

Hunters Horn

Back to School 2007

Volume 40, Issue 1



President's Message

Maureen Becker

Yes, another summer has flown by and another school year is about to begin. Volunteers with the PTA have been busy getting ready for the upcoming school year. We have a new online payment system for membership – I encourage all of you to join the PTA and be a part of the wonderful things happening at our school. Planning for the many events throughout the year, Sock Hop, Fall Harvest Festival and the Silent Auction, has begun.

On August 27 the PTA hosted a wonderful welcome back breakfast for the Hunters Woods staff organized by Raba Letteri. The tables overflowed with baked goods, egg casseroles, sausages and fruit – all donated by the generous families of Hunters Woods. At the Open House on Thursday, August 30, the students had the chance to meet with their new teachers. Afterwards families were able to catch up over a pizza dinner – thanks to Jody Wolfe and Kirsten Landeryou who organized that event. We had a great crowd for the huge task of preparing the first Tuesday folders the next day.

Our first PTA meeting will be on September 5th and will start at 6:30 with a Volunteer Fair with the PTA business meeting following at 7:30. There will be a second Volunteer Fair the following day, Thursday, from 9:30 to 11:30. At the Volunteer Fair find out about opportunities to help out at the school and with the PTA. There is something for everyone – daytime, nighttime and things you can do with small children in tow. At the PTA meeting we will vote on the proposed budget that was sent out by email last week and is available at the website: www.HuntersWoodsPTA.org. I invite and encourage all of you to the meeting and Volunteer Fair.

I look forward to another school year and volunteering with the PTA. This year we have a new position on the PTA executive committee, President-Elect, which Susan Sather will be filling. Susan has been involved in the PTA at Hunters Woods for many years and she will be working with me this year to prepare for her year as PTA President the next school year.

I hope to see you all around the school this year volunteering with our teachers, staff and students at Hunters Woods. Please come be a part of our wonderful school community

Sally Foster Returns!

Support Hunters Woods by purchasing your gifts, gift wrap, and Harry London chocolates from Sally Foster! Along with getting high-quality items, this is the largest PTA fundraiser of the year, with 50% of sales coming back to us to fund the PTA programs for the school. Catalogs and order forms will be going home with students on Tuesday, September 11. Please read the cover letter with your packet for complete details on the fundraiser. Orders will be due October 3. For the safety of our students, we do not encourage door-to-door sales.

You can also order online at www.sallyfoster.com. The Hunters Woods account number is 0142037. Send emails to friends and family from the website to invite them to support our school. For a limited time, all Internet orders over \$60 will be shipped for free. *Hunters Woods PTA will continue to receive 50% from Internet sales throughout the school year.*

The co-chairs Cathy Uhrig, Nancy Mamros, and Eleanor Weis can be reached at giftwrap@HuntersWoodsPTA.org.

Sept. & Oct. Events

- 5** PTA Volunteer Fair & General Meeting 6:30 PM
- 6** PTA Volunteer Fair 9:30 AM (attend either date)
- 12** 3rd Grade Strings Parent Orientation 7 PM
- 15** Chalk for Peace

October Events

- 2** Grades K-3 Newcomers' Coffee 6:15 PM
Back-to-School Night 7 PM
- 3** Grades 4-6 Newcomers' Coffee 6:15 PM
Back-to-School Night 7 PM
- 8** No School—Columbus Day
- 9-12** Bus Driver Appreciation Week
- 10** Principal's Coffee 6:30 PM
PTA Meeting 7:30 PM
- 15-19** Custodial & Cafeteria Staff Appreciation Week
- 17** School Picture Day
- 19** Sock Hop 7 PM

School Calendars Available

Wonder when the next PTA meeting will be held? Want to mark your calendar to plan travel around your child's band performances? Purchase a Hunters Woods Elementary School calendar for only \$5, and you'll have that information at your fingertips. The calendar is preprinted with all scheduled school events for the entire school year, school holidays, and other important dates. Order your copy with the form for PTA Membership, or buy one at the PTA table at school events this fall.

Volunteer Fair

Everyone interested in volunteering through the PTA is invited to attend one of two Volunteer Fairs offered this week. We hold both an evening and a daytime event so please join us on Wednesday, September 5 at 6:30 PM, just before our first PTA meeting, or come the next morning between 9:30 and 11:30 AM. Explore the different opportunities to volunteer at Hunters Woods and pose for a volunteer ID badge. This is the place to get information about volunteer jobs ranging from coordinating a large event to small one-time jobs. There are jobs that are social, and offer the opportunity to meet new friends, and others that can be done from home, that never require your physical presence at a meeting. We even have jobs for parents with small children in tow. Come to the Fair, and find the job that fits you best.

Student Directories for Sale

This year, the PTA is providing one copy of the Student Directory to each family that purchases a PTA Membership. If you choose not to join the PTA, you may order copies for \$5 apiece. PTA members may also select to order extra copies at the \$5 per book price.

Lost & Found

Please take a moment to mark your child's name (last name at a minimum) on their coats, jackets, sweaters, gloves, and sweatshirts—as well as on their backpacks, lunch boxes, notebooks, and any other belongings that can be separated from their bodies during school.

The Importance of PTA Membership

Will you join the PTA? Please consider taking the time to fill out the membership form in this packet to have an impact in our school, and for children's interests at the state and national level. The PTA speaks with one voice before presidents, governors, congress, state legislatures, and federal agencies on behalf of every child. With over 6 million members, that one voice can have a lot of influence.

And, what is the PTA doing? Some of the exciting plans for the coming year include a wide variety of *After School Activities*; *Sock Hop* in October; *Fall Festival* in November; *Book Fairs* in December and May; *International Festival* in February; and a *School Play*, *Talent Share*, and *Silent Auction* in March; and *Bingo Night* in May.

A \$10 Family Membership gives you a vote in PTA business, and a copy of the Student Directory. Please join today.

School Spirit for Sale

Hunters Woods apparel is new and improved, and available to view online. Visit www.HuntersWoodsPTA.org and check out the link for Logo Apparel to see the items and download an order form. Spirit wear helps students and parents show their pride for Hunters Woods, and purchasing these items helps support the many programs of our PTA. Any questions? Email merchandise@HuntersWoodsPTA.org.

Box Tops for HWES

Girl Scouting

The Girl Scout Program offers many exciting opportunities. Girls learn together and participate in activities, help their community, make new friends, and learn more about themselves—all while having the time of their lives! Contact Debi Miles for information about troops for girls from kindergarten through sixth grade at 703-715-0993 or email her at debi_miles@hotmail.com.

Advertise in the Directory

Advertise your business, service, or personalized message in our 2007–2008 Directory. This book is a wonderful reference and is offered to all families and staff. It has class and alphabetical listings of students; plus it has school policies and other pertinent information. Parents and students alike

find this book a valuable tool and refer to it frequently. All ads must be in by Friday, September 14. Look for details on the flyer in today's packet or contact Directory@HuntersWoodsPTA.org.

Got a Green (or nearly green) Thumb?

If you'd like to help with campus garden jobs large or small or in-between, please watch for your chance to join the Outdoor Beautification group at our Fall or Spring workdays; our pumpkins-for-compost drive November 1-2; and/or shop at Gaelic Gardens at their twice-yearly fundraising sales in support of the HWES PTA. Details will be available via the Keep-in-Touch email system and this newsletter. I'm looking forward to meeting you,

Catherine Linberg, Outdoor Beautification Chair

After School Activities

It is time to register for your favorite After School Activities! The two-week registration period ends on September 19. Register early to lock in a spot in the great after school experience. The PTA sponsors tennis, acting, art, basketball, kindercamp, science, and many other choices! Contact afterschool@HuntersWoodsPTA.org with any questions!

Classes will run from October 1 through December 17 immediately following school dismissal. A second session of classes will be offered in early 2008.

Save The Date! Fall Festival Is Nov. 17th

Yes, it is only the beginning of the school year, but it is not too early to Save the Date of the Fall Harvest Festival. Be sure to mark your calendar for Saturday, November 17, 2007.

More details to come, but know we are going to be looking for many, many volunteers to make this event successful. Dads, Moms, Grandparents and Neighbors: Save the Date!! And for your older children (7th–12th grade) who will need to earn service hours for school: Volunteering at the festival counts!

Two items to keep in mind:

- We will be looking for donations for raffles
- Save those fast-food toys for the prize buckets

Please contact Festival Chairs Jennifer Davis Heffner and Kelly Kroll at harvest@HuntersWoodsPTA.org or call Jennifer at 703-537-8383 with any questions.

PTA Budget

The PTA held its annual budget meeting over the summer and the resulting proposed budget for the fiscal year 2007-2008 is included in the folder with this newsletter, and has been posted on the PTA web site.

Please note that the PTA membership will be voting on this proposed budget during the first PTA meeting, Wednesday, September 5th (We will not be waiting until Back to School Night in October as in prior years.) This should simplify the voting process and give us the opportunity to have an approved budget earlier in the year. If you have comments/questions about the proposed budget and won't be able to attend the first PTA meeting please e-mail treasurer@HuntersWoodsPTA.org.