

# Paradise Center for Tolerance and Nonviolence



Volume I, Issue 2 September 1, 2006

## Annual Unity in Diversity Festival H a n d s   A c r o s s   t h e   R i d g e

This year's event was a great success! More than 200 people were in attendance throughout this sixth annual multicultural festival held on June 11, 2006, at Terry Ashe Park. Ethnic dancing, world music, poetry, storytelling, and some slammin' poetry came together to delight and move the audience in body and spirit. The festival amazed everyone with the wealth of talent and diversity of people in and about our small community. The kids' activities were under the direction of our youth coordinator, Sarah Anderson. Kids had their faces painted, made drawings, and created musical instruments which they had fun using as they participated in the final performance of the afternoon.

A bounce house let the kids burn off some good energy. Craft tables offered arts and crafts by talented PCTN volunteers, and a drawing for prizes donated by local merchants gave lots of folks something to take home. Fiesta Taco was on hand with their delicious Mexican food.

**Special thanks to our volunteers for a spectacular job, and to our MC, Susan Dobra, who guided us smoothly through the afternoon and also controlled the sound equipment. Great job, everyone!**



### Welcome

We are always open to the public.

Our office hours are:

Mon.	9-1
Tues.	9-2
Wed.	9-2
Thurs.	9-2
Fri.	9-2
Sat.	10-2

Please come visit us to find out more about who we are and what services we offer. We welcome the opportunity to hear your concerns and suggestions.

### Paradise Center for Tolerance and Nonviolence

6023 Skyway, Paradise  
530-877-1856  
Email:  
pctn@sbcglobal.net

**Visit our newly  
updated website  
at:  
[www.pctn.org](http://www.pctn.org)**

# CAMP FRIENDSHIP



July 2006

## “Jambo, Ciao, Hola, and Namaste”

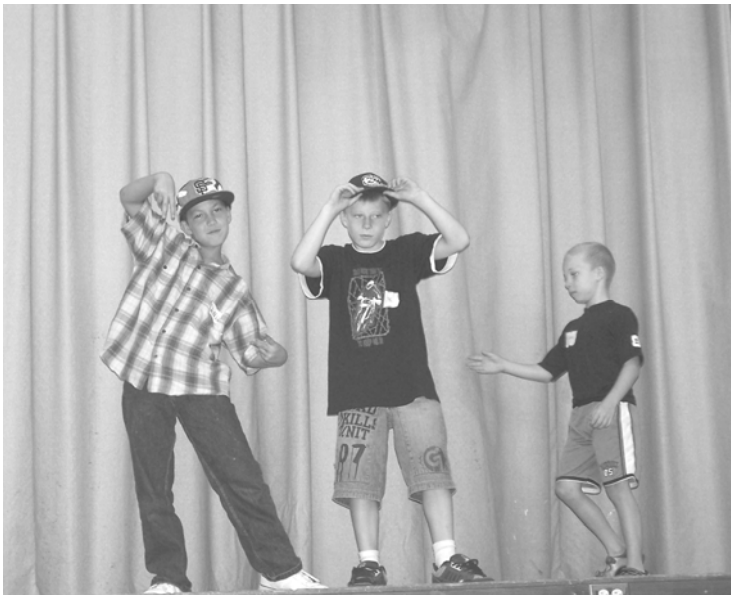
As the kids said their daily “Hello” in different languages, one could see them bonding and learning to trust one another at PCTN’s Camp Friendship, piloted this summer during two weeks in July. For a first time endeavor, Camp Friendship far exceeded our expectations – the 16 children (ages 8-12) who attended commented positively about their experiences.

When we asked “Why would you recommend Camp Friendship to other children?” some of their responses were:

“Because I see lots of people bullied.” “Because it’s fun.” “It teaches good morals.” “It’s a great program.” “It is great for people.”

Parents commented about changes they had noticed in their children’s behavior: “more polite,” “more considerate,” “not quick to yell as much,” “confidence has improved.”

The lyrics of the daily sing-a-long were the motto for fostering success through self-respect, learning and having fun: *“I know I can, I know I can be what I want to be, be what I want to be, If I work hard at it, I’ll be where I want to be.”*



**DeNikko Dewalt (left), Kirk Schmitz (Center), and Thomas Gibson (Right) perform a skit during Camp Friendship.**

The program promoted a different theme for each day: Compassion and Kindness, Respect, Tolerance, Friendliness, Forgiveness, Cooperation, Flexibility, Justice, Courage, and Peacefulness. Learning about these values helped the children learn not only how to control their own behavior, but how to stick up for other kids and end the cycle of bullying. Physical activities, such as cooperative games and yoga, let the kids



**Posing Statues: a game to develop Tolerance, the theme of the day.**

put the values into action, while they had fun, too.

Another aspect of the program was creating a nonviolence ‘tool belt’. The children made real ‘tools’ to remind them of each theme--- tools like the Ring of Respect, Friendship Bracelet, Compass of Cooperation, and Peace Passport.

Camp Friendship was the brainchild of Wendy Hartley, one of PCTN’s founders. With her leadership, the dedicated and excellent team of Ricardo Maldonado, Sarah Anderson and Melody Robinson created and facilitated the camp program. Thanks to many generous organizations and individuals, we were able to staff and pay for the two-week program that helped young children become better friends and allies

As one child stated in a Paradise Post article (7/22/06) about the Camp "I've been a bully; I've been bullied; and I've watched it." According to the article the child, Kirk Schmitz, said that the camp has taught him morals and nonviolent tactics but most importantly he learned about respect.

Melody Robinson, whose 3 children were participants, said the effects of the program not only helped with her kids' behavior problems, but also affected her own behavior. "I became more aware of what I said and



**Melody Robinson reads a book about Dr. Martin Luther King to participants at Camp Friendship.**

how I said it. The value themes helped focus many of our activities." The camp was an empowering and esteem-building experience for the children, especially for those who had been targets of put-downs and bullying.

Special thanks to all who so generously donated to Camp Friendship:

**Youth for Change/Family Resource Center**  
**Wendy Ardell/Overland Equipment, Inc.**  
**Fellowship of Reconciliation**  
**Paradise Association of Realtors**  
**Ted D. Baca**  
**Paradise Elks Lodge No. 2026**  
**Gary Bess Associates**  
**Helen Van der Maelen**  
**Linnea Sheppard/Suitability**  
**Connie Andruseitus/Arbonne Consultant**

## PCTN Book Club

### Home Tales From Afar

A new book discussion group is forming, jointly sponsored by PCTN and the Paradise branch of the Butte County Library.

Beginning in September, the group will read and discuss works by contemporary immigrant writers. The selections will be fiction with themes that shed light on cultures of origin, what happens when those cultures are introduced to new settings, intergenerational issues as the older generation clings more strongly to the old ways and the younger generation adapts to the new lifestyle, arranged marriages vs. love matches, health care, child rearing, prejudice and the full gamut of life. The first selection is Amulya Mal-ladi's The Mango Season, a fascinating tale which introduces us to the culture of India through the home visit by a daughter who has emigrated to the United States and made a new, complete life for herself. She fears telling her parents about some of the most important things in her new life because she knows that they will disapprove strongly. She struggles with her conscience and is torn by love for her family and love for her new life.

Copies of The Mango Season will be available at the Paradise Library early in September. The first meeting of the Home Tales Book Group will take place on Tuesday, September 26th, at 4:30 pm at the library. Members of the group will decide on the regular day and time for the meetings. They will also choose the selections. Suggestions for the group, for books or format, are welcome. Please contact the Center for Tol-erance with your ideas. We hope to see you at the library!



## Board President's Message

Since the founding of PCTN the word “tolerance” has been controversial. Recent letters and comments in the Paradise Post as well as some recent personal interactions indicate the controversy is not about to go away. Some people assume “tolerance” implies tolerating any and all behavior, while others have assumed it means acceptance of lifestyles they may find unpalatable. When we at the Center speak of “tolerance” we simply mean respecting the differences among us whether they be ethnic, religious or any other category we might use to differentiate our fellow humans. Respecting the differences further implies that we allow others to live their lives without fear of abuse and harassment. As our brochure states, tolerance is even more than just “tolerating” but also implies being open-minded, generous and unbiased.

*Dan Johnson, Board President*

## We're Here to Serve You

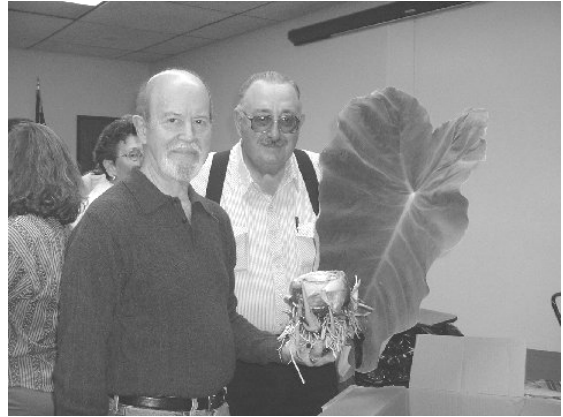
### Assistance to Victims of Intolerance

If you, your family, or your child has been the target of bullying, discrimination or violence related to intolerance or prejudice, PCTN offers support and help.

- ◆ We can advocate for an immediate remedy as well as a long-term plan to achieve steps toward a solution.
- ◆ We can help to mediate and create better communication to resolve conflicts, related to prejudice and intolerance, between families or individuals.
- ◆ We can offer direct assistance in making contact with agencies and institutions.
- ◆ We can accompany you to meetings to assist in bringing about better communication and mutual understanding.
- ◆ We can refer you to other appropriate resources in the community.

530-877-1856

**Report Hate Graffiti and Hate Literature. Call PCTN at 877-1856. We will follow-up with the Paradise Police Department.**



**Anthony Bettencourt shows an audience member a taro root plant at our “Portuguese Evening”**

## World Culture Evenings

World culture evenings are held monthly at the Paradise library. Speakers enlighten and entertain with interesting presentations about the history and culture of their native countries, often bringing along traditional foods, music to share, pictures, artifacts and handcrafts to display. The audience gets the chance to ask questions and participate in lively discussions. September's Culture Evening will feature the country of Senegal, with Sidiki Diallo, a local musician and resident of Chico, talking about his heritage, and joined by his wife, Becky Frey, who has visited Senegal and collected many artifacts and handcrafts, which she will explain. Join us at the Paradise Library, located at 5922 Clark Road, on Thursday, September 28th, 6:30—8:30pm.

## PCTN Lending Library

Come visit our in-house resource lending library containing 180 books about diverse cultures and races, civil rights, prejudice, and non-violence. There are many good books for adults and students. The books can be borrowed and taken home.

# STARS Program

Our STARS (Safety, Tolerance, and Respect Superstars) program at the Boys & Girls Club will begin its fourth session in September and continue through December. The amended and enhanced program will incorporate more values to enrich the kids' understanding and growth. New games and activities will engage their interest and spark the children's imaginations. Weekly hour-long "classes" are held from 3:00-4:00 pm, and are available to children participating in the Boys & Girls Club After School Program.

**These kids were excited to show off the pictures they designed for their STARS t-shirts, during the Spring, 2006 session.**



## International Day of Peace

What can we do?



According to the UN Resolution, September 21st is recognized as an International Day of Peace. The resolution, calling for a global ceasefire: *"Declares that the International Day of Peace shall henceforth be observed as a day of global ceasefire and non-violence, an invitation to all nations and people to honour a cessation of hostilities for the duration of the Day..."* So what can we do? Well first, attend the Peace Day community event at Butte College. PCTN will be there. Also, check out the web site below to learn how to get involved and make a difference in your neck of the woods.

**[www.internationaldayofpeace.org](http://www.internationaldayofpeace.org)**



## Think Globally, Act Locally

While you think globally, you can act locally to make the world a safer place. HOW? By joining PCTN and helping us continue programs that foster tolerance and alternatives to violence.

**GET READY** — PCTN's 2007 Membership Drive starts November 1st. Ready yourself to receive our Membership Packet.

**GET SET** — Set your mind to stand up and be counted. Help make Paradise a more hospitable community, where all people feel welcome and safe.

**GO** — Go to your checkbook when you receive the Membership mailing. Write a check to PCTN, and drop it off or mail it back right away.

**WHY?** Because your membership dollars will help us keep the doors open in 2007.

For the last couple of years, The California Endowment has provided about 75% of PCTN's funding. This enabled us to stabilize the organization and offer some highly effective programs. The Endowment funding ends December 31, 2006.

2007 looms as a serious funding challenge for PCTN. To be sure, we are seeking funding from other charitable foundations, but they all require us to show substantial community support. That's why we need your help! In this year of global chaos, please make tolerance and nonviolence your priority in 2007 by supporting PCTN with your membership dues.

So grab your significant other, your sister & brother, your neighbor's dog Rover, and enroll as a member.



## *Thank you to our PCTN Benefactor & Patron Members*

Ted Baca, Cynthia Banta, Gary Bess, Reeny V. Breevaart, Jill Cenedella, Priscilla L. Hanford, Wendy Hartley, Dan & Mimi Johnson, Jim & Mary Johnson, Maggie Kitamura, Linda S. Lewis, Marcia A. Moore, C. Philip & Angela Nordgren, Gwen & Philip Nordgren, Paradise United Methodist Church, Jennifer Rold, Sharon Rose, Gary & Mary Shallenberger, Mark & Christine Shuken, Helen Van der Maelen

Membership donations start at \$10. Patron donors give \$100 - \$499. Benefactor Donors give \$500 or more.

We are a 501(c)(3) organization and donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.



## **ANOTHER WAY TO DONATE ( without spending your own \$\$)**

- ⇒ Use GoodSearch.com as your internet search engine. PCTN will benefit by getting a penny for every search you do. Go to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com). Enter Paradise Center in the "I'm supporting" box. Click Verify. Then do your searches. It's that easy.
- ⇒ Want to do some shopping on Amazon? Use the link that we will be setting up on our website. PCTN will get a % of your purchase.

Thank you!  
Every little bit helps!

# September 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6 PCTN Resource Development Cmte 7:00 pm	7	8	9 Magalia Commu- nity Fair 10am-4pm
10	11	12 PCTN Programs & Services Cmte 5:30 pm	13	14 **STARS	15	16
17 FUN Families	18 PCTN Board Meet- ing 7:00pm	19	20	21 **STARS  International Day of Peace @ Butte Col- lege 10am-4pm	22	23
24	25	26 Home Tales PCTN Book Group 4:30pm at Paradise Library	27 Non-Violent Communication 7:30pm	28 **STARS  World Culture Eve- ning: Senegal 6:30pm at Paradise Library	29	30

# October 2006

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4 PCTN Resource Development Cmte 7:00pm	5 **STARS	6	7
8	9	10 PCTN Programs & Services Cmte 5:30pm	11	12 **STARS	13	14
15 FUN Families	16 PCTN Board Meeting 7:00pm	17	18	19 **STARS	20	21
22	23	24	25 Non-Violent Communication 7:30pm	26 **STARS World Culture Eve- ning: Dias de los Muertos (Days of the Dead) 6:30pm	27	28
29	30	31				

**Paradise Center for  
Tolerance and  
Nonviolence**

**Board of Directors:**

- Dan Johnson
- Sue Mendez
- Howard Harrington
- Peggy Eaton
- Ted Baca
- Mar Deer
- Wendy Hartley
- Gwen Nordgren
- Gary Shallenberger

**PCTN Staff:**

- Ricardo Maldonado,  
*Executive Director*
- Sue Bordelon,  
*Office Manager*
- Sarah Anderson,  
*Youth Activities Coordinator*

**Newsletter Staff:**

- Ricardo Maldonado
- Sue Bordelon
- Wendy Hartley
- Donna Husa
- Gwen Nordgren

# Volunteer Spotlight



## Maureen Curtis

Maureen has helped the center by participating in our ‘hate tracking program’. Maureen volunteers to go to the Paradise Police Department to review the Police Call Log for potential acts of hate and hate graffiti. This is a very tedious job that sometimes takes up to four hours at a time. Maureen is disabled. She says, “There are many people with hidden disabilities. They often stay to themselves, and no one knows that they are disabled. It is very satisfying to be able to make a difference in our community, by being given the opportunity to volunteer with PCTN.” We are inspired by Maureen’s dedication to helping us keep Paradise a safe place for all people. Thank You, Maureen!!!

## Thank You

Mar Deer, Cynthia Banta, Mary Shallenberger, and Gwen Nordgren for filling in while our Office Manager was on leave, and Matt Lindstrom for his many hours of donated technical service on our computers.

### Volunteer Positions Available

- \* Publicity Coordinator
- \* Youth Activity Assistant
- \* Graphic Artist
- \* Photographer/  
Videographer
- \* And many other ways to help, whether you can volunteer once or twice a year, or a few hours each month.

### Meeting Schedule

PCTN Board of Directors meets the third Monday of each month at 7:00 pm.

Programs & Services Committee meets the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 pm.

Resource Development Committee meets the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm.

All meetings are held at the PCTN office and are open to the community.

**PCTN Wish List:**

- \* Scanner (Windows XP compatible) \*
- DVD Player \* Digital Camera \*
- Conference Table Chairs
- \* Folding Chairs



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