

NEWS



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**For Immediate Release:
May 28, 2010**

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To: **Shirley Wild**
Press Telegram, Seen at the Scene

Who: **Assistance League of Long Beach**
A nonprofit volunteer organization serving the Long Beach community

What: **Annual Meeting and Installation of Officers**

Where: **Hyatt Regency Hotel, Long Beach**

Date: **Monday, May 24, 2010**

Number attending: 240

Photo caption: (left to right) Assistance League of Long Beach President Faye Alperin, Immediate Past President Pat Reep

Descriptive details:

Assistance League of Long Beach Begins Celebrating 70th Anniversary Year

If the recent Annual Meeting and Installation of new officers was any indication, this 70th anniversary year for Assistance League of Long Beach is going to be a memorable one. Outgoing President Pat Reep turned her gavel over to Faye Alperin as she was installed as the 70th President of Assistance League of Long Beach on Monday, May 24, at the group's annual meeting and luncheon at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. In her speech to 240 members and guests Faye referenced Pat Reep's theme and her own when she said, "This year we imagined, believed, and achieved, and now we're getting ready to celebrate the journey." Faye noted the irony of her becoming president of an organization whose philanthropic programs would have helped her, a child from a very modest background. The Free Spirits Class of 1994 and Faye's puppeteer friends from The Kids on the Block[™] took the audience on a journey through time in an installation skit (written by Marie Johnson,

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Rozanne Churchill, and Sandi Lewis) modeled on the famous “I Love Lucy” episode in which Lucy, Ricky, Ethel, and Fred travel to Italy and Lucy learns that making wine involves stomping on grapes. Faye’s husband, Bob, daughter Barbara, and mother Kaz Kushi laughed with the audience as the wine stompers selected Alperin as the fifth “F” ingredient in the special 70th anniversary wine: Fun, Friendship, Family, Filanthropy (sic) and Faye. Lewis, in the persona of Ethel Mertz, translated the Italians’ conversation for the Audience. Alperin, in a red “Lucy” wig, was applauded for her leadership and her ability to select fine wines for her cellar. The “wines” she selected for the vintage year 2010-2011 were her Board of Directors: Cindy Summers, President-Elect; Bonnie Dorrans, 1st VP Philanthropic Programs; 2nd VP Fund Development Kathy Lingle; 3rd VP Special Events, Kathy Wade; 4th VP Finance, Arline Walter; 5th VP Membership, Joan Twedell; Recording Secretary, Kerri Birnie; Treasurer, Linda McCarley; Thrift Shop Chairman, Julia Mendell; Press and PR Chairman, Linda Drummond; Strategic Planning Chairman, Mary Ann Anderson; Rick Rackers Auxiliary Chairman, Michele Ward; Las Hermanas Auxiliary Chairman, Georgia Klinkers; CAMEO Professional Auxiliary Chairman, Naomi Blackmore; Assisteens[®] Coordinator, Shelly Barbre; and Parliamentarian Pat Reep.

Outgoing President Pat Reep presented Faye with the traditional Winifred Campbell white orchid corsage. Past President Nanci Gee led the “ringing of the bells,” an Assistance League tradition, that summoned Reep to appear before the “Court” of Past Presidents.

Another highlight of the morning was the presentation of the Ada Edwards Laughlin Award to Life Members Helena “Link” Gatov and Dorothy McDermott. This award is given to unsung heroines who have been members for a significant number of years and have given outstanding behind the scenes service. Both Link and Dorothy have been invaluable to the success of the Thrift and Vintage Shop. Their husbands, Dr. Nelson Gatov and Michael McDermott, were present, as were past recipients of the award Clara Andrews, Suzanne Nosworthy, and Dolores Kerr.

Roberta Keester, 1st Vice President Philanthropic Programs presented a video, “Memories,” which celebrated nine philanthropic programs. Kathy Lingle, Kathy Wade, Linda McCarley, Sharon

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Denham, Rita Valentine, Cindy Gillis, Melinda Martin, Rose Pedersen, and Jodi Simmons also gave annual reports, which highlighted the year's achievements.

Everyone admired the centerpieces of striking red ginger blooms and white dendrobium orchids while enjoying the delicious trio of salads, which included curried chicken, poached salmon with rice pilaf, and mixed heirloom tomatoes in balsamic vinaigrette. A fresh berry trifle for dessert was a delightful end to a special day.

Seen at the Scene: Past presidents Anne Cook, Beverly Cook, Sue Foat, Sandy French, Nanci Gee, Jane Jackson, Joyce Krauss, Claudia Langner, President National Assistance League; Sandra McCarthy, Melva Miller, Suzanne Nosworthy, Peggy Reep, Shelly Sandler, Ellie Schaffner. Also: Phyllis Spierer (Faye's sister-in-law); friend Sigrid Zahner and her son Max; Carolyn Yamaoka, Marie and David Johnson, Annette Kashiwabara and Marty Isozaki, Jo Mary Thomason, Elaine Goodnoe, Linda Rowland, Marilyn Tyo, Pat Warner, Pat Dowd, Kathy Burke, Beverly Jones, Marcha Katz, Marguerite Lyon, Ellie Nantais, Thelma Orr, Rosemarie Cartwright, Melanie Dietz, Lynn McCune, Shirley Black, Christine Hill.

FYI: Assistance League of Long Beach, chartered in 1940, is the largest chapter of National Assistance League. Its signature philanthropic programs, Operation School Bell[®], clothes more than 5,550 children in need in the Long Beach Unified School District each year. Assistance League also operates a low-cost orthodontic clinic for 860 children from low income families. Other philanthropic programs include ALa Carte, The Kids on the Block[™], Howard Collection of Asian Art, Assault Survivor Kits[®], Scholarships and Mentoring.

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Mission Statement: Assistance League of Long Beach is a nonprofit corporation whose purpose is to create a community of volunteers to identify and deliver philanthropic services.