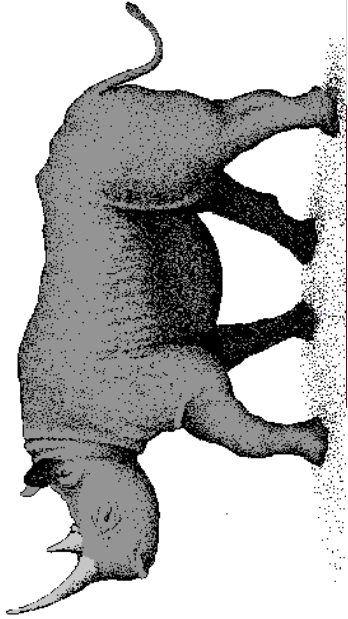


GIVING: Enjoy The Opportunity

Volume 5, Issue 2
January 9, 2009



LAGUNA HIGH SCHOOL

The Rhino Report

"And so you have found out that secret---one of the deep secrets of Life---that all that is really worth the doing, is what we do for others." Lewis Carroll

"What we have done for ourselves alone dies with us; what we have done for others and the world remains and is immortal." Albert Pike

"If you wish to experience peace, provide peace for another."
Tenzin Gyatso, the 14th Dalai Lama

When I was a child I thought the saying "Tis better to give than to receive" was very strange indeed. How could anybody get more pleasure out of giving Christmas presents than getting them?!?! I'm happy that I eventually discovered the deep wisdom in that saying.

One of our goals here at Laguna has been to help students understand that "giving back" is what brings true happiness, meaning to one's life, and inner peace. And I'm very proud to say that many students at Laguna have been very actively involved in giving back. Their main vehicle for doing so has been through our Interact Club. Interact is sponsored by Rotary (in our case, Rotary Club of Sebastopol Sunrise). Rotary and Interact are both service clubs whose motto is "Service above self".

During the time I've been principal of Laguna I've witnessed Interact students do multiple positive things for others. Among those are: helping with Rebuilding Together; clothing and food drives for those in need; reading with and tutoring elementary students; assisting Rotary during their fund raisers at Guys Can Cook Too and Cajun Festival; raising money and donating it to worthy causes such as flood relief; raising money

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LAGUNA WRITES A LETTER TO AMERICA: "GO GREEN!"

This year's letter to America, care of President-elect Obama, was a no-brainer: *Go Green!* Brad Smith's English classes wrote the letter after viewing the documentary *An Inconvenient Truth* and then visiting the Solar Living Institute in Hopland. The purpose of the **Dear America Project** was two-fold: awaken the consciousness of the community they all live in and to practice the art of communication. And of course, they invited the President-elect to visit Laguna!



.L-R Top Row Kyle Prange, Jhawnee Malone-Jones, Cherish Israel, Stephen Garboden, Brandon Cooper, Joel Munoz, Alex Kettles, Bri Anguillo, David Eldridge, Curtis McWilliams, Jared Marson; L-R Top 2nd Row: Brad Smith, David Susoeff, Miguel Olvera, Anselmo Flores, Brandon Cummins, David Williams, Sofia Armstrong, Kyla Carman, Rosemary Partington, Michael Thieman, Jason Magnelli, Tristan Hunt, Michael Dreckmann, Jennifer Lyon, Michael Miller, Alma Guzman, Fernando Ferreira-Lopez; L-R 3rd Row: Stacy Williams, Jake Donham, Bruce Light, Steven Ascencio, Andrew Schloss, Chris Orr, Charlie Salado, Dino Suazo, Alexis Corona; L-R Front Row: Jeremaya Bartell, Ramon Medina, Daniel Shipman, Richy Amador, Edward Shipman, Derek Rypka, Ryan Souphanh, Aaron Fenley.

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Students Of The Week

- ◆ Devin Jonas
- ◆ Lily Mankin
- ◆ Curtis McWilliams
- ◆ Melissa Rojas
- ◆ Angelica Vigil
- ◆ Richy Amador
- ◆ Faith Harville-Polk
- ◆ Andrew Schloss
- ◆ Matt Herd

HOLIDAY DINNER AT LAGUNA



Laguna staff serves their annual holiday dinner to students and oh yum! Don't you get hungry just looking? Turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, green beans, stuffing, gravy and homemade cranberry sauce! It was great! It was a wonderful way to say goodbye for the holidays!

In the true spirit of the holidays at Laguna, the staff and school volunteers served up another feast for the kids as a way of saying thank you for all your effort this year!

And it has been a work-packed year so far; both the teachers and the students need to be commended for coming to work each day with a positive attitude and a willingness to go the extra mile for each other. For sure, like with any family, sometimes the going gets a little tough, but there is always time to make up, smooth out the rough spots and go on! It is the Rhino way!

And then, it was off for the holidays! Hooray! To be sure, there were a lot of happy faces as the kids picked up their stuff and ran for the proverbial door! Ahh! It was the best of times.

Congratulations to Laguna Students

We are thrilled to announce 5 students graduated in December, 2008!

Lily Mankin, Rafael Vega, Veronica Vidrio, and Stacey Williams received high school diplomas. Jhawnee Malone Jones earned the General Education Diploma (GED)!

Best Wishes to the 15 students returning to Analy and El Molino--8 are seniors!

Analy: Jake Donham, David Eldridge, Michael Ibach, James Louzao, Jimmy Murillo, Carlos Onefre-Remigio, Israel Perales, Derek Rypka, Jordan Soliz, Dino Suazo, and Christian Zapien.

El Molino: Trent Hart, Jeanie Lombardi, Danny Shipman, and Eddie Shipman.

GIVING continued from Page One

through Pennies for Patients for leukemia research. Interact and Laguna students will continue to look for and participate in local, national, and international projects that help others. They invite you to participate with them. Happiness and contentment truly does come from giving rather than getting. We should all be so lucky, as Mr. Carroll wrote, to "have found out that secret of life" while we can still enjoy the opportunity.

Ross Bickford, Principal

DID YOU KNOW?

by Nelson Rasmussen, RSP Teacher/Test Coordinator

1. CAHSEE will be offered February 3&4 to Juniors and Seniors needing to pass one or both sections of the test.
2. All Sophomores will take the CAHSEE for the first time in March.
3. Laguna High is now tracking students' reading comprehension using a new web-hosted reading test called STAR. Students take the test when they enter Laguna and at the end of the school year.

The FARMS Program by Joe Maloney, Science Teacher

This month the FARMS students will visit the Lake Sonoma fish hatchery to see the salmon and steelhead spawn. The hatchery was a big hit last year! The size of the fish plus the astronomical numbers of eggs needed for even 100 steelhead to survive in the Russian River is amazing. Then these same 100 steelhead have to survive in the ocean--how do they do that with all the predators lurking in the ocean? All in all, I am hopeful that this year's visit to the hatchery will yield the same results as last year's "Oooh's!" and "Ah's!" And oh yes, we will try raising our own baby steelhead in an insulated and refrigerated fresh water tank that we got last year. *Hopefully, we can release these babies one day.*

Meet Our New Staff

CRUZ CAVALLO



"I feel truly honored & grateful to be here as part of the Laguna students' lives."

Cruz works with West County Community Services in a variety of roles. She is a registered Marriage and Family Therapist intern working in community-based counseling, schools and a youth diversion program. Additionally, she is our new Project SUCCESS counselor--see ad below. Cruz is also a huge TV and movie fan. She loves to travel, dance and read plus spend time with her dog Buster.

Welcome to Laguna Cruz!

ANN SCHEDER-BIESCHIN



"I'm very excited about working with students at Laguna!"

Ann comes to Laguna with an amazing amount of education and experience. She has an Engineering degree from Stanford and a Master's Degree and an MBA from Columbia University in New York! Wow! Plus, Ann lived overseas for 8 years working with youth. While there, she was presented with the European council of International School Award for the Promotion of International Education. Ann has three kids who currently attend Anly.

Welcome to Laguna Ann!

Project SUCCESS Is On the Move!

- ◆ Ready for the 2008-2009 spring semester!
- ◆ Individual and group counseling
- ◆ Community awareness activities
- ◆ Parent support
- ◆ Connect campus community to local resources

Questions! Please call Cruz Cavallo, Project SUCCESS counselor, Thursday/Friday at 824-6485 or email at ccavallo@westcountyservices.org.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

January 19-----Martin Luther King Day Holiday
 February 3-4----CAHSEE Testing (Grades 11,12)
 February 11-----Progress Reports Mailed Home
 February 16-20-----Mid-Winter Break
 March 17-18-CAHSEE Testing (Grades 10,11,12)
 March 20-----End of Third Quarter
 March 27 (approx)---Report Cards Mailed Home
 March 31, April 1,2,7,8,9-----STAR Testing
 April 13-17-----Spring Break



Laguna Students Win Big in VFW Essay Contest!

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) had their awards dinner December 21st and there were two winners representing Laguna. Liam Murphy, right, won 1st place & \$300 in the combination essay/speech contest and 2nd place and \$200 went to Miguel Olvera, middle, with teacher Brad Smith on left.

Quote of the Day

*Things do not change;
we change*

Henry David Thoreau

2008-2009
YEARBOOK
 \$35.00--in living color

Laguna's Wish List
We need to stretch our dollars
Please donate if you can!

- ◆ Kleenex
- ◆ Pencils and pens
- ◆ Pencil sharpeners

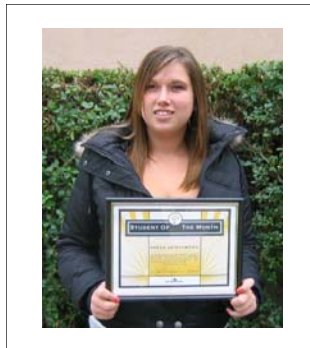
Thank You!

LEVEL 1 STUDENTS

- Omar Aguilar
 Richy Amador
 Derek Anderson-Garcia
 Sofia Armstrong
 Steven Ascencio
 Alec Austin
 Zach Bacis
 Nic Bigham
 Kyla Carman
 Brandon Cooper
 Anselmo Flores
 Skyler Fontaine
 Stephen Garboden
 Loren Hardy
 Faith Harville-Polk
 Matt Herd
 Vanessa Hernandez
 Cherish Israel
 Devin Jonas
 Jeanie Lombardi
 Sheila Macias-Lopez
 Jason Magnelli
 Jared Marson
 Curtis McWilliams
 Briana Menares
 Michael Miller
 Joel Munoz
 Miguel Olvera
 Christopher Orr
 Antonio Paramo
 Brandon Pedrioli
 Melissa Rojas
 Andrew Schloss
 Margaret Sefton-Kelley
 Michael Thieman
 Angelica Vigil

Student of the Month
October 2008

Sofia Armstrong



Sofia has a lot on her plate considering she is always, yes, always on task at school plus she is taking a career exploration class at the J.C. Also, she has two jobs, likes to read, play guitar, sew and spend time with her family and 3 cats. Wow, no wonder she plans on going to a U.C.!

Congratulations Sofia!

Student of the Month
November 2008

Lily Mankin



Lily was born in Lima, Peru, just slightly more than a hop, skip and a jump from Sebastopol! But she made it and made the most of it when she settled in. Lily is a joy to have in class, a hard worker and very polite. But wait, there is more! Lily just finished her high school credits December 19th and is now an official graduate!

Congratulations Lily!

Student of the Month
December 2008

Faith Harville-Polk



Faith has a flair for maintaining her composure at all times. She keeps a smile on her face, a positive attitude and does her work with a quiet determination. Naturally, the teachers appreciate Faith, and it is fitting she is our most recent student of the month! Faith's plans include going to the J.C. after high school to study child development and thereafter work with children ages 5-10.

Congratulations Faith!