



The Siren

A PAL Quarterly Newsletter

April - June 2008



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34th Annual NATIONAL PAL BOXING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Come out and enjoy Olympic style boxing at its best!

Dates: Sept. 29 - Oct. 4

Location: 350 S. K Street, Oxnard Oxnard PAL Gym

Ages 5 and under...FREE
Children 6 - 17.....\$5.00
Adults 18+.....\$10.00
Multi-Day Pass.....\$30.00
Ringside.....\$20.00

Doors Open at 4:30 PM

Tournament Fact

Past participants at the National PAL Boxing Championships include:

Local pros Victor Ortiz, David Rodela & Miguel Garcia (2005 National PAL Champion) and 2008 U.S. Olympians Gary Russell, Jr. and Rau'shee Warren.

CAMP HOLLYWOOD

ACTION!

Keepin' It Reel, Oxnard PAL's video production program, held its first ever summer camp this quarter, offering instruction in video editing, camera operation, acting and script writing. The program, which was completely free, included lunch and a surprise field trip to Universal Studios. The 2-week camp went from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and was offered to 20 participants, ages 11 to 17. Originally scheduled for only one session, the program filled up within days

of opening and eventually added a second session which took place in late June.

Those individuals most closely involved with the camp included program coordinator, Greg Barnes, volunteer J.T. Peterson and lead instructors E.J. Jackson and Diego Zuniga.

"We had a blast. It was their first camp—and ours too. We ended up accomplishing more than we originally planned," said instructor and PAL staff member, E.J. Jackson.



As part of the camp, each group created a 5 to 10-minute video. Be sure to check our next newsletter for information on how you can view these special projects.

CUT!

PAL Boxers Make Their Mark in Memphis

This June, six members of the Oxnard PAL boxing program traveled to Memphis, Tennessee to compete in the 2nd Annual Title National Boxing Championships. The



group competed strongly, advancing at all levels and medaling in five of the six divisions in which it competed.

Participants at the event included, 16 year-old Nicolas Uργοiti from Rio Mesa H.S. (Silver Medal), 17 year-old Angel Perez from Camarillo H.S. (Silver Medal), 16 year-old Paul Vera from Oxnard H.S. (Silver Medal), 16 year-old Louis Ybarra from Channel Islands H.S. (Gold Medal), and 16 year-old Johnny Hernandez from Oxnard H.S.

Also, participating was boxer and assistant coach, Joseph "Jo-Jo" Santistevan. Jo-Jo put on an especially courageous performance, earning a silver

medal in an upper weight class after discovering there were no competitors in his age and weight division.



Left to right - Louis Ybarra, Angel Perez, Joseph Santistevan, Paul Vera, Johnny Hernandez, Nicolas Uργοiti.

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805 Cruizin' Car Show & Concert



Q104-7 morning show personality, Nancy Rodriguez, poses for a picture with the President of the Latin Bombas Car Club—Oxnard Chapter.

In May, Oxnard PAL, with partner Q104-7, held its 2nd Annual Cruizin' Car Show & Concert at Campus Park. The event's car show and concert format attracts a wide variety of residents, including a large number of local youth drawn to the event by Q104-7 sponsored radio artists.

Others drawn to the event included fans and supporters of local artists, like the Viejitos Car Club of Oxnard, who showed up in strong support of former Hueneme High School alumni, The Majors. With the group's new single



receiving regular play on Q104-7, the 805 Cruizin' Car Show & Concert was a true example of local involvement and support at all levels. Contributing to this theme, staff and attendees of the event embraced the Montes De Oca Family, who participated as representatives of the

National Bone Marrow Registry. Sharing information about their son and his need for a bone marrow match, the family registered more than 40 individuals, including several Oxnard police officers and PAL staff.

"It's always good to talk about these things, otherwise they can go unnoticed," said PAL Development Director, Mike Ramirez. "It was great to see everyone out here supporting each other."

PAL Program Becomes County's Largest

At over 130 teams and 2500 players, PAL's Youth Soccer League is Ventura County's largest.

Utilizing his strong soccer background, newly appointed Co-Director, Sr. Officer Luis McArthur, has been the program's primary architect.

Designed with both a competitive and recreational component, the league can accommodate varying skill levels, from school formed teams to club teams.

While the league does not currently accept individual sign-ups, individuals interested in participating usually have little difficulty. Referrals are commonplace and PAL itself has six teams, which take sign-ups throughout the year.

Participants in the league pay an average of only \$17, in contrast to the standard \$100 per player, and PAL team participants are free.



"Our goal is to keep costs low and standards high," said McArthur. "We want to ensure quality programming for all youth, regardless of economic status."

Financial supporters of the league, thus far, have included Taconic Farms, Santa Barbara Flooring Installation, Lee & Sons Plumbing & Heating, Paso

Del Norte Painting Co., and Ventura County Supervisor John Flynn.

Most of the league's participants are local but the heightened level of competition has attracted teams from as far away as San Luis Obispo.

Adding to its prestige, the league's affiliation with the US Soccer Federation and US Youth Soccer has allowed previously ineligible teams to participate in club soccer tournaments under the PAL League umbrella. To this point, PAL has enabled 22 first-time teams to participate in the Coast Soccer League.

For more information, contact Officer McArthur at (805)385-8104.



Asst. Chief, Mike Matlock and PAL Co-Director, Terrel Harrison and at the PAL Youth Soccer League opening ceremonies. Over 3,500 youth and adults attended the event, which included a march that began at Oxnard PAL and ended at Fremont Jr. High School.

PAL Boxing

Continued from Page 1

When not in the ring, the team soaked in the town, visiting a number of sites including the University of Memphis and the famous Beale Street in Downtown Memphis, where artists such as Elvis and B.B. King had made their own mark. Making a strong impact was one King in particular.

On Tuesday, June 3, the same night Barack Obama won the Democratic Party presidential nomination, Coach Garza and his

team visited the former Lorraine Motel. Now home to the National Civil Rights Museum, it was at this hotel, just 40 years earlier, that Dr. Martin Luther King had been assassinated.

With Obama clinching the nomination, and his own place in history, the group talked about what they felt Dr. King might be thinking if he were alive today. The discussion evolved, and for six young boxers from Southern

California, the exchange became a lesson on what it truly meant to *fight*.

"I would like to thank the City of Oxnard, our PAL Board and all of our PAL contributors for their support. This trip has given our youth the opportunity to experience part of our nations history first hand."



—Coach Rocky Garza

"We don't want our kids to grow up and be bystanders. We want them to see how things work and learn how they can become a part of the process."

YDC: A Part of the Process

In April, six youth from PAL's Youth Director's Council (YDC) traveled to Sacramento for the California PAL (Cal-PAL) sponsored Sacramento Experience.

Funds from a National PAL YDC grant helped to cover the cost of plane tickets, while Cal-PAL covered the cost of rooms and food for the event.

Attendees at the conference

included, Jesse Hernandez of Frontier High, Steven Marron of Hueneme High, Thiare Pena of Oxnard High, Paul Fields of Haydock Jr. High and Catherine White and Alyssa Cabral of Blackstock Jr. High.

During their time in Sacramento, the group met with their local assemblyman, Pedro Nava, while also participating in trainings and workshops on

leadership and the procedures and functions of their state government.

"We don't want our kids to group up and be bystanders. We want them to see how things work and learn how they can become a part of the process," said YDC Coordinator, Janice Cabildo.

For more information on PAL's YDC or to recommend a community service project for the group, contact the PAL Office at (805) 385-8230.

PAL YOUTH: Do Their Part

As many people know, all of Oxnard PAL's programs are free. With the support of the City, local donors and umbrella organizations like California PAL and National PAL, the impossible is achieved and boundaries erased. But the youth are more than our investment, they are the investors. Doing their part this quarter is the PAL boxing program, utilizing gloves

autographed at our boxing tournaments to raise funds for PAL's programs.

"Our youth know what they have—and they appreciate it. All of the monies raised go to PAL's general fund. Not once have I been asked, 'What do I get?' They want to help," said Coach Garza.

Oxnard PAL would to thank all of those who supported this drawing

and congratulate the following winners.

Joe De La Peña, Marco Ramirez, Mo Fayad, Diana Barajas, Ed Powell, Sergio Alvarez, Leticia Gonzalez, Elvia Pacheco and Leonor Santana.

**Oxnard Police Activities League
AUTOGRAPHED BOXING GLOVES**

Spring Drawing
May 30, 2008 - 5:00 P.M. @ PAL Gym, 350 S. "K" Street
(Winners to receive autographed boxing gloves and other merchandise.)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1984 Olympic Gold Medalist • Winner of the Val Barker Trophy (Olympic Outstanding Boxer Award) • Former WBA and International Flyweight Champion <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Paul Gonzalez</small></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oxnard Native • Former IBF Jr. Lightweight Champion • Former WBA Jr. Lightweight Champion <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Robert "Crashy" Garcia</small></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Former WBA Welterweight Champion • International Boxing Hall of Fame Inductee • California Boxing Hall of Fame Inductee <p style="text-align: center;"><small>"King" Carlos Hernandez</small></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1988 Olympic Gold Medalist • Winner of the Val Barker Trophy (Olympic Outstanding Boxer Award) • Former WBA and International Flyweight Champion <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Tom "The Tiger" Lopez</small></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Former WBA Light Flyweight Champion • Former WBC Light Flyweight Champion • IBF - 4 (17 lbs) <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Lucia Riber</small></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Boxing Hall of Fame Inductee • Former WBC Super Featherweight Champion • The Ring Magazine's 100 Greatest Punchers <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Bobby Chacon</small></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WBA World Champion • Boxing Record: 17-0-13 (13 K.O.) • Named an International Boxing Hall of Fame Inductee <p style="text-align: center;"><small>George Aron</small></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Former IBF Light Heavyweight Champion • 2004 USA Trainer and Ring Magazine Fighter of the Year • Former WBC and IBF Super Middleweight Champion <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Clayton "Cottonmouth" Johnson</small></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1999 Golden Gloves Champion • 2000 U.S. Olympian • Former WBC Light Flyweight Champion <p style="text-align: center;"><small>Brandon "Maverick Punch" White</small></p>

For More Info, call (805) 385-8230



OXNARD POLICE ACTIVITIES LEAGUE, INC.

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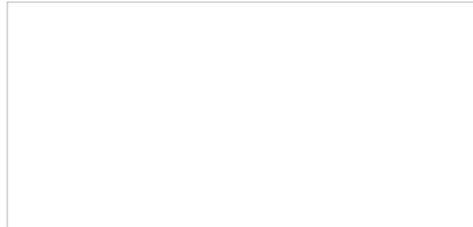
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Michael Ramirez



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**PAL Co-Director
Luis McArthur**

A Closer Look: ^{Sr. Officer} Luis McArthur

Oxnard PAL is proud to welcome the newest member of its team, long time volunteer and supporter, Sr. Officer Luis McArthur.

Assigned to PAL in early January, the new Co-Director wasted no time getting started, establishing PAL as the largest and most affordable soccer league in Ventura County within just a few months of his arrival.

Also a spokesman for the Oxnard Police Department, Officer McArthur has many duties, including liaison to the Mexican Consulate Office and

host of the Oxnard Police Department's "Straight To You" web cast. In addition, McArthur appears regularly on an interactive Spanish radio program, where he answers various law enforcement questions from members of the community. A former student-athlete of Channel Islands High School, McArthur's sports background



coupled with his community ties and love for working with youth made him the ideal candidate for PAL's Co-Director position.

"Officer McArthur is a major asset to our PAL program. He's well liked and for good reason. He has a pure heart and a true understanding of the needs of our community," says fellow Co-Director Terrel Harrison.

"As a police officer I have sworn to protect and serve. Organizing *preventive oriented* activities is a great way to accomplish both."

—Sr. Officer Luis McArthur