

FOCUS on the FACTS

Friends of Children United Society Monthly Newsletter

Issue: July 2016



Editor: Yoe Kusumoto

2016 BOARD MEMBERS

President

Lorna Perez-Caster
landgcaster@aol.com
760-470-4666

Executive Vice Presidents

Fred Eckert
supmanx@aol.com
619-507-5688
Grace Lowenberg
gclowenberg@gmail.com
619-823-3838

1st Vice President, Fundraising

Dotty Turner
ddotyt@aol.com
619-575-5140

2nd Vice Presidents, Membership

Marsha Buckley Boyle
marshabboyle@gmail.com
619-862-3046
Lynn Walsh
licknden@gmail.com
619-424-6195

3rd Vice Presidents, Projects

Lisa Alves
surfcity@reagan.com
908-872-2247
Lesley Angelino
angels@san.rr.com
619-417-9362

Recording Secretary

Cheryl Navalesi
cnavalesi@century21award.com
619-823-8804

Corresponding Secretary

Bonnie Van Vugt
bonnelynn@aol.com
619-857-6765

Treasurer

Helen Kupka
kupka.helen@gmail.com
650-799-0262

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear FOCUS Members,

I hope you are all enjoying your summer. Summers are a very busy time for most of our members, with a lot of traveling, which is why we are not holding any meetings or events during this time. However, your FOCUS Board is still diligently working on future events and projects .

Again this year we received strong support from our General Membership for our Backpack Project (thank you to all who voted!), which Lisa Alves and Lesley Angelino have been organizing. Prior to any of the backpacks being assembled, a lot of time must be devoted to gathering lists from various agencies of needed school supplies and then purchasing all of the supplies and backpacks. This year we'll be providing 350 backpacks to students from grades K through 12, so as you can imagine, this involves a lot of purchasing. Thank you Lisa and Lesley for all of your hard work!

Plans are underway for our next event, which will be our Annual Membership Reception in September. This is always a fun gathering that usually leads to an increase in our membership. So it's not too early to start thinking about friends that you'd like to invite who could become future members. Please see the 'Save The Date' notice further down in your newsletter.

Although it seems early to be thinking about this, plans are also underway for our Holiday Boutique in November. Alexandra Polles attended the June Board meeting to share her ideas and to provide the status on vendors who will be participating. We'll be needing volunteers for this event, so please consider helping out if you can.

Until next month . . .

Lorna Perez-Caster

TREASURY

HELEN KUPKA and DAVE FLECK

Treasurer's Report for JUNE 2016

Starting Balance	\$103,592.65
Deposits	\$670
General Expenses	\$504.93
Project Expenses	\$3,960.4
Ending Balance	\$99,797.32
Encumbered funds	\$36,821.73
Available funds	\$62,975.59

Income

Membership Dues	\$
Donations	\$
Monthly Meeting	\$0
Monthly Raffle	\$0

May Fundraiser Event

Come Together Beatles Tribute Concert
(about \$500 +/- to be accounted)

Auction Live	\$8,195.00
Auction Silent	\$9,470.00
Bar	\$3,400.00
Raffle	\$2,460.00
Tickets	\$22,600.00
Underwriting	\$43,250.00
Total	\$87,375.00
Expenses	\$21,408.15
Income	\$67,966.85

Expenses

Monthly Meeting	\$0
General Expenses	\$106.65
Projects	\$3960.40

Net Revenue **-\$3,795.33**

Approved project expenses for 2016	\$70,250.00
Project expenses paid thru May, 2016	\$33,428.27

SAVE THE DATE

Don't forget to
mark your calendars for the
FOCUS Membership Reception

on

September 22, 2016!

Details will be provided
in a future newsletter.

PROJECTS

LISA ALVES and LESLEY ANGELINO

THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS WERE APPROVED IN JUNE

TOTAL FOR ALL PROJECTS - \$9,600

YMCA CAMP SURF. \$1400 Shopper Edie Greenberg

www.Camp.YMCA.org

YMCA Camp Surf in Imperial Beach sends 280 underprivileged teens on a camping trip to San Onofre State Park each summer. They learn how to put up tents, clean, cook and plan for a camping experience. They need headlamps, waterproof games, changing tents, lanterns, helmets, camping chairs and coolers. YMCA camps are dedicated to improving the quality of human life and helping children realize their potential. FOCUS has utilized YMCA Camp Surf location to host our annual fundraiser in 2015 and 2016.

JUVENILE COURT BOOK CLUB, INC. \$2700. Shopper: Bonnie Van Vugt

www.juvenilecourtbookclub.com

JCBC has provided book club meetings for thousands of incarcerated youth throughout San Diego County. Volunteers serve approximately 150 teens in custody each month with book club sessions. They are asking for 30 copies of 11 books and 1 DVD. This will provide books for several months at Juvenile Hall.

BACKPACK PROGRAM \$5500. Multiple Volunteers Needed

Each year FOCUS provides backpacks containing school supplies to our projects and local school communities in need. Last year we supplied 10 agencies with 327 backpacks stuffed with school supplies. This is a FOCUS community event where we ask for many volunteers to help. This year we are recommending that we provide 350 school supply backpacks to agencies in need.

Your projects team is also researching buying the backpacks pre-stuffed; this would ensure their correct filling. The cost would be equivalent with discount negotiation.

<http://backpackgearinc.com>

THANK YOU FOCUS!

Hi, Suzanne!

I hope you are well. I want to let you know the stroller arrived. Our young mother will be so pleased when Katelyn, her social worker, takes it to her this Friday!

Once again, thank you Suzanne and FOCUS for helping our military families. We are grateful for all that you do to help support our young service members and their families!

Have a wonderful week!

Susan Curtis, MSW

Social Worker

SAN DIEGO ARMED SERVICES YMCA

3293 Santo Road, San Diego, CA 92124



Drew Dahlstedt, the CFO and COO of Varsity Team Inc. is sitting on one of the love seats purchased by shopper Clarice Perkins on behalf of FOCUS. This organization provides safe, clean housing for foster youth. Clarice met some of the other staff and a resident who were VERY appreciative of FOCUS' donation. When she first became acquainted with Varsity Team Inc. they had one house for

six teenage boys and now they have four homes—one of which is for girls. They have ambitious plans to expand and take in girls who have been sex trafficked. They also have plans to build a trade school because not all of their clients will go on to college and they know that welders, plumbers, etc. make good money. They are always in need of bedding—mattresses, sheets, and other items for the home.

SUNSHINE

BONNIE VAN VUGT

*We hope you are
feeling much better!*



Sue Connors, Heather Pettit and Bob Plumbley

Our deepest condolences go out to Marjorie Logan and her family. Jim was a wonderful friend and FOCUS member; he will be greatly missed. 🌹

MISCELLANEOUS

JUST PLAIN FUN...

Always wanting to help kids and the military, Jeri Barz took her arts and crafts to the Coronado Rotary's Annual Low Tide Ride and Stride so that the kids in the Kids Zone could make get well cards for wounded warriors. Jeri will see to it that the cards are delivered to a hospital, most likely the Veteran's Hospital. This is a wonderful community service that Jeri has provided many, many times at various locations. Thanks, Jeri, for all you do!

