







*Content provided, typed, and approved by the consumers of ACE-IT I Editorial Team: Managing Editor *Lisa* and associate editors *Lizzy, Sam, Patty, Tasi, K.K., Duncan, David, Elean, Chuck, Linda, Don B., Justin, Maria, Xavier, Kim, Ron, Frank, Roseline, Earline, Dante, Nic, Maricella, Joshua, Tyler, Melanie, and Mariko.* *Circulation provided by ACE-IT I *Pony Express Team!*

Page One

SCIENCE: ROBOT DOG

Remember the ACE-IT I Robot Mascot that we made a few years ago? Well, we decided he was looking a little lonely and needed a friend, so we made him a pet! We constructed our kooky creature out of random cast-off kitchen instruments, empty food cans, bits of wire and connectors from our junk bin, and assorted thrift store finds. Isn't he a cute little guy? We thought it over and named him "Astro-Cookie" because his body is made from an old cookie tin and we

Cookie" because his body is made from an old cookie tin and we liked the dog from *"The Jetsons"* cartoon show. Who's a good robot dog? You're a good robot dog! *Sit, boy!!*









HUNT FOR DISABILITY ACCOMMODATIONS Erik planned this outing group to emphasize important structures and devices that have been designed to eliminate physical barriers for people with disabilities. Ken dropped us off downtown before parking the bus and joining us at the State Capitol Building. As we began our search, Erik asked us

to close our eyes and imagine that we were all sitting in wheelchairs and dependant upon flat surfaces (no stairs or curbs). He explained that before the 1970's, there were very few accommodations such as curb cuts, wheelchair ramps, bus lifts, or buttons to automatically open doors. We looked

around and found not only curb cuts and helpful automatic doors, but also several ramps and a separate security entrance for people using wheelchairs to go around the metal detectors. We also discussed the use of Braille and learned that all federal buildings are now equipped with Braille markings for people with vision limitations. If you can't read the signs with your eyes, you can now use your fingers! After leaving the building, we spent some time outside visiting a myriad of display tables that had been set up by groups advocating for the health and welfare of our local Native American tribes. It was a great, informative trip and enjoyed by all!



NEW CLIENT Mariko joined our program this month. She is the sister of one of our good friends from ACE-IT II











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Page Two

A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE

We had a fun, nostalgic visit to the 57th Street Antique Row and Design Center over in East Sacramento. They've had a unique collection of shops at the same location for over forty years! Roseline was drawn to the lovely ceramic tea sets while Robert was more fascinated with the model hot rods, including a flashy red Corvette. Maricella found a cute vintage porcelain "Native American Princess" doll wearing an outfit almost identical to her Pocahontas character from our Splish-Splash Theatre Disney Show. The doll even had Maricella's adorable cheek dimples! Later on in our antiques adventures, Maricella, Melanie, and Dante were the victims of a surprise attack by a crazed pack of plush Chihuahuas. There was no escape!



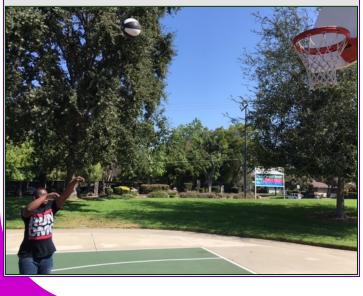






LISA'S FIRST VISIT

Lisa doesn't normally come on Fridays, but she switched her schedule this month so that she could join us at *Natomas High School.* She was excited to meet *Mr. Joel* for the first time and learn all about volunteering at *Joey's Locker.*



HOOPS SHARPSHOOTER

We had fun playing basketball on a hot day in the

park. At one point, Ken watched as Lorenzo drained

three long shots in a row. Nothin' but net, baby!





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Page Three

SEWING CLASS PROJECTS

Janelle came to volunteer with our sewing group again and asked us a question. Would we rather make some things for ourselves, make some things for program to use, or make some nice things to donate to other in need? We chose to volunteer making things for others. For our first project, we're going to

turn the flannel remnants Janelle had purchased into cute little burp cloths for infants. We'll start by asking to donate them to either *St. John's Shelter for Women* and Children or Wellspring Women's Center. We had lots fun colors and patterns to work with, including one covered in dinosaurs! We'll also get together with staff and brainstorm more ideas for future donations.







ORGANIZING THE COSTUME CLOSET After a recent show, we had fun trying on and sorting all of our costume pieces! SMARTY PANTS WINNER Tyler was the first to guess that the answer was "Stigma", from the Saffron Facts article on Page Five.











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Page Four



BONUS COOKING: *ITALIAN BEAN & PASTA SOUP* We found a great recipe in an old copy of *Cooks Illustrated* magazine

for *Pasta e Fagioli* (pronounced "Pasta Fazool"). This is one of those classic regional dishes of Italy with many different versions (it seems that every cute little Italian grandmother has her own favorite recipe

that she guards jealously). We chose a specialized variation that called for cannellini beans, olive oil, small ditalini pasta, pancetta or bacon, onion, celery, garlic, canned tomatoes, fresh parsley, chicken broth, freshly grated Parmesan cheese (including a big piece of the rind for adding depth to the stock), and three "secret ingredients": anchovy filets, fennel, and orange zest. We served it with a big loaf of freshly baked rustic bread for sopping up the yummy broth. It was all very filling and incredibly delicious. We love soup! *Buon Appetito*!







WHEELCHAIR REPAIR AT LAST!



Lizzy had been waiting quite a while to have his power chair fixed, and he was very excited when the repairs were finished this month! His control knob and tilt functions were fixed, and

they also gave him nice new ergonomic foot rests, a new chest strap, and upgraded foot padding. Lizzy and staff are also being trained on the use of his new *CTEC* interactive device in order to better facilitate his communication skills. *Nice!*



PANTS Stephanie's

Stumpers!



Put on your thinking cap and your *smarty* pants and win a \$10 gift certificate!

Someone in this month's newsletter has a second family...George, Elroy, Judy, Jane, and Rosie. Who is it??

Be the first to email or call ACE IT I at 916-564-6117 and let us know the answer and what page it's on and you will fatten your wallet with a <u>\$10 gift certificate!</u>

