and number one running back in the country, as one of his "PAL kids."

"Throughout my life, I have been faced with several challenges which could have potentially disrupted my education; luckily I have developed the necessary skills to confront and overcome these circumstances. One of the circumstances that I have had to overcome was to stay focused in an environment which has not always been conducive to obtaining a solid education. Many people imagine the life of a teenager as being carefree and simple, but that is not the case in the city I live in. While growing up in Richmond, California, there has been a lot of distraction. For example, the murder rate of young African Americans in the city is very high, drugs are rampant in the community, and not very many of the youth in the community understand the

importance of an education, much less if they live or die. Many youth place more importance on being in a gang than getting an education. A large number of the youth don't even graduate from high school. They drop out, go to jail or, unfortunately, get murdered. Something as simple as sitting down doing your homework can be a challenge. While trying to study, I have often had to contend with hearing gunshots and ambulances or police cars racing up and down the streets. The library is just a shelter for the homeless and a baby-sitter for young children waiting until their parents get off work.

Through all of this, I have established high expectations and standards for myself. I am determined not to end up like so many of my peers. I have a strong sense of purpose and direction for my life. I am motivated to strive to be the best person I can be, with the understanding that a solid education can lead to self-improvement, as well as social and economic empowerment."

T.K. is greatly missed and will be remembered for the outstanding model he set for others to follow.

Reprinted with permission from Terrance's father, Ed Kelly.

PAL Youth discover the joys of sand and surf at Huntington State Beach

By Victoria A. Emmons

Summer brings free time and warm sunshine, a perfect combination for a trip to the beach. More than 750 California youth between the ages of 8 and 17 gathered last summer for the seventh annual Police Activities League (PAL) Beach Play Day July 27-28, 2004, at Huntington State Beach in Southern California. The event, co-sponsored by California PAL, State Parks PAL and California State Parks with the assistance of a grant through National PAL, helped many kids visit a beach for the first time.

The collaborative event provided beach-related games, physical activity, environmental awareness and an overnight campout at one of Orange County's most popular beaches while focusing on healthy living options using recreation as exercise and challenging activities to build self esteem while having fun.

A variety of activities kept the kids busy, including a demonstration of surf rescue techniques, including the use of a helicopter, body boarding, rock wall climbing, a giant Slip N Slide, and street hockey provided by the Los Angeles Kings professional hockey team. The more daring of the older teens rode all-terrain vehicles on a sandy beach course set up by volunteers and the State Parks' Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division.

Following an evening dance, the youth turned in for a starry night sleeping in tents on the beach. PAL officers, State Parks personnel, volunteer law enforcement officers from various agencies, and volunteers from a variety of organizations helped make the program a success.

"Too often too many kids are at-risk and on the brink of failure," said State Parks



Anaheim PAL youth proudly display their banner and their excellent work after burying one of their colleagues up to the neck in sand, a favorite beach pastime.

Director Ruth Coleman. "This program broadens their awareness of the opportunities that exist outside their immediate neighborhoods while spending time with positive adult role models. If we don't reach out and show we care, we just keep filling up the juvenile justice system, and that's a sure road to failure."

PALs that attended Beach Play Day include: Anaheim, Bakersfield, Blythe, Calipatria, Calexico, Colton, Compton YAL, Desert Hot Springs, East Los Angeles, El Centro, Fresno, Hemet, Industry, Inglewood, LAPD Devonshire, LAPD Hollywood, LAPD Hollenbeck, Lennox SAL, Monterey Bay, Monterey County, Oakland, Oxnard, Palm Springs, Pasadena, Santa Barbara, Santa Clarita Valley, Temecula and Westmoreland. The California Police Activities League is the fastest growing community service entity in the State of California.

Special thanks to the event sponsors, including: AMA District 37, American Honda, Athletics Unlimited, California Air National Guard, California National Guard Drug Demand Reduction Program, California State Lifeguard Association, California State Parks Foundation, CORVA, Cupstack International, Dominoes Pizza, Energy Brands, Inc., Golden State Foods, Hoag Hospital – Project Wipeout, Huntington Beach Police Department, In-N-Out, Los Angeles Kings, Luzern Enterprises, National PAL, Nestea, NOHVCC, Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division, Orange County Fire Authority, Pac West, SYSCO and Telcom Services, Inc. □

Growing PALs across California

From boxing rings to gyms to fields to youth centers, California PALs are expanding

By Victoria A. Emmons



Redwood City PAL Community Center

For weeks, curious kids pressed their noses against the glass of a shop window in downtown Chowchilla trying to see what was going on inside. The police chief of this small, central California town, Rodger Williams, promised Sgt. Jim Wilde that he would find him a place to launch Chowchilla PAL's new boxing program. After two years of waiting and to Wilde's delight, the boxing program finally found a home.

Thanks to the generosity of Rollo Larson of A & R Refrigeration, the new Chowchilla boxing ring was built at Larson's property on 129 N. Third Street. Larson has donated the space for the PAL's use. [See story on page 13.]

Like Chowchilla, other PAL programs throughout California face the same challenges with finding space for their growing program needs. As more children want to participate

in the outstanding athletic, educational, social and mentoring programs that PAL offers, the need to find places to host these programs is acute.

Building a Home

Some PAL chapters have built their own space. With help from generous donors, corporations, cities, school districts, foundations and fundraising activities, PALs have been able to raise the capital needed to design and build gymnasiums, youth centers, boxing rings and more.

In Redwood City, the community built a 15,000-square-foot PAL Community Center that officially opened September 20 after a \$5 million capital campaign that is still in progress. The back packs situated in the entry way of the new building with its high ceilings and modern features are an indication

that the local kids have already made it their second home. Situated adjacent to an elementary school on property owned by the Redwood City Elementary School District, the new Center is expected to serve 2,000 children in its first year with a computer center, art/music center, karate/dance studio, boxing ring, counseling center, truancy program, homework center, and more.

"During the dot.com boom, there was no space," says Barbara Bonilla, director of Development and Operations for Redwood City PAL. "We thought of using a warehouse and then the school idea was presented. With PAL activities happening at 14 school sites around town in grades K-8, it seemed like a perfect solution."

The school site for the Center represented an underserved area of
Continued on next page.

the city, Bonilla explains. “Kids can’t walk to Hoover Elementary. Many are going home to empty houses. With gang activity an issue, we need to reach kids who are at-risk. Our driving force has been helping the kids in the city. Our Captain and Chief of Police were way ahead of the trend for putting in after-school programs.”

Donors were critical to the success of the building project, according to Bonilla. Janet Strauss and Jeff Hawkins, residents of the Redwood City area, lead the way with their gift of \$2 million. Many followed with significant gifts, including Electronic Arts, the City of Redwood City, San Mateo Credit Union, Roberts & Brune, Cargill Salt, Danford Foundation, Granite Rock, Rotary Club of Redwood City, Rotary Club of Peninsula Sunrise, Redwood City Elementary School District and others.

“The school superintendent is really a proponent of using school property to add to the community,” says Captain Scott Warner, founding president of the Redwood City PAL Board of Directors and manager of its day-to-day operations. “It was his idea to build the PAL Center on school grounds to help create more of a community feeling. I’m very excited about the way we’ve been able to expand our programs, especially in this underserved area. It allows kids to be in a safe environment.”

The City of San Jacinto broke ground on a new home for San Jacinto PAL to be located in Sallee Park. After losing its space at Monte Vista Intermediate School last December, the PAL turned to its local City Council which voted to build the new 3,500-square-foot building scheduled to open December 9.

“The park is supposed to be for families, and that’s what PAL is for, too,” said Myra Wood, San Jacinto PAL’s executive director.

Both the city and the Riverside County Board of Supervisors allocated Community Development Block Grant funds to pay for the project. San Jacinto will spend \$40,000, with the remainder coming from the county.

“The 900 kids enrolled in PAL come from the surrounding diverse neighborhood,” says Wood. “This PAL has a great central location, in a park right behind a middle school with an elementary school and high school right down the street. How can kids not know of PAL?”

Continued on page 24.

Starting a PAL in My Community

By Annabelle Blackman

By the time you finish reading this magazine, you will surely be convinced of the positive influence a Police Activities League (PAL) has on the communities it serves. From sports to leadership programs and fundraisers, PALs help local youth wherever they reside.

Do you need a PAL in your community?

A common misconception is that PAL is only for inner-city kids. In actuality, there are PAL chapters in big cities, small towns and suburbs throughout the state of California. As a community-based program, PAL’s vision is to build a bond between cops and kids by creating safe communities and enriching young lives... no matter the size of their home town. PAL chapters accomplish this through customized programs that fit the specific needs of an area. PAL programs fill a gap that other youth programs do not.

What makes PAL so unique?

What distinguishes PAL from other youth programs is the positive interaction between police and youth, resulting in respect for the law. PAL allows police officers to focus on another aspect of their job, crime prevention. By forming constructive relationships with the youth of a community, police can prevent future misconduct from occurring. The crime prevention nature of PAL gives urgency to its purpose. Don’t wait until juvenile crime rises in your community. Prevent it from ever being a problem by starting a PAL.

How do I begin?

Start building the foundation for a strong PAL now. Get your community involved. Seek out support from leaders within the area: churches, businesses, schools, service clubs, government, etc. Research the needs of your community. Find out which needs are not being met that can be filled by a PAL. Police, schools, and most of all, kids will provide you with a wealth of ideas. If you’d like to start a PAL in your area, e-mail us at membership@calpal.org or call (510) 544-4300. Or write to: California PAL, Attn: Membership Director, 2000 E.14th Street, San Leandro, CA 94577.

Waking up without an alarm clock

Youth plan for Life After High School

By Bryan Ferreira

“I liked meeting other people, making new friends and the presentations. I liked the food and being able to play football. I didn’t like waking up in the morning without an alarm clock.”

“I plan on going to college and this event helped me to realize what I need to think about.”

“What I learned the most was from the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines.”

California PAL kids are not afraid to express their views. Empowering them further with knowledge needed to plan the future, California PAL, in partnership with California State University Monterey Bay, hosted its first annual *Life After High School* Youth Directors’ Conference August 1-5 at the CSU campus located on the former Fort Ord Army Base near Monterey, CA. The five-day event was attended by more than 220 members of PAL Youth Directors’ Councils (YDC) and PAL staff from around the state and offered a look into the future for kids who are nearing the end of their high school years.

“We wanted to offer these youth the experience of living on a college campus, sharing a dorm room and eating food to which they might be unaccustomed,” said Ron Exley, coordinator of the conference. “Being introduced to new ideas and information helps the youth begin to think and plan on their own about the future. Many of these teens have never spent a night away from home or thought about what life would be like once they have graduated from high school.”

A variety of special guest speakers, including experts from the California State University system, introduced the youth to their many options for after high school.

After some fun, getting-acquainted icebreakers, the kids began taking copious notes on more serious topics -- how to prepare for SAT and ACT tests, what high school courses to take to get into college, the differences between the University of California and California State University systems, applying for FAFSA



or other grants and financial aid, taking AP and Honors courses, and other information to help them determine whether college should be in their career path.

A representative from Heald College spoke about the benefits of a vocational or trade school and local trade union members introduced the students to apprenticeship opportunities, as well as working with AMERICORPS and VISTA programs.

But what about managing the little details of life on your own? California PAL Director of Administration and Finance Barbara Robertson explained to the kids how to open a checking or savings account at a bank, apply for credit and use it wisely, apply for a passport, register to vote and apply for the Selective Service.

“I wanted the kids to know they shouldn’t be messing with credit cards,” said Robertson. “They need to learn responsibility when it comes to managing their money and young people often get overextended too early in life. Knowing their money is earning interest in a checking or savings account is better than paying off years of credit card debt.”

Jensen Wong, a representative of Farmers Insurance, told kids about the importance of establishing insurance for their cars, property and lives. He also explained renters’ insurance that students often need while at college or living on their own, part of the realities of moving into an apartment or house and out of the comfort of their parents’ home.

Students also learned about the benefits of serving their country through the military. Members of the United States Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps explained what to expect with the choice of a military career, as well as the educational opportunities, including college and skills training. The youth learned about various aspects of military life and how it would benefit them.

Continued on next page.

Helping kids avoid crime and violence as a career choice is part of PAL's mission. A thought-provoking presentation called "What's Up with Guns?" helped the teens realize the extent to which violence affects everyone.

"My only son was killed in 1994 at age 17," said Alexandra Matteucci-Perkins, executive director of the Joseph Matteucci Foundation in Castro Valley, CA, who shared her personal tragedy. "Joseph was hit from behind with a baseball bat at a Little League game and died senselessly because someone got angry about heckling. He wasn't even the intended target of the perpetrator's act."

In an effort to prevent such tragedy in the future, Matteucci-Perkins created the Foundation in memory of her son to help educate youth about the devastating effects of violence on kids, families, law enforcement, health care workers, the legal system and the community. Throughout the powerful reenactment of a mock juvenile



Santa Monica PAL alumna Amber Larkin and YDC Board member Andrew Elia of Turlock PAL strike a humorous pose while at Life After High School.

crime, students heard real-life stories from Los Angeles County Deputy Sheriff Geoff Morgan, Salinas County's Natividad Medical Center cardiac care nurse Kathy McMillan, and Monterey County's Managing Deputy District Attorney Edward Hazel. Following the presentation, the Foundation's National Facilitator Christy Haynes monitored a discussion with the kids that helped them deal with their feelings about similar acts of violence that they had experienced or knew about.

Between educational sessions, some kids visited the Monterey Bay Aquarium, Cannery Row and other great sites of the Monterey Bay area, while others enjoyed the amusement park at the Santa Cruz Beach Boardwalk. On the final evening of the event, the California PAL YDC Board of Directors held a farewell dance.

One young attendee neatly summed up the weeklong event: "It was fun and I met cool people." □

Letters to the Editor

We welcome your feedback. Write us at PALmagazine@calpal.org or Editor, California PAL Magazine, 2000 East 14th Street, San Leandro, CA 94577. We reserve the right to decline publication of letters and to edit for length.

Soccer Tournament

Please pass along our thanks to everybody at California PAL who worked on the tournament. As usual, all of our players, coaches, and chaperones had a great time, not just playing, but over the entire weekend.

Mike Milat
Napa SAL

Thank you for allowing us to be a part of your [California PAL] soccer weekend. All of my referees enjoyed their games and the people that were at the tournament. I hope you will always think of Bakersfield when you hold this tournament. Your group is a class act and it shows through your leadership. Your team was always willing to listen and learn from whatever problems might happen. This will only help in making this even a better tournament. This was truly one of the best tournaments that I have enjoyed being a part of. Thank you for all of your help and may our Lord always bless you and your team.

Tom Martin
Chief Referee

California PAL Magazine

Your PAL Magazine looks wonderful!

Antoinette Gary Mills
AGM Law
San Jose, CA

By the way, I think your recent PAL Magazine looks great.

Alfredo Guerra
Executive Director
Stanislaus County PAL

San Francisco Giants

The 10th anniversary of the Giants Community Fund is a reminder of what a great support this organization has been over the years to PALs throughout California. At a September 19th game in PacBell Park, the Giants and Blue Shield hosted "Stop the Violence Day." Blue Shield invited 100 people to a brunch. The following week, I got a call from one of the attendees to ask what PAL her three kids could join. This is a perfect example of how corporate partnerships with nonprofits like California PAL help reach out to our community's youth.

Ron Exley
Board of Directors, Giants Community Fund
California PAL Director of Membership & Government Affairs
San Francisco, CA

California PAL Fall Training Conference

I had an awesome time at the conference. I was able to talk with several directors and exchange information. Everyone was so willing to offer advice on how and where to begin. I'm now in full force developing a board and trying to get everything up and running.

Officer Michele Snaer
City of Ripon
Editor's Note: The City of Ripon is opening a new PAL program in 2005.

YDC Conference

You should be proud of the service you provide for these young people. California PAL is terrific!

Alexandra Matteucci-Perkins
Executive Director
The Joseph Matteucci Foundation
Castro Valley, CA

“PAL has helped me to stay out of trouble.”*By Julio Cruz, San Mateo PAL*

Hi, my name is Julio Cruz and I have been in the Police Activities League program for at least four years. PAL has helped me to stay out of trouble, not like I would want to get in any. The activities that I have been involved in are: rock climbing, soccer, flag football, martial arts, and also ropes course where we climbed trees and learned to trust the anchors at the bottom. PAL is great because they teach us to do things we thought couldn't be done, like trusting yourself and the people around you.

I like PAL because you get to hang around with police officers, which I think is the coolest thing ever. I have heard some people say that cops are selfish and they are not good citizens, and they prefer the firefighters; but guess who they call when they are in trouble? By them doing things with us through PAL, they are actually helping out our community and trying to make it better for every kid in San Mateo; and not just for San Mateo, but every PAL program in California tries to do that. I know it is hard for them to work all night as police officers and then in the morning they wake up early to go to a PAL activity and be our friends. Last year Amber Shong, Police Officer Mike Buckle, and Stephanie Pizzi chose me and three other people to go to the Sacramento Experience, where all of the PALs from California get together and have activities. We did things like getting together in groups to see who would win the games. We also went to the Capitol building and met some state senators. We had time to meet other kids our age.

Because of all the PAL experiences that I have been through with officers, I have been inspired, and that is why I enrolled in the Explorer Academy Program which I have already satisfactorily completed. I am also currently a Police Cadet with the San Mateo Police Department, and it helps me to get better every day; but most importantly, they have inspired me to become a police officer and hopefully a PAL officer where I can help the kids in the community to do the same thing I did: Stay out of trouble and be better every day. □

Editor's Note: Julio Cruz was selected San Mateo PAL Boy of the Year 2004.

Learning to be a great leader in our PALs*By Mahealani Barr, Santa Monica PAL*

My experience in Florida was well spent. The Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) July 18-21 in Orlando was very educational and also fun. All of the lectures were educational and we discussed some things that every YLC member should be able to experience. It was educational because in all the lectures we talked about how we can be leaders and what we should do to be great leaders in our PALs.

The speaker that I liked the most was Ed Hayes because when he spoke to all the youth that were there, he was very enthusiastic. When he started with his views about Positive Mental Attitude (PMA), everyone got excited. When he told us about leadership, he claimed that we all had the potential to be leaders. It seemed as if we were in church and he was preaching to us. He told us that listening and speaking with authority are skills we must be able to develop to be in YLC. Ed Hayes kept me interested because he sent out a good message to everyone.

Another activity I enjoyed was visiting the amusement parks, especially Epcot® because I really liked the spaceship. It was my first time in Walt Disney World® and it was the most exciting experience that I have ever had. Along with the midnight curfew, it gave us plenty of time to do what we wanted to do. □

YDC Conference at CSU Monterey: Learning about Life and Car Insurance*By Mayra Naranjo, California PAL YDC Reporter***“How do we get to college?”**

That was the question that we all wanted answered and that's exactly what was answered at the California PAL Youth Directors Council (YDC) Conference “Life After High School” held August 1-5 in Monterey. The youth got a taste of real college life. They got to sleep in the dorms and ate real college food... yummy.

There were so many amazing people who spoke to the youth. Richard Toledo was a great help; thanks to him, college doesn't seem scary anymore. College doesn't seem unreachable. We now know about grants, financial aid, loans, and FAFSA. We learned that a four-year college isn't the only answer to success. Another option is a vocational school like Heald College where you learn the skills you need to quickly get out and start working. Another option was apprenticeships like with an electricians' union, which is like a big happy family, like California PAL. Now, if you like a little bit more action, the Army is also another option, along with the Marines, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard. The military has GREAT benefits and you get to serve your country. So you see anything is possible.

Jensen Wong from Farmers Insurance taught us about life and car insurance. We all know how eager we are to drive. But we had to learn the dangers that come with driving a car and the money that it costs as well.

But it wasn't all fun. It was all serious when we heard Alexandra Matteucci-Perkins' story. Her only child was killed at a very young age in what seemed a friendly baseball game. She taught us that violence is not always the answer.

But the truth is that this trip was an educational one. Everyone came out learning something new. We are the future of the world; let's make it a good one. Let's make our voices heard. □

Chief Carlos Bolanos



*Chief Carlos Bolanos,
Redwood City Police
Department*

Understanding the value of youth programs

Carlos Bolanos remembers his childhood with fondness. And he remembers Mrs. Williams, the “elderly woman” who coached his baseball team. Growing up in San Francisco, the 45-year-old police chief of Redwood City, CA, played baseball and football with the San Francisco Police Activities League (PAL) beginning at age 10. His

experience with PAL was one that would influence his decision-making for years to come. It taught him the value of such programs for youth and introduced him to law enforcement, a career he would pursue with vigor.

After 12 years with the Palo Alto Police Department where Bolanos was an officer, field training officer, SWAT, sergeant and lieutenant, he moved to Salinas, where he served for three years as a captain with the Salinas Police Department. Once there, he located Salinas PAL and promptly joined its Board of Directors, serving as the police department’s chief representative to PAL.

“I saw the impact [PAL] could have on kids with too much time on their hands,” says Bolanos. After a 25-year career in law enforcement, he knows this better than most.

At age 35, Bolanos was selected as Chief of Police for Redwood City, one of the youngest Chiefs hired for a city of that size.

“One of the first things I did when I came to Redwood City was start the PAL program. It’s grown beyond what I ever envisioned it would be.”

In September, Redwood City PAL opened a newly-constructed PAL Community Center on a local elementary school ground. The partnership with the Redwood City Elementary School District encouraged other support and the \$5 million project is a stellar example of people working together to support their community’s youth.

“All I ever wanted to do was to provide some activities for kids,” says Bolanos. “Captain [Scott] Warner and Barbara [Bonilla] really saw what a building could do for the program. The PAL Community Center is not just for the kids, but also for the parents. We believe that if people know each other in the community, they will help protect one another.

“The partnership with the school district was key to the project. The Board allowing us to build on their land speaks to how well the children of our community are served above any personal interest. This wouldn’t have been possible without the support of the City Council, finance director, city manager, school district and major donors. This fits the city. Everyone made it happen.

“I have never been more proud to serve in law enforcement, and I could not ask to work with a more dedicated, professional and motivated group of men and women.” □

Outdoor discovery—camping fun for all!

By Victoria A. Emmons

Discovering the great outdoors through a camping adventure provides an excellent opportunity for increased family bonding and a breath of fresh air. That was the thinking behind the California State Parks Foundation and California State Parks foray into FamCamp a decade ago. The outdoor adventure was designed to strengthen family bonds through a new form of recreation and introduce camping to low-income families who might not otherwise have the opportunity.

“The experience was extended to California PAL youth some years ago and the activity has been a popular one ever since,” says Sonja Scott, director of Programs & Events for California PAL. “Youth in both Southern and

Northern California have access to two different camping events.”

The Southern California Camporee was held September 10-12 at Silverwood State Recreation Area and the Northern California Camporee took place September 24-26 at San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area. The program provided camping equipment, reserved campsites, swimming, kayaking, fishing, crafts, games and camping under the stars. □



Volunteers from Los Banos PAL serve up a delicious lunch at the Northern California Camporee in San Luis Reservoir.

Blythe: Small Town, BIG Hospitality

By Annabelle Blackman

“You play ball like a girl!” is more than a compliment for Amanda Lance, 14; it is an honor. A varsity pitcher for Palo Verde High School and Blythe PAL, she was one of more than 80 girls who gave their all in temperatures reaching over 100 degrees to compete in the annual California PAL Girls Softball Tournament held June 18-20 in Blythe, CA.



Blythe PAL's team proudly displays its first-place trophy in the 14 & Under Group.

Several California PAL chapters participated in the tournament, including Calexico, Los Banos, Imperial County, Monterey County, Oxnard, and Salinas. Thanks to the Blythe community, every need was met from bottled water to watermelons.

Knowing their small community had a great facility to offer, Blythe PAL really wanted to host the tournament. Wilson Field, named after Lance's grandfather, incorporates multiple diamonds in one field, allowing viewers to watch three tournaments at the same time. Once Blythe PAL was selected as host, PAL families began soliciting employers for donations. As news spread about the big tournament, Blythe PAL Director Valerie Hudson's phone began ringing off the hook. “What do you need?” donors asked her, offering their services. From Pratt Apiaries to the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) to Albertson's, the entire community wanted to be a part of this tournament.

The town buzzed with excitement as the date of the tournament approached. Upon arrival, visiting teams were introduced to the kindness of the small, agricultural town. Goodie bags awaited the girls along with melons from Player's Produce and home-made peach jam from employees of Aztec Harvesting. That Friday night, a barbeque and pool party was hosted by Blythe's Hotel Association. The next morning, the VFW served the girls a complete breakfast of eggs, bacon, and pancakes. The generosity continued throughout the weekend, according to Hudson, a PAL volunteer and forensic technician at Blythe Police Department who also serves on the

California PAL Board of Directors. Such treatment made an impression on the local PAL as well as the visitors.

“I don't think I'd be wrong to state that there were at least a thousand people who came to support us,” says Hudson, overwhelmed by the generous support of her community. “It was unbelievable. More than just parents following their kids, people from the community came to support the girls and watch us.”

Blythe PAL players were encouraged by the challengers they met. “PAL has really shown me how much talent is out there and how you have to be always playing your best,” said Lance, a nine-year softball veteran who is a freshman on her school's varsity team, has played five years for PAL and plays for Little League. Accustomed to playing at a high level, Lance says she was impressed with the caliber of the other PAL teams. Her goal is to play for the University of Arizona like one of her favorite players, Jenny Finch.

Feeling the support of the community and having met the challenges presented, the girls were simply proud to be part of Blythe and part of PAL. “We just wanted recognition for our PAL,” says Hudson. And they sure got it. After seeing the positive results of their involvement and the pride within the community, donors are now eager for the next opportunity to be part of a PAL activity.

Winners were: 16 & Under - 1st Oxnard, 2nd Monterey County, 3rd Los Banos; 14 & Under - 1st Blythe, 2nd Los Banos, 3rd Salinas; 12 & Under - 1st Salinas, 2nd Los Banos, 3rd Blythe.

Special thanks to our tournament donors: Albertson's, Aztec Harvesting, Blythe Hotel Association, Blythe Little League, Blythe Search and Rescue, City of Blythe, Culligan Water, Players Produce, Richard “Blade” Phipps, Pratt Apiaries, Pepsi, VFW Post. #2987, and Yosemite Water. □

Member Moves

Send your staff changes, promotions or additions to PALmagazine@calpal.org.

Congratulations to **Captain Ray Cota**, director of Corona PAL, who was recently promoted from Lieutenant.

Lompoc PAL has named retired California Highway Patrol Officer **Tony Durham** as its new executive director. Durham replaces **Officer George Berrios**, who will continue to manage the Lompoc PAL Explorers Program.

Community Service Officer Griselda Gonzalez replaces Nester Gonzalez (no relation) as executive director of Calexico PAL. The day she was appointed, Gonzalez met other PAL officers at the Regional Meeting in Brawley.

Congratulations to **Terrel Harrison**, executive director of Oxnard PAL, who was named Young Man of the Year for 2004

by the Oxnard Chamber of Commerce. Harrison, 35, is also a member of the California PAL Board of Directors and is the National PAL Region 1 Director.

Renae Kerner replaces **Ron Williams** as the new director of Glendale PAL. Glendale moved across the street from its old building and is now located at 131 North Isabel Street.

Kris Lofthus was named executive director of Vacaville PAL, replacing **Suzanne Green**, who will remain on the PAL Board as a program advisor. "I still plan to stay involved with PAL and the children we serve," says Green. "I'm so proud that I have been a part of the PAL family."

Congratulations to **Officer Lea Lopez** who was appointed

director of LAPD Hollywood PAL, replacing **Officer Mia Grabinski**.

Congratulations to **Officer Carmen McCartney** who was named executive director of Watsonville PAL. After only a week on the job, Officer McCartney flew to Orlando with two of her PAL kids to attend the National PAL Youth Leadership Council Conference.

Welcome to **Stacey Metzner** who was appointed executive director of Ojai PAL. Metzner replaces **Deputy Kimberly Larson** who returned to patrol duty.

The California D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Officers Association named **Officer Scott Monteiro** of Clovis as California D.A.R.E. Officer of the Year in recognition of his dedication to mentoring youth in

the community. In addition to his D.A.R.E. activities, Officer Monteiro coaches Clovis PAL's basketball, Jr. Giants baseball, and 6th grade volleyball programs, and serves as an adviser for the Clovis Police Explorers.

Welcome to the newest member of the California PAL family, located right in the neighborhood of our headquarters ... the **Alameda County Deputy Sheriff's Activities League**, based in San Leandro, was organized earlier this year. Congratulations to **Deputy Marty Neldeffer** who was appointed executive director.

Welcome to **Officer Jon Tatro**, Paso Robles Police Department, who was recently named director of Paso Robles PAL.

Chowchilla PAL Boxing – Home of Future Champions

By *Victoria A. Emmons*

Sgt. Jim Wilde, director of Chowchilla Police Activities League (PAL), doesn't mind accepting second-hand goods. The 13' x 13' boxing ring that dominates his PAL's new 1,700-square-foot center on North Third Street in Chowchilla was a gift from Bakersfield PAL, one way that PALs are helping PALs across California.

About 100 youth have participated in Chowchilla's boxing program since its launch in April 2004. Thanks to Rollo Larson, owner of the building where the new center is housed, and many other donors, boxing has become a popular sport for both girls and boys in Chowchilla.

"We tried to start the program three years ago," says Wilde. "But we couldn't find a coach. Then Joanne at Parks and Recreation found a guy who wanted to coach, so we started looking for a place."

Two years after recruiting volunteer coach Sam Checa, Wilde finally secured a location with Larson's donation of the use of his building. At last, Wilde had everything in place. The 6'3" Checa, a correctional officer with Atwater Federal Prison System, immigrated from Mexico in 1983 and, a year later, won the Golden Glove Award. So Wilde knew he had a winning combination and his dream was slowly becoming a reality.

"I hope we can keep this place," says Wilde. "Rollo has been awesome to us!"

The Chowchilla center is open 5 to 7 pm three days a week for kids ages 8-18 and the bulletin board is filled with hope and opportunity for the young athletes. Above the board is a sign reading "Chowchilla PAL Boxing – Home of Future Champions."

"Some of these kids think they're going to come in here and be Muhammad Ali in a few days," says Wilde, who explains that the program includes warm-up stretches, exercise, jump ropes, and timed rotation on speed bags, heavy bags and rest periods. "Those that are dedicated keep busy. The girls are a lot more technical and better boxers."

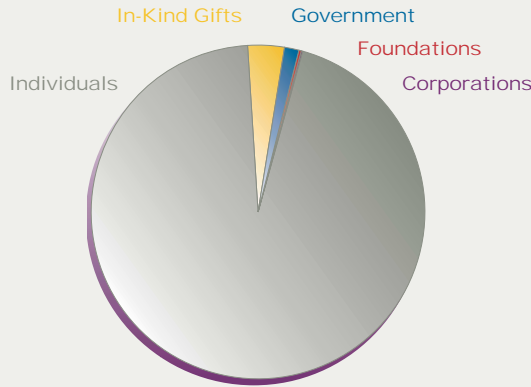
"Two kids are already ready to compete without getting hurt," Wilde says proudly. □



Nick Stockton awaits the sound of the bell. Photo courtesy of Chowchilla News.

Honor Roll of Donors

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Source of Gifts FY04

Cash contributions:

Government	1.4%	\$108,000
Foundations	< 1%	\$18,500
Corporations	< 1%	\$10,601
Individuals	94.7%	\$7,330,393
In-Kind Gifts	3.6%	\$274,431

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- California PAL Magazine
- Education & Training
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How We Support Our PAL Kids

- ATV Program
- Basketball Tournament
- Beach Play Day
- Boxing Tournament
- Camporee
- Florida Youth Leadership Conference
- Golf Tournament
- Life After High School Conference
- Local PAL Daily Activities & Events
- Martial Arts Tournament
- Sacramento Experience
- Snow Play Day
- Soccer Tournament
- Softball Tournament
- Theme Park Days
- Youth Directors Council Leadership Training
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Many PAL programs offer basketball for boys and girls. More than 600 PAL youth participate each year in the annual California PAL regional Basketball tournaments.

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Larissa Villereal, 13, of Los Banos PAL, glides in her kayak on the lake at San Luis Reservoir during Northern California Camporee.

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Honor Roll of Donors continued from page 16.



PAL off-road vehicles programs teach youth how to have fun safely.

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Our appreciation to the thousands of PAL Boosters too numerous to list.

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Continued on next page.

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San Jose PAL Challenger League
Special Kids Fund

PAL Hockey Programs
LA Kings
San Jose Sharks

All gifts listed in this Honor Roll were received between July 1, 2003 and June 30, 2004. Every effort has been made to ensure accuracy of the information listed. We apologize for any inadvertent omissions or errors and ask that you notify us of any corrections by contacting:

Kelly Peeples
Development Assistant
California PAL
2000 East 14th Street
San Leandro, CA 94577
Phone: (510) 544-4315
Email: kpeeples@calpal.org



A little street hockey kept kids busy at the annual California PAL Beach Play Day July 27-28 in Huntington Beach.

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Court TV
Culligan Soft Water Service
Darling International
Davey Tree



California PAL's boxing tournament was held at Oxnard, California August 5-8.

Gifts Restricted to Programs

Junior Giants
Giants Community Fund

PAL Holiday Fund
Jack and Victoria Emmons

Building your PAL

Raising Capital: Essential elements for program success

By Jeanne Schmelzer, CFRE

In the past five years, an increasing number of nonprofits -- including Police Activities Leagues -- have made the decision to move forward with capital campaigns to fund their building plans. Generally, the desire and the need of the organization is the driving force behind this decision to embark on a major fundraising drive. Many of these nonprofits are unaware of what is required to undertake a capital campaign, much less understand what it means to the organization if they are unsuccessful. Many lack the knowledge and resources to develop the "roadmap" to lead to the completion of the campaign within an acceptable time frame.

What makes an organization ready and what are the steps to be taken to move forward?

There are **three key elements** to a successful capital campaign. **The first element** deals with the needs of the organization. The case statement for the campaign should be both urgent and

compelling showing the prospective donor that his support will make a difference for the organization. The case should answer the question, "What will happen if we don't succeed?" **The second element** is a sufficient field of donors who are willing to support the organization; the donor list must expand beyond the board and the inner family to have the required donors to support the goal. **The third element** is the quality of available leadership to help with the campaign. There must be an expanded leadership base that believes in the mission of the organization and is committed to help recruit

volunteers and ask others to make gifts.

Each one of these factors is not usually strong enough to carry the campaign to a successful completion. The case must be strong and worthy of support, the volunteers and donors must be available to carry

the campaign forward. All of these elements are usually identified in the strategic plan of the organization. Goals and objectives have been established and there is a timeline for implementation.

Critical questions to ask to determine the readiness of your PAL for a capital campaign:

- Is the board committed to the organization and prepared to lead the way in both recruitment of volunteers and solicitation of major gifts?
- Have you conducted a feasibility study by a professional outside consultant?
- Are you prepared to listen to the results of the study and act on the recommendations no matter what they are?
- If the study results suggest moving forward with a campaign, did it include an organizational structure, timeline, job descriptions and campaign activities?



- Are the staff, board and volunteers willing to make the campaign a priority for the organization?

Organizations that can answer these questions with an affirming YES are headed down the path of an exciting and successful capital campaign.

Jeanne Schmelzer, CFRE, is senior vice president and regional director with Netzel Associates, Inc., a management and consulting firm serving the Western United States that specializes in work with not-for-profit organizations and institutions. For more information, visit www.netzelinc.com.

PAL Highlights

Kids Serving Our Local Communities

BAKERSFIELD PAL

Teens compete for Idol Crown

The second annual “Steps to Success” event held in Bakersfield October 16 featured teens competing for the local title of Teen Idol. According to Ron Exley, one of the event judges, the competition was tough. In addition, youth heard former All-American collegiate football player and ex-police officer Ken Johnson as keynote speaker. Johnson shared his experiences growing up in inner-city Dallas, Texas. Today he is a Protestant chaplain for the Indianapolis Colts and travels the country speaking to youth. *–Sgt. Joe Grubbs*

BERKELEY BOOSTERS PAL

Turkey Riders bike to support PAL

Thirty off-duty employees from the City of Berkeley Police Department, UC Berkeley Police Department, and other local police departments completed a three-day, 216-mile bicycle trek September 8-10 from Berkeley to South Lake Tahoe to raise money for the Berkeley Boosters PAL Holiday Food Basket Program. Each year since 1984, just before Thanksgiving and Christmas, the Berkeley Police Department, the Berkeley Boosters PAL, Berkeley Rotary, West Berkeley Lions, First Presbyterian Church, City of Berkeley elected officials and employees, and community members gather to assemble food baskets that contain a turkey donated by Safeway and other food items that make a complete holiday meal. The meals are then delivered by uniformed officers to needy Berkeley families.

–David W. Manson, Jr., executive director

BLYTHE PAL

Learning to Be Safer

Thanks to the local media and a handful of dedicated law enforcement officers, kids in Blythe are learning to be safer. Blythe PAL sponsored RadKIDS, a five-week personal empowerment and safety education program, during the summer months and graduated six youth. The class, which targets youth ages 5-10, is taught by Sgt. Jeff Wade, officers Troy Fabanish and Ed Cavazos, and forensic technician Valerie Hudson of the Blythe Police Department. The class focuses on safety techniques at home, at school and in public places, as well as fire safety and defensive



Blythe PAL RADKids program instructor teaches safety techniques to kids ages 5-10.

tactics to resist aggression. Many local parents learned about the class thanks to a

story in the *Palo Verde Valley Times*, and demand is high to register. “The parents were calling constantly to get in the class,” says Hudson, co-executive director of Blythe PAL. “We’re happy there is so much interest.” *–Valerie Hudson, co-executive director*

CHOWCHILLA PAL

Images Program teaches girls self-confidence

Girls from Chowchilla PAL are learning to build self-confidence and improve self-image through a program called Images. One of the goals of the Images Program is to teach young girls ages 12-18 that in today’s world women can be anything they want to be. Women from all walks of life are weekly speakers at the program. Gwendolyn Mitchell, former warden of Central California Women’s Facility, impressed the girls with her story, as did Andrea Hayes, owner of Salon Techniques, who explained how she became a business owner. The girls have learned self-defense, had lessons on fashion, learned make-up techniques and are preparing for a fashion show. The program also offers field trips to see plays and visit businesses. At Salon Techniques, staff taught the girls hair and grooming tips. The Images Program is funded by Chowchilla PAL and through a donation from the Long Termers Organization at Valley State Prison for Women.

–Sgt. Jim Wilde, director

Continued on next page.



Girls from Chowchilla PAL Images Program visited Salon Techniques to learn about hair care and hair style. Photo courtesy of Chowchilla News.

COLTON PAL

PAL Teaches Parents

Colton parents are turning the tables and becoming students, thanks to a program sponsored by Colton PAL. "Parent Project," a 10-week course designed to teach parents how to have positive relationships with their children has been a success in that community. The evening courses cover topics such as respect, love, child psychology and parental roles of communication. Instructors include various professionals within the child care and law enforcement fields who are committed to equipping parents with tools to change dysfunctional relationships with their kids into healthy ones. "Parent Project" is a program administered nationwide and has been recognized by the American Bar Association as the strongest parent involvement program for adjudicated youth in the nation. *-Officer Ernie Mireles*

FLORIDA STATE PAL

Eleven to attend Florida Youth Conference

Eleven California youth were selected to attend the Florida State PAL Youth Leadership Conference January 6-13, 2005 in Orlando, FL. Students had to have a minimum 2.5 GPA, been active in PAL for at least a year and be recommended by their PAL director and others. Participants include: Christina Arakelian, Turlock; Mahealani Barr, Santa Monica; Brandon Bettencourt, Hemet; Evelyn Chavez, LAPD Hollenbeck; Jessica Garcia, Blythe; Nalui Garcia, Berkeley Boosters; Canon Jones, Berkeley Boosters; Jessica McDaniels, Hemet; Jennifer Pacheco, Santa Monica; Gilbert Salcedo, Fresno; and Erlinda Tomas, LAPD Hollenbeck.

GIANTS COMMUNITY FUND

Junior Giants Scholars announced

Congratulations to three PAL members who were awarded Junior Giants Scholarships for 2004, including



Frances Griffith of Los Banos; John Michael Stejen of Paso Robles; Adriana Torres and James Dean Warner, both of Ukiah.

A 6-year-old T-ball player gets a unique view of SBC Park, home of the San Francisco Giants. The lucky child, who asked for the umpires' autographs, threw out the first ball at a September 19 game that PAL kids from 17 chapters attended to highlight the Junior Giants program.

GLENDALE PAL

PAL Returns Better and Stronger

Although the renovation of Roosevelt Middle School placed a temporary hold on Glendale PAL programs, the PAL was revived just in time for the 2004 school year. In addition to offering boxing and weight training, Glendale PAL has now been expanded to offer activities such as track, basketball, football, soccer, softball and a female equestrian team. The PAL programs offered at the newly-renovated school site are bringing new life to the PAL and Roosevelt Middle School. *-Officer Renae Kerner, director*

LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S YAL

Sheriff's Youth Foundation Honors Kids

Eleven Youth Activities League (YAL) participants received the Leroy D. Baca Youth Achievement Award during the Salute to Youth 2004 Benefit Dinner and Auction held June 17 at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills. Students honored included: Adrian Hernandez of Century, Daniel Lee of Walnut, Elisiah Raye Cummins of Palmdale, Judith Huerth of Lennox, Mario Garcia of Temple, Matthew Francis of San Dimas, Melesio Arias of Compton, Ricardo Medrano of Santa Clarita, Scott Renee Rosales of Industry, Selene Perales of Norwalk, and Veronica Marquez of East Los Angeles. The Foundation also recognized Pete Carroll, head football coach for University of Southern California, and Olympic Gold Medalist Gail Divers for their contributions to the youth of Los Angeles County. Actor Jim Belushi and the Sacred Hearts Band provided entertainment for the event.

LAPD HOLLYWOOD PAL

Captain Mike Downing Honored

Hollywood PAL honored its own leadership September 9 in true Hollywood fashion. Held at the Henry Fonda Theatre, the PAL Benefit recognized LAPD Hollywood Division Captain Mike Downing for his exemplary leadership, and honored outstanding PAL participants and volunteers. Emcee and Hollywood

"Hundreds of children benefit from the program each year and, without it, might have no other place to turn."

CEO of Hollywood Software and President of the Hollywood PAL Board
David Gajda

Continued on next page.

resident Kent McCord of the popular 1960's "Adam 12" television show kept the program moving, and presentations were made by Asst. Chief of Police Jim McDonnell, actor Henry Winkler, and Hollywood City Council members Tom LaBonge and Eric Garcetti, among others. The event featured silent and live auctions, along with food and beverages from Hollywood's top restaurants. The Benefit raised funds to support Hollywood PAL programs.

"Hollywood PAL is an integral part of the Hollywood community," said President of the Hollywood PAL Board David Gajda, who is CEO of Hollywood Software. "Hundreds of children benefit from the program each year and, without it, might have no other place to turn."

MODESTO PAL

Baseball Team Participates in League

The Modesto PAL baseball team participated for the first time in a Rainbow Fields Baseball League in June 2004. This incredible opportunity for twelve students was funded mainly by concession sales at Modesto PAL sporting events. In addition, The University of the Pacific in Stockton generously donated brand new cleats for the entire team, as well as bats and gloves. The team's training was strengthened by two baseball clinics, one sponsored by the City of Modesto Parks and Recreation division hosted by the Modesto A's and another sponsored by The University of the Pacific.

—Officer Sean Dodge

NATIONAL PAL

NFL Football Grant benefits California PALs

California PAL would like to congratulate the following PAL chapters on receiving the National PAL NFL Football Grant for 2004: Apple Valley, Bakersfield, Calexico, Colton, Fresno, Inglewood, LA Schools, Long Beach, Monterey County, Redwood City, Richmond, Sanger, and Santa Barbara. —Ron Exley, director of membership & government affairs

REDWOOD CITY PAL

Kids learn baseball Japanese style

Redwood City PAL was selected from a random drawing of PAL applicants to attend the annual World Children's Baseball Fair (WCBF) held July 29-August 6, 2004, in Hyogo, Japan. Kids ages 10-11 representing 20

countries from around the world spent one week learning about baseball and each other's cultures. Expenses for the trip were underwritten by WCBF, including airfare, accommodations, meals, local transportation, equipment, uniforms and recreational activities. Kids received baseball uniforms, bats, gloves and bags. Baseball great Hank Aaron along with Japan's home run king sponsored the event to promote cultural understanding and baseball.



(Top) Colin Greene (3rd from left) of Redwood City PAL thanks the Japanese delegation and the Festival Committee for inviting PAL youth to the World Children's Baseball Fair in Hyogo, Japan.

(Right) GeenaMarie Bonilla (center) and Alex Barnes (right) of Redwood City PAL learn about the culture and language of Japanese kids their own age while on a boat tour to the Sumoto City Festival.



SAN CARLOS PAL

\$2,500 in grants awarded to kids

Not to leave any child behind, San Carlos PAL will award up to \$2,500 per year in grants to help its young members lead a fuller life. The PAL established a grant fund in 2004 for PAL members who need additional monies to participate in activities that contribute to the growth of a healthy child or young adult. The youth must be enrolled in school and demonstrate financial hardship. The funding for the grants comes from generous private donors. The funds, which cannot exceed \$200 per applicant, are available year-round and may be used for sports or non-athletic activity, school or city extracurricular activity or other reason deemed appropriate by the board of directors.

—Natashia Gomez

Continued on next page.

SAN MATEO PAL

Judo Team Successful at Nationals

San Mateo PAL Judo Club returned from the U.S. National Judo Competition in Honolulu, Hawaii, July 3-4 sporting lots of medals. Coached by PAL Director Mike Buckle, the nine-member team included: James Fu, Brian Suruki, Anna Chung, Cathy Bolanos, fifth-place finishers Sylvia Leung and Akaya Chin, silver medalist Wing Luk and gold medalists Alex Chung and Tessa Richards. According to Buckle, Luk faced competitors training for the 2008 Olympic Team. The San Mateo Club was also victorious at the State Championships in May.

SANTA MONICA PAL

Kids Bond at YDC Retreat

Santa Monica PAL's annual YDC retreat took place June 25 at Hungry Valley. Everyone liked the camping trip, even though there was no electricity. It was like a game helping each other with flashlights and candles. Even cooking was hard because the people in the kitchen could not see anything. There were a lot of

activities, including water balloon fights, ice breakers, bonding games and chubby bunny. At our first meeting in the cabin, we reviewed our By-Laws, which provided a great opportunity for everyone to get to know the new members. Had we had electricity, people would have probably stayed in their cabins and watched TV instead of looking at the stars. So it was a great bonding trip. *-Mahealani Barr, YDC Reporter*

STANISLAUS COUNTY PAL

"Lights On" Celebration in its 4th Year

Partnering with Stanislaus County Office of Education, Modesto City Schools and City of Modesto, Stanislaus County PAL celebrated the 4th annual Lights On event October 14-15. This year's celebration was expanded to two days given the expanded number of programs. The event began for the kids in mid-afternoon on the first day and was followed by a rally at 5:30 pm at John's Incredible Pizza in Modesto. The second day's activities took place in downtown Modesto at a street fair. Nearly 1,000 children participated in the event. *-Alfredo Guerra, Executive Director*

□

Greek theme enlivens PAL boxing tourney



This young boxer from Vallejo PAL strikes an enthusiastic pose after his match.

The young "Athenians" dressed in togas and selling programs surely looked the part of ancient Olympians, in keeping with the theme of the 2004 California PAL Boxing Tournament in Oxnard, CA, August 6-8.

Eighty-four young boxers from California and Nevada participated in the event which was hosted by Oxnard PAL. The tournament followed USA Boxing rules, leaving it

open to boxers from any organization. Fifteen PAL chapters attended, including: Apple Valley, Bakersfield, Brawley, Calipatria, Century YAL, Colton, El Centro, Lennox SAL, Lompoc, Oakland, Oxnard, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Vallejo, and Vacaville. The event

experienced a 20 percent increase in participation from the previous year with boys and girls ages 9-18 competing within their weight classes. Individual winners received Championship Belts and team trophies were also awarded.

Special thanks to Terrel Harrison, executive director of Oxnard PAL, Ken Klopman, co-director of Oxnard PAL, the Oxnard PAL youth, staff and volunteers,



The sport of boxing is ever more popular with girls. These young competitors befriend one another after the match.

as well as the many participants, attendees, sponsors and donors who supported the event. □

California PAL Membership by Region

To locate a PAL in your community, call us at (510) 544-4300 or visit www.calpal.org.

Northern California

Etna PAL
 Fort Bragg PAL
 Glenn County PAL
 Jackson PAL
 Lake County SAL
 Lincoln PAL
 Mendocino County SAL
 Roseville PAL
 Susanville PAL
 Tehama County PAL
 Weed PAL

Livermore PAL
 Milpitas PAL
 Napa SAL
 Newark PAL
 Oakland PAL
 Redwood City PAL
 Richmond PAL
 San Carlos PAL
 San Jose PAL
 San Mateo PAL
 Union City PAL
 Vacaville PAL
 Vallejo PAL

Kings County SAL
 Los Banos PAL
 Madera PAL
 Modesto PAL
 Porterville PAL
 Sanger PAL
 Stanislaus County PAL
 Stockton PAL
 Tulare County
 Sheriff's PAL
 Turlock PAL
 Visalia PAL

Santa Cruz Co. SAL
 Santa Maria PAL
 Seaside PAL
 Ventura PAL
 Watsonville PAL

LAPD Pacific PAL
 LAPD Rampart PAL
 LAPD Southwest PAL
 LAPD West Valley PAL
 LA Schools PAL
 Lennox SAL
 Long Beach PAL
 Montebello PAL
 Norwalk YAL
 Palmdale YAL
 Pasadena PAL
 Rialto PAL
 San Dimas YAL
 Santa Clarita YAL
 Santa Monica PAL
 State Parks PAL
 Temple YAL
 Walnut YAL

Hemet SAL
 Mt. San Jacinto
 Community College PAL
 Palm Desert PAL
 Palm Springs PAL
 San Jacinto PAL
 Stallion Springs PAL
 Temecula PAL

SF Bay Area

Alameda County Deputy
 Sheriff's Activities
 League (SAL)*
 Albany PAL
 Benicia PAL
 Berkeley Boosters PAL
 Brentwood PAL
 Concord PAL
 East Palo Alto PAL
 Foster City PAL

Central Valley

Atwater PAL
 Bakersfield PAL
 Chowchilla PAL
 Clovis PAL
 Corcoran PAL
 Dos Palos PAL
 Firebaugh PAL
 Fresno PAL
 Gustine PAL

Central Coast

Lompoc PAL
 Monterey Bay PAL
 Monterey County PAL
 Ojai Valley PAL
 Oxnard PAL
 Paso Robles PAL
 Salinas PAL
 Santa Barbara PAL
 Santa Barbara
 County SAL

Southern California

Anaheim PAL
 Buena Park PAL
 Century YAL
 Colton PAL
 Compton YAL
 Corona PAL
 East Los Angeles YAL
 Glendale PAL
 Huntington Park PAL
 Industry YAL
 Inglewood PAL
 LAPD 77th Division PAL
 LAPD Central PAL
 LAPD Devonshire PAL
 LAPD Hollenbeck PAL
 LAPD Hollywood PAL
 LAPD Newton PAL

Imperial Valley
 Blythe PAL
 Brawley PAL
 Calexico PAL
 Calipatria PAL
 El Centro PAL
 Imperial PAL
 Imperial County SAL
 Westmorland PAL

Desert
 Apple Valley PAL
 Barstow PAL
 Desert Hot Springs PAL
 Hemet PAL

Imperial Valley

**New Chapters*

Growing PALs continued from page 7.

With property donated by Mechanics Bank and seed money received through a grant from the California Youth Authority, Richmond PAL is constructing a 13,000-square-foot gymnasium to connect with its current building. The new indoor space combined with additional outdoor property increases the PAL's usable space from 5,000 square feet to 21,000 square feet. According to Corporal Larry Lewis, executive director of Richmond PAL, fundraising is now in process for the next stage of the building which he hopes will open by summer 2005.

"During the summer, we see our daily program attendance jump from 100-200 kids to 200-300 kids," says Lewis. "Most of these summer kids, who come from all over the state and the country, are here visiting grandparents. We have a special membership status just for them."

Adding the new gymnasium will help serve the 4,000 to 5,000 primarily African-American and Hispanic youth that participate in programs like basketball, volleyball, badminton, indoor training for football and basketball, bicycle repair, boxing and martial arts.

Through a combination of Community Block Grants of \$108,000 from the City of Bakersfield and \$13,773 from Kern County, Bakersfield PAL opened this fall two new classrooms and an office within a portable building built by JTS Modular, Inc. According to Officer Mason Woessner, the new facilities add 1,430 square feet of space to support PAL programs such as reading, computer training and karate.

"An accordion wall between the classrooms easily changes it into one big classroom," says Woessner. "All learning center activities will be held in this room. At times the karate program will use the space as one big room, bringing mats to practice on."

Bakersfield PAL serves 2,500 students per year, averaging 200 kids per day during the school year and increasing to 300 during the summer. The PAL program is located in the lower east side of town in a low-income area; however, the youth come from all over Bakersfield to participate, says Woessner, making the population served highly diverse.

Continued on next page.

Finding new hope in old spaces

Finding a new building or field doesn't always mean having to launch a capital campaign. Sometimes recycling old space presents opportunities to PALs for expansion of their programs.

Oakland PAL's grand re-opening of the Verdese Carter Youth Center in February 2004 marked a momentous occasion for its community. Thanks to an endorsement from Oakland Councilman Laurence E. Reid, who has supported PAL's mission for over 18 years and encouraged others to join him, Oakland PAL was able to secure a lease with the City of Oakland Parks and Recreation Department to reopen the Center. Donations of furnishings, equipment, books, paint and labor helped the PAL outfit its new home. The PAL just opened a new Reading Corner at the Center with the help of many donors. According to Officer Margaret Dixon, Oakland PAL director and a police officer for 25 years, the Center helped breathe new life into a program that manages to serve hundreds of needy children, despite its shoestring budget.

A public housing facility serves as the new 5,200-square-foot home for Los Angeles Police Department's Rampart PAL. The PAL board acquired the use of the building's basement through negotiation of a special lease. The property, formerly a hotel before it became subsidized housing for lower income families, is shared with a charter school and another nonprofit that provides dance programs. After some renovation to the basement, the PAL program opened last summer where they offer Kung Fu programs, weight training and boxing. Children also have access to various facilities within the housing development, including a swimming pool, tennis and basketball courts.

"The housing facility is like its own little community," says Officer Larry Covington, interim executive director of LAPD Rampart PAL. "As of now, 45 kids are being served, but that number is steadily increasing. It is expected to grow to 300 by spring of 2005. The majority (60%) of children attending are residents of the housing facility." Covington describes his PAL as a "melting pot" serving Russian, Hispanic, African-American and Asian kids.

Through innovative collaborations with other organizations, four-year-old Santa Barbara PAL found space for its offices and programs, according to PAL Director Sandra Rodriguez. Gaining free access to 5,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor space two

years ago, including a city gymnasium was not easy. Rodriguez says the PAL initially shared program space with a local Boys and Girls Club, where they still retain offices. Thanks to the City of Santa Barbara, the gym space was made available at no charge to PAL. The gym is used for after-school volleyball and basketball programs. Other programs offered elsewhere include tutoring, weight training, boxing, wrestling, self-defense, digital editing, and hip-hop.

"Last year, we served 1,600 kids," says Rodriguez. "Kids come from everywhere and are usually referred to us through one of our many collaborative efforts."

In addition to the Boys and Girls Club, Santa Barbara PAL works with the YMCA, Fighting Back, the school districts, the city, the zoo, Healthy Start, and probation and drug court programs. The PAL serves a diverse group of boys and girls, with the majority of Hispanic origin, says Rodriguez.

Senior Deputy Eddie Pond knew that kids in his community needed a place to call their own. The 38-year-old executive director of Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Athletics League (SAL) went in search for such a place and found Dr. Virgil Healings, owner of the local mall. After making a presentation about the program, Pond says that a very generous Dr. Healings agreed to open a 2,300-square-foot section of the mall for use by SAL at no cost. The center officially opened in March 2003 and is available five days a week from 3 pm to 8 pm where kids are offered boxing, martial arts and youth leadership programs.

"Over 200 kids signed up for boxing," says Pond. "We see about 25 kids a day; overall 300 kids are served. They come from Salinas, Solvang and Buellton and we want to expand into Carpinteria and Goida. Recently we started a hip-hop program at the Veteran's Hall in Solvang."

Pond says the youth they serve represent a diversity of ethnic and economic origin, including "affluent kids, lower income kids, middle income, kids on probation, and kids from the Indian community."

Each year, Pond says he makes a new presentation to his benefactor to update him on the effectiveness of the SAL program. With donors like Dr. Healings and all the others who support these programs, kids' lives are being changed for the better every day. □

-- Annabelle Valerio contributed to this story.



Donated comic books help PAL kids learn to read

Jeremy Radisich of Los Angeles poses amidst his life-long collection of 6,000 comic books. Radisich donated his collection to California PAL where his comic books are now being enjoyed by hundreds of kids as part of the local PAL Reading Clubs.

Next Issue:

- Kids that Care
- Hoops Tourney
- Florida Youth Conference
- Leading PAL

Calendar of Events 2005

January 6 – 13	Florida State PAL Youth Leadership Conference, Orlando, Florida
January 18 – 21	PAL Regional Meetings
January 29	Snow Play Day, Southern California, Alpine Slides at Big Bear
February 18 – 21	Basketball Tournament, Southern California Region, Santa Monica
February 18 – 21	Basketball Tournament, Northern California Region, Richmond
March 5	Snow Play Day, Northern California, Leland Meadows
April 9 – 12	Sacramento Experience, Sacramento
April 12	California PAL Spring Business Meeting, Sacramento
April 16	Martial Arts Tournament, Clovis
May 13 – 15	Soccer Tournament, Fresno
June 1 – 4	National PAL Conference, Palm Springs, CA
June 24 – 26	Softball Tournament, Clovis
June 26 – July 1	Life After High School Conference, CSU Monterey Bay

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Volunteer and Sponsorship Opportunities

Interested in making a difference in the lives of the youth in your community? A wide variety of volunteer and sponsorship opportunities exist at every PAL throughout California. For more information on how you can become a PAL volunteer or sponsor, contact your local PAL chapter. If you need assistance locating the PAL chapter nearest you, visit our web site at www.calpal.org or call California PAL Headquarters at (510) 544-4300 or (800) 622-5725.



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