

January 2007

CARDEROCKET



Carderock Springs Elementary School
PTA Newsletter

www.CSESPTA.org

Inside this issue:

President's Letter 1

Committee News 2-3

Calendar & Monthly Events 4

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Letter from the PTA President

Kristy Keteltas

Dear Carderock Families:

Welcome back, and Happy New Year! Walking around school lately, it seems that students, parents and staff have fallen into a pattern of familiarity and everyone knows what is expected. I have always been fond of the second half of the year, when the adjusting is done, and the memories are made!

Many of the parents who are chatting on the bridge know each other now thanks to the **Grade Level Socials**, which allow parents to get together with other parents in a purely social setting. This has always been a wonderful tool in helping the parents move toward being members of one community. We are all very grateful to the **host families** for opening their homes to fellow parents. A big thank you to **Lauren Gross**, who coordinated the host families, and served as **Grade Level Socials Chair**. A job well done!

It seems like all of Carderock was out in force, chatting in the halls, and lining up to buy books last month at **Family Night** of the **Book Fair**. For the past few years, our loyal Book Fair chairs have had the event at Barnes and Noble, which raised money and was an efficient way for them to do the sale. This year, in response to parent requests, the Chairs brought the sale back to school. Ms. Martinsen kindly gave up the Media Center for a week, and the Book Fair Committee transformed the Media Center, and set the stage for a show-stopping Book Fair. Anyone who participated could see what a lot of work they did- and it paid off. We exceeded the budgeted amount we hoped to raise, and the community was unanimously thrilled with the Book Fair. **MANY THANKS to Caren Norris, Lisa Sobel and Kathy Staudaher** for their years of running the **Carderock Book Fair** with efficiency, professionalism, energy and graciousness. We will miss them, and we thank them for the sale that was the crowning jewel in their years of this service. Thank you to **Trudy Shahabi** for helping this year, and taking the mantle for next year.

Also, many thanks to Cultural Arts Chair **Salma Ali** for bringing Joe Romano to entertain the kids on Family Night. The fact that the kids were completely entranced certainly helped with the success of the sale. Salma has planned a wonderful year of **Cultural Arts Assemblies** for the kids, most of which feature international acts. I am sure you have already heard the feedback from your children, and we thank Salma for her excellent planning.

Finally, our parents and students are not the only community members who have benefited from the efforts of PTA volunteers this year. Our staff has been treated to snacks and drinks at **staff meetings** this year thanks to **Hailey Hanessian**. The teachers have really appreciated the goodies and the atmosphere that Hailey has provided. As Hailey turns her attention to her expanding family this spring, we thank her for her effort with these meetings for the past year and a half, in addition to all the other thoughtful tasks she has performed for the PTA in her effort to make this a hospitable community. Thank you, Hailey- and good luck!

Happy New Year, all. Please be in touch if there is something you want to discuss as a parent of this school community.

Kristy Gertsen Keteltas

Book Fair

Caren Norris, Lisa Sobel, Trudy Shahabi & Kathy Staudaher

The Scholastic Book Fair was a tremendous success. The Carderock PTA raised \$3403.05, plus an additional \$350 in free books and resource materials for the Media Center. Thanks to all of our parent and student volunteers and the many families who came out for Family Night with Joe Romano. Trudy Shahabi will chair this committee next year, so please contact her to help out with this very popular school event.

The Media Center will get \$125 in free books from the event, as well as a \$225 order credit from the Scholastic Resource Catalogue.

International Night

Bob Erdman & Ned Hodgman

International Night is back! Mark your calendars for April 12th from 6- 8:30 PM for an evening of wonderful food, music, and cultural entertainment!

As in previous years, Carderock families will be invited to organize booths representing countries and regions, offering the best in food, crafts and everything our world (and our school!) have to offer. We'll also have a fashion show, musical performances, and a raffle for students at the end of the evening. Plan to attend! We will be sending out further information for families who wish to organize booths or take part in other ways.

To volunteer or for more information please email Ned Hodgman and Bob Erdman at intlnite@verizon.net, or call Ned at (301) 326-7137 or Bob at (301) 560- 4587. Look forward to seeing you April 12th!

Variety Show

Nancy Holden, Karen Hutchinson & Lynda McIntyre

Variety is the spice of life!

It's time for the annual Carderock Variety Show, Friday, March 2nd at Walt Whitman High School. Students, please get your "acts together" and decide what you would like to perform. Our first practice will be on Wednesday, February 7th in the multi-purpose room immediately after school. We also need a group of vivacious fifth graders to be our MC's for the evening. Please come dressed as your favorite celebrity to the practice, as we intend to have a red carpet, night of the stars theme.

Flyers with participation forms will follow in next Wednesday's backpack mail, or check the website for forms that you can print at home. All forms will be accepted via Nora McIntyre in Mrs. Berusch's class. We also need parents to help with "crowd control" and other various duties at rehearsals and on the night of the show.

If you are interested in volunteering, please email Karen Hutchinson at Zahutch@aol.com.

Thank you for your support!

Thank you to all of you who have volunteered already this year!

Please remember to record the number of hours you are volunteering ... whether you're working in the classroom or at school events, helping out behind the scenes in the copy room or media center, on field trips, or at home fulfilling PTA committee work. You can note your hours in the volunteer logbook located in the PTA cubby adjacent to the school copy room, or simply keep track at your convenience at home. We are required to tally volunteer hours at the beginning of March and for a report to the County and want Carderock to receive the recognition it deserves!

If you are looking for volunteers to support a particular activity, the Volunteer Job Market is still your best resource. Please send us your volunteer requests each Friday for inclusion in the following week's Job Market.

Finally, please keep the school office updated with any changes to your emergency or non-emergency phone numbers. Staff will forward this information to our Committee for inclusion in the Emergency Contact List.

Feel free to call us if you have a request, question or suggestion. Thank you for your continued support of our school!

Yearbook Club

Kristina Valencia & Holly Welch

The 5th grade Yearbook Club begins meeting Tuesday afternoons January, 9th!!!! (3:15-4:15). We are hoping for a **full color book** this year and will be introducing the kids to some new software to put it all together. If you have a 5th grader who would like to be a part of the fun just send a quick email to Kristina Valencia. WE DO NEED PICTURES..... you can send in photos as **hard copy**, on a **disk** or **email** the photos to kristina_valencia@yahoo.com.

We are very excited to get going!

January 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 	16	17	18	19 	20
21	22 	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Jan. 1
Jan. 15
Jan. 19
Jan. 22

No School, Winter Break
No School, Martin L. King, Jr. Day
Second Marking Period Ends
No School, Professional Day for Teachers