



May 2006

H.I.S. House News

CHARITY'S CLOSET OPENS!

CHARITY'S CLOSET, a thrift shop to benefit H.I.S. House, is located at 134 No. Bradford Avenue in Placentia, just down the street from the Shelter.



Maggie Wilson and Cynthia Marshall await customers

By 9:15 a.m. on Wednesday, March 15, customers began gathering at the front door of CHARITY'S CLOSET in anticipation of the shop's 10 a.m. opening. What a wonderfully exciting and successful day it was! In the first month of business gross sales were a little over \$12,000.

The idea to explore the possibilities of opening such a shop took shape at a H.I.S. House Board meeting in November of 2004. In January of 2005 a committee began gathering information on the feasibility of H.I.S. House undertaking such an endeavor. Over the next several months, many other thrift stores were visited where the positives and negatives of being in this business were generously shared with the committee.

In February of this year, with the lease signed, renovations of the 134 N. Bradford site began. Many volunteers spent countless hours making the site a pleasant place to shop. The store is now open Tuesday-Thursday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and on Sunday from noon to 4 p.m. It is



Jane Seymour and Marlene Stewart help arrange the bargain items for sale.

closed on Mondays. Donations are accepted Monday to Saturday, 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the back door.

The shop features women's, men's, and children's gently-used clothing and accessories, such as shoes, purses, and hats, housewares and linens for every room of the home, small appliances, some unique pieces of furniture, seasonal items, and books and videos. New stock arrives daily!

CHARITY'S CLOSET is run entirely by volunteers and as of the end of April, sixty-one (61) people from the community have worked in the shop. There are many ways to be involved, not only working in the sales area or accepting donations in the back room, but there are even tasks that can be done from home. Some volunteers work one day, or a half day, every week, others work every other week. All are necessary for the successful running of such a major commitment. Please consider being a part of this mission by calling the shop at 714-993-HOUSE (4687) or by contacting Barbara Goff at 714-528-3561.

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Fashionable April Tea Event Benefited the Shelter in Style

The H.I.S. House "Sweet Charity" Tea was held on April 30 at Placentia Presbyterian Church. There were more than 175 ladies from the community attending, all dressed in their tea finery, many wearing lovely hats.

The prize for the most *Creative Hat* went to Ruth Rhynard whose hat was covered with fresh flowers and the *Historic Hat* was worn by Brianna Swendener (Mary Kay Hutchinson's granddaughter). The hat was worn by Brianna's great grandmother on her wedding day.

Teri Neibuhr welcomed the attendees and shared information

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Upcoming Events

Information Evening	May 15
Charity's Closet Opens	June 8, 9, 10
Black Tie Auction	Oct. 13
Election of new officers	Dec.

With Appreciation from the Director

The Red Cross Club of Esperanza High School hosted a St. Patrick's Day Party for all of the children. These students entertained the boys and girls with games and crafts and afterward parents and children enjoyed pizza and other goodies. The students, lead by Kimberly Wang, had as much fun as the H.I.S. House kids. ☆



Esperanza High School National Honor Society (above) has been a friend to H.I.S. House for several years. This year Easter came early as the students hosted a party which included dying eggs and an Easter Egg hunt. Thank you to Jennifer Choi who organized the group of students. ☆

Thank you, members of Temple Beth Shalom, for sharing your time and talents with the residents of H.I.S. House. April 9, members descended on the shelter and cooked lunch, grilled cheese sandwiches, and entertained the residents. Temple Beth also hosts a food drive in the fall and other activities throughout the year for our residents. ☆

Saturday, April 15, the Western State University College of Law Christian Legal Society provided 20 Easter baskets. This was the fourth year that the Legal Society came by with

baskets. Under the leadership of Courtney Blasi each basket was designed with age-appropriate goodies. Almost all of our 17 children were present to receive their gifts. Thank you to all of the students from Western State University Christian Legal Society who participated. ☆

For years volunteers from the Yorba Linda United Methodist Church have made a trip with a trunk load of bread, muffins, croissants, cookies, pies and cakes every Saturday morning. As one female resident told me, "I have gained 20 pounds since arriving at H.I.S. House." It is difficult to resist these treats. The residents are truly blessed to receive these baked goods.

Thank you to these tireless volunteers who never miss a Saturday. ☆



St. Joseph School Girl Scout Troop 292 (above) brought 36 boxes of cookies to our residents and toured the facility. Thank you for bringing all of those cookies! YUM! ☆



As part of their Lenten discipline Saturday, April 1, three volunteers Jan, Frank and Onalee (above) from Messiah Lutheran Church faux painted the large bathroom in our side house. It is such an improvement from the Swiss Coffee brand of "white." In a matter of three hours they transformed this bathroom into something you would see on HGTV. Thank you for beautifying H.I.S. House. The residents tell us that H.I.S. House does not "feel" like a shelter. ☆

Under the leadership of Pat Espinosa, Cub Scouts from St. Joseph's School stuffed plastic Easter eggs full of candy so that our kids could have an Easter egg hunt. Pat assured me that all of the boys wore plastic gloves! Then on Thursday, April 14 the scouts came by the shelter with festive Easter decorated buckets full of eggs. Marion Hetherington our Thursday afternoon volunteer took the boys on a tour of the shelter. Thanks to the Scouts and their parents for hosting this project. ☆

Nisha Talati e-mailed the Shelter's director about two months ago asking if she could do something for the children living at H.I.S. House. You see, Nisha is an eighth grade Cadet Girl Scout and wishes to earn her Silver

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*Please,
Save the Date —*

OCTOBER 13, 2006

**FALL WINE GALA
AND DINNER**

Due to popular demand we will once again have our fall wine tasting and auction. This year we intend to add a dinner in the East Room of the Richard Nixon Library.

Besides our great silent auction, we will have some spectacular live auction items that you can bid on. So save the date and we will see you then.

If you didn't receive an invitation last year and wish to receive one this year, please call Carolyn Holmes at 714/996-7418.

(Continued from page 1) **CLOSET OPENS --**



Carolyn Ladd models styles "off the rack" at Charity's Closet

A Grand Opening of CHARITY'S CLOSET will begin at 4 p.m. on Thursday, June 8, with a ceremonial ribbon cutting. Other celebration activities and specials will continue on Friday and Saturday, June 9 and 10. Be sure to mark your calendar now.

Coordinator for the event, Gae Wood, says, "Come join in the fun and help the Homeless." ☆

(Continued from page 2) **CADET SCOUT-**

Award. Requirements for earning this award are as follows: Three interest projects, 40 community service hours, and creating, planning and carrying out a community service project. Nisha enlisted the help of the community and collected funds and materials to equip travel bags for all 17 children at H.I.S. House. Each bag contained a book, toy, and of course, a box of Girl Scout cookies.

A big THANK YOU to Nisha for choosing H.I.S. House as the recipient of her project! ☆

VIEW FROM THE CORNER CHAIR

By Jeannine Ford



In the last newsletter, we introduced two ladies who joined the board this year. Now, I would like to present two gentlemen who have taken on responsibility for the Shelter.

Charlie Juster is a mathematics instructor at CSU Fullerton and has been a resident of Placentia for 30 years. He is married to Mary Lou and together they have 3 children and 3 grandchildren. He is serving as a member at large.

Rich Shumway has been a resident of Placentia since 1974. He is a graduate of CSU Fullerton, and recently retired as VP Quality of Edwards Lifesciences. Additionally, he had served over 35 years in the health care manufacturing industry.

Rich and his wife Jackie have two sons: Chris is married and living in Berkeley, and Brad is also married and living in San Diego. Rich and Jackie have long been supporters of H.I.S. House and are no strangers to this great mission program since he served on PPC session and stewardship committee when the property was originally purchased.

Both men look forward to providing support in their new capacity as members of the board.

On February 18, 2006, the

Placentia Police Officers' Association and the Placentia Police Management Association held their Placentia Police Annual Banquet at the Embassy Suites in the city of Brea.

Among those attending this event and sitting at the "H.I.S. House table" with me were Teri and Gary Niehbur, Carolyn Holmes, Scott and Robin Nelson, Betty Escobosa and her daughter Marcia.

It was a very enjoyable evening starting with a social hour, followed by a good dinner and the police award presentation given to the outstanding Placentia police officer and supervisor. The presentation was followed by a guest speaker.

The remainder of the evening included casino style action with services provided by Fantasy Casino, dancing to both the latest music and oldies selected by a live DJ, and a raffling of various prizes. Everyone had a wonderful time!!!

A portion of the proceeds from the raffle will be donated to H.I.S. House by the associations. A very special thank you is extended to the Placentia Police Officers' Association and the Placentia Police Management Association. ☆



Family-to-Family Program



Many thanks to all those that contributed to our *Family-to-Family* program during the first quarter of this year. Your contribution will help offset the shortfall in revenues that we anticipate in 2006 due primarily to the loss of two federal grants totaling about \$50,000. The HUD program is now concentrating its financial support on hardcore homeless programs.

People often want to donate to a specific need, and we do have these from time to time. However, our greatest challenge is to find funding to operate our facility and pay the professional staff to run the shelter on a day-to-day basis. As noted above, our funding constantly changes, so we are always looking for funding sources that will improve as well as sustain our mission to help the homeless.

The *Family-to-Family* program seeks help on a year round basis from our support community. We ask that our donors contribute at least once per year, but we encourage you to help as often as possible. In each newsletter there is a coupon for you to fill out and make a contribution, and we hope you will become a regular contributor to the cause of helping the homeless. Donations received since the last newsletter came from:

Amy Marshall
 Ralph and Rosemary Frid
 John and Ruth Ann Anderson
 Gary and Carrie Wicke
 Robert and Linda Wankle
 John and Cheryl Heller in memory of
 Jack and Mary Heller
 Audrie C. Clemont
 Robert and Kathryn Erbacher
 Roger and Debi Jensen

Allen and Carole Sypherd
 Carl and Barbara Scanlin
 Charles Hosick
 Ron Prichard
 Don McBride
 Elizabeth Minter
 Das Family
 Bill and Joan Waterworth
 James and Marjorie Pinkerton in
 memory of Elaine VandeVenter

Charles and Kathy Frazee
 Marilyn Crow
 Don and Anna Bachtel
 Knights of Columbus, St. Joseph's
 Council
 Nancy Farrell
 Steve and Melanie McKinney
 Roy Buck

(Continued from page 1) TEA—

about the Shelter. She introduced a graduate of the shelter who was able to get her license as a massage therapist during her stay. She and a friend gave complimentary “mini massages” to guests during the event.



Madeline Fritchie sports a blue chapeau

There was a wonderful fashion show to parade the beautiful clothing available at Charity’s Closet. Models for the day included: Debbie Anderson, Monica Banas, Joyce Brocksmith, Jane James, Roz Johnson, Carolyn Ladd, Kendra Ladd, Janelle Ingersoll, Taylor Theisen and Miss Placentia, Jolie LaCroix.

Mari Atherton once again presided over all the arrangements for the Tea and had many special helpers in the kitchen to make the delicious

Yes, we want to join the Family-to-Family Program. Our family promises to donate at least \$50 for the support of a H.I.S. House family this year and succeeding years so long as we have sufficient income. Our check is enclosed for 2006.



Name _____

Address _____

_____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

treats and a clean up detail headed by Tina Johnson. Roy Buck and Theo Heatherington were “water boys” and kept the tea water boiling and ready. Diane Adams was the scone baker, Marion Heatherington made her wonderful shortbread and was also in charge of ticket sales. Many thanks as well to Cathy Farris for quilt display

and the Mystery Quilt fundraising and HIS President Jeannine Ford for her leadership.

Thanks to everyone who helped in anyway to make this a special afternoon. Preliminary proceeds for the day include only those monies garnered in the raffle, and this total is over \$1,000. ☆

Keep in Touch: Board Contacts

With the new year, new members join the Executive Board and assume important roles in keeping the vital projects at H.I.S. House alive and useful. Welcome and thanks to:

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Chair– Jeannine Ford
Vice Chair– Carolyn Holmes
Recording Sec.– Mary Beth Grigg
Corresponding Sec.– Gae Wood
Treasurer– Ted Mar
Past Chair – John Marshall
Member-At-Large – Rich Shumway
Member-At-Large – Charles Juster
Director— Teri Niebuhr

STANDING COMMITTEES

Community Resources– Marion Hetherington
Admission – Frank Campbell
Donations in Kind– Jane Seymour
Facilities/Maintenance– Roy Buck
Long term Planning– Frank Campbell
Health & Safety– Marlene Stewart
Newsletter– Kathy Frazee, Ann Walling
Policies/Procedures– Monica Banas
Support, Track And Review (STAR) – Dean Cassidy
RSVP (Resident Support Volunteer Program) - Teri Neibuhr
Thrift Store– Cynthia Marshall, Barbara Goff

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Publicity– Betty Escobosa
Office Volunteers – Marlene Stewart
Web site – Eric Schreiner
Legal – Monica Banas

The Executive Board can be contacted via our website:

www.hishouseplacentia.org

WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT? - H.I.S. HOUSE

You are invited to a COMMUNITY INFORMATION EVENING to be held by the H.I.S. House Community Resource Committee on Monday, May 15 at 7:30 p.m. in Room 408 at Placentia Presbyterian Church 849 N Bradford Avenue, Placentia. Come find out all about current volunteer opportunities, our newest venture, Charity's Closet, and our on-going wish list. Refreshments will be served.

We look forward to meeting you there.

H.I.S. House History

Fifth in a series by Ann Walling



Moving Forward – The dollars that keep us going

Fundraising became a necessity as expenses rose with more residents and staff. We began to try to meet other needs beyond simple shelter for our residents. Life skills classes were added and professional counseling was made available for residents through Alpha Center in Placentia. Child-care for our residents was a critical need so that they were free to seek employment. Volunteer sponsors were provided for each resident as positive roll models and to help connect residents with people and agencies that could help with budgeting, health, or parenting issues. The S.T.A.R. (support, track, assist and review) program was initiated to review progress of our H.I.S. House graduates.

Beyond the several major grants the shelter received, volunteers have been the source of many types of fundraisers to keep the programs functioning.

The first annual H.I.S. House Auction was held in the fall of 1993 and we were delighted with proceeds of \$11,000. It was a learning process for the volunteers and soon the auction brought in \$14,000. A dinner was added to the auction and

the larger community began to be involved. Local police and firemen helped with the serving of the meal prepared by volunteer cooks. Later local restaurants donated the food, table decorations were provided by the Round Table, and the auction items took on a new look.

Additional funding sources were needed so H.I.S. House initiated a spring Tea and Fashion show for the women of the community. For several years the church choirs of the community put on a Choir Concert at the LDS church. There were summer desserts and concerts on the lawn at Blessed Sacrament Episcopal Church and in the front yard of the shelter itself. Besides raising funds these events brought together more and more community members who learned about the work of the shelter.

Our newest fundraiser (beginning in 2003) has been a Wine Tasting event at the Nixon Library. In 2005 a smaller scale Live and Silent Auction was added to this event and \$24,264 was raised for the shelter. (There was no separate Auction in 2005.) Other fundraisers have included Walk-a-thons, a Mystery Quilt and a Boutique. In the spring of 2006 our long-term fundraiser, a thrift store named "Charity's Closet," opened for business. ☆

Helping Each Other while Helping Ourselves

Live every day with an awareness of our effect on the future. Understand how our choices shape the future as well as the present, our own future as well as that of our children and neighbors.

H.I.S. House recycles old cell phones and inkjet cartridges from home computer printers to bring in a bit of additional income that supports the residents while at the same time reduces solid waste in our local landfill.

Empty cartridges may be dropped off at H.I.S. House during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. or on Saturdays 9 a.m. to noon.

Small printer cartridges brought from the workplace are also useful and can be recycled for cash. Why not establish a spot at work where all your co-workers can deposit empty cartridges? You can bring them to the shelter once a month—or more often.

Please be aware this recycle program not only benefits the Shelter but helps the environment at the same time. As a result, clean air and water will be available in the future. ☆

Placentia Presbyterian Church

H. I. S. House

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A Penny Saved

Here's a simple thing you can do to help the H.I.S. House Board make the best use of available funds. Sign up to receive the newsletter via email. Just register your e-mail address at:

newsletter@hishouseplacentia.org



An additional bonus:
You'll get to enjoy
color graphics besides
having access to the
newsletter even before
it is printed or mailed!