



HEARTLIGHTS



Hamming It Up!

SCMFO is best known for our annual Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway. For the second year, we put a new spin on our favorite tradition: 100 families received an Easter ham and a \$25 commissary gift card.



Did you know that SCMFO does a monthly gift card giveaway? We noticed that, towards the end of the pay period, cash is sometimes tighter for young military families. So each month, when we know they may need it the most, our volunteers give out \$25 gift cards to the commissary or the MCX (base gas station). Most recipients – like this dad and his beautiful girls – are surprised and appreciative. But too regularly, we hear the impact this made in the lives of a mom or dad who didn't know how they would put food on the table until the next paycheck.

All for the Students

Another annual tradition is our spring school supplies drive for San Onofre Elementary, on Camp Pendleton. For years, we have relied on the local community – primarily through churches – to donate supplies to finish out the school year. Thanks to St. Clement's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church, Christ Lutheran Church, Saint Andrew's by-the-Sea United Methodist, and Mary's Feast for your generous donations.



In addition, SCMFO provided each of the 31 teachers at San O Elementary with a \$100 gift certificate for school supplies. These are used to meet the unique needs of each class, which teachers know best!

Taco 'Bout a Fun Party

How do you make the last day of school even better? A taco party, of course! Once the 33⁶th graders had their fill, there was enough left over to put a smile on the faces of teachers and staff.



Semper FideiTea 2018: Tea for Two – All About You

“Best tea party ever!” shouted 8-year-old Kaitlyn, and she was right. We far surpassed attendance at previous teas, with 31 wives present, two adult friends and 25 children. Plus we had four for wives who could not join us but will get everything the wives in attendance received. With 14 volunteers, four models and two Mary’s Feast guests, we had a full house of 78! According to SCMFO Vice President and Tea Chair, Judy Franz, “Overall this was a Tea for Eighty-Two!”

All wives, guests and kids received goodie bags and tea cups. Each wife received a \$25 commissary card, chose a larger “pampering gift”, and received a beautiful quilt made by the Surfside Quilters Guild. Eight years old and looking quite dapper in his vest, Michael said, “I liked everything in my goodie bag. Thank you.”

We kicked off our brand new Child Care Reimbursement Project at the tea, with each wife receiving \$25 in gift cards toward child care. The program was the idea of volunteer Dellita Kobold, who remembered how much a few hours of child care meant to her when her Air Force husband was deployed in Vietnam – some time for herself, to rejuvenate or even just run errands. Dellita raised enough money to give 40 such gifts through SCMFO, and if the pilot goes well, we envision continuing it. “Your daycare program couldn’t have come at a better time,” said Heather, “You have no idea how much I need it.”

Another new addition to the tea was a fashion show, hosted for us by Michelle Alexander of [Rascal's Ladies Boutique](#) in downtown San Clemente. To the delight of our guests, 18 gorgeous looks – from daytime to evening wear – were modeled by Michelle and her beautiful crew of volunteer models!

Once again Stephanie Harrelson of [No Small Potatoes Catering](#) and her crew did a wonderful job! The delectable tea sandwiches and finger foods, beverage selections, and cake table (and other goodies for kids) were as beautiful as they were delicious.



Visit our Facebook album for more photos from the tea!