Success Club is for the Birds

Elena Cristan, Staff Writer

In college there are many clubs and activities to join. But whether you are into chess, science, humanities or the arts, there is one club at Palomar College that is really open to everyone. All you need is the desire to succeed, a goal that most people pursuing higher education already have.

Club Success is dedicated to "helping students achieve success skills and self-esteem," according to John Ruscio, the club's advisor.

Club President Josh Wilhelm said the club's main objective is to "help remove any barriers to student's success in whatever they may be trying for."

The focus is not only on education, but health, nutrition, relationships, financial security, time management, opportunity and goal achievement.

The fledgling group works in conjunction with the community and the school to make scholarship awards possible and was recently instrumental in the donation of two braille machines to help the visually-impaired in their studies.

Their current goal is to raise money for field trips for wheelchair-bound students at Palomar. The club has thirty wooden bird feeders that they hope to sell to come up with the funds. The feeders were built by Amity Foundation of California in Vista. The club bought the wood, and Amity's vocational training participants took care of the rest.

Amity is a "teaching community tackling problems like alcoholism and drug abuse, as well as the resulting criminal behavior," according to Don Frazier, their resource and development manager.

Three officers of "Club Success" at Palomar College share their plans with Palomar College officials. From left, Tim Havens, club vice president; Keith Backensto, club secretary; Josh Wilhelm, club president; Ron Haines, director of disabled student programs; Dale Wallenius, chief advancement officer; and Joe Madrigal, vice president for student services. (Photo: Palomar College)

To purchase a feeder or for more information on Club Success, the number is (760) 744-1150 ext. 2189.

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AROUND THE TOWN

Kharen Kloeffler, a Palomar College student, repeated earlier this month as a national champion in the U.S. Figure Skating Championships, winning the gold medal in the junior division this year — just as she won in the novice division the year before. A separate medal event from the better-known freestyle skating, figure skating requires participants to trace a figure three times on foot, demonstrating control of motion, speed, balance, precise movement and skating edges. She is the daughter of Yasmin & Gale Kloeffler.
Club Success

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