
Hunters Horn

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President's Message

As parents and educators we are often concerned with the education and well being of our own children. As PTA members, we are part of a larger organization whose mission is to speak on behalf of all children and youth in the schools, in the community and before governmental bodies and other organizations that make decisions affecting children, assist parents in developing the skills they need to raise and protect their children, and encourage parent and public involvement in the public schools of the nation. Currently, there is a lot going on in local and national government regarding children and education. To find out more about the issues, the PTA position on the issues, and to find out what you can do, visit the National PTA at www.pta.org, the State PTA at www.vapta.org, and the Fairfax County Council of PTAs at www.fccpta.org. To view the "Members Only" section of the National PTA website, use the username and password printed on the back of your PTA membership card. A wonderful resource for local interest is the Fairfax County/Council of PTAs monthly newsletter. It is available online on the www.fccpta.org website and concisely provides information aimed at making us better and more informed parents. The February issue includes an open letter to Supervisor Connolly and the FCCPTA results of the Reflections Program. I hope you have a chance to look at the newsletter now and in the future and find some value in it.

Those who attended the International Festival in early February were treated to a wonderful evening of celebration of the diversity of our school community. A HUGE thank you goes to Jessica Lewis and Raba Letteri for their incredible efforts in chairing this event. They and all of their volunteers, too many to name, have been working since December to bring us this educational, entertaining and delicious event. THANKS to all who helped with planning, setup, passports, displays, food, parade of flags, fashion show, culture show, and cleanup!! I hope everyone is looking forward to next year!

Our second session of After School Activities started in January. Thanks to Mary Bogle Malzahn, Eleanor Weis, and Dana Kennedy for putting together another round of activities that provide our students with enrichment and

February Events

- 16** School Play 7 PM
- 18** School Play 12 PM & 7 PM
- 24** Family Bingo Night 7-9 PM in cafeteria

March Events

- 1** Principal's Coffee 6:30 PM
PTA Meeting 7 PM
- 17** Talent Share 7 PM
- 31** Silent Auction 6:30 PM
Movie Night 6:30 PM

April 1 Skate Quest Family Night

physical activities. Thanks also to the volunteer parents who run the different activities.

Though much of their hard work is behind them, we still have a while to wait for our Hunters Woods Yearbooks. Thanks to Joan Burkhart, Blakely Meyers, Lisa Foley and the Yearbook Committee for all of their behind-the-scenes work on putting together our memories in this much anticipated collection. They are still taking photos for the "collage" pages, so if you see them around the school, just smile for them!

As we are now looking at electing a new Executive Committee for the 2006-2007 school year, I would like to personally and publicly thank the current and past year Executive Committee members. It has been joy to work with this special group of individuals who have given selflessly and with dedication to best interest of your children and your school. I thank Maureen Becker, Susan Sather, Susan Brownsword, Nicole Irving, Danielle Whitsed, and Deborah Lannen.

In addition to reading the PTA *Hunters Horn* and the HW Mustang Message, you can keep up with all that is going on at Hunters Woods by looking at the marquee on Colts Neck Road, purchasing a calendar at the front office desk for \$5, checking the PTA website regularly at www.hunterswoodspta.org, and signing up for Keep In Touch (linked from our website). All are valuable resources to making sure you don't miss any of our events.

All are welcome at our monthly PTA meetings. Generally they are held at 7:30 PM on the first Wednesday of every month, immediately following the 6:30 PM Principal's Coffee. I hope to see you there! *-Cathy Uhrig*

Spring Silent Auction

Volunteers are needed in a variety of areas, some can be done from home and during evening or weekend time. Can you help with?

- Decorations
- Publicity (contacting local papers)
- Creating the Auction Program
- Writing Thank-You notes to donors
- Coordinating Snacks & Dessert
- Creating Placards for donated services

If you can help with anything, please contact Susan at Auction@HuntersWoodsPTA.org or 703-860-2537.

Talent Share

An evening of music, dance, laughter and fun is waiting for you. On March 17 come see the variety of talents Hunters Woods students have to offer at the annual Talent Share. Admission is free for the 7 PM show.

Lost & Found Clearance

The Lost and Found closet, located in the downstairs hallway between the Dance Studio and Mr. Smith's Music Room will be cleaned out on FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17. All unclaimed and unmarked items will be removed for donation on that day. Please take the time to mark all of your child's belongings so that they may be returned to them.

Something Old & Something New

What do Harry Potter, All Things Virginia, Sports, Abracadabra and Shopaholic all have in common? These have all been class baskets for the Silent Auction. That's the old. Having the Silent Auction occur in March is something new this year! Look for details coming from your room parent on the class theme along with suggestions on when and what to donate. The baskets are always overflowing with contributions of useful, unique, fun, whimsical, and even tasty items to bid on!

Filled to the brim and beautifully presented, your child's class basket will be displayed along with all the many wonderful items to bid on at our Silent Auction. This is a PTA fundraiser, participation is optional, but all donated items are tax deductible! "Need to ask it 'bout the basket?" Contact your room parent or Cindy Kappel, Baskets Coordinator: Baskets@HuntersWoodsPTA.org or 703-620-5592.

Daffodil Days

The American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days are here! Order a bunch of 10 cut daffodils (they won't open until they are put into water) for a \$10 donation, or a pot of 3 bulbs in bloom for a \$10 donation, or the adorable "Boyd's Bear and a Bunch," a special-edition Boyd's bear who comes with his own bunch of 10 daffodils, for a \$25 donation. If you don't want flowers for yourself, you can give a Gift of Hope, which uses your donation money to send flowers to cancer patients. Please make checks payable to the American Cancer Society, and get your order in to the Daffodil Box in the office by February 22nd. If you have any questions, call Susan Rigger at 703-758-9773. Thank you for your generosity!

Snickerdoodle

Every year Snickerdoodle, the student-run, student-edited and student-written literary book, keeps getting better. Don't miss your chance to be a published author. Manuscripts are being accepted through March 2.

Show your Spirit!

Last chance apparel orders will be accepted through Feb. 20th. Don't miss this chance to get your Hunters Woods ball cap, tote bag, or gym bag. Sweatshirts are available too. If you don't have your form any more, you can download a copy at www.hunterswoodspta.org.

Who Can We Solicit?

If you have a local business or restaurant that might make a donation to our Silent Auction, please consider asking them for a donation. A sample request letter will be available on the PTA website at www.HuntersWoodsPTA.org. If you are not comfortable asking for the donation yourself, please let us know about the business and we'll do the asking just send an e-mail to Auction@HuntersWoodsPTA.org today!

School Play

Tickets are available for the student-performed musical play which has performances on February 16th at 7 PM and on February 18th at 12 and 7 PM, tickets cost \$3, and you can reserve yours from Elysa Katz at Play@HuntersWoodsPTA.org or 703-391-0585.

What Can You Give?

We are looking for business and personal donations for the Spring Silent Auction. Personal and business donations, craft items, personal services, baked goods, gift baskets, gift certificates, lessons, or whatever you would like to donate are welcome. Contact Auction@HuntersWoodsPTA.org with information about your donation today.

Family Bingo Night

Don't miss a chance to compete against your kids, their friends your friends AND make some new friends all while winning prizes at Bingo Night. Friday, February 24 in the cafeteria from 7 to 9 PM. Bingo sheets and daubers will be for sale, along with Bake Sale Goodies.

PTA Executive Committee Nominations

It's time to think about next year's PTA. The Nominating Committee, elected at the February PTA Meeting is chaired by Cathy Uhrig. Cathy and members Jane Kolb, Cindy Kappel, Karen Egan, and Blakely Meyers are looking for nominations for the PTA Executive Committee for 2006-2007. If you would like to make a nomination for President, Vice President (2), Treasurer, Recording Secretary, or Corresponding Secretary please use the nomination box in the Main Office or contact Cathy at Nominations@HuntersWoodsPTA.org.

Nominations will be due by April 21, and a slate will be presented at the May 3 PTA meeting, The election will then be held during the concerts on June 6, 7, and 8.