



Out & About Long Beach

New Opportunity for David Carden

It is with mixed emotions that I have resigned as President of *Out and About Long Beach*. As many of you know, Dale and I have tried to balance our business in Palm Springs and Long Beach for over eight years and have decided that the time is perfect for us to relocate and transition our business to Palm Springs permanently.



Nothing has ever given me more pleasure than to be a part of the founding group of this great organization. From the beginning it has been a wonderful collaborative effort. Together we have enjoyed great success not only in our membership growth but *OaALB* is now recognized as a premiere gay and lesbian charitable organization in Long Beach. The events have provided us with memorable activities at which we have met new friends and neighbors and established long lasting friendships.

As Dale and I begin a new adventure in our lives we want to extend our heartfelt appreciation for your friendship, support, loyalty and generosity over these past eight years. I am so proud to have been your President and know that this organization is in good hands. We hope to continue to join your activities in the future and extend a warm welcome to you when you visit the Palm Springs area.

With best wishes and Mahalo,

David Carden, jr.

Message from new President, Kevin Gordon

The board of directors has asked me to be the next president of *Out and About LB* and I have accepted both the honor and the opportunity. When Lucas and I came to Bixby Knolls nine years ago, one of the first things we found was the group that later became *OaALB*. To us being new to the neighborhood, and for me the city, having the opportunity to make so many new friends was the best thing about our new home. So when our informal little group aspired to become a charitable organization four years ago, primarily interested in improving the lives and future of local children, it was a privilege for me to serve as a founding board member of this fledgling organization.

I am grateful to David Carden for what he has created. From the first days when he went around the park gathering names to today with around 300 members, the lives of many people have been improved because of David's vision, initiative and determination. I have never doubted David's dedication to *OaALB's* mission

See **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** page 4

Volume 4, Issue 1
June, 2006

Save The Date:

MoLAA Tour and Reception
July 16, 4—6 p.m.
See insert in this newsletter.

RSVP today!

Open Board Position

See page 2, respond by July 10th if interested!

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Where Do We Go From Here . . .

Over the past five years we have experienced a tremendous amount of growth, both in membership and the activities/events we hold each year in support of our charitable goals. We have realized that this organization cannot continue to be all things to all people. Maintaining our original focus and remaining true to our Articles of Incorporation is essential for *Out and About Long Beach* to continue to ma-

ture as a gay and lesbian charitable organization that is recognized as making an important impact in our city and neighborhoods.

Networking within our membership has always been part of our original mission statement and we encourage our members to support each other in their endeavors – we gain strength in the gay and lesbian community when we support the success of others.

Out and About LB will continue it's focus on charitable events such as our annual Holiday Progressive Party, Theater Nites, Museum outings, Pool parties, Pot-luck BBQ's and other activities, *OaALB* will not sponsor the after-concert parties during the summer. By focusing on these events *OaALB* can remain consistent with our original goals and objectives.

2006 Board Members



Shown from left to right: Curt Ryan; Rick Alsagoff, Secretary; Sandy Lunsford, Vice-President; Lucas Fiamengo, Treasurer; Kevin Gordon, President; Ken Sakata and Bhub Villalobos.

Board of Director Position Available

The Board of Directors of *Out and About LB* invites members to submit their name to fill a newly vacant seat on the Board. Please contact Rick Alsagoff at 562.673.0126 for a nomination form which must be returned by July 10th, 2006. The Board will review all nominations at their next Board meeting, July 11th, 2006 and vote to fill the open seat. All nominations will remain active for one year from the date of submission and will be considered for any future Board openings.

Out & About LB Recognized

It was a red-letter day for *Out and About Long Beach* when we were recognized by the Long Beach Council PTA for its community service to children and families in the Long Beach area.

The Long Beach Council PTA will soon celebrate its 100th anniversary and shares a partnership with teachers, administrators and school board members concerning the education of all youth in the Long Beach, Avalon, Lakewood and Signal Hill communities. Each year it honors an outstanding group or individual for their services to children and families.

In accepting this prestigious award, David Carden stated, "our organization prides itself on giving back to our community in a way which reflects its diversity and commitment to the needs of our children. To be singled out by this group is really something."



David Carden of *OaALB* accepts a plaque from Sandra Scott, President of Long Beach Council PTA.

Where Your Money Went . . . over \$17,000 in 2005 !

Longfellow Elementary
Meet the Masters Art Program
\$ 2,000

Houston Gay & Lesbian Center
Assistance after hurricane Katrina
\$ 1,200

The Guidance Center
\$ 2,172

The Center Long Beach
\$ 1,000

C.A.R.E. Programs
\$ 2,990

MoLAA Museum of Latin American Art
Children's Kinetic Arts Program
\$ 2,000

Children Today
Homeless Day Care Center
\$ 1,000

Poly High School Music Group
\$ 1,100

California Pools of Hope
Supported over 35 families
\$ 500

Boys & Girls Clubs Long Beach
\$ 500

Friends of Signal Hill
Summer Cultural Arts Program
\$ 250

Poly High School Theater Group
\$ 500

Rancho Los Alamitos
Children's Educational programs
\$ 500

Children's Dental Clinic
\$ 1,500

As *the premiere* gay and lesbian charitable organization in Long Beach, you can be proud of where your money went this past year. We were able to give *over \$17,000* to a wide range of beneficiaries, which benefited people from age 6 months to over 90 years old! *If you would like to become involved in suggesting and selecting our beneficiaries this year, join the Charitable Committee chaired by Kevin or call him at 427.5775.*

Survey Results From Annual General Meeting

Along with all of the fun, food and information at our Annual General Meeting held April 30th, a survey was given to all interested attending members. The purpose of the survey was to ask for any feedback on *Out and About Long Beach's* past activities, to solicit any information on our future goals and to gather any ideas on obtaining those goals. According to those surveyed, the most popular fundraiser suggestions continue to be the Progressive Holiday Party, going to the theater, wine tasting, excursions and day trips and other events tied to our fundraising efforts such as museums, art tours and the Hollywood Bowl.

Suggestions relating to our Charitable selections indicated that most were pleased with the beneficiaries the Charitable Committee designated. The Survey provided suggestions for future potential beneficiaries such as AIDS re-

lated groups, Historical Education, Local School Arts Programs, any local Hospice groups, New Image and Community Assistance Centers. Three individuals volunteered to join the Charitable Committee. There is room for more!

By the way, if you weren't able to attend the General Meeting or if you did and you didn't have time to complete the survey, please feel free to contact any member of the Board to give us any feedback you feel will help us move in the right direction for our organization and for the community.

Twenty five respondents gave ideas – ten members volunteered their time to help out, others offered to host some of our activities or just to provide space to store our supplies. Any offer of assistance is greatly appreciated! Our organization belongs to us all so please add your ideas to the group!

Treasurer's Update

Our 2006 fundraising kickoff event was a great success. We brought in \$1,750, which surpassed our target of \$1,500. As of April 17th, *Out & About LB* has a total cash balance of \$4,303.74. We would like to thank everyone who participated in our April 30th kickoff event for all of the great ideas that they shared. This feedback provides essential guidance to *OaALB* so that it can continue to grow and focus on the events that our members would like to see. We would like to extend a special thanks to the following individuals for their generous donation: Patrick Palmer & Roberto Rodriguez, Beverly Paquin, Felipe Tafoya & Randy Laue, Steve Davison & Jaie Palmero, James Burroughs, Brooks Burkhalter, Allan Behan, Lee Schweickert, Greg Garcia, Donald Fredrickson, Frank Perry, Steve Kelton & Bhub Villalobos, Michelle Veo & Sandy Lunsford, Kevin Gordon & Lucas Fiamengo, Mark Quintana & Curt Ryan, Dale Maquire & David Carden and of course, Kevin Daly & Ignacio Pimentel for hosting such a great gathering.



Out & About Long Beach

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President's Message

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and Palm Springs is fortunate to gain a valuable asset. I thank David and Dale for all they have accomplished for our community and wish them well.

At this year's annual meeting in April, *Out and About LB* gained three new Board Members and Treasurer. During our first board meeting together I was immediately impressed with not only the extensive experience the board was gaining, but also the raw ability. As I grow into my new role as Board President, I feel reassured to have so many good people working with me, people with diverse skills and obvious competence. Actions speak louder than words and these are the people that make it happen. Curt brings lots of new ideas, energy and a drive to get things done. Ken has served on numerous boards and it shows. Nothing seems to faze him; any situation that comes up it seems that he has seen before. Our new treasurer Lucas serves on other boards, but most especially as the current Treasurer of the Orange County Gay and Lesbian Center. He has working knowledge and experience with fun legal terms like fiduciary responsibility and Sarbanes-Oxley. (Plus given his ability to keep a husband for 13 years as handsome and brilliant as his, Lucas must be doing something right.) Our new Vice President Sandy has extensive financial experience and an incredible ability to organize. Never before have I seen someone use phrases like "I have that document right here" and "I read in the bi-laws that" so effortlessly.

We are moving forward with a great board full of bright capable people. *Out and About LB* is in good hands.

Event Suggestions and Volunteers Sought

Many members enjoy the Theater Nites or attending concerts we have scheduled in the past, but we are at a loss to find suitable plays for this year— we are open to any suggestions in Los Angeles, Long Beach or Orange County... ***theater groups which offer discounts to non-profits organizations preferred.***

Additionally, if you are interested in hosting one of our events please let us know! We need volunteers to host a BBQ, pool party, pot-luck, pre-theater event or Holiday Progressive Party. Give Sandy a call at 428.6508 today.