



# Newsletter



*Keeping the lines of communication open between parents, teachers, administrators and the community strengthens our school and benefits our children.*

**A Monthly Newsletter**

<http://www.orgsites.com/ca/buenavistapta/>

**Issue 2 Volume 8 Feb 2009**

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## President's Corner

Your PTA President is Laurie Carter, who can be reached at [uo.wonder@verizon.net](mailto:uo.wonder@verizon.net)

Dear Friends of the PTA,

Won't you please join us for a morning General Association Meeting on February 18th at 7:45 a.m in the MPR at the school?

I know what you're thinking: Laurie, I can barely get my kids to school on time. How am I going to attend a meeting even earlier?

Well, how about if I say I will have breakfast foods there for the grown ups and buy breakfast for your child? Saves you the breakfast preparation at home!

We haven't tried a morning meeting in many years. We want to find a way to get more PTA members involved in our General Association meetings. If that means "Donuts for Dads" or "Muffins for Moms" then by golly we'll try it. You're that important to the success of our PTA!



**PTA Vision: Making every child's potential a reality.**

**PTA Mission: To be a powerful voice for all children,**

**A relevant resource for families and communities, and**

**A strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child.**

The February meeting will be to elect the Nominating Committee. Easy task! Just need a few people to round up the most qualified candidates for PTA Offices next year. Our parliamentarian will give you all the information and instructions - so it will be easy as pie! I'll see you there! Thank you!

Respectfully,

Laurie Carter

## Websites for Everybody!

**Fifteenth District PTA**  
[www.sbceo.org/~fifteenthdistrictpta/](http://www.sbceo.org/~fifteenthdistrictpta/)

**Live Homework Help!**  
[www.cityoflompoc.com/library](http://www.cityoflompoc.com/library)

**Cabrillo High School Aquarium**  
[www.cabrilloaquarium.org](http://www.cabrilloaquarium.org)

**5th Grade Catalina Trip**  
<http://www.guidediscoveries.com/cimitoyonbay.html>

**A Ton of Cool Stuff!**  
<http://www.sbceoportal.org/>  
Use Username buena and password eagles (no caps)

# Jog-A-Thon/Fun Run - Feb 6th

Get ready for some good old fashioned fun as PTA hosts its annual fundraiser: Jog-A-Thon/Fun Run on February 6th!

Parents are welcome to join students as each class takes 30 minutes to walk laps around a track in support of PTA and to celebrate the enjoyment of light physical activity!

Children, with the help of parents, collect donations for their efforts prior to the event. Have all money and permission slips turned in no later than Feb 2nd to your child's teacher. Our goal this year is to raise \$17,000.

The event this year will emphasize team spirit and fun activities! Parents are needed to support each classroom by making sure each class has bottled water and a snack. Parents will also cheer for students at the track and assist them with the various games that will be played that day!

The line up goes like this:

K-1 8:30 a.m - 9:00 a.m.

Activities: Walk with Streamers!  
Under the Parachute!

2-3 9:15 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

Activities: Step Through Hoops  
Broad Jumping  
Under the Parachute

4-5 10:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Activities: Broad Jumping  
Step in Hoops  
Crazy Dance Lap

Recess: 10:30 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

6th 11:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Activities: Lap Uno!  
Water Bottle Carry  
Crazy Dance Lap

What a fun morning of being silly while raising money for the PTA! Parents are SO welcome! We need your help and enthusiasm!

If you are interested in helping with this event, please contact Kathy Bleak at 737-1505.



## Parents Are Teachers, Too!

Lompoc Unified Adult Education Presents the 33rd Annual Parent Conference: Parents Are Teachers, Too! This takes place on Saturday, March 7th, 2009 at Lompoc High School. Registration is from 8:30-9:30 with the workshop beginning at 9:30 and ending at 3:00 pm. Conference registration is \$15 per person and includes lunch, Information Fair, 2 workshops and door prizes. The conference is for adults only. Register by February 20th.

Keynote speaker is Clinical Psychologist, Roberto Dansie, expert on cultural diversity. For more information, call 742-3100 and reserve your spot today!

### COMING SOON!

## Family Craft Night -

**February 11th 6:30-7:30**

Bring the kids and enjoy an hour of arts and crafts, all made with recycled objects! Projects for the event include snow globes, ocean bottles, rain sticks, heart-shaped crayons, scratch art and a community project on canvas that will eventually decorate the pocket garden with the picnic table! Look for the boxes outside of the school to donate items such as baby food jars with lids, wrapping paper rolls, wrapping paper, plastic water bottles with caps, glitter, old crayons, CDs, corks, bottle caps, etc. We'll need your donations to make the night successful! Thank you.



## African Acrobats!

**Feb 21st**

If you missed them last year - you're in luck! The African Acrobats return to our community on Feb 21st! Admission is \$5 per person. Watch for flyers and ticket sales information to come soon!



## Lights, Camera, Book Fair! Coming March 3, 4 & 5!

Want to volunteer at the store? Contact Laurie Carter at [no.wonder@verizon.net](mailto:no.wonder@verizon.net)

## Piano Lessons!

Want to try your hand at piano? Call Lori Fredrich at 805-729-7168. First lesson is free!



# Is Your PTA an ATM for Your School?

by Betsy Landers and Jeanice Aikens

Have you ever felt that your PTA was an ATM for your school principal and teachers? Have you ever felt like your principal thought your PTA budget was his or her discretionary spending fund? Do you get requests from teachers and school staff to fund certain projects and items that really ought to be part of the school budget?

You're not alone. PTAs frequently turn over their funds to school administration for such basics as books, equipment, and maintenance, not to mention extras, such as playground equipment and vending machines. The customs that have developed between PTAs and schools have blurred the line about what PTAs are; what vision, mission, and purposes we follow; and how our funds should be used.

## Vision, mission, and purposes

PTA's vision is making every child's potential a reality. PTA's mission is to be

- \* A powerful voice for all children,
- \* A relevant resource for families and communities, and
- \* A strong advocate for the education and well-being of every child.

PTA's purposes, or historical goals are as follows:

- \* To promote the welfare of the children and youth in home, school, community, and place of worship
- \* To raise the standards of home life
- \* To secure adequate laws for the care and protection of children and youth
- \* To bring into closer relation the home and the school, that parents and teachers may cooperate intelligently in the education children and youth
- \* To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for all children and youth the highest advantages in physical, mental, social and spiritual education

## How PTAs work

The national PTA organization is a separate legal entity having both a Federal tax number (FEIN) and IRS 501(c)3 exempt status. Each local PTA unit elects a separate board and officers, and only the elected officers can contractually bind that unit and only for their term of office.

PTA budgets can only be ratified and approved by PTA members. PTA funds raised by PTA members belong exclusively to PTA and can only be used for purposes approved by its members through the budgetary and amending process. Approved uses of funds should be in line with the mission and objectives of the PTA body as a whole.

## What PTAs are not

PTAs are not a supporting organization for the schools where they hold our meetings. Supporting organizations often contract directly with school districts to act on behalf of the schools and are subject to school oversight and approvals for such items as their budgets.

PTAs do not have teachers or members of the school system holding office in local units. Such an arrangement comprises a conflict of interest and will be used to demonstrate that the local unit is acting as a supporting organization.

PTAs are not an additional funding resource for goods, services, and payroll for public schools. School funds should be supplied by

governmental entities. PTAs advocate for the adequate funding of schools from governmental sources. They do not replace funds

not supplied by governments. Therefore, supplies purchased using PTA funds should be given directly to children not to teachers.

PTAs are not to pay bills handed over by the principal of the school. If the school ordered it, the school pays for it.

Remember who we are. If your school board, principal, or teachers assume control of your PTA's budget as though it were their own, just say "no." Remember that PTA doesn't work for the school - it works on behalf of children and families.

*Betsy Landers is the Treasurer of the national PTA organization.*

*Jeanice Aikens is the controller of the national PTA organization.*

## iLoveSchools.com

iLoveSchools.com is a free donor-matching service for education! School teachers build WishLists of equipment, materials and supplies; anything they need for their classroom. Donors locate teachers through our WishList search and offer their donations of new or used items or the cost of the teacher's WishList.

### 100% of donations go directly to a school teacher in need!

*How do we do this? [Click here](#) for our story.*

Each year the average teacher spends over \$659 from their own pocket to buy classroom materials for America's kids. To help alleviate this burden iLoveSchools.com acts as a matchmaking service between donor and teacher.

You don't have to be rich to help. Here are links to the many ways you as a potential donor can get started.

### [View Teacher's WishList](#)

Find a teacher that needs your new or used donation. [Click here](#) to get started.



### Notify Me!


Sign up to be notified if your favorite school makes any requests! [Click here](#) to get started.



### Give to a teacher, reach a classroom.

#### A Note From One of Our Teachers:

*"Our school was very privileged to be matched up with a donor who, once contacted, sent us at least 30 binders. We received the binders within 3-4 days following our contact. The binders have been distributed and put to very good use as a means for organizing classroom instructional materials. The teachers were very surprised, pleased, and grateful."*

**Gwendolyn Thomas**, Baldwin Elementary 

# Around and About

*With weather as moderate as that of the Central Coast, you can enjoy year around outdoor fun!  
And for the few days that it rains, you'll find plenty of indoor distractions, too!*

## **Cabrillo High School**

**Aquarium** Thursday,  
February 19th, 7 pm - 8:30  
pm. JASON Project:  
"Resilient Earth"  
[www.cabrilloaquarium.org](http://www.cabrilloaquarium.org)  
805-742-2888

## **Pajama Party at the Discovery Museum**

February 6th, 6:00 - 7:45 pm,  
Discovery Museum in Santa  
Maria. \$5/child, \$3/adult  
805-928-8414 Bring your  
family and join us in your  
favorite pajamas for a party at  
the museum! Includes a craft  
a scavenger hunt, a pillow  
fight, music, bedtime snacks,  
and a \$1 raffle. Storybook will  
be provided to each family  
from Altrusa International of  
the Central Coast. RSVP is  
required. No refunds, Non-  
transferable. Sponsored by  
Walmart.

## **Discover Llamas!**

Llama Memories Gift Shop  
and Ranch. Open for Tours by  
Appointment. 735-3577, 6615  
E. Highway 246, Lompoc (6.5  
miles west of Buellton)

## **Lake Cachuma**

Located in the beautiful Santa  
Ynez Valley, Lake Cachuma  
was created by Bradbury Dam  
across the Santa Ynez River.  
The lake offers great fishing  
and camping, as well as  
"Eagle Watch" excursions.  
HC59 - Highway 154, Santa  
Barbara. 805-686-5054  
[http://www.sbparks.org/docs/  
cachuma.html](http://www.sbparks.org/docs/cachuma.html)

## **Santa Maria Children's Museum**

321 Town Center West, Santa  
Maria, 805-928-8414.  
Located in the Mervyn's  
Shopping Center. General

Admission charged. Tuesday  
- Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4  
p.m. and Sunday from 1-4  
p.m. Private birthday parties  
and reservations for large  
groups are available.

## **Marshallia Ranch Golf Course**

Open to the Public! The  
Marshallia Ranch  
Championship Golf Course is  
located ext to the oldest  
building on Vandenberg which  
was awarded the USAF  
Citation Award for Facility  
Design. The hub of the golf  
course is the clubhouse, with  
a fully stocked pro-shop,  
snack bar, large dining and  
patio area, men and ladies  
locker rooms. Equipment  
rentals and Snack Bar and  
Grill. 734-1333 or 606-6262.

## **Father Daughter Dance**

February 6, 7, 8 (Friday,  
Saturday, Sunday) Anderson  
Recreation Center. 6:30 pm to  
8:30 pm. All daddies are  
invited to bring their favorite  
little valentine to our annual  
dance! Enjoy dancing, games,  
flowers, pictures and  
refreshments all night long.  
Make a lasting memory for  
your daughter by giving her  
this special evening with her  
dad. Polaroid pictures are  
included in the cost of the  
ticket and professional  
portraits will be available for  
purchase. The doors will open  
at 5:00 pm for pictures only,  
with the dance and activities  
beginning at 6:00 pm. Pre-  
registration is required.  
Register by Jan 23. \$16 per  
couple, \$8 for second child.  
875-8100.

## **Rumpelstiltskin**

Lompoc Civic Theater  
presents Rumpelstiltskin,  
March 7 & 14 at 1 & 3 pm and  
March 8 & 15 at 2 pm. All  
shows will be at Lompoc High  
School's Little Theater. \$5 per  
person. Private shows are  
available to be performed for  
groups. Please call 735-2281  
for more information.

## **22nd Annual Chocoholics Festival!**

"A Celebration of Love"  
February 14th, 11 a.m. to 2  
p.m. at the Lompoc Grange  
Hall, 435 North G St. \$7 per  
person; tickets can be  
purchased from any Women in  
Chambers member or call  
Janice @735-4113.  
Entertainment, gift basket  
raffle, t-shirts for sale and  
other fun activities. Benefits  
Lompoc Valley Women in  
Chambers of Commerce.

## *PTA General Membership*

*Meeting February 18th at 7:45  
a.m. in the MPR*

*Purpose: Elect the Nominating  
Committee*

*Breakfast provided!*



## Officers of the Board

**Laurie Carter — President**

**Teresa McIntyre — 1st Vice President/Programs Chair**

**Beverly Wilson — 2nd Vice President/Membership Chair**

**Kathy Bleak — 3rd Vice President/Ways & Means Chair**

**Lynette Martin — Treasurer**

**Vicki Blackstone — Secretary**

**Deanna Liberotti — Parliamentarian**

**Stephanie Ledgerwood — Historian**

**Lynda Gordon — Auditor**

## Contact Info:

Laurie Carter at [no.wonder@verizon.net](mailto:no.wonder@verizon.net) or 733-1946.

**Buena Vista Elementary PTA**

**100 Aldebaran Ave  
Lompoc, CA 93436**

<http://www.orgsites.com/ca/buenavistapta/>