



*“Fostering healthy lifestyle choices that help young people resist alcohol and drugs”*

### 2010 – 2011 CASA Board

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Chair Emeritus	Faustine Comstock

**For more information about CASA, please visit our website:**  
[www.casalg.org](http://www.casalg.org)

### Help Support CASA:

Sign up for **eScrip** donations on the CASA website.

You can also send **DONATIONS** to:

CASA of Los Gatos  
 20 High School Court  
 Los Gatos, Ca 95030

**Summer 2011**

## From the Chair

### What is CASA?

CASA stands for Community Against Substance Abuse. The organization was established in 1984 with the goal of fostering healthy lifestyle choices that help young people resist alcohol and drugs.

CASA facilitates or co-sponsors many events and activities, which this year included:

- Red Ribbon Week at all Los Gatos Elementary and Middle Schools,
- Drug Awareness Week at Los Gatos High School,
- Fisher Middle School “Healthy Lifestyle Activities,”
- Saber Cats nights with The Venue,
- Bowling nights at Cambrian Lanes with The Venue,
- The 2011 Spring Fashion Show at the high school (in which over 180 students participated),
- CASA Senior Scholarship Award, and
- Prescription Drug Disposal program with the LGMSPD.

CASA also distributes quarterly newsletters and has a website with links to community events and other resources.

Monthly CASA meetings are open to all, and are a forum for the discussion of drug and alcohol issues and other issues that affect the health and safety of Los Gatos youth.

While I enjoy blowing CASA’s horn, there are many other organizations in our town that work to benefit our youth. One of

the CASA Board’s goals is to work together with these groups to consolidate resources and energy and avoid duplication of efforts and services. This year CASA coordinated efforts with many community groups and individuals, including:

- All of the schools in our elementary and high school districts,
- The Los Gatos/Monte Sereno Police Department,
- The Los Gatos Recreation Department,
- Supportive businesses in the community,
- Youth therapists,
- Teen Force,
- The Venue/A Place for Teens,
- The Parenting Continuum,
- Project Cornerstone, and
- Individual community volunteers.

CASA has recently joined a newly formed alliance of local organizations that support youth in our town with the goal of holding fun and safe activities. The group is currently named the Los Gatos Youth and Teen Collaborative and we anticipate that it will help local groups work together even more efficiently to support our youth.

This is my last newsletter as CASA Chairperson, and I would like to take this opportunity to challenge YOU to find a way to support the youth of our community. There are many ways you can help. Join a community organization, participate in an event, come to a meeting, or volunteer your time, input or financial support. Any contribution you make will be appreciated and you will help us to create a stronger, healthier community.

Joan Y. Cross, Chairperson

## CASA Events and General Meeting Notes

### 2011 – 2012 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Get to know your community better and help local youth by volunteering with CASA. Represent a school, coordinate the Fashion Show, or simply volunteer to help with an individual event. For more information, contact Karyn Gramling, incoming CASA Chair, at [karyn.gramling@gmail.com](mailto:karyn.gramling@gmail.com).

### CASA EVENTS

#### Prescription Drug Disposal Event

Since the last newsletter in April, CASA was able to co-sponsor an additional Drug Disposal Event with the LGMSPD on June 4. 80 cars drove up to drop off approximately 230 pounds of expired or unused medications!



Michele Boudreau, Joan Y. Cross, Patty Horton (not-pictured) Larry Brown and Priscilla Anaya at the Drug Disposal Event June 4 2011.

### CASA Scholarship Awards



CASA Los Gatos High School Representatives Karyn Gramling and Jennifer Marcum presented the Annual CASA College Scholarship Award to Alex Burkhart.

### Keeping Cool During Finals

CASA provided a very welcome "Chill with CASA" Ice Cream break for students on a warm Friday afternoon just before finals. 540 ice cream bars were GONE in less than 10 minutes!



### NOTES FROM CASA SPRING

#### GENERAL MEETINGS

#### LGMS Police Department

Student Resource Officer Michelle Gonzales relayed information about the Parent Project Classes that are finishing up. She also discussed current drug use: heroin is available and there is an increase in cocaine use. There is a tendency to mix drugs – 'candy flipping' putting a drop of LSD on an Ecstasy pill (if you touch the pill the LSD gets absorbed through your skin) and 'candy stacking,' taking multiple pills instead of just one. Group members discussed medical marijuana cards and student perceptions of marijuana use.

The issue of students driving with provisional licenses was addressed. If there is an accident and the driver with a provisional license has passengers under the age of 25 in the car (which is against the provisional license law), the insurance company most likely will NOT cover the accident. Also, provisional license drivers are not to use cell phones at all – even hands free varieties are not allowed.

### Teen Force

John Hogan announced that Teen Force has received a community grant. This will help them place 10 teenagers in jobs at The Terraces of Los Gatos. He is marketing for local and county-wide summer internships. There are more teens than jobs, but he feels it has been a good month.

### CASSY

The LGHS CASSY Counselors will have completed suicide prevention presentations to all sophomores, juniors and seniors by year-end.

### The Venue

Mike Loya reported that he has hired an administrative assistant to help with the workload. A Place for Teens (APFT) will be holding Summer Camps for students this summer, as well as providing a shuttle this fall for school students that live in the mountains. The Venue is also hoping to open a student run re-sale shop located near RJ Fisher Middle School this fall.



### Parenting Continuum

Helena McCombie reported that the Continuum now has a Facebook page. Their next speaker in the fall will be Dr. Rosekind speaking about sleep. They are organizing their calendar for next year, including speakers, a college preparation class for juniors and parenting classes.

## **RJFisher Middle School**

Linda Williams reported that the Project Cornerstone survey results are in and show big increases in developing Cornerstone assets in Fisher students from 2006 – 2011. This fall they are starting Club 41, focusing on developing positive cultural identity. They held a community service fair in the cafeteria during open house, focusing on community service projects completed over the course of the year.

## **News from Other Community Meetings**

This column summarizes issues addressed at various recent community meetings that CASA supporters may find interesting.

### **LGMSPD DRUG-FREE COMMUNITY MEETINGS**

April, May and June 2011

During these monthly meetings, representatives from community groups review police incident reports and upcoming events in order to stay informed of youth activities in town.

### **LGMS Police Department** –

Officers reviewed enforcement of restrictions on cell phone use while driving, tobacco “stings” at local liquor stores and how the juvenile probation systems works.

Officer Michelle Gonzales also described problems with drug sales and loitering at a store parking lot across from the High School as an on-going issue and the group discussed ways to address this issue.

The group also discussed the recent presentation on Ecstasy by Larry Silveira, LMFT, a

representative of the Dept. of Alcohol & Drug Services for the Santa Clara Valley Health & Hospital System. He described the drug, its permanent effects on the body and brain and growth of its use to epidemic proportions in the teen population.

Regina Faulkner spoke about the County Tobacco Reduction efforts and noted that Federal Funds are available to implement new programs.

### **Student Resource Officers(SRO)**

Dan Cutforth, the SRO for Saratoga, and Michelle Gonzalez, the SRO for Los Gatos, reported on activities at their schools. As the school year draws to a close and the weather improves there is more drug and alcohol activity.

There have been recent increases in alcohol use in Los Gatos and incidents of heroin use in Saratoga. “SPICE,” a legal herb that is a substitute for marijuana, was described and discussed. Spice can be purchased over the Internet. Officer Cutforth relayed information about a coffee house in Saratoga, which seems to be a drug hang-out and where heroin has been observed.

**The Venue** – Mike Loya reported that he is spearheading the new Youth and Teen Collaborative in town. The goal is to bring together a group of like-minded organizations that want to pool resources to hold fun, safe activities for youth in town. The first meetings were well attended and the organization received good input from attending youth about the kind of activities they would like to see offered. Organizations represented at the initial meetings

included the Los Gatos Recreation Department, Holy Cross Lutheran Church, the Los Gatos United Methodist Church, Teen Force, the Los Gatos Monte Sereno Police Department, the Los Gatos Library, the SWYMCA, The Venue, the Los Gatos Youth Commission and CASA.

Attendance at Venue events is increasing. The *Venue/CASA Saber Cats night* had 161 attendees, The *Venue/ CASA Cambrian Bowling night* had 36 attendees and 20 attendees met again for an impromptu night of bowling the next week.. *The Under 21 Club event* held at The Los Gatos Roasting Company had 185 attendees! The *Venue-a-thon* has been postponed until the fall.

**Kiwanis Club** – Ellen Graff reported on the ‘KKids’ group at Van Meter School. Much like the Builders Club at RJ Fisher, the KKids volunteer for Community Service efforts in Los Gatos. The Kiwanis will also be supporting a 24-hour Breast Cancer Relay on August 30 at Los Gatos Rolling Hills.

**The Lions** – Jim Thrall described the anti-bullying campaign and the suicide prevention classes that the Lions Club sponsors. He had information about their ‘Date Night’ event – a wine and food pairing evening fundraiser held on Saturday, May 14.

**CASSY** – The Second Annual Jill’s Ride For Hope will be held on August 27. Proceeds go to support CASSY.

**Teen Force** – John Hogan reported that TeenForce, our local non-profit teen jobs program, is making good progress. So far, they have placed 72 students in jobs in and around Los Gatos. As summer approaches, they are meeting with 10-12 new students per week. If you can refer employers to TeenForce, it will go a long way towards helping keep our kids busy and productive this summer. TeenForce teens are also available for work around the house, such as cleaning, gardening and odd jobs.

**CASA Thanks:**

- ❖ Board Members
- ❖ School Representatives
- ❖ Supporters
- ❖ Contributors
- ❖ The many volunteers that have been helped us work toward our vision



**INFORMATION AND SUPPORT**



**Hot Lines & Crisis Support**

24-7 Teen Help Line	888-247-7717
24 hour Contact Cares for Teens	279-8228
CA Youth Line	800-843-5200
LG Safe Rides	888-550-RIDE
Suicide & Crisis Hotline	279-3312
Eastfield Ming Quong Mobile Crisis Unit	379-3796

**Community Counseling Programs**

Almaden Counseling Services	997-0200
Bill Wilson Center	243-0222
Community Health Awareness	650-965-2020
YWCA	295-4011

**General Information**

National Council on Alcohol and Drug Dependence	279-7292
Department of Alcohol and Drug Services	272-6518
National Association on Mental Illness – Santa Clara	453-0400

**Counseling Programs for Alcohol and Drugs**

Adolescent Substance Abuse Treatment Program	650-424-0852
Alcoholics Anonymous	374-8511
Narcotics Anonymous	293-4790
Marijuana Anonymous	450-0796
Al-anon/Alateen	379-1051
The Camp Recovery Center	800-924-2879
Gateway – County Alcohol and Drug Referral Center	800-488-9919
Kaiser Permanente Adolescent and Alcohol Treatment Program	236-6815
Thunder Road Adolescent Treatment Center	510-653-5040
Advent Group Ministries	281-0708
Daytop Villiage	650-583-0001

This information is provided as a community service and does not imply endorsement of any organization or program by CASA.

**CASA would like to thank the following for their generous support during the 2010/11 school year:**

**Platinum**

Christina Federlein  
Blossom Hill Home & School Club  
LGHS Home & School Club  
RJ Fisher Home & School Club  
Whole Foods Market

**Gold**

Karla Albright & Chris Burkhart  
John & Lisa Hogan  
John & Monica Kirkorian  
Janice & Keith Robinson  
Los Gatos Rotary Charities

**Silver**

Tom Anaya  
Siamak & Maryam Azizi  
Ed & Gigi Atherton  
Michele Balaban  
Bruce & Alicia Barton  
Steve & Kazuko Beck  
Kendra Bohn  
Rita Bottari  
Daniel & Kim Brodnick  
Don & Veronica Brown  
Curt & Faustine Comstock  
Glenn & Joan Cross  
Dana & Theresa Davis  
Ron & Marion Dickel  
Michael & Elizabeth Dillon  
Louise Fishler  
Dale Greenley & Jacquelyn Rider  
Patty & Randy Horton  
Kenneth Huesby & Suzan Jackson  
Kathy & Ken Kelly  
Judy Kelly-Macek  
Kathy Kolb  
Taryne & Jeff Kraus  
Audrey McKeown  
Martha Neubauer  
Claire Nippres  
Nancy Offer  
LauriePrestine

Dawn Shelton  
Kathy Smoley  
Judith Trenholme-Stanley  
John & Susan Tighe  
Linda & Tyler Williams  
Kim Worsencroft & Dennis McEvoy

**Bronze**

Theresa Abrams  
Rose Arnaudo  
Leon & Deb Baranovsky  
Gary & Barbara Bersano  
Andrea & Tim Blackwell  
Michele Boudreau  
Bob & Carol Braham  
Sharon & Stephen Brodsky  
Richard & Laura Brossart  
Lori Cali  
Stephen Campbell  
Dong Hui Chen  
Molly & Dean Crowe  
Karen & Peter Daboll  
Eileen & Gianfranco De Feo  
Linda & Henry Fee  
Leslie & Eric Finch  
Randy & Susan Flatness  
Diana & Paul Garneau  
Bonnie & Roy Gessler  
Paul & Jennifer Gifford  
Amy Goldsmith  
Karyn & Glenn Gramling  
Happy Hound  
Timothy & Georgia Harris  
Suzanne & Greg Hawker  
Brian & Megan Hedayati  
Jere & Leslie Hensch  
Donald & Pamela Herman  
David & Lynn Hirschfeld  
Larri & Michael Hirschklau  
Katherine & Scott Hotfelter  
Sheila Humphries  
Pirie Jensen  
Maureen & John Klatt  
Charles Kuta & Eva Echemendi  
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Kristin & Scott Lamson  
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Larry Lisser & Nadine Graven  
Monica Lyle  
Michael & Jane Mairose

Debbie & Alan Mar  
Dale & Jennifer Marcum  
Tonya & Michael McQuade  
Todd & Lorriane Miller  
Barbara & William Mosley  
Robert & Jacqueline Mutz  
Pam Nerney  
Oswald & Jan Olsen  
Laurie & Albert Pimental  
Kate Paisley & Eric Raff  
Sutton Roley  
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Robin Sedgwick  
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Maureen & Cyrus Tabari  
Kenneth & Jayne Tan  
Elizabeth & Thomas Tinor  
Erin & Don Walker  
Leslie Wat  
Jeff & Maria West  
David & Patty Wilde  
Katherine R Winkelman  
Anabel Wisinski



## **UPCOMING EVENTS AND CASA MEETINGS**

**Summer Pool Nights:** 6/22 through 8/10 – Every Wednesday night from 8:30 – 10:30 PM at the Los Gatos High School Pool, \$5.00 Admission

**Check these sites for other Summer Events:**

- ❖ Los Gatos Recreation Department Calendar
- ❖ The Venue / A Place For Teens

**Next CASA Meeting** – September 8, 2011 from 10 – 11:30 AM in the Los Gatos High School Community Room

# **Have A Fun & Safe Summer!**