



# AHA NEWSLETTER

Issue - December 2003

1. Message From The President
2. Committee Reports
3. Quote Of The Month

## 1. Message From The President

The Alabama Hispanic Association wishes all its members, friends, and supporters a Happy Holiday season and the best New Year yet to come. The Outreach Committee "elves" are busy getting Christmas gifts ready for distribution among less fortunate Hispanic families in our community. It's not too late to add more families to the list that we have compiled. If you know someone in a bad financial situation that could use a helping hand during Christmas, please let us know.

The Alabama Hispanic Association membership continues to grow. I hope it will continue to increase so that we can expand the programs we have started and continue to open programs that have yet to get underway, such as the Summer Internship Program for Junior and Senior High School students.

I don't think there's a finer group of people than the members of AHA. Not only do we have fun together, but most importantly, we help the less fortunate in our community. All the Committees have done an outstanding job this year and continue to press forward. Best wishes to all,

Margaret Rotger  
AHA President

## 2. Committee Reports

### Hispanic Christmas Charities

By Juana Garlington  
Community Outreach Chairperson

This is the second annual event of the Alabama Hispanic Association's Outreach Program. Last year we helped twenty-four less fortunate families with toys and food. Due to the outstanding support from our contributors, we will be able to help more families this year. I would like to thank all our contributors for making our Community Outreach Program a great success. Happy Holidays!!

### Upcoming Event – Valentine’s Dance

By Signey Hernandez

Social and Cultural Events Chairperson

I want to convey my deepest gratitude to all AHA members and volunteers who made our Christmas charity dance a huge success. I also want to thank everyone who attended for your support.

The next event that we're working on is our traditional Valentine's Day Dance in February. We'll keep you posted on the date, time and place in future newsletters or on our website. Feel free to send us any constructive comments as well as your ideas and suggestions on how to make our social events better. "Feliz Navidad a todos!"

### Annual Membership Dues

By Ani Powers

Membership Chairperson

A brief reminder that AHA membership dues for 2004 are due January 1. Annual dues are \$30 per person or \$45 per couple. Bear in mind that, besides giving back to the community through the works of the Alabama Hispanic Association, you'll get tangible benefits such as a \$2.00 discount at every AHA dance and one free admission pass for a friend/first-time visitor to an AHA dance (a \$15 value). Join our growing organization to share of yourself by helping less fortunate Hispanic families and to increase Hispanic cultural awareness in our community. For your convenience, a membership application is now available online. Please visit <http://www.alabamahispanicassociation.org> to print out an application form.

### Tutoring Classes Update

By Vincent Fuentes

Tutoring Chairperson

The English As a Second Language (ESL) Decatur High School students are finishing their Fall semester. We will be ending the tutoring sessions with a Christmas Pizza Party on Saturday, December 13th. For the Spring Semester, we will be in a new location (Central Methodist Church) centrally located to Decatur High. These sessions will begin Saturday, January 10, 2004. Congratulations to Carlos Perez, who was inducted into the Decatur High School National Honor Society in mid-November.

### 3. Quote Of The Month

"All of us want to live in a country where our legacy to the world is how we've taken care of our children."

Helen Elizabeth Dawson Rogers of Leeds, Alabama 2003 Teacher of the Year

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Feel free to forward this newsletter to anyone you think might be interested in the events and activities of the Alabama Hispanic Association.

Likewise, e-mail us at [aha@alabamahispanicassociation.org](mailto:aha@alabamahispanicassociation.org) if you have comments or any newsworthy item that you'd like to see in the next newsletter.

***Norma Reeves***

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