



## **LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS** **Faye and Bob Alperin**

*by Bonnie Dorrans*

Faye and Bob Alperin believe in giving back to their community, which is one reason they have both been involved in organizations that do just that. Faye first discovered Assistance League of Long Beach back in 1988 when she was a part of Rick Rackers. However, when her daughter Barbara became an Assisteens member, Faye joined Chapter and felt that it was the perfect fit for her. For Bob, it was his work with the nonprofit ChildNet. He, too, felt satisfaction in working hard for a worthwhile cause. Both Faye and Bob discovered that they were getting more back than they were giving. As Mary McLeod Bethune so simply put it, "When I give, I get."

Joining Chapter in 1994, Faye became a member of the *Free Spirits* class, a group of ladies she bonded with and still counts among her special friends. Her talents were recognized early on as Faye has held many leadership positions. Some of those include Grants Chairman, Press and Public Relations Chairman, Presentation Ball Chairman, liaison to several auxiliaries, President-Elect, and then President in 2010-2011. Currently, Faye is part of two philanthropic committees. She serves on The Kids on the Block™ and chairs the Howard and Asian Arts Committee. Faye obviously never learned to say no. Bob likewise has been involved with Assistance League, too, serving as a Chapter Advisor over the years.

The Alperins both appreciate the services provided by Assistance League of Long Beach. They feel that the uniform requirement instituted by LBUSD in 1994 really does level the playing field for all students and makes for a better education. The more than 10,000 uniforms given out by Operation School Bell® play a big part in the success of the school district's policy. Having served on this philanthropy as well as many others, Faye is proud of all that is accomplished by each. However, the one that holds the warmest spot in her heart is The Kids on the Block™. As one of the puppeteers who takes the various shows into area schools, she experiences firsthand the delight that is brought to the children who view the meaningful programs. The smiles and applause are all the thanks she needs.

Bob's involvement in ChildNet Youth & Family Services has been ongoing for many years and for the last twenty he has served on the board. ChildNet works to provide safe homes, education, and counseling to vulnerable children and families. Among its services are working with foster families, running a behavioral health agency, and operating the Zinsmeyer Academy for troubled boys and girls, a sort of last resort high school. Because of the valuable services this organization offers, Bob is fully committed to supporting it.

Bob joked that "he cannot remember life before Assistance League." However, he and Faye both reminisced over how they met. Both were attending UCSD and became friends. Faye says, "Bob made me laugh." However, Bob moved onto other things in the next few years, working with a carnival during the summer to make extra money and doing so off and on whenever he could. Yes, he was a "carny." Faye went on to get her degree in psychology at CSULB. Bob worked several jobs, and as a computer salesman for Burroughs realized he had a talent for selling. His uncle suggested he might want to go into real estate. Eventually Bob returned to college getting his business degree from UC Berkeley and beginning a career in commercial real estate.

Even though they had lost track of each other, Faye sent occasional cards to Bob via his mother's address. Eventually they got reacquainted and in 1979 were married. They are proud of their two children. Their daughter Barbara is married to Dan and mother to Owen. She is a clinical psychologist doing post doctorate work in Oakland. Her brother Mark lives in Seattle where he is a ship's engineer. He was an Army Ranger before attending the maritime academy.

In their free time, Bob and Faye enjoy fly-fishing, especially for trout or bonefish. Favorite fishing places include the Bahamas and the Madison River in Montana. Bob also likes to handicap horses, both at Del Mar and Santa Anita. Faye's leisure activities include going to estate sales, but her favorite activity, of course, is caring for and playing with her two-year old grandson, Owen.

The Alperins believe wholeheartedly in Assistance League of Long Beach and its mission, because it is able to reach so many young people who are in need in our community. It has proven over and over again what a difference it can make in people's lives. They like that it is a "hands-on" organization and meaningful for the volunteers. Faye and Bob know that, with 75 years of ongoing service, Assistance League of Long Beach will be around for a long time. As founding members of the Legacy Society, they are glad that their contribution will enable the organization to continue offering all of its philanthropic programs well into the future.

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*If you are interested in learning more about Assistance League of Long Beach's Endowment Program or Legacy Society membership, please contact Annette Kashiwabara, Executive Director, at (562) 627-5650.*