CHOC Walk

No matter how early on a Sunday morning, no matter how energetic CASSA can be, we have supported the Choc Walk Event once again this year! On October 16, 2011, CASSA had an amazing time taking a 3 mile tour of both Disneyland and California Adventure in Anaheim. There was orange and blue face painting along with individual CASSA signs! We took pictures with Phineas and Ferb, Goofy, Buzz Lighter, Star Troopers, etc. Every corner we turned, there was always an opportunity for a CASSA pictures. As a group, everyone cheered “CASSA” throughout the walk! It was such a great experience for members to get together for an extremely amazing cause. I am truly excited for next year’s event because it means more cheering, more singing and dancing, and especially more memories to post up on Facebook.

-Loren Garin

Orange County Zoo

The Orange County Zoo, located in the beautiful Irvine Park is home to hundreds of animals. The Halloween event held this year had one of the largest turn-outs. Families and friends of all ages and sizes dressed up in their spook-tacular attire. The event centered around a scavenger hunt in which children participated with their clue sheets and traveled to different stations to collect goodies. At each of the four stations there were visual clues as well as hands on specimens. From these the children determined the mystery species. The zoo was greatly decorated and even the staff and volunteers dressed in their favorite characters. It was a very fun and enriching atmosphere that also included face painting, arts and crafts and even animal shows. There were wooden characters to take pictures with and lots and lots of treats and candy. Overall, it was a great experience seeing the children of all ages so excited and intrigued enjoying each others as well as the animals company.

-Jessica Warbrick
Orangewood was an event that I looked forward to participating. The reason was because I wanted to get the experience of dealing with kids that had a horrible past. It opened my eyes when I was there because the kids showed me how they are strong even though they were treated awfully in their past. We came with a few snacks and a lot of fun activities for the kids to play. For examples, we had a coloring table, a art and craft table, board games and bingo table, and a rocket ship table. The rocket ship was the most popular table that had most kids participates in. It surprised me when the kids started to enter because their faces showed happiness instead of sadness. My overall experience of this event was indescribable. It opened my eyes up to more knowledge about kids who are not as privilege as us because of their family situation.

-Pauline Ho

On November 29th 2011 about 15 CASSA members went to Orangewood in Anaheim. This is a shelter and transition home for children that have been abandoned or abused. We were fortunate enough to be able to spend some time with about 20 of these children. While we were there we had the opportunity to bring a few crafts and activities such as puppets and Christmas ornaments. I brought pipe cleaners and beads to make ornaments or whatever their inventive minds could think of. One little girl in particular, blew us all out of the water when she literally made a fish tank purse with a fish in it out of the pipe cleaners. I was amazed! All the kids and CASSA members had a blast displaying their competitive skills playing musical chairs and sports in the gym. Overall, we had a wonderful night giving our time to kids that more than deserve it. I don’t know how much of a difference we made in their lives but I do know the experience made a difference in mine.

-Callie Barnard
Pretend City

On Halloween CASSA got the opportunity to volunteer at Pretend City. This was an excellent opportunity to work with children who have been diagnosed with Autism. All the event workers, parents, and children dressed up to celebrate the evening. At different points in the night we all got assigned to different stations that Pretend City offered. Some of the locations they had for the children to interact with was a farm area, a marine station, and a post office to name a few. These stations included realistic objects that one would find in any of these locations. It also gave the children a chance to take on the roles of those stations and work within them if they desired. It was a special day to everyone who attended because it is a safe environment for both the children and parents to trick or treat. It also was wonderful experience for those of us who volunteered because it allowed us to help children in a really positive and safe environment.

-Deanna Isen

Bowling Social

Club members gathered at Titan Bowl to knock down a few pins on November 16. The activity was a success and all who attended had a great time whether they were bowling strikes or gutter balls. CASSA rented out the entire bowling alley and paid the shoe rental for all who came. Soda, chips, cookies and all kinds of snacks were on hand for everyone to enjoy. The donated homemade chocolate chip cookies made a huge hit and were gone 10 minutes after they arrived. Make sure to come to the next bowling social for a great time!

-Heather Urry
Alexis earned nearly 30 hours of community service in the month of October alone. She participated in all of the general meetings, the Children’s Book Festival, the CHOC Walk, the Bake Sale (Both baking and tabling), the Orangewood Halloween Dance, the OC Zoo Halloween event, Autism Night at Pretend City, and donated 30 box tops and 60 pull tabs!

CASSA appreciates all of your hard work Alexis! You have earned an additional leadership hour for stepping up and volunteering so much of your time.

General Meeting: December 5th 2011
Scavenger Hunt