

Public School Month Observance

As part of the Public Schools Support month sponsored by the Grand Lodge of California and Nevada, worshipful Pat Burke selected a Kindergarten class of 22 children at the Mission Education Center, located at 1630 Noe Street, San Francisco, to receive an introduction to the Easter Bunny tradition.

Most of these children (5-6 years old) come from low-income families in the Mission and are recent immigrants from countries where the Easter Bunny tradition is unknown.

There were 12 girls and 10 boys and each was given a basket containing a box of coloring crayons; a petite musical stuffed animal (duck or rabbit or lamb), and several plastic eggs – filled with jelly beans – nesting on green artificial grass. The basket was inserted in a cellophane bag and its opening closed with a multi-colored ribbon. In addition, each child received a thick bilingual (English/Spanish) coloring book. Baskets and books were individualized with transparent labels with the child's name and the donor: Golden Gate Speranza Masonic Lodge No. 30, F & A M.

Before the individual delivery of the baskets and coloring books, the children sat at their desks and were served an Easter cupcake and a glass of carbonated beverage.

While the baskets were being delivered, Pasha the Clown, (aka Vrej) made balloon swords, flowers and hearts that delighted the children. If you want to see some of the scenes, please visit the website: www.pashatheclown.com and click on the slides.

Afterwards, some of the children wrapped the multi-colored ribbons around their foreheads (imitating Ninja warriors) and used their newly acquired swords to engage in spirited warrior games.

Armando Bolanos