



53°

Weather | Traffic

Get Noticed! Get Hired!
CLICK HERE
www.VALLEYJOBFINDER.com

- HOME
- NEWS
- SPORTS
- ENTERTAINMENT
- LIFESTYLES
- BUSINESS
- OPINION
- YOUR TOWN
- SPECIAL REPORTS
- INTERACT
- CLASSIFIEDS
- READER SERVICES

Gift from troops cements lesson in patriotism

Print this Article Email this Article Text Size: **A** | **A** | **A**

- SEARCH
- RECORDNET.COM
 - HOMES
 - AUTOS
 - JOBS
 - TRAVEL

Click here to view our 14-Day Archive

Advertise with Us

By **Keith Reid**
Record Staff Writer
May 30, 2008 6:00 AM

STOCKTON - Ansel Adams Elementary School teacher Susan Skrocki stands in front of her second-grade class and, with one four-syllable word, gets their undivided attention.

"Memorial," Skrocki says while standing near a bulletin board with pictures of soldiers and a framed American flag.

"Memorial: When we remember other people," the 20 second-graders reply in unison.

Skrocki has had lessons through the majority of this school year on patriotism, teaching her students how each of them can provide support to the troops in Iraq by writing letters.

"I would write for them to stay safe," said Cidelia Marron, 7.

Skrocki had some corres-pondence over the Internet with two military officers, but an item the class would eventually get in the mail came as a shock to Skrocki. The Air Force troops mailed her an American flag, the one that is now displayed on her class bulletin board. The flag was flown on an Air Force C-130 airplane that took troops into Mosul and Baghdad on March 18.

ValleyHomeFinder.com
New Search Over 5000 Foreclosures in This Area

 **Subscribe Today and Help Keep San Joaquin Families Fed** ▶

Featured Cars from ValleyAutoFinder.com

Featured Homes from ValleyHomeFinder.com

"I never expected it. I never expected anything," Skrocki said. "My goal was to instill a love of country and respect for soldiers in my students. And they have it. That's all I wanted."

Skrocki said the whole lesson plan began when she wrote a letter to a soldier via the Web site anysoldier.com. Every Monday, she and her class discuss what they did over the weekend. "I told them I wrote a letter to a soldier, and they said they wanted to write one, too," Skrocki said. "I thought, 'This is perfect,' because it actually fits into our second-grade curriculum standards for letter-writing."

In December, her class began writing letters to an Air Force unit at the Ali Al Salem air base in Kuwait. From her home, Skrocki sent other care items along with the letters.

Other teachers at Ansel Adams began having their students write to the soldiers as well. "I knew it was something that we could do to help our troops from home," Skrocki said. "They sent the flag, they've sent us pictures. I know it's helping."

Contact reporter Keith Reid at (209) 367-7428 or kreid @recordnet.com.

HOME

VISIT HIS BLOG

Reader reactions have moved

These discussions and our forums are not moderated. We rely on users to police themselves, and [flag inappropriate comments and behavior](#). You need not be registered to [report abuse](#). In accordance with our [Terms of Service](#), we reserve the right to remove any post at any time for any reason, and will restrict access of registered users who repeatedly violate [our terms](#).

Be the first to comment on this article

[Browse News Forum](#) | [Browse all Forums](#) | [Report](#)

Share Abuse

[del.icio.us](#) | [Digg This Story](#) | [REAL Cities](#) | [Terms of Use](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Copyright](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [Advertise](#) | [About Us](#) | [Jobs @ The Record](#) | [Site Map](#) | [RSS](#)

[reddit](#) | [STUMBLEUPON](#) | [Joaquin.com](#) | [ElegantMagazine.com](#) | [ValleyAutoFinder.com](#) | [ValleyHomeFinder.com](#) | [ValleyJobFinder.com](#) | [SJCrime.com](#)

[MY YAHOO!](#) | [Add to Google](#)

Copyright © 2007 San Joaquin Media Group, a subsidiary of Ottaway Newspapers, Inc. All Rights Reserved. [Privacy Policy](#) and [Terms of Use](#).
For more info contact webmaster@recordnet.com

Today's Most Viewed

- . Beaten teen uncertain of attacker

. Sweep hits Norteño street gang

Ads By Google
. Grief and anger

Give to a Soldier

. Mail gift with artificial leg in robbery
Show your support for our military
(2:25 p.m.)
Subscribe for a soldier – Today

www.give4soldiers.com

This Week's Most Viewed

Military Care Packages

. Lincoln football standout Stuckey jailed
Foster a soldier: gifts of fudge,
In beating
cookies, flashlights, phonecards...

www.treatsofheroes.com

Stockton Air Fair Sale

. Very Cheap Tickets to Stockton
Crime Stoppers -- Published May 26,
2008
Save 65% on Next trip, All Airlines

www.cheapair.com

This Month's Most Viewed

Advertise through Google AdWords on this Site.

- . Friends, family and police left with few answers in death of Mayra Lopez
- . The king of Stockton
- . Lincoln football standout Stuckey jailed in beating
- . Crime Stoppers -- Published May 12, 2008

Photo Galleries

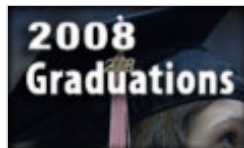


Linden High graduation



East Union High graduation

Special Reports



Multimedia



The Moving Wall



Victim in brutal beating speaks



Wings of Freedom Tour



Reader Interaction

- Read our blogs written by Record staff.
- Send us your snapshots for publication in our readers' photo galleries.
- Submit events for our online calendar.
- Sign up for text-message alerts
- Sign up for e-mail alerts
- Share your thoughts about Record articles in our forums.
- Write a letter to the editor.
- Suggest a poll question.
- Have a story idea? Tell us about it!