

Hunters Horn

November 2006 Volume 39, Issue 3



President's Message

Maureen Becker

So much has happened at the school this year so far—My thanks for all the volunteers who have been working so hard at Hunters Woods to make these PTA-sponsored events and activities happen, including:

- Tracy Meleski for our PTA membership drive.
- Trellis Evans and the Thrailkill family for coordinating the Open House pizza dinner — way back at the beginning of the school year.
- Raba Letteri and Mary Ellen Wolf for coordinating the Hunters Woods apparel sales.
- Mary Ellen Rubenstein and Jane Kolb for the PTA calendars.
- Mary Malzahn, Jennifer Arakelian, Blakely Meyers, Rick Uhrig, and Julia Sullivan for all their hard work putting together the after-school activities
- Nancy Mamros, Cathy Uhrig, and Eleanor Weis for coordinating the Sally Foster gift wrap sales.
- Susan Sather for the Student Directory.
- Pam Light, Elysa Rosmarin and Carine Newberry for directory ads.
- To everyone who helped with the sock hop.
- Elysa Rosmarin & Marianne McLaughlin for coordinating the play.
- Tami Holsten for putting together the Cafeteria and Custodial Workers Appreciation Week.
- Susan Brownsword for pulling together the “Writers Workshop” and helping coordinate Snickerdoodle.
- Hilary Bradley for the PTA’s Reflections program.
- Blakely Meyers for organizing the yearbook and—new this year—a yearbook editorial staff of students!
- Marina Matthes and Cathy Uhrig for taking care of copying all the flyers for the PTA committees and activities.

November Events

- 17** Thanksgiving Luncheon for parents and students
- 18** Pet Show 9 AM
Fall Harvest Festival 12 – 3 PM
- 22** Two-hour early dismissal
- 23–24** No School—Thanksgiving Holidays

December Events

- 6** Principal’s Coffee 6:30 PM
PTA Meeting 7:30 PM
- 7** Carrabbas Dinner/Math & Tech Night 5:30 & 6:30 PM
- 19** Group Photos for Yearbook
- 20** Sweet Shoppe
- Dec 25 –Jan 1** No School—Winter Vacation

We have more exciting events to come, especially the Fall Harvest Festival this Saturday, November 18, from 12 to 3. It is a great opportunity for our community to get together and have some fun. The festival requires many volunteers and hard work. Thanks to Marisa Besselievre, Kelly Kroll, Blakely Meyers, Micki Moravitz, Andrew Chopivsky, Mary Ellen Rubenstein, Cathy Uhrig, and Jennifer Edgerton for helping put the Fall Festival together.

The primary grades were treated to a performance by the singing group Magpie on November 1. This was arranged by Ms. Kelly, our primary science teacher, and was paid for by the hard-earned dollars of the PTA. We will be having another performance, “The Wreck of the Ethie,” from a local writer, Hilary Hyland, in early December for the whole school. This is paid for by the Cultural Arts committee of the PTA.

It takes a lot of volunteers to make these things happen. That’s what is so wonderful about Hunters Woods community— we all come together to do something for our children and benefit our school. Thanks to all of you who volunteer your time!

Help Plant the Seeds of Volunteerism in Today's Youth!

Thursday Nov. 30, and Friday Dec. 1, four elementary schools will experience “A Celebration of Giving and Sharing” when volunteers deliver backpacks full of books and toys to all of the students at a few elementary schools in Fairfax County. Volunteers talk to the students about the importance of community service and encourage each class to undertake a project to share the joy of giving.

Dogwood Elementary is one of the schools this year receiving this wonderful opportunity. If you’d like to sign up to help plant the seeds of volunteerism in today's youth, please visit www.volunteerfairfax.org or contact Emily Gibbs at (703) 246-3460.

The Head Start class needs empty, clean frozen juice containers. If you have some, please send them in to school marked for Ms. Cox in Head Start.

Book Fair

The PTA book fair is coming! Each classroom will be scheduled to visit the book fair twice during the week of the December 4–8: once to preview the books and once to purchase (for those who wish to do so). Parents and siblings are welcome any time during our open hours: Monday 8:30 AM–1 PM; Tuesday–Thursday 8:30 AM–3:30 PM; and Friday 8:30 AM–12 noon. Evening hours are available Tuesday until 6:30 PM and Thursday evening during the Carrabbas Dinner/Math & Technology Night. Bookworm Plantation provides a terrific selection of books—this is a great opportunity to holiday shop and support your PTA.

Volunteers are still needed for many of the times listed above, and for set up and pack up. Please contact us at Bookfair@HuntersWoodsPTA.org if you can help.

Fall Harvest Festival THIS SATURDAY!

Fall Harvest Festival is coming up fast. Join us Saturday, November 18 from 12 to 3 PM. Admission is \$2 per person. Volunteers earn free admission.

There are still lots of opportunities to get involved:

- Cake Decorating Contest—Friday, November 17—drop off cakes outside the PTA office before 9 AM.
- 6th Grade Obstacle Course Design—Friday, November 17 after school in the gymnasium—permission slips required (info went home in Tuesday Folders on October 17).
- Festival Bake Sale—Drop off baked goods Friday morning by 9 AM outside the PTA office or Saturday morning between 8 and 10 AM.

Activities commence at 12 noon, including the sale of baked goods, pizza, and beverages in the cafeteria, as well as popcorn and cotton candy vendors.

A Cake Walk featuring the cakes from the decorating contest in the hallway by the gym. Crafts, hair braiding, and face painting in the cafeteria. Carnival games in the gym including an obstacle course designed by the 6th graders, human bowling, and much more!

It's not too late to help! We need VOLUNTEERS on Friday, November 10 to process presales from 3 to 4:30 PM. We also need people for set up from 9 AM to 12 noon on Saturday, November 18, and again after the festival ends at 3 PM to help clean up. And of course we need people to help staff all the activities in 1-hour time slots from 12 noon to 3 PM. Email your name, availability, and teacher's name to harvest@hunterswoodspta.org and for your older children (7th–12th grade) who need to earn service hours for school: volunteering at the festival counts!

Garden News

Look for a Tuesday Folder flyer coming soon with details about our Gaelic Gardens Discount Days for holiday plants, decorations, and winter garden needs.

This year's used pumpkin drive brought in over 140 pumpkins carved and uncarved—for next year's compost and vines. Thanks to all to carried them in!

*Catherine Linberg,
Outdoor Beautification Chair & Garden Mom*

Carrabbas Dinner + Math/Tech Night

Thursday, December 7 is a day to skip cooking! Instead, bring the family to the Carrabbas Italian Dinner served in the Hunters Woods Cafeteria at either the 5:30 or 6:30 seating. Look for details in a flyer soon about buying tickets to this fun family event. After dinner, head up to the classrooms and pod areas to play math, science, and technology games with the teachers. This is a win-win-win event for our school community—don't miss out!

Yearbook Orders

Yearbook order forms came home on November 8 in your Tuesday folders. Please keep an eye out for them. This is the first round of ordering—there will be a second round in early December. After that yearbooks cannot be pre-purchased and you will have to wait until the end of the year. Pre-order cost is \$15. Yearbooks will be delivered to individual classrooms and distributed by teachers. If we have extra books they will be for sale at the end of the year on a first-come, first-served basis and limited to one per family. The year-end price will be higher than the pre-order price, please order a yearbook now. Questions or concerns? Please contact yearbook@hunterswoodspta.org.

Sweet Shoppe

The parents of Hunters Woods Elementary provide a scrumptious array of baked holiday goods for the teachers and staff to take home and share with their families on December 20, so be on the lookout for your recipe!

Sally Foster

Thank you for supporting our school's Sally Foster fundraiser by purchasing from the catalog and website, and also for volunteering with the many aspects of making this a successful fundraiser (we couldn't have done it without you). Your support funds the many programs of our PTA.

If you received an order, please verify your entire order immediately! If you find any discrepancies, please notify us at: giftwrap@hunterswoodspta.org no later than November 15, 2006. Please note that this is an ABSOLUTE deadline, and after this date we will be unable to adjust your orders.

If you missed the opportunity to purchase Sally Foster products or just wish you had purchased more ... It is not too late! SallyFoster.com is open through January 15, 2007, and our school still earns 50% profit on all orders placed on our behalf. It is simple. Just go to www.sallyfoster.com to view the products and place your order. At the checkout screen, key in our account, #142037. Enjoy the convenience of ordering online as well as helping our school.

Tell your family, friends, neighbors, co-workers and out-of-town relatives about www.sallyfoster.com.

*Your Giftwrap Co-Chairs
Cathy Uhrig, Nancy Mamros, and Eleanor Weis*

Pet Show Helpers

The morning of the Festival – children bring their live and stuffed pets, some in costume, to the Pet Parade. Right now there are 60 pets signed up, and only two adults working the event! Please volunteer today by e-mailing PetShow@HuntersWoodsPTA.org

Skate Night

Hunters Woods ice skating party starts the new year with fun and friendship on Saturday, January 6, 2007. We rent the entire rink along with Forest Edge PTA. A flyer with details will come home after Thanksgiving.