

# PCLC ANCHOR



## MEET YOUR NEW JUNIOR CLASS PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT:

Madi Sherrick

**President Ashley Pincek and Vice President Sheyla Jacobs**



*Read the interview on page 3!*

## CHECK OUT THE GREENIE PROJECT

Madi Sherrick

This has been an exciting month for the Greenie Club. On November 16th, we had our first trip to the recycling center and received a total of \$41.05 for the cans and bottles collected in our special recycling bins at PCLC. The proceeds were donated to Promise Child.

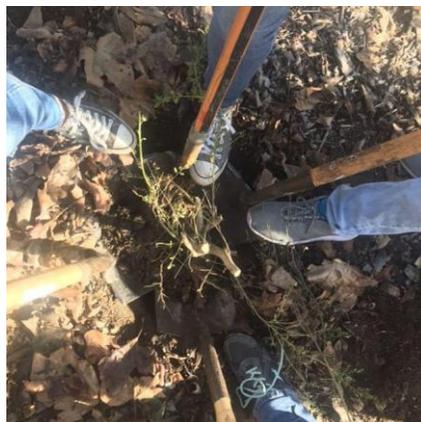
Another fun event was our field trip to the Shipley Nature Center in Huntington Beach. The morning was spent digging up tree and bush stumps and cleaning up debris left from previous cleanups. We will be excited to work with them again at future cleanups!

Please contact us at

[greenieproject@gmail.com](mailto:greenieproject@gmail.com)

if you would like more information on the club.

We would love to have you join us!



## PCLC NEWS

Join us for the PCLC High School Winter Formal!

**What:** Dinner, dessert, photos, dancing, and raffle prizes!

**When:** Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup>  
6-10 pm

**Where:** Calvary Chapel Pacific Coast, 6400 Westminster Blvd.

Sign up before January 1 and pay \$40, and sign up after and pay \$50

It is open to any high school - age students, so invite your friends!

Get more details and sign up on the PCLC website!

<http://www.pacificcoastlc.com/winter-formal-tickets.html>

## NEXT GREENIE EVENT:

Join the Greenie Project for a Seal Beach beach cleanup! We will be joining the Surfrider foundation on Saturday, January 12 at the San Gabriel River Jetty (at the end of 1st Street) at 8 am. We will be helping out until noon, and then walking to El Burrito Jr on Main St. and Ocean Ave, so bring some food money! Elementary and middle schoolers must be accompanied by a parent.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### **Cruise of Lights:**

See boats, decks and waterfront homes all decorated with lights and animation for the holidays on a boat tour through Huntington Harbor.

**Where:** Huntington Harbor Mall, 16889 Algonquin St., Huntington Beach

**When:** Dec. 20-23

**Admission:** \$12-\$75. Free to children under 2. Proceeds benefit music education in Orange County schools

**Information:**

[www.cruiseoflights.org](http://www.cruiseoflights.org)

### **Science of Gingerbread:**

Hands-on kitchen science activities, cookie decorating, Santa on select dates, and award-winning gingerbread displays.

**Where:** Discovery Cube, 2500 N. Main St., Santa Ana.

**When:** Now-Jan. 6.

**Admission:** Included with general admission, \$20 adults, \$15 ages 3-14.

**Information:**

[oc.discoverycube.org](http://oc.discoverycube.org)

## GET TO KNOW PCLC STAFF: Nancy Kaser

Sheyla Jacobs

Nancy Kaser is the PCLC History and English teacher. Ever since she was in high school, she's had a love for reading and writing. When she was in elementary and junior



high, Mrs. Kaser actually wanted to become a nun. She says the women at the convent were “wonderfully influential” to her life.

She then wanted to go into journalism to become a news anchor. One class later she absolutely hated it. Thus, she decided to major in English Literature.

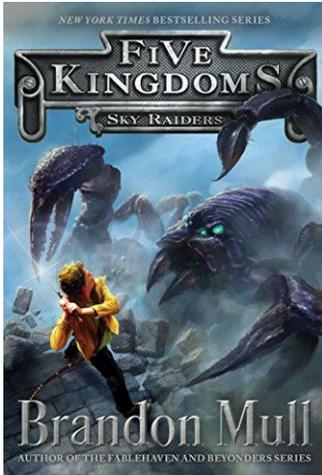
Mrs. Kaser has no shame in admitting she went through an awkward phase. It is a part of growing up that many of us have been through or are currently in. Being clumsy and awkward, she knew that she was born to be a nerd. After going to Orange Coast College for two years and Cal State Fullerton for three years, she earned her BA. She hopes to go back to school in the future to get her masters. In May, Mrs. Kaser will have been teaching for twenty years and absolutely loves her job.

In Mrs. Kaser’s adult life, she is very fortunate and grateful to have her husband, Brent Kaser. “He is the most genuine, hard working, diligent, charming person I know. There is no one on this earth I admire or respect more. Even after nearly 22 years of being married, I still can’t believe Brent Kaser picked me to be his wife.”

P.S. She wishes she could be like her dog, Mocha. She has great hair!

## BOOK OF THE MONTH

Bonnie Dorsett



### **Sky Raiders**

(Five Kingdoms #1)

By Brandon Mull

Brandon Mull creates an exciting and unique fantasy world that is frighteningly easy to find yourself lost in the first book of the Five Kingdoms series. Sky Raiders is jam-packed with monsters, magic, and video game-like action that will keep you the edge of your seat the whole time!

*If you'd like to see your favorite book feature in next month's paper, you can enter a submission at the homework table in Mrs. Kaser's room. Thank you!*

## INTERVIEW WITH CLASS PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

Madi Sherrick

### **Q: Why did you run for President/Vice President?**

Ashley: I ran for class president to bring people together and make Writtenburg Door and PCLC a more welcoming place.

Sheyla: I ran for junior class Vice President so that I could give back what this environment has given to me. I would not be who I am and what I am today without everyone here. This is my way of saying thank you... Plus it sounds cool to be VP.

### **Q: What is your favorite color?**

Ashley: Orange-ish pink

Sheyla: Blue

### **Q: What is your favorite animal?**

Ashley: The Quokka

Sheyla: Orca

### **Q: What is your favorite place that you've visited?**

Ashley: I can't decide between England and Boston.

Sheyla: Bahamas

### **Q: How long have you been taking classes at Writtenburg Door?**

Ashley: This is my second year.

Sheyla: This is currently my fourth year.

### **Q: What has been your favorite high school subject?**

Ashley: History, but I really like English, science, and math as well.

Sheyla: Biology

### **Q: What is your favorite TV show or movie series?**

Ashley: The Avengers! Star Wars!

Sheyla: Gilmore Girls and Star Wars

### **Q: What is your favorite standalone or book series?**

Ashley: Percy Jackson and the Olympians and the Smells Like Dog series

Sheyla: The Zodiac and the Mortal Instruments series

# PERFECT ESSAY

Ben Marshall

Beren Pair

Chloe MacLeith

Dylan McDade

Elijah Goodman

Ella-Jane Douglass

Ellery Dane

Ethan Dubose

Jadon Higginbotham

Josiah Ferguson

Justus Kim

Lauryn Ham

Liam Keegan

Lillian Faith

Michaia Foster

Nico Hanoian

Owen Bishop

Owen Honeycutt

Shiloh Chapman

Shiloh Langham

Titus Stickler

Wyatt Fischer

Wyatt Johnson

Zachary Rick



Congrats to these students for achieving  
100% on their essays!

## FEATURED COLLEGE: Yale University: New Haven, Connecticut

Isabel Viveros, Ariana Badgett

An Interview with Yale Student Tricia Vivieros

### **(1) What is your major?**

My major is Comparative Literature (English, Spanish, and Portuguese).

### **(2) What will you do with your major out of college, and how does Yale help prepare you for that?**

I hope to use my major to become an editor at a magazine or publishing company. I may even try to pursue a graduate degree and conduct research. Yale has a strong Comparative Literature department, and the campus publications are incredible places to practice writing and editing.

### **(3) What is the benefit of going to an Ivy League school over a non Ivy League school?**

I think both have their own special advantages, but I'd say that with ivy leagues there is probably the benefit of being able to find great connections in the industry/field of your choice.

### **(4) Are there any areas of study you would not recommend going to Yale for?**

Up until very recently Yale was largely known for being great in the Humanities, but average in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics). I still think that some departments in Math/Science are probably not as strong as they can be, but they're working on it.

### **(5) Does Yale offer substantial financial aid?**

Yes, I think so. Yale promises to meet 100% of demonstrated financial aid, and they try their best to help you graduate loan-free. I personally received a very generous amount of financial aid.

### **(6) Is there a study abroad program at Yale?**

Yes, there is. And a special thing about Yale is that they allow you to use your financial aid to fund your study abroad tuition as well. Yale has so many opportunities for studying abroad, and does a great job at encouraging students to take the opportunity. Many, many people I know have already studied abroad or are planning on doing so.

## ADVENTURES WORTH TAKING: the Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens

Ashley Pincek

If you and your family are looking for something relaxing to do during winter break to relieve the stress of the holidays and take your mind off of shopping and decorating, the Huntington Botanical Gardens are a beautiful place to visit. They are a set of 14 themed gardens spanning 120 acres, including bonsai trees estimated to be more than 1,000 years old, and a blooming Shakespeare themed garden, featuring many plants mentioned in his plays. A popular place for family photos, the displays change year-round depending on what blooms each season. If walking through a garden is not your cup of hot cocoa, the Huntington Library is nearby, featuring a complete original Gutenberg Bible, dated to 1455, one of only 11 copies in the United States! Glancing at its pages and admiring the illuminations is a one-in-a-lifetime experience. They also feature a copy of Shakespeare's folio and manuscripts of Jack London. In addition, The Huntington Art Collections display works from Europe (15<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> centuries), and America (17<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> centuries). And if you really, really need to get that last-minute Christmas shopping done, they have an extensive gift shop as well.

## COOKING WITH MADI: Homemade Hot Chocolate Powder

Madi Sherrick



Directions:

1. In a blender, blend all powder ingredients until everything has been mixed together thoroughly
2. In one cup of water or milk, add 2-3 tablespoons of the mix
3. With the chocolate chips, you can...
  - Put them through a food processor to make the bits smaller and dissolve quicker
  - Or add them directly to the hot chocolate
4. Add your favorite toppings and enjoy!

Ingredients:

1. 2 cups powdered sugar
2. 1 cup cocoa powder
3. ½ cup dry milk
4. 1 teaspoon of salt
5. (optional) ½ cup chocolate chips

## MOLLY'S ADVICE COLUM

Molly Rapske



Dear Molly,

This Christmas, how can I answer my extended family's questions about what I plan to do with my life?

-Anonymous

There is no possible correct answer here.

No matter what you say, your extended family will always want more. My "current" extended family refuses to acknowledge my decision to become a crime scene chalk outline artist. Even if I enter their "preferred" profession, they will always want a doctor/lawyer grandchild/niece/cousin/pet.

The best way to solve this problem is to avoid questions altogether. Note if the "eccentric family member" slot has been filled. If it has not, it is open for you to reach up for your destiny! Take note of famous eccentrics, such as Yoshiro Nakamatsu, Josef Stalin, and the old woman who lives in your garage. Embrace your eccentricity by taking up new hobbies such as collecting and eating frozen fish sticks.

Another open family member spot includes the emo "cousin." Find ways to embrace your inner emo. Regress back to a simpler time with black eyeliner, studded belts, Hot Topic attire, and pet mice. Going through an emo phase will lead to your family to steer clear of you, and also gives you a fun new style to share with your friends and acquaintances.

Another way to avoid attention from your family is to act weird. Express admiration for the thieves who stole your cousin Alantsetseg's opera collection. But why stop there? Relieve your relatives of any hope for your "future" by performing Soulja Boy's *Crank That* polka version for your uncle's fish who is allergic to polka. When your family starts to say hello to you, relieve tension by saying hello with your tongue.

But avoiding human contact isn't always the answer! Exaggerate your current "life" choices to make yourself seem better. For example, if you have once taken a soap-making class, embellish the content to include literally anything related to medicine. Peeled oranges once? Medicine! Used glue? Medicine! That one time when you were in fifth grade and you went to your friend's house and he thought he could fit a whole apple in his mouth? (He couldn't : |) Medicine!

When all else fails, find hope in your uncle's music collection. There is no way that you can please anyone. Focus on pleasing yourself first.

The most important thing to remember when interacting with your extended family is who will champion over the rest. You. You will outlive them.

## MONTHLY POLL



Dogs or cats? Vote here, and the results will be posted in the paper next month!

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WLRPL87>

Last month, Chick-fil-A and In-N-Out tied, with six votes each!

## NATURE REVIEW

Julianna Balducci

One of my favorite places to go is Irvine Regional Park.

This park has a wide variety of activities to do. Park

hours are 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. There are lots of hiking trails,

and a three mile long equestrian trail for riding horses. You can rent bikes and ride along trails all

throughout the park. Within the park are 6 playgrounds, 4 softball fields, 2 horseshoe pits and lake.

Tables, designated picnic areas, and barbecues are also located in the park. There is a snack bar and

multiple restrooms inside the park. Parking costs \$3 Monday-Friday and \$5 Saturday-Sunday.



Ducks and doves fly and roam about. Also a surprising feature...peacocks roam freely all throughout the park, so make sure you keep your eyes open! My favorite thing about Irvine Regional Park is the OC Zoo. The zoo is

located inside the park and there are signs to show you how to get there. This is a wonderful zoo

with some really interesting animals! Mountain lions, Black Bears, goats, and a Bald Eagle are only

a few of the amazing animals you can see at the zoo! It is open daily, weekdays 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.;

weekends 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Admission to the zoo is only \$2. I have seen every animal each time I

have gone to the zoo, which is a really cool experience! Irvine Regional Park is such a fun place to

go with family, or friends. There are so many things to do!

## ENCOURAGEMENT FOR PARENTS

Nancy Kaser

The senior literature class just finished reading *A Christmas Carol*. Along with Ebenezer Scrooge, we were introduced to Christmas Past, Christmas Present, and Christmas To Come. Lively discussions were had about favorite Christmas memories – surprise puppies, Grandma’s secret fudge recipe, matching pajamas, and candlelight church services. My other classes shared similar sentiments about what makes Christmas meaningful to them. Time with family, photos with Santa, trips to the snow, and dozens of lovely, fun traditions have etched their way into your children’s memories, and they shared them with delight.

Not one student said, “My favorite thing to do at Christmas is review math facts!” or “I can’t wait to read my history textbook over the break!” Yet, more than one parent has said to me that they plan to use the break to catch up on school work or review academic skills. To them I say, “Bah! Humbug!”

I want to encourage you, tired momma, to take a real break. Let your kids do the same. These next few weeks aren’t going to be the key to your student’s success or failure this year. In fact, you can consider it another homeschooling lesson – when you put the books aside for at least two weeks, you are teaching your kids to rest and re-charge. Rest is as important to learn as work.

You need a break too, friend. Don’t use this whole time off to clean the garage or to plan out next semester’s curriculum. Be intentional about not working for a bit. Your spirit needs some quiet rest, some spontaneous fun, and some worshipful refreshment. Go play with your kids, flirt with your spouse, feed your soul, and eat some fudge.

The schoolwork, housework, paperwork, and busywork will all be there the second week in January. But this Christmas Present will soon be Christmas Past. Your second graders will quickly be seniors, and they’ll be sharing about their childhood Christmas memories. Let them say they enjoyed a time of family traditions and real rest, when mom and her schedule relaxed and smiled, and they can expect that will be the tradition in their Christmases To Come.

## CONTACT US

We love feedback from our readers!

Contact us with your ideas, support, and feedback at

**Contact.pclanchor@gmail.org**

And give us a follow on Instagram! **@pclanchor**