

February 2014

Whale Tales

South County Pre-Kindergarten Co-op
Monthly Newsletter

3789 Queen Anne Bridge Road • Davidsonville, Maryland
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Denim & Diamonds

Invite all your friends... Auction time is here!

OK, so you've heard just a few mentions of this Auction event by now. If you are new to the school, you may be wondering, "What is the deal with this thing?"

The annual auction is indeed a big deal. This single event does so very much to help support the goals of the school. And more than this, it is a party! It's a well-deserved night out. A chance to mingle, to meet new friends and community members.

Auction Chairperson, Carrie Hayes, took some time out to offer some details about the event. We hope this interview helps to answer any questions you may have about the big night.

WT: What is the most basic info. we need to know?

CH: The auction will be on Saturday, March 8th. It runs from 7 to 11 p.m. It's at the Greek Orthodox Church on Riva Rd. (2747 Riva Rd., 21401 for GPS's).

WT: How does it work once you get there?

CH: Well, first you check in. Then you can start looking around at the Silent Auction items and start bidding right away. After food, we will have some short announcements and the Legacy Award presentation. The Live Auction follows this. There will also be time for dessert and dancing before check-out begins at the end of the evening. (You do have to pay for any auction items that you win and take them with you at the end of the night.)



WT: So there will be dancing at the auction?

CH: Absolutely! Crow Entertainment has been donating their DJ services for many years and they will be on hand again this year! A little 'denim' themed music of course, but we won't make you too crazy with Country. There will be something for everyone on the dance floor.

WT: What kind of food will there be? Desserts?

CH: Think of this as a fancy BBQ. Create your own Pork and Grilled Chicken Sliders, and Glazed Salmon. Plus, a few picnic-type salad sides, crab dip and munchies to kick the night off, and delicious cake generously donated by the Honey Hive in Edgewater.

WT: Is there a bar? Are drinks cheap?

CH: Cheap Drinks! That's right. Well, pretty cheap. Something in the neighborhood of \$4 beer, \$5 wine, \$6 'specialty drink.' SCPC parents with connections are helping with the drinks.

WT: Will the auction take credit cards this year?

CH: Yes, but you will pay a 3% premium on your entire credit card check out. So, bring cash or check if possible. All raffles and drinks will be cash only.

WT: Will we get a bidder number to make all of our bids with?

CH: Give your name (or the name of the person who bought your ticket) at the check-in. You will receive an auction program and your bidder number.

WT: What kind of special activities will there be?

CH: Ooooooo... this is where it gets fun. Let's just say a man who calls himself "Mr. Avail-a-Bull" is giving me a great discount on a certain mechanical farm animal.

The SCPC General Membership meeting will be Monday, Feb. 10 at 7:00 p.m. Attendance is mandatory.

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From the Board President

By Anne Canaday

Happy Snowy February! Wow, we've had some weather lately. Make sure to pay attention for delays and cancelations as we head into February- I've been hearing promises of more snow to come. If school is delayed on a Fantastic Friday, we will still have Fantastic Friday as scheduled.

It's also now officially flu season, please remember to keep your kids home if they are sick. I know they miss school when they aren't there but we want to keep everyone healthy. A big thank you to our maintenance team who's been helping keep the school clean each weekend and the snow cleared.

The Auction is rapidly approaching and I am very excited! Carrie gave us an update at the board meeting and she and her team are hitting it out of the park this year. It's going to be a fun night you don't want to miss! Please remember to turn in ticket money and auction donations to the Events and Fundraising team as soon as possible. If you're looking for ideas, we'd love to put together some local mini-trip packages (hotel, dinner, activity). Also needed is some fine jewelry for an auction item (think "Diamonds and Denim"). Let Carrie Hayes know if you can help!

There are important events coming up; Open House on Wednesday evening February 5th at 7:30 p.m., the General Membership Meeting on Monday Feb. 10th at 7:00 p.m. and the dinner and auction on March 8th! Please check the calendar at school for other events and fundraisers.

If you are returning next year, please re-consider



the committee preferences you made for the Fall. We need people to step up and take on jobs that are more challenging and require a little more experience than a first time member. One specific position we would appreciate you considering is Treasurer (no accounting experience needed but it's helpful). If you have questions, give me a call, I'd love to chat with you about committee preferences.

We still have spaces for next year so please spread the word... fliers to local businesses about upcoming open houses, invites to friends to the auction and/or for a visit (anytime!). Word of mouth is always the most effective marketing we have, so share your love for our school!

As always, read your newsletter each month! If you have questions about policies, procedures, membership obligations, etc., please check the parent handbook or Policy Statement, or ask your class reps.

If you have any issues or suggestions, please contact me or attend one of the Board Meetings - we'll be happy to do what we can! The next Board Meeting will be at the DFRC BOQ on February 19th at 7:30 p.m.

Stay warm and safe!
Anne Canaday

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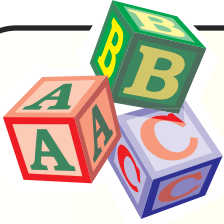
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tanyakaarina@yahoo.com

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(410) 721-3002
dailiff@msn.com

(Debbie & Tanya will be working together on the 3's schedules and tasks this year.)



Teacher's Corner

By Barbara Freeman

Brr! It's been cold! Think it's time to stop singing our snowman songs. It's time to warm-up a bit and make those snowmen melt!

Everyone gave Huggy Bear and Randy a big hug last month before they went off to their logs to hibernate for the rest of the winter. We will see them again in the spring. Sleeping through the winter is starting to sound like a good idea. Let's hope the rest of the winter goes by quickly!

Museum Trip for 4's

Along with our dinosaur unit in March, we will visit the Natural History Museum in Washing-

ton, D.C. We will ride the metro downtown, eat lunch and view the dinosaur exhibit. As mentioned in the last newsletter, the date of this trip will be **March 24th**. A parent will need to accompany each child. More information will follow.

Hats & Mittens

Please remember that it is cold and windy on our hill. Hats and mittens (preferred over gloves) are nice to have up on the playground. If you tuck them into a coat sleeve they are easy to find when putting on coats. We sometimes miss them when they are stuck at the bottom of the tote bag.

Auction

Continued from Page 1

Oh yeah! Prizes are involved of course. \$10 a ride.

WT: What's the suggested dress code?

CH: Denim of course. Come ready to ride the bull! And, feel free to glitz it up a bit. I'm going to have my husband wear jeans and a sports coat. I'm looking at going for the Canadian tuxedo — all denim.

WT: What's this I hear about presenting a special award?

CH: The Co-Op has been in existence for a long time and we are currently on our 3rd generation of students. We thought it was about time that we exercise our presence in the community by awarding those who do great things—especially things Co-Op related. This is also a way to spread our story as an organization. The Legacy Award has already been written about on the local Patch, and in The Capital Newspaper.

WT: How many people can I bring?

CH: The more the merrier. There is no limit. And, I promise that this will be a fun night out.

WT: How can I get more tickets if I have interested friends and family?

CH: Additional tickets can be purchased anytime. Just

fill out a form, write a check for \$40 per person, and place it in the Events & Fundraising box at the school.

WT: Can we buy tickets at the door? If not, what's the latest RSVP date?

CH: It is VERY helpful if all tickets are bought prior to the event. The minimum 4-tickets per family requirement needs to be ordered prior to the event—that deadline is now :). As for extra guests, I would never turn away anyone with \$40 in their hand! So, you can buy additional tickets at the door.

WT: Anything else we should know?

CH: This event benefits the whole school and we would love as many people attending as possible. And be prepared to buy something. There are some fabulous items available. And every single dollar goes to the school! Also, if you aren't going to use all of the tickets that you paid for, please let me know so we can give them to someone interested in attending.

Thanks to Carrie for taking the time to answer our questions. And thanks to everyone who has worked so hard to get their auction items in! Make sure you've ordered your tickets too. Now, let's get ready for an amazing night!

3

The Threes

February

3

Our themes for the month of February will center on Valentines' Day and Community Helpers.

Valentines' Day is one of my favorite holidays with preschoolers. They are always delighted to receive a big bag of "mail" and enjoy opening every card! We will celebrate Valentines' Day on **February 13th**. The children may bring Valentines to share with their classmates on this day. The Valentines will be "mailed" into a large box, so please put the children's names on the front of the envelope so they can be sorted.

We will be making and mailing Mom and Dad a special Valentine. Each child needs to bring in a pre-stamped, long business size envelope addressed to "Mr. and Mrs...", **by February 11th**.

The second half of February we will talk about community helpers - people who help us. A visit from the Riva fire truck is planned for **February 27th**.

Any parent that would like to share their special skill or profession with the class is welcome. Please let me know if you have anything you would like to share with the group.



Touch and Tell Schedule

3 A.M.

TUESDAY	THURSDAY
Jane	Zoe
Landon	Leo
Courtney	Chaya
Shoshi	Nolan
Lucy	Lilly
Vincent	Alison
Izzie	

3 P.M.

TUESDAY	THURSDAY
Owen	Luke
Trevor	Juliet
Mary	Lilly

4

The Fours

February

4

The fours are enjoying their adventures with Fred. We look forward to reading their stories at the beginning of each day!

The themes for the fours will be similar to the threes this month. We will talk about people we love for Valentines' Day and community helpers will be our theme for the second half of the month.

Valentines' Day will be celebrated on **February 14th**. Since our valentines will be "mailed" into a large box, please put the children's names on the front of the envelope so they can be sorted.

On **February 12th** we will take a short trip to the Davidsonville Post Office to mail our special Valentine for Mom and Dad. Ann and the parent helpers will make two trips to the post office to buy a stamp and mail their letters. Please send in a long, business envelope addressed to "Mr. & Mrs.." and 49 cents **by February 10th**. Do not put a stamp on the envelope. Although we will not need additional drivers for this trip, a "group"

permission slip will be posted on the bulletin board.

The end of the month we will focus on community helpers and our neighborhood. A trip to the Lothian Fire Station is scheduled for **February 26th** and we will also have a visit with a police officer this month. Miss Ann is trying to get a cement truck to visit us as well. If any parent has a special job or skill they would like to share with the class, please let me know.

Letter recognition and name writing will be emphasized this month. In order to encourage name writing, when working at the art table let the children write their own name on the project when possible. You may want to let them write it on the back of the paper first to give them more room. When practicing name writing at home, have your child start their name with the capital letter and the rest lower case letters.


In order to shake us out of the winter doldrums, we will also set up some special areas in the classroom this month.

**4 a.m.
TOUCH
&
TELL
Schedule**

MONDAY	WED.	FRIDAY
Sophia L.	Madelyn C.	Sophia M.
Cameron	Maddie	Micah
Hope	Jonathan	Ryan
Jennifer	Ally	Madelyn L.
Michael	Anna	

SCPC Calendar

FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6 Metro Diner Fundraiser 5-8	7 Fantastic Friday 12:30-2:30	8
9	10 GMM Meeting 7 p.m. at Ford Hall	11	12	13	14 Fantastic Friday 12:30-2:30	15 Auction Donations Due
16	17 NO SCHOOL	18	19 SCPC Board Meets 7 p.m.	20	21 Fantastic Friday 12:30-2:30	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

FEBRUARY

- 1 March. Tuition Due (\$95 for 3's, \$125 for 4's)
- 1 Auction Ticket money due
- 5 Open House, 7:30 p.m. at the school
- 6 Metro Diner Fundraiser, 5-8 p.m.
Mention SCPC for 15% donation
- 7 Fantastic Friday, 12:30-2:30
- 10 **General Membership Meeting 7 p.m.**
Attendance is mandatory for members
- 14 Fantastic Friday, 12:30-2:30
- 15 Auction Donations Due
- 17 School Closed - President's Day
- 19 SCPC Board Meeting 7 p.m.
At BOQ next door to school
- 21 Fantastic Friday, 12:30-2:30

MARCH

- 1 April Tuition Due (\$95 for 3's, \$125 for 4's)
- 7 Fantastic Friday, 12:30-2:30
- 8 SCPC Annual Auction Event
- 13 Open House, 10 a.m. at the school
- 14 Fantastic Friday, 12:30-2:30
- 15 Father's Day event for 4's, 9-10 a.m.
- 15 Father's Day event for 3's, 10:15-11:15 a.m.
- 21 Fantastic Friday, 12:30-2:30
- 24 Natural History Museum trip for 4's
- 28 Fantastic Friday, 12:30-2:30

APRIL

- 1 May Tuition Due (\$95 for 3's, \$125 for 4's)
- 14-21 Easter/Spring Break - No School

Classroom Notes

From Ms. Barbara

Arrival/Dismissal

Please be mindful of our school hours. Children really enjoy playing in the sandbox and large muscle room. It is an important time of the day for them. They can greet their friends and run off a little energy before circle time begins. Please arrive on time at the end of the day as well. Ann & I often have commitments after school and need to leave on time.



Snack

Please remember to fill in the snack chart on the refrigerator when parent helping. This is a health department requirement.

In the interest of cost and the environment, please use the paper plates for ooey-goey, sticky snacks.

Pretzels, goldfish, string cheese, apple slices, etc. can all be served on a paper napkin.

THANKS to all of you!!!!

The other night I dropped in at SCPC's monthly board meeting. It reminded me again how lucky Ann and I are to work in a school with such wonderfully dedicated parents. It was 15 degrees outside with snow on the ground and these lovely moms were there working together to discuss ways to promote the school, raise money, and everything else that needs to be done to keep our little school running smoothly. Thank you, thank you!

And it is not just the board members that work hard. It is all of you that take the time to clean the school on the weekend, answer phone calls for enrollment, collect health forms, purchase supplies, plan events, contribute auction items - the list could go on and on and on. And all that is in addition to helping in the classroom each month. Your efforts are much appreciated and we thank you!



It's Ms. Barbara's Birthday
sometime this month.

She may not want to have it advertised.

But we just had to say it anyway –

Happy Birthday!

**Keep sending in those photos
for the SCPC Yearbook!**

E-mail them to:

scpcyearbook@gmail.com



FUNDRAISER

Thursday, February 6th

5-8 p.m.

Please mention SCPC when you order.

The restaurant will donate 15%
to the school.

**216 Harker Place
Annapolis, MD 21401**

(410) 266-7980

SCPC Board update

The most recent SCPC board meeting was held on Wednesday, Jan. 22nd. The board discussed upcoming activities, enrollment news, insurance costs, budget line items, the first annual Legacy Award, fundraising ideas and much more.

Reports were made from all board members and plans for the upcoming month were shared by class representatives.

The Board would like to remind all co-op members that the General Membership meeting will be held on **Monday, February 10th** at 7:00 p.m. in Ford Hall, next to the school. There are many issues to discuss and to vote on and all members must attend.

Following are some dates of note for several upcoming special annual events.

The father's day celebrations this year are scheduled for **March 15th 9-10 a.m. for the 4's** and **March 15th 10:15-11:15 a.m. for the 3's**. These special Saturday events offer students an opportunity to share their classroom activities with their fathers. There is always a fun activity planned for everyone.

The annual Mother's Day Tea will take place on **Thursday, May 1st for the 3's** and **Friday, May 2nd for the 4's**. Mothers can enjoy a special day of tribute and tea with their children and their classmates. Mothers are asked to dress-up for this "fancy" event.

The Spring Clean Up event will be held on **May 31st**. You can find out more news about these and other activities in future SCPC newsletters.

Members are also reminded that the final General Membership meeting of the year will be held on **Monday, May 19th**. Again, attendance by at least one family member is mandatory.

The next SCPC board meeting will be held on **Wednesday, February 19th** at 7:30 p.m. at the DFRC BOQ next to the school. Co-op members are always welcome to attend.



myscpc.org
southcountyprek.com
davidsonvilleprek.com

Have you visited to newly redesigned website yet? You can locate all kinds of information on the site. Make sure to take a look soon!

Announcing The Legacy Award & Legacy Fund

SCPC will announce the winner of the 1st Annual Legacy Award at the auction event on Saturday, March 8th.

This award was created to recognize an individual within the co-op community who exemplifies the spirit of SCPC and its focus on children and education. The honoree of the award is selected by the current SCPC Board of Directors.

The award was created this year along with the Legacy Fund. This fund is an alumni sponsored capital campaign that seeks contributions from past members and students of the school. The financial donations will all benefit the school in the name of the award honoree.

If you know of anyone who has been affiliated with the school in any capacity that may be interested in contributing to the Legacy Fund, please contact Board President, Anne Canaday, with that information. Additionally, if you know of someone who should be nominated for next year's Legacy Award, let any current board member know.

This year's Board of Directors, the Events & Fundraising Committee, and even alumni, have all been working diligently to create a directory of former co-op'ers this year. We have been combing old newsletters, contacting former Board Presidents, and finding information everywhere we can. Many of these individuals have been invited to attend this year's auction. We hope to see both familiar faces and meet some of the people who have helped shape this school through its 40 year history.

We are also on the lookout for news of former SCPC students and what they may be doing now.



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