



Long Beach Day Nursery News

www.lbdn.org

Since 1912 • Published for the friends and staff of Long Beach Day Nursery • Fall 2009

Annual Meeting at East Branch

Once again, our East Branch was the site of the Annual Meeting and installation of our 2009-2010 board of directors. Jon Gotz took the reins as chairman of the board with Brian Russell, chair-elect; Julia Taboada, first vice chair; James Bunnell, second vice chair; Joan Alderson, recording secretary; and Melanie Werts, treasurer. Board members and guests alike welcomed three new board members and said goodbye to Carolyn Bixby who became an honorary board member after nine years of service on the board.

The new board members include Lisa Hopkins, a Naples optometrist; Carl Ann Wylie, owner of her own

marketing/public relations firm; and Bennet Tchaikovsky, CEO of Worldwide Officers, Inc.

A highlight of the evening was a check presentation by Rick DuRee of the Grand Prix Foundation. The donation represented part of the proceeds from the events produced by the Foundation during the Grand Prix week in April.

“We were very excited to have Rick join us at the event,” said Jon Gotz. “And, we were very grateful for the Grand Prix Foundation’s support.”

For the third year in a row, the event was open to donors and guests and held on the grounds of the East Branch. Hot and cold hors d’oeuvres, cheese and fruit platters and wine were all prepared and/or donated by members of the board.

“The East Branch is a lovely setting for the Annual Meeting,” said outgoing Board Chair Elaine Thompson. “I think it’s great having donors and guests join us. It feels more like a celebration – which it is as we get closer and closer and closer to our 100-year anniversary in 2012.



Top: Board member Linda Silver welcomes new board members Lisa Hopkins, Bennet Tchaikovsky and Carl Ann Wylie. Middle: Rick DuRee, president of Grand Prix Foundation of Long Beach, presents Elaine Thompson with donation from the foundation. Bottom: Elaine Thompson inducts Carolyn Bixby into the Honorary Board.



New board officers Brian Russell, Julia Taboada, James Bunnell, Melanie Werts, Joan Alderson and Jonathan Gotz.

Inside This Issue

Chair & ED's Message	2
Tea Time	3
Donor Recognition	4-5
Building Blocks	6
Stepping Stones	7
Picnic	8

Message from the Executive Director



Patrice Wong

Dear Friends,
By the time this is in print, the days will be getting shorter and the air will begin to have the crisp feel of fall. But as I write this, it is late summer, and my daughter and I are in the Central Coast, enjoying what has become an annual reunion tradi-

tion with family friends from San Diego to San Jose. As I sit here watching our children, I am struck by the realization that while they do not see each other more than once or twice a year, every summer it's as if no time has passed...they take up right where they left off the previous summer. With the youngest child at four years old and the oldest being eight, they have already shared a lifetime of summers together that has formed the basis of life-long relationships wherever their paths may eventually lead.

Children learn about relationships in early infancy. We know from research on brain development that emotional growth begins at birth with healthy bonding and the establishment of predictability and consistency of relationships. Children must start with a strong foundation of social and emotional skills that includes trust and independence before they can grow intellectually and develop the resiliency and maturity that they need to become healthy and productive adults.

Social and emotional skills are an important cornerstone of Long Beach Day Nursery's philosophy. Our program is relationship based, which provides for continuity, predictability and stability for all of our children. Practices such as primary care groups and continuity of care for our infants and toddlers, as well as having our preschool children stay in the same classroom until they leave for kindergarten, allow for the consistency that our children need to develop and deepen healthy relationships with not only their peers but their teachers as well.

In today's hectic electronic-centric world, I feel that the importance of healthy relationships and social interaction and their roles in shaping mature adults are too often overlooked or minimized. While web-based social networking may in fact bring people together, nothing beats the real thing. Healthy, loving and lasting relationships need to be nurtured in person, not through a computer.

Take a moment and turn off the television, the computer, the cell phone, and whatever other electronic device we've come to take for granted. Take a bike ride, throw a Frisbee, run through the sprinklers with your child. Share a meal with friends and loved ones. Step back and remember what social networking should really be about!

Sincerely,

Patrice Wong, Executive Director

Message from the Chair

Dearest Friends of Long Beach Day Nursery:

I have been bestowed an honor that will be tough to surpass. As chair of the board, I have been given the task of overseeing a group of dedicated individuals who have chosen to make a difference in the lives of children.

We are so very fortunate to have such a long history behind us, ready to complete our 97th year of service to the community. We have maintained our mission to *provide quality care and education to young children of working families*. But we cannot and could not continue to provide the services we do without the kindness and love of our community friends.

Many of you have been familiar with LBDN for a long time. Many of you have served on the board and committees and spent a great deal of time on behalf of the Nursery. But when was the last time you actually came by

for a visit? I urge you to call either of the two branches and set up a visit. And better yet, bring a friend. Bring someone who has not had the benefit of knowing all about LBDN. Let us show them the quality of our programs and the professionalism of our teachers and staff. For those of you who are Facebook users, come join us for constant updates and don't forget to invite your friends to join also.

I set a theme for the year of "Make New Friends, and Keep the Old." Help me to make this another great year in the life of the Long Beach Day Nursery – come for a visit . . . give generously!

All The Best

Jonathan D. "Jon" Gotz
Chair of the Board, 2009-2010





Fatima Hernandez, Alondra Delgado, Saul Lopez, Adrian Bernal, Christian Gonzalez, Anthony Soto, Leslie Galindo and Emily Barrera gather around as Janelle Valera picks the winning ticket for the Tea Time Treasures Non-Event opportunity drawing.

Tea Time Treasures Non-Event

Participants in this year's Tea Time Treasures Non-Event dressed up in their coziest clothes, heated water for a delicious cup of tea, and supported the little ones of Long Beach Day Nursery, all from the comfort of their own homes.

This first ever Non-Event, an increasingly popular trend in fund raising, allowed donors to make a contribution with the knowledge that an even greater percentage of their gift would go directly toward supporting the children of LBDN. Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we raised nearly \$20,000!

Congratulations to the winners of this year's Opportunity Drawing: Donita Van Horik and John Fielder. They won two roundtrip tickets on JetBlue Airways and a weekend getaway to San Francisco's Hotel Vitale, a boutique hotel that is part of Joie de Vivre Hospitality.

LBDN Exhibit at Rancho Los Alamitos

In March, Rancho Los Alamitos paid tribute to Long Beach Day Nursery's 97 years of dedicated quality early care and education and recognized Florence Bixby's founding of the Nursery. LBDN was privileged to have had a historical display during the Visions of Care – Voices of Childhood day, which was part of A Festival of Arts and Literature week.



Elaine Thompson enjoys LBDN exhibit at Rancho Los Alamitos.



Photo by Mark Bixby

Taste of the Coast on Belmont Pier

LBDN was one of the beneficiaries of the Taste of the Coast on August 2. The event was organized by Long Beach Kids Connection, founded by Donna Bennett who was co-chair with Theresa Bixby, of Children Today. Forty of some of Long Beach's finest eateries participated. The fun-filled day included a fire boat show, live music and dancing as well as lots of fun activities for the kids.

Thanks to everyone who participated!

Honorary Tea at East

The Honorary Tea was held May 5 in the lobby of the East Branch. The room was festively decorated by board member Melanie Werts. The sumptuous tea delights were prepared by board members Joan Alderson, Gayle Clock, Judy Hess, Deloris Mayuga, Julia Taboada, Linda Silver, Elaine Thompson and Melanie Werts. Jon Gotz and Greg Haeseler greeted guests upon arrival and Jannell Jones and Greg Haeseler did the dishes. Chair of the Board Elaine Thompson welcomed the guests and invited them to tour the classrooms after the tea. The honorary board is comprised of people who served on the board of directors for nine years. And even though the group was very familiar with the Nursery, everyone raved about seeing the children interacting with the teachers and having such a great time learning.



Camesha Taylor, teacher at East Branch, with little student Alysa Betancourt.

Looking on: Kathleen Costello-Pitts, Jan Faris, Pat Weber, Anne Johnson, Sheri Beebe

Long Beach Day Nursery - Gallery of Donors

Thank You to All of Our Wonderful Supporters! *Reflects gifts received October 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009.*

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(Continued on page 6)

Building Blocks: Leaving a Legacy to LBDN

Long Beach Day Nursery has received bequests from faithful supporters throughout its long history with each and every gift contributing to the Nursery's ongoing viability. Please join us in welcoming our newest Building Blocks members, long-time friends of the Nursery Beverly Culbertson, Barbara & Sheldon Gebb and Sandra & John Wells. Thank you so much for sharing our vision for better lives for the children of our community.



Jaylen Wilson and Miles Silvera

Photo: Igawa Design

Won't you help us reach our goal of 100 planned gifts by our 100th anniversary in 2012? We are almost half way there!

LBDN now on Facebook

Come join us on Facebook. Keep in touch with us so we can stay in touch with you.



Grace Cruz and Christian Sanchez

(Continued from page 5)

Up to \$99 (cont.)
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Linora Vicente
Marjorie Yann

If your name has been inadvertently omitted or misspelled, please contact us at (562) 591.0509, ext. 112. Thank you!

Make your donation on-line! Visit us at www.lbdn.org and click on "Support LBDN," then click on "Donate Now!"

We acknowledge and honor those who have made planned gifts - past, present and future - by including their names in **LBDN Building Blocks for the Future...**

H.G. "Hap" Appleton
Betty Bixby
Barbara Bixby Blackwell
Opal Boone
Jane Buel Bradley
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Stricklen
Donita Van Horik and
John Fielder
Sandy and John Wells
Melanie and David
Werts
Juanita B. Wissler
Patrice Wong
Daris Zinsmeyer

If you have already named LBDN to receive a planned gift, we do not need to know how much, only that you did. Please consider being one of our Building Blocks for the Future - one of our 100 by 2012.

Meet our 2009-2010 Stepping Stones to Success Scholarship Co-chairs Lorie and Paul Merrill

Lorie was born and raised in Long Beach. She graduated from Wilson High School and received a bachelor of arts degree from San Jose State University. She taught kindergarten in Palo Alto before returning to Long Beach in 1963. She is an honorary board member, having served on the LBDN board for nine years beginning in 1978.

Paul was born in San Marino and graduated from South Pasadena High School. He received his undergraduate degree and MBA from Stanford.

"Paul and I have been married for 54 years. We met when I was 14 years old and it was love at first sight," Lorie said. "We have four sons and six grandchildren."

Before her retirement in 1999, Lori was director of volunteers at Community Hospital of Long Beach. The clubs and organizations she has been involved with over the years are too numerous to mention and span the nonprofit landscape of Long Beach.

Paul was a securities broker for 47 years and retired in 2006. He has been very active in the sailing community currently with the Pacific Coast Sailing Foundation's annual golf tournament. The foundation administers the US Sailing Center, which provides sailing opportunities for the disabled, at-risk youth, high school and college students and Olympic training.

"One of my fondest memories of working at the Nursery was during the summer when the board members were asked to work at one of the three branches. We'd wash all the little toys, chairs, tables, bathrooms and sinks," Lorie said. "These were simple tasks, but allowed board members to not only get to know each other better, but have a real hands-on experience that gave us a feeling of accomplishment. Another memory that warms my heart is when Paul was Santa Claus. How delightful it was to see the eyes of the little ones sparkle, sometimes with tears in their eyes, when Santa came bounding into the room," she added.



Lorie and Paul Merrill

Counting Down to 100 Years 2008-09 Stepping Stones Campaign Reception



Nancy Smith, Mary Soth and Anne Johnson

Mary Soth, Building Blocks co-chair and LBDN director emeritus, along with Nancy Smith and Anne Johnson, honorary board members, are spending

countless hours going through old files and archived photos and documents to prepare for the 100th Anniversary celebration in 2012. The first task at hand is creating a 100-year history publication chronicling the rich past of Long Beach Day Nursery.

If you, a relative or someone you know ever served on the LBDN board of directors or attended the Nursery, please email as many details as possible to info@lbdn.org, including how to reach you. Thank you!



In November, the Stepping Stones to Success Scholarship campaign reception was held at the

home of Deloris and Sandy Mayuga. Shown above are Elaine Thompson, co-chairs John Fielder and Donita Van Horik and Patrice Wong.

When the campaign closed on June 30, 2009, \$127,470 had been raised. Everyone at Long Beach Day Nursery extends our thanks to our co-chairs, Donita and John, and all those who donated to the Stepping Stones campaign last year.

Board of Directors & Officers 2009-10:

Chair

Jonathan D. Gotz

1st Vice Chair

Julia Taboada

2nd Vice Chair

James Bunnell

Recording Secretary

Joan Alderson

Treasurer

Melanie Werts

Chair Elect

Brian Russell

Board Members:

Barbara Bixby Blackwell

Gayle Clock

Salvador Farfan

Judy Hess

Lisa Hopkins

Jannell Jones

Deloris Mayuga

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Above:
Yui Liu.
Right:
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Accredited by the
National Association
for the Education of
Young Children



The mission of the Long Beach Day Nursery is to provide quality early care and education for young children of working parents.

Fun at the Annual Picnic at Heartwell Park

Families, friends and alumni of LBDN enjoyed a sunny day in Heartwell Park on Saturday, August 8th. The tight-knit group munched hot dogs cooked by the Long Beach Firefighters Local 372, chips, cookies and candy from U.S. Food Service and watermelon and then enjoyed a refreshing cup of lemonade. As any of the kids would tell you, though, the highlight of the picnic was when Ronald McDonald showed up to entertain the crowd with stories of his friends and their love of reading. Each child received books, collected from generous patrons of local Mc Donald's restaurants and distributed by Ronald McDonald, whose appearance was sponsored by the McDonald's Operators' Association of Southern California. Another special treat for the little ones was face painting provided by the Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles – Southwest Region and Long Beach Girl Scout Troop 1133.

Photo: Carlo Cruz



A member of the Long Beach Girl Scout Troop 1133 paints the face of Brook Phillips.

West Branch/Administrative Offices

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Long Beach, CA 90813
562.591.0509

East Branch

3965 Bellflower Boulevard
Long Beach, CA 90808
562.421.1488

Long Beach Day Nursery News

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Long Beach Day Nursery is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Early Child Educator by both policy and practice, and is in compliance with Federal labor laws that forbid discrimination.

SAVE THE DATE

Southern California Edison Presents
LBDN's 6th Annual Golf Open

Thursday, October 29, 2009

Navy Golf Course, Cypress

For more information, contact

Gregory Haeseler:

gregory.haeseler@gmail.com



Long Beach Day Nursery

1912-2012

Celebrating 100 Years

Fall 2009 Newsletter