

2010 Los Angeles Annual Regional Report

2010 was the year of great advances in our regional structure. We also concentrated in community outreach. Because Los Angeles is such a large and wide spread city, we find it necessary to reach out to our own community to bring them together for smaller community building events.

In February, we held our Town Hall Meeting which was also an extremely successful Ice Cream Social. We provided the ice cream while everyone who came provided a topping. The sundaes were amazing. We discussed the future for events in Los Angeles and what everyone would like to see more of. About 75+ people attended the Town Hall Meeting.

March started the beginning of our monthly Burning Man film series. We showed one of the films from the Festival in a Box. Everyone was encouraged to bring their dinner and have a picnic in the warehouse. After the film we hosted a very successful clothing swap. This continued monthly with a film and clothing swap till November. Attendance ranged from 10 to 40 people, depending on time of year and film screened.

July was our second annual Burning Man First Timers Orientation. Each year we add more great information to the list of what you need to know to survive Burning Man. This year, we encouraged veterans to add their tips and tricks to the list for next year. Attendance was approximately 90 first timers and 15 veterans.

On October 2nd, we held our 8th annual LA Burning Man Decompression Arts and Music Festival. With approximately 3100 in attendance, this remarkable event continues to please not only our community, but city officials as well. We have been invited back to the LA State Historical Park and asked to help out with the rest of the events in the park throughout the year to make them more sustainable. They are adopting "Leave No Trace" for that park. 2011 will bring updates to our procedures and processes for placement, gate flow, food vendors, bar policies and security. Watch for a better and more equipped staff in 2011 as we all learn and grow.

In December we hosted our first annual Toy Swap. Similar to the clothing swaps, everyone brought toys they didn't want any more or their kids no longer played with or outgrew. Then took whatever toys they thought their kids would like. The remaining toys went to a local runaway shelter called "My Friend's Place." www.myfriendsplace.org. We also collected sweaters, jackets, and blankets for the shelter as well.

2010 also marked the year we got our website and Facebook community established and fully functioning. The website is currently a work in progress as we hear from the community what they would like to see the website do. Our weekly email newsletter continues to flourish.