



The Senator

H. F. Byrd PTA newsletter publication

April 2010

Byrd PTA Board

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President's Message

I would like to start this with a very special thank you to **Debby Dunham** and **Paula Chambers** for all their hard work securing wonderful candidates for the 2010-2011 PTA executive board and board positions. We will have our **vote on April 29th** right before the Tech Fair at 6:30 p.m.. The voting is for the following positions:

2010-2011 Byrd PTA Executive Board Slate

President: Joan Lemelin

1st VP of Programs: Susan Collett

2nd VP of Membership: Leigh Casarotti and Sally Thomason

Recording Secretary: Kelly Shaffer

Corresponding Secretary: Paula Chambers

Treasurer: Ashley Lingle

We have other positions still open and would love to have parents involved. Please contact me as soon as possible if you are interested.

If you have not joined the PTA, please consider doing so- even if you are only at Byrd for one year because of redistricting or graduating, we NEED your support. Only \$5.00 per person to support your children is priceless!!!! Contact Mary Robinson at **willbeabratt@aol.com**. With your dues we have done a lot for the kids from thousand of dollars for books for the library, projectors and clickers for the white boards and the passports for each and every child.

Thanks to all the parents who have volunteered either with the PTA positions or at the school. Your time is greatly appreciated!!

Byrd PTA Volunteer of the Year...

It is my pleasure to announce **Treasa Avgeros** has been chosen as **Byrd PTA Volunteer of the Year 2010!!** Treasa's dedication to Byrd students, faculty and parents makes her an ideal recipient of this award. On behalf of Byrd PTA, I would like to thank Treasa for her incredible volunteering efforts.

Treasa and her husband have been invited to attend Henrico County Council of PTAs' year-end banquet on May 4th. All Henrico County PTA "Volunteers of the Year" recipients will be honored during the banquet. Again, it is such a honor to be the one to let you know of your selection!!!

Be well.

Suzanne Sease

Byrd PTA President 2009-2010

president@byrdpta.org

Principal's Message

Happy April, Byrd parents and students.

I hope you had an enjoyable spring break. I know we all appreciated the full week off as so many other counties had shortened breaks due to snow make-up days. Before leaving for break, our library was very busy hosting World Languages Week and visiting author, Roland Smith. Besides Byrd students, we were able to welcome many other students from surrounding Henrico Middle Schools as they heard Mr. Smith's presentations and received signed copies of his newest book. The author's visit marked the beginning of a month long celebration called School Library Media Month (SLMM). The month of celebration and activities will culminate with Byrd's Techno Fair on April 28th. Come to the fair from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. and see incredible student projects that showcase 21st Century learning.

If you want to say "thank you" for all that the library at Byrd Middle School offers, consider donating a book to congratulate your hard working student, to say thank you to a special teacher, or to honor a family member. Your donated book will feature a bookplate with your special notation, and you will get to select a title that you feel would be most enjoyed by our middle school students. Also, you get the first "check out" privilege. Our librarians will manage the ordering process and more details will come soon on this giving opportunity.

Beyond our walls, the good things happening at Byrd Middle School have been shown often in March and April. We have had our student and teacher work featured on the county website as our activities with the Olweus Program and Monday class meetings were highlighted. Byrd's Arbor Day tree planting ceremony is also pictured on the site. Another feature on the county website revealed Byrd's heart for Haiti. This incredible student-created project is also explained in more detail in the "Plug In" library article found later in this newsletter.

Thank you for all your support and interest as we gear up for May, our last full month of learning in 2009-2010.

Sharon Pope
Principal

Byrd Spirit Night at Glory Days—Tuesday, April 20

By Martha Campbell, Ways and Means Chair

Byrd PTA will have a **Spirit Night at Glory Days Tuesday, April 20, from 5 p.m. until closing**. Glory Days is located at 10466 Ridgefield Pkwy. Glory Days will give Byrd PTA 10% of the food sales. When dining that night, please ask your server for a copy of your guest check (not credit card receipt). Carry-out orders are included. Just ask the carry-out cashier for your guest check.

Byrd PTA will collect guest checks that night in a box at the front of the restaurant.

Questions? Contact me at 754-3104 or NutriGal@aol.com.



Italian Dinner a Huge Success

By Martha Campbell, Italian Dinner Chair

A BIG thank you goes out to all of the parents, students, administration, faculty, staff and Byrd cafeteria who helped make the Byrd PTA Italian Dinner a huge success on February 26. Thank you also to the subcommittee chairpersons for this year's dinner:

Ticket Sales - Shelton Panak
Volunteers - Cheryl Matt and Marilyn Collins
Desserts - Joan Lemelin
Silent Auction - Claudine Johnson Eaddy

Door Prizes - Staci Katz
Decorations - Corrine Cooper
Face Painting - Lesin Dippold

In spite of having to be rescheduled once due to snow, the event was an evening full of great food and entertainment. A countless number of parents worked within the various subcommittees, and some parents worked in more than one subcommittee. Thank you to all those parents and the parents who picked-up food the night of the dinner. Thank you to our wonderful administration, faculty and staff members who served meals and helped with set-up and clean-up. Also, thank you to the A-Club and SCA members who helped with set-up at the dinner. The Byrd Jazz Band and the Select Choral Ensemble were wonderful! Thank you for the support of the music department.

As a show of appreciation to those who serve as firefighters and rescue personnel, Byrd PTA donated unopened food to the Henrico Fire Dept. on Quioccasin Road.

Finally, thank you to all of the businesses and individuals who donated food, silent auction items, door prizes and supplies to our event. Please visit them soon:

Sam's Club	Pizza Hut	Froots
Domino's Pizza	Chanello's	Qdoba
Frank's West	Pizza Express	ColdStone Creamery
Sal Cataldo's	Trak's	The Melting Pot
Ledo Pizza & Pasta	Papa John's	Memento Studios
Cozzoli's	Zorba's	Bikram Yoga
Leonardo's	BJ's Wholesale	Fin & Feather Pet Center
Chianti	Costco	Penelope
Vinny's	Arby's/Short Pump	American Colleges of Karate
Little Venice	McDonald's	Allyson Smith Fine Jewelry
Grapevine	Starbuck's/Gayton Crossing	Tutor Doctor
Maggiano's	Staples	Cliff Bruce Studio
Max & Erma's	WaltDisneyWorld Resort	Elizabeth Arden Red Door Spas
Rudino's	Deluca Gelato	Autumn's Custom Catering & Event Planning
Brio Tuscan Grill	AMF Shrader Lanes	Liston's Paving
Olive Garden	Chick Fil A	The Cheesecake Factory
Gino's Pizza	Fu Jian Chinese Restaurant	American Family Fitness
Bertucci's	Penn Station	BowlAmerica
The Dominion Club	Huntington Learning Center	and Byrd art teacher Mr. Gottschalk!

Library News

By Mrs. Jones, Byrd Librarian

Plug Into Your School Library Today!

<http://byrdmiddle.org/library/>

Byrd's Library Information Center is a central source of information for students, faculty, parents, and Byrd's community. Please visit our Library Web Page.



Think Globally. Make a Difference. Connect Now.

Our Librarians, ITRT, TST and classroom teachers have collaborated to heighten awareness of issues surrounding the recent earthquakes in Haiti, Chile and Taiwan for our students and community. A 6th grade English class created a pamphlet with reliable resources for those who want to connect and help; our 8th grade Talented & Gifted class created public service announcements using iMovie; and our Forensics Club developed a series of live announcements to accompany the iMovie PSAs which will be shown during our live morning broadcasts. A display has been created in the library to provide a centralized information access location for school and community.

Techno Takeover 2010 – Can You Digi It?

At the end of April, Byrd's Library will host a technology event to showcase student work and instructional innovation. Through a contest on School Space our students submitted suggestions for the name of the event, and submitted and voted on the logo. The students are ready to put on a fantastic Tech Night!



Attend a PGA Tournament and Help Byrd PTA

By Martha Campbell, Ways and Means Chair

The Greenbrier, located in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia, is excited to host the inaugural event, **The Greenbrier Classic, July 26 - August 1, 2010** as part of the FedEx-Cup Series - giving players and fans alike the opportunity to experience professional golf against the backdrop of this American treasure. The PGA TOUR's best players will take on the challenging Old White course at The Greenbrier. This will be one of the top events on TOUR and brought to you with grace and hospitality for which The Greenbrier and its staff are known.



The Greenbrier is delighted to announce the **Badges for Charity Program**. Through Badges for Charity, eligible non-profit organizations will receive 30% of the proceeds of each Weekly Badge sold for their benefit. Weekly badges are currently the only way to guarantee admission to the tournament.

The Byrd Middle School PTA is proud to participate in the Badges for Charity program! To purchase your badge and benefit the Byrd PTA, follow these steps:

- Go to www.greenbrierclassic.com
- Click on "Buy Tickets"
- Click on "Buy Badges for Charity Now"
- Select your badge level (Byrd PTA will receive 30% of the proceeds of ANY badge level purchased!)
- Click on the drop-down box and select "**Harry F. Byrd Middle School PTA (246)**"
- Click "Add to Cart" and proceed to checkout

****The deadline to purchase Badges for Charity is April 30, 2010, so purchase yours right away!****

Questions? Contact me at 754-3104, or NutriGal@aol.com.

News from the School Counseling Department

Counselors:



Grade 6	Mrs. Ann Mewborn	admewbor@henrico.k12.va.us
Grade 7	Mrs. Tamela Tyler	tptyler@henrico.k12.va.us
Grade 8	Ms. Townsend Duane	teduane@henrico.k12.va.us
Specialty Center and Governor's School applications	Mrs. Jacki Rice	jarice@henrico.k12.va.us

What's New in the School Counseling Department

By Jacki Rice, Counselor

We are busy creating a School Space page. Within this space, each counselor will post information for her grade level. There will also be general information for all to view. Our intern for the spring, Darin Freeman, is conducting a study skills group for select seventh and eighth graders. He will be able to post material for them exclusively. We are piloting this program and look forward to your feedback.

Let us know what items would be helpful for you to have. All shared information will be school specific so we can be very creative. The best way to serve our students and parents is through communication and education. School Space is an excellent way to do that.

Mrs. Bostain and I will create a space for you to give feedback. Each week I will read your entries. Together, I believe we can build a useful tool.

8th Grade News

Spring is definitely in the air as Byrd eighth graders are feeling the excitement as their middle school experience is drawing to a close. Ms. Duane visited the science classes the week of March 22, 2010 to review the high school diplomas and map out a draft plan for high school with each student. Students brought their draft plans home to review with their parents/guardians. She will be reminded them that they still have more than a quarter left of their eighth grade year and want to end the year well. As their school counselor, Ms. Duane has had a fantastic three years watching them grow and change in this very important developmental time in their lives.

Best Pizza in Town!

PIZZA EXPRESS



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Byrd PTA will receive a portion of all Pizza Express orders every Thursday when you mention **Byrd Middle School**.

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