

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Making a Difference for Children

Bringing Holiday Spirit to Kids who May Have Little to Celebrate

ORANGE COAST -- The State Parks Police Activities League (PAL) is hosting the sixth annual Holiday event for youth that might not otherwise have very much to celebrate during the holiday season.

" Christmas is a special time for kids, but often, not for all kids, said Ruth Coleman, Director of California State Parks. " So our staff want to reach out and touch the lives of children in need."

Christmas for Kids in Need

Date: Saturday, December 13, 2003

Time: 5:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M.

*Location: Orange County Ocean Institute at Dana Point
24200 Dana Point Harbor Drive*

A grant from the California Police Activities League and support from the Orange County Ocean Institute and other sponsors are helping to make this event for approximately 45 youths possible. The youth are from the City of Anaheim and Project Self Reliance in San Juan Capistrano.

The event is held in conjunction with the Orange County Ocean Institute utilizing the full-size 1825 replica ship, the *Pilgrim*, in Dana Point Harbor. The children will arrive at 4:30 p.m. Dinner will be served at 5:00 p.m. followed by dessert on board the *Pilgrim* where Santa and his Elf will arrive via the State Parks Lifeguard Rescue Patrol Boat, *Surfwatch*.

After Santa gives presents (provided by State Park employees) to all the children, participants will put on lifejackets and board the three *Surfwatch* boats to be a part of the Dana Point Harbor *Parade of Lights* boat parade.

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