

Almaden Valley Rotary Christmas Project

The 1993 project included six families. Three of the families were in one house, two of the families were in another house and the sixth family was in one house. A list of the families and the items donated are the following:

- 1) Rodriguez family - blankets, towels, dishes
Nember, mother - sweater, pants, blouse, slippers, bathset, makeup kit
Nimber, daughter - Dress, sweater, jacket, underwear, Barbie
Raul, son - sweater, pants, socks, shirts, shoes, underwear,
Police car, Fire truck
Aurelio, son - pants, shirts, book
- 2) Velasquez family -
Martin, father - Pants, jacket, sweater, shoes, shirt
Isabel, mother - Dress, shoes, sweater, earrings
Martin, son - pants, shirt, jacket, shoes, Police car
Christina, daughter - Jacket, dress, shoes, socks, pants,
apron, doll
Virginia, daughter - shoes, dress, sweater, underwear, doll
Felicitas, grandmother - Skirt, blouse, sweater, shoes
Alejandra, daughter - jacket, shoes, dress, underwear, Barbie
- 3) Velasquez family -
Herminio, father - jacket, pants, shoes, shirt sweater, candy
Consepsion, mother - Jacket, underwear, dress, shoes,
cosmetics
Hefrain, son - jacket, pants, socks, underwear, shoes, mini
Nintendo
Susana, daughter - Jacket, dress, shoes, socks, underwear,
Barbie
Ana Maria, daughter - Jacket, dress, shoes, sweater, doll,
kitchen set
Antonio, son - Shoes, shirt, pants, jacket, sweater, Santa
Nestor, son - Baby clothes, shoes, diapers, toys
- 4) Velasquez family -
Camerino, father - Pants, shirt jacket, shoes, sweater, razor
Guadalupe, mother - Jacket, dress, sweater, makeup kit
Carlos, son - Jacket, shoes, pants, socks, car
Jaime, son - Jacket, pants, shirt, balls
- 5) Montoya family - Toaster
Mario, father - sweater, shirt
Genoveva, mother - sweater, dress, blouse
Mario, son - Pants, sandals, shirt, underwear, Bear, cookies
Joshua, son - Pants, shirts, cars, underwear, Bear, cookies
- 6) Hernandez family - Toaster, portable heater, floor lamp,
blankets
Olga, mother - skirt, jacket, blouse, earrings
Claudia, daughter - sweater, dress, turtleneck, sweats, tape
Paola, son - Pants, jacket, shoes, soldier
Brian, son - Shoes, pants, shirt, jacket, toys

Each of the children received either a Candyland game, Trouble game or a musical toy. They were donated by the Burke Industry Xmas party through Paul Consentino.

Four trees were donated by John Remy from the YMCA, one for the Velasquez house, one for the Rodriguez house and two for the Hernandez and Montoya families. One tree was

left at the Rodriguez house, no tree was necessary at the Velasquez house and three trees were left at the Hernandez and Montoya house. I believe one or two trees were donated to neighbors.

Fifty dollar scripts for food from Safeway was given to Rodriguez, Hernandez and Montoya families, sixty dollars to two of the Velasquez families and forty dollars to the third Velasquez family for a total of \$310.

A queen bed and sofa chairs were left to the Rodriguez house. A large sofa was left to the Velasquez house. Two twin beds and a sofa was left to the Hernandez and Montoya house. A lamp was left at each of the houses.

The organization was contacted by Rich Flynn, Friends of the Shelter, Bonnie Klut, 20369 Chalet Lane, Saratoga, Ca 95070, 408-867-1880.

Each of the six families were interviewed by this organization and their needs were determined. These needs were organized on a large poster board with pictures of each of the families. Two families each were assigned to two Rotarians and one family each was assigned to two more Rotarians. It was the object of each of those Rotarians to satisfy the needs of their families from the rest of the Rotarians. The names of the Rotarians were listed alongside of the family members or particular items that they were responsible for. This process began in late November.

The Monday night before Christmas (Saturday) some 40-50 people arrived with clothes and toys to wrap. Each family member's needs were organized into a separate sack with a notation of what was included. Each sack of goods was wrapped and returned to the sack. After all the wrapping was completed, each sack was checked for its completeness later that night. The following day, more shopping was done to complete some of the needs that were not met.

Wednesday night, seven vehicles set out to deliver the presents. The presents were organized with the three Velasquez family presents in one vehicle, the Montoya and Hernandez families presents in a second vehicle and the Rodriguez family presents in a third vehicle. Each of the houses were visited by all the vehicles and their occupants. They were called approximately one week in advance and called that night before the visits. The visits were very moving and each of the families were extremely appreciative.

Thursday afternoon, we finished the deliveries of the furniture to each of the houses.

Suggestion: Assign one Rotarian to each family. Let that Rotarian take care of getting all the family member's needs taken care of by soliciting other Rotarians. The chairman is in charge of the overall project and collecting any moneys for food and special needs. Each of the family Rotarians is in charge of collecting all the donations and organizing them into separate sacks BEFORE arriving for the wrapping party. This will make the wrapping more efficient. And hopefully, all the needs will be obtained by that time. We also need to make all, including the wives, aware of the delivery time.