



Echoes

Deer Canyon Elementary School
Volume 20, Issue 13 November 13, 2009

Coming Soon :

TONIGHT! *Ohana Luau ~*
6:00-7:30 p.m.

Nov. 16-20 *Parent-Teacher*
Conferences ~
EARLY
DISMISSAL

Nov. 19 *PTA Board*
Mtg. ~ 8:10 a.m.

Nov. 20 *Pillar Friday ~*
Citizenship

Nov. 23-27 *Thanksgiving*
Recess ~
NO SCHOOL

Dec. 4 *Used Book*
Exchange ~
2:15 p.m.

Dec. 4 *Holiday*
Bazaar
5:30-8:30 p.m.,
& Children's
Gift Shop
8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.,
5:30-7:30 p.m.

Principal's Message:

Preparing For Parent-Teacher Conferences

The week of November 16th has been reserved for Parent-Teacher Conferences with your child's teacher. These are the only days set aside for designated parent/teacher meetings during the year. **Please make every effort to attend your child's conference.** Parent-Teacher conferences are an excellent opportunity for parents to share important information about their children with teachers and for teachers to share about the progress of children in school. We look forward to seeing you at school during these conference days.

Tips for a Good Parent-Teacher Conference:

1. **Get to know your child's teacher** early in the school year before conferences are scheduled or problems develop.
2. **Plan for conferences.** Talk to your child and jot down questions. Glance over your child's textbooks and the work brought home. Think about your child's learning style and study habits and bring your questions and curiosities to the conference.
3. **Ask questions** about your child's schoolwork, relationships with other children and teachers, and any class or school rules you don't understand. Concentrate on finding solutions to any challenge and developing a good working relationship with the teacher.
4. **Share any information** that might help the teacher develop a better understanding of your child.
5. **Decide with the teacher** what, if anything, needs to be done to support your child. Agree on plans, responsibilities and future steps before you leave.

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Remember, Parent-Teacher Conferences will take place the week of November 16th-20th. Students will be on a "Minimum Day" schedule that entire week. School will begin at 8:00 every day INCLUDING FRIDAY! Kindergarteners will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m., and students in grades 1 through 5 will be dismissed at 11:45 a.m.



Casino Royale

The first annual Casino Royale was a huge success! Thank you to all the parents who attended this fabulous event. It was truly a magical evening! To view and order pictures from the Casino Night, please visit www.catchlifestudio.com.

But even more important was the \$12,235 raised by Deer Canyon Foundation to support Art, Music, PE, Science and Technology at our school. This is almost \$5,000 more than we had set for our first year goal, and it significantly contributes towards our annual target of \$81,000.

We'd like to thank the following individuals and companies for their help and support in making the event a success:

Deer Canyon Foundation Gala Planning Committee:

Danae Brooker, Reine Elkrief, Jennifer Funn, Alan Gin, Rick Hudson (Co-Chair), Stephaine Hudson, Yosina Lissebeck (Co-Chair), Jeanne Wang, Larissa Wilmert, and Terry Worthington

Special Thanks:

Jeff Bloom of Fischer Auction, Jennifer Cavendish, Kris Hernandez, Kimberly King, Mike Lissebeck, Ty and Alyssa Navapanich, Teri Youngblood, and all the wonderful Deer Canyon teachers who attended the event!

Event Sponsors:

**1st Pacific Bank
Courtyard
Maderas Golf Club**

**McCuskey Group Rancho Bernardo
Wimmer Yamada & Caughey**

Auction Donors:

**Birch Aquarium
Brian Davey, DDS
Catch Life Studios
Deer Canyon Teachers
Estancia La Jolla
Haute Heads
Jewelry by Christina
Jewelry by Jill
Lancaster Family
Maderas Golf Club
Mehune Surf
RP Little League
San Diego Art Museum
Dr. Paul Styr, Orthodontics
Timothy Ralphs
Wilmert Law Group
Villa Capri**

**BCBG MAX AZRIA
California Ballet
Carmel Ranch Dental Care
Downtown Optometry
Elkrief Family
Stephaine Hudson & Annette Abadi
It's a Wrap Video Productions
KFMB-TV Channel 8
La Quinta Resort
Master Sports
Orchestra Nova
PRP wine tasting
San Diego Fire Department
Tsao Family
Wang Family
Viejas Casino
YMCA Camp Surf**

For those who attended, thank you for your support. If you could not make it this year, you definitely won't want to miss next year's fun!

*Danae Brooker, Rick Hudson & Yosina Lissebeck ~
Deer Canyon Foundation Gala Committee*

Parent-Teacher Conference Tips

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6. If the conference did not include your child, talk with your child after the conference and share what was discussed. Be sure to talk about the positive accomplishments and successes shared with you by the teacher.
7. **Follow up.** Implement your end of any agreements and keep in touch with the teacher. If the plan doesn't seem to be working or if new problems develop, call the teacher and ask for another meeting. You are partners with the school in fostering your child's learning.

Working together we can make a difference in the lives of children!

~ Terry Worthington



Don't miss the fun! Bring the whole family to the
OHANA LUAU!
TONIGHT! 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the MP Room

Sympathy for the Mazurek Family



The Deer Canyon community is mourning the loss of a dear friend this week. **Mike Mazurek**, age 41, died Saturday from injuries sustained in a bike accident three weeks earlier. Many of you will remember Dr. Mazurek, an orthopedic surgeon at the Naval Medical Center, as a guest speaker at our evening Wellness Week presentation in 2007.

Our hearts ache for Mike's wife, **Lisa** (a member of both the PTA and Foundation Boards, as well as a Room Parent and classroom volunteer), and for their 3 sons: **Adam** (a 3rd grader in Ms. Mendoza's class), **Dylan** (age 3), and **Spencer** (7 months).

Many Deer Canyon families attended Mike's memorial service on Wednesday. It was a beautiful tribute and farewell.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting donations be made in Mike's memory to a fund for Adam, Dylan and Spencer Mazurek. Please stop by the school office or contact Jennifer Cavendish at jcavendish@san.rr.com for more details.

Winter Wonderland Shop



Friday, December 4th ~
8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.,
& 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Kids are invited to do some holiday shopping of their own (with the help of grown-up "elves") at the Winter Wonderland Shop. Lots of fun, inexpensive gifts for family and friends will be available. This shop is not a fundraiser, just a special opportunity for students to experience the joy of giving.

VOLUNTEERS ARE STILL NEEDED! If you can help, please contact me at dorisdungca@gmail.com.

Doris Dungca ~ WWS Coordinator



Holiday Shopping Bazaar

Friday, December 4th ~ 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

It's almost here! Deer Canyon PTA's 4th annual Holiday Shopping Bazaar will be held on Friday, December 4th from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the MP Room. You won't want to miss one of Deer Canyon's most popular family events! Dozens of local vendors will offer a wide array of unique holiday gift items that you won't find at the mall, so bring your holiday list!

To add to the fun, we will be holding an Opportunity Drawing with chances to win wonderful items donated by our vendors. Tickets can be purchased at the event. A full list of participating vendors and Opportunity Drawing prizes will be posted by the front gates starting next week, so be sure to take a look!

Finally, don't miss out on a special performance by the Deer Canyon Choir to put you in the holiday mood. This is truly an event not to be missed!

Danielle Ritchie, Janet Lim & Michelle Nisly ~
HSB Coordinators



Ice Cream Update

Looking for a sweet after-school treat? **Deer Canyon Student Council** will be selling ice cream **every other Friday** this year on the same dates as the Used Book Exchanges.

Please Respect Student Learning Time!

PLEASE make medical, dental and any other appointments outside of your child's school day, whenever possible. It is very important that your child be in school, on time and all day, every day! The disruption of taking children out for appointments during school time has a direct impact on their learning.

We also ask that you make arrangements ahead of time when your child is to walk home, be picked up by someone else, have a play date, etc. This will ensure that your child's teacher can focus on teaching without the distraction of phone calls interrupting the classroom to get a message to your student.

Your understanding is greatly appreciated by all the staff at Deer Canyon.

Mary Lopez ~ School Office



Congratulations to our Lego Robotics Teams!

Deer Canyon sent three teams to this year's FIRST LEGO League (Robotics) tournament at the Preuss School on November 7th. The mission of FIRST is "to transform our culture by creating a world where science and technology are celebrated and where young people dream of becoming science and technology heroes."

The three Deer Canyon teams consisted of:

- **Deerimators:** Marshall Brooker, Shreya Huilgol, Neil Majumdar, Zoë Navapanich, Brendan Pyle, Jack Setzler, Matthew Tran, and Kevin Wang
Coaches: Danae Brooker, Alyssa Navapanich, Chris Pyle, Jill Sacket-Pyle, and Matt Setzler
- **FlashDrive:** Will Lum, Justin Mulligan, Erwin Ni, Anish Sathe, Jonathan Wang, and David Zeng
Coaches: Chris Lum and Catherine Mulligan.
- **Gear Heads:** Lisa Arseneau, Garrison Astaunda, Allison Bao, Jonathan Bao, Sara Clarkson, Alex Duan, Prem Pathuri, and Anjuman Raha
Coaches: Eric Arseneau, John Astaunda, and Dana Clarkson

These students competed in four areas: presentation, teamwork, technical aspects of the robot, and robot matches. Each team researched ways to reduce traffic around Deer Canyon and created presentations for the judges. To learn more about their research results, visit www.tackletraffic.com. They also designed and programmed robots to follow a specified course while learning teamwork.

All three teams did exceptionally well and will go on to compete at LEGOLAND in December. Team Flashdrive and Team Gear Heads qualified to compete for the Champions Cup at the FLL SoCal Championship, and Team Deerimators received the "Best Presentation Award" for their Newscast which can be seen on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c4-eTIDIEUo>.

Congratulations to our teams, and thank you to the Deer Canyon Foundation, Qualcomm, and Mr. Arii for supporting our science and technology enrichment programs.

Danae Brooker



ECHOES - The Weekly PTA Newsletter for Deer Canyon ~ Palomar Council, Ninth District, Inc. CCPTS
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