

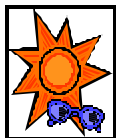


April 2005

A PTA Publication for Spring Brook School Main Office: 630.428.6600

From the PTA President... Lynn Patrick

From the Assistant Principal's Desk. Joan Bowers



As spring approaches, we are all anxious for warmer weather, flowers to bloom, and lush lawns to flourish. It is a time that brings many wonderful changes. PTA is getting ready for spring too. We are electing new officers for the Executive Board for the school year 2005-2006, signing up those who would like to chair a committee and updating our website. Check out the Spring Brook Elementary School's website, http://springbrook.ipsd.org and catch up on important events or read the newsletter. Remember next year our newsletter will be on our website with paper copies available in the office.

PTA meeting and Spring Job Fair

At our next PTA meeting we will have a presentation from the teachers on "Character Education". Come and hear what the children have been doing this year in support of our theme, "Building a Community of Learners." Following the presentation we will host our Spring Job Fair. I have been very impressed with the incredible number of parents who devote their time and energies toward making Spring Brook a wonderful place for children to learn. As we prepare for next year, I know there are many parents whose talents would benefit the children at Spring Brook. What better way to find out what PTA has to offer then attend our Spring Job Fair, 1:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 7th. The Spring Job Fair will provide an informal opportunity for you to find out what each committee works on through the year and their time commitment. Current committee chairs and representatives will be introduced, each committee explained and then you will have an opportunity to ask questions and learn more about each com-

Dear Spring Brook Community,

When I was first offered the position at Spring Brook, I felt very fortunate to have the opportunity. Now, after having the rewarding experience of working with such a dedicated staff, committed parents, and students that make my job worth doing every day, I am certainly counting my blessings.

The community of Indian Prairie School District 204 focuses on what is most important. Helping students find success, explore new learning, and continue with their growth is the shared value in this community. As I continue my focus of supporting Spring Brook, and as I begin as the principal of Graham Elementary on July 1, 2005, the shared vision of the district will be at the heart of my work every day.

Thank you for sharing your children with me. My time here at Spring Brook has made me certain that this is a district in which I would like to continue to play a role in helping students discover, explore, create, question, celebrate and grow.

Fondly, Joan Bowers

Registration for 2005-2006 is coming!! Watch for Mrs. Pease's column next month with important information regarding Registration for the 2005-2005 school year. At press time, we were still waiting for information from the District.



BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF LEARNERS!! Editor: Cindy Bondy, 369-3571 cbondy5111@aol.com



PTA Treasurer's Report

Significant Income Items:

Box Top Rebates	\$ 802
Roller Skating Party (will be offset by expenses)	468
Market Day	704
Dough Raising Night	945
Gift Wrap Internet Sales	1,244

Significant Expense Items

Box Top Contest Prizes	\$ 223
Box Tops—Gym Equipment	399
Roller Skating Party	486
School Store Supplies	430
Repro Graphics	427
Parent Program Speaker Fees	350
Box Tops Contest—Pizza party and Prizes	192
Assembly—Journey to Readtopia	975
Jump Rope for Heart—DJ final payment	150

Diana Taylor, Treasurer



Habitat for Learning

Habitat for Learning -Needs your help with Extreme Makeover!

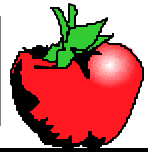
Parents and older students are needed the weekend of **April 9th and 10th** to help remove sod and prepare the soil for a Prairie Garden in the back of the school by the blacktop. We will rotate shifts of volunteers(before and after soccer and baseball games). Stop by for an hour or more but be dressed to get messy. We need several wheel barrows and persons to drive them, along with a sod cutter, and a rototiller. Snacks will be provided but please RSVP to Lacy Antonson 983-7801 or Carolyn Wagner 983-9384 for more details. We are also fortunate to have the help of several Neuqua Valley high school students.

Earth Day is **Friday, April 22** and Arbor Day is **Friday, April 29th**. Spring Brook students, teachers and one Tiger Cub Scout Den will be busy planting several shrubs, trees and perennials. If you or your scout troop/pack would like to be a part of these projects too, we'd love to have you help. A special flyer will be sent home as these dates get closer.

Lacy Antonson, Chairman-Habitat for Learning Committee



Market Day



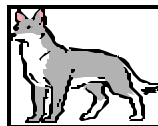
Market Day News

By the time you read this newsletter, everyone will be back from Spring Break and hopefully will have enjoyed themselves. However, you all probably have empty refrigerators, as well, so stock up again by ordering lots of Market Day! We truly appreciate all of your orders and hope you are enjoying everything. We would also like to thank our Market Day volunteers for coming in each month and helping out! We couldn't do it without you!

Kern Korte, Joni Borghesi- Co-Chairs, Market Day

Important Dates

- April 5 Election Day Vote on the referendum and Board of Education members
- April 7 PTA Meeting & Job Fair @ 1:30 p.m.
- April 15 Sock Hop
- May 17 Roller skating (not March as previously stated)



Spring Brook's Sock Hop 2005

Grab your poodle skirts and shine up your blue suede shoes-Spring Brook School is going to "Spring into Action" with the 2nd Annual Sock Hop Friday, April 15th from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Radio Disney D.J. Greg Dellinger will return to spin the records and a special appearance by Rick "Elvis" Kasbee will really get us rockin' and rollin.' Admission will be \$3.00 per student and all proceeds will go to the American Red Cross Tsunami Relief Fund.

Flyers will be sent home giving further details. Please save the date to join us April 15th as Spring Brook School "Springs into Action" to help the Tsunami Survivors.

Eileen Priestley



Library Media Center

Happy Spring! Our LMC has been blooming with fun projects! In late February we hosted poet Kalli Dakos. Students and staff alike enjoyed her presentation. She was energetic, funny and even got the teachers to sing opera! Kalli helped Spring Brook students see that there is poetry in every day life, especially at school.

Our first graders spent over a month studying about awards that books are given, and specifically studies the Caldecott Award, which is an annual award given to books whose illustrations are outstanding. This year's Caldecott winner was *Kitten's First Full Moon* by Kevin Henkes. At Spring Brook, we have our own book award, called the Gingerbread Award. For a month, 1st graders were read recently published books by guest readers (including our Superintendent Howie Crouse!) and voted on their favorite book. This year, Spring Brook 1st graders voted *Actual Size* by Steve Jenkins as their favorite book. As a treat, Mrs. Pease read them this book at the big announcement gathering on Feb. 16.

Our older students were introduced to the list of nominated books for the Rebecca Caudill Young Readers Award. From a list of 17 books, students were asked to read at least 4 of the books (one could be read to them by their teacher) and chose a winner on Feb. 24th. Spring Brook's winner was *Hoot* by Carl Haiszen. We sent our votes in to the state contest and will be anxiously awaiting for the announcement of the state wide pick in mid-March when it will be announced the Children's Literature Conference in DeKalb, IL.

Beginning March 14, Spring Brook will again be participating in the Kane County Cougars' Ozzie's Reading Club. Spring Brook's game date is Tuesday, May 24th and the game will begin at 6:00pm. More information has come home. If you have any questions, please call the LMC. We look forward to celebrating reading, baseball and the end of the school year with staff and students at the Kane County Cougars game.

Happy Spring and Happy Reading!
Mrs. Madzinski, LMC Director

Thanks to the following **Birthday Book Club** members who recently donated a book to the Spring Brook LMC: Jake Bender, Hayley Eggiman, Allee Samuel, Jack Reid, Essence Coleman, Dana DeCraene, Nick Williamson, Sam Trevino, Lauren Weil, Catherine Nania, Brett Swanson, Samantha Perry, Alex Hayward, Abigail Tozer, Madeline Scoles, Greg Newman, Jack Scoles, McKenna Boose, Cody Jensen, Jordan Nelmark, Erin Newman.

Parent Programs Update

Parent Programs wants to remind parents that it isn't too late to begin a new healthy eating program for the entire family. Check out this website: SavingDinner.com for tools that will "help you bring your family back to the dinner table". You can print sample menus with categorized shopping lists for free! Select from: Low Carb, Frugal, Kosher, Southern Hemisphere, and Regular Menu-mailers. The plans include "Do Ahead" tips, and nutritional information. If you subscribe, you will receive a new mailer each week with 6 delicious dinner recipes timed to the seasons! *Thanks to Andrea Passaro for this healthy tip!

April 7th -Parent Child Book Club-The Longest Shot by Dan Gutman Book Discussion at 7:00 p.m. in LMC. Parent and child to attend! Contact Camille Prindle

May or June - The Way They(children) Learn: A discussion on the learning styles of children: speaker TBD Contact Alka Tyle Thanks to Ann Margaret Luciano - For researching and hosting, Dr. Maniacci, Psy.D who spoke on "Stress and Achievement, How Much is Enough?" What a great turnout! Hope to see more faces at the parent book club and for our May speaker!

Box Tops Update

In the last contest, we collected 11,163 Box Tops. WOW!! We were able to purchase a balance beam, recess equipment, and classroom items and pizza parties for the winning classes! We appreciate your time and cooperation. Our 2nd contest has just ended and was again a huge success!! Look for the winners in the May Huskie Tales newsletter.

The Box Top Committee

PTA Meeting Update

Please join us for our next PTA meeting which will be held on **April 7th** at 1:30 p.m.

Birthday Book Club

Name: _____

Birthday: _____

Teacher: _____

Grade: _____

Neuqua Summer Swimming Lessons

School District #204 and Neuqua Valley High School will offer 3 sessions of swimming lessons at Neuqua Valley High School this summer. Experienced swimmers as well as beginners are invited to attend. Classes are structured with eleven different ability groupings and a modified station method of instruction. **Registration forms are available on the Neuqua Valley Web page at:**

http://nvhs.ipsd.org/athletics_winter-boys-swim.html
http://nvhs.ipsd.org/athletics_fall_girls-swim-dive.html

From there choose: 2005 summer swim lessons.pdf

Sessions:	Session I	June 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, & 17
	Session II	Mon thru Thur June 20 th -June 30 th
	Session III	Tue thru Fri July 5 th -July 8 th Mon thru Thur July 11 th -July 14 th
Times:	Class I	9:00 – 9:55
	Class II	10:00-10:55
	Class III	11:00-11:55
	Class IV	1:00-1:55
	Class V	2:00-2:55

Cost: \$60.00 per session if registered on April 23rd. \$70.00 per session for late registrations.

Registration: Registration: Registration will be held at Neuqua Valley High School on Saturday morning April 23rd from com8:30 to 10:00am. **A FAMILY member must be present to register.** Classes will be filled on a first come, first served basis.

McFerren Memory Book

During January 2005, a committee was formed to put together a memory book for the McFerren family. This book included photos, drawings, and many of the letters from the Spring Brook children and their families. The McFerren Memory book has been completed and passed on to Kevin and Micaela. A special thanks to the committee members who donated their time and expertise, as well as many of the supplies, to make this book for Micaela to treasure in years to come. Many thanks to Janinne Baiardo, Deb Hedrick, Laura Kadziulis, Sue Komarynsky, Debbie Lewis, Sue Powell and Cindy Vanags.

Claire Benz & Meg Shields, Co-Chairs

Public Relations Update



Did you get to enjoy the slide show at the open house? We hope so! It was fun to see all the faces that make up Spring Brook! We would like to thank Mr. Gerrish for all of his help to put it together. We couldn't have done it without him. Thank you Mr. Gerrish!

If you didn't get a chance to see the school photo album, you can view it at any time in the school office. There are lots of fun pictures in there from many of the school activities. Check it out!!

Don't miss the PTA meeting on Thursday, April 7th at 1:30 p.m. The meeting will include a Character Education Presentation and a PTA Job Fair! Come check out ways you can get involved in your PTA!



Dough-Raising Nights

Many thanks to all those families and Spring Brook staff members who participated in our recent Dough-Raising Event with Traverso's on February 15th and 16th. Traverso's generously donated \$945 to the Spring Brook PTA that will directly benefit our children! In addition, Traverso's provided a FREE pizza lunch to the entire Third Grade on Friday, March 18th! Congratulations to the entire Third Grade for generating the most sales per classroom! Please mark your calendar for our next Dough-Raising Event scheduled for April 13th and 14th. More information will come home in your child's backpack. Many thanks again for all the tremendous support we have received from the community!

Therese Mikulecky and Karen Olson, Co-Chairs
PTA Dough-Raising

PTA Meeting Minutes- March 10, 2005

Attendees: Lynn Patrick, Trudy Medhurst, Barb Lanman, Diana Taylor, Joan Bowers, Debbie Hedrick, Janean Mileusnic, Eileen Priestley, Janinne Baiardo, Janet Carlson, Kari Byerly, Mary Beth Hicks, Kern Korte, Lacy Antonson, Nellie Phifer, Karin Siurek, Linda Whitaker, Annette Swanson, Shirley Jeung, Jean Hennessey, Ena Barr Maloney, Therese Mikulecky, Kim Samual, Mary Manno.

Welcome and Call to Order: Lynn welcomed all present and called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Approval of February Meeting Minutes: Approved as presented.

President Report- Lynn Patrick

Thanked the following people: Jr. Great Books: Lisa Ohlhausen, Cindy Lincoln; Health & Safety: Heidi Grabowski; Family Fun: Alice Thomas, Janet Carlson, Anna Garrett; Children's Publishing: Mary Manno, Nellie Phifer; Dough Raising: Karen Olson, Therese Mikulecky. Mentioned that the Arena Football event was a success with approximately 144 tickets sold. Moreover, thanked the hospitality chairs and committee members for the wonderful Appreciation Breakfast held on 3/10 that honored the crossing guards, lunchroom supervision staff, and Mr. Fleetwood, Head Custodian. Reminded all committee chairs to please update the "Volunteer Form" and give to either Lynn or Cindy Vanags. In addition, Lynn shared the following which was discussed at the President's Meeting: 1) "List Serve" will be at all elementary schools next year. 2) **The Huskie Tales Newsletter will be available only via the internet next year, with copies available in the office for those who do not have a computer.** 3) Discussed possible scenarios if the April referendum does not pass. 4) Stated that the District will hire a "professional group" (not a panel comprised of district parents) to revise boundaries that are more "compatible with diversity", both socio-economic and race based. Finally, reminded everyone of upcoming important dates: On 3/16, Citizens for Classrooms @ Crone 7:00pm as well as the Internet Safety presentation @ Brookdale, 7:00pm; On 3/22, School Board Candidates Forum @ Naperville Municipal Building 7:30pm; On 4/7, the next PTA meeting will be held @ 1:30pm and will include a presentation by Spring Brook teachers on our theme, "Building a Community of Learners." The "Spring Job Fair" will also be held for next year's committee/volunteer opportunities.

1st Vice- President Report- Trudy Medhurst

Thanked those in attendance at the last PTA meeting for passing the "Obesity Resolution". Noted that Spring Brook applied for one of the \$1,000 grants (a total of 120 grants will be issued by the State) available and will learn of the status on 3/17. Thanked Heidi Grabowski for helping in the writing/ application process for the grant. Moreover, please let Trudy know if anyone knows of a dietician or nutritionist to help with the Summer Health and Fitness Program. Reminded those to email their state representatives on the Resolution Vote if so desired. Finally, reported on behalf of Kathy Hilgemann (2nd VP) that all chairs of committees should fill out the "orange folder" that has been previously provided that gives information about the events their respective committees are responsible for.

2nd Vice- President Report-Kathy Hilgemann

See above under 1st Vice President Report.

Treasurer Report- Diana Taylor

Provided copies of the Treasurer's Report and the PTA Budget vs. Actual. Also, mentioned that additional copies of the Spring Brook student directory are available for only \$1.

Secretary Report-Barb Lanman

No report.

Administration Report- Kathy Pease

No Report.

New Business:

Citizens for Classrooms- Debbie Hedrick reminded everyone of the important upcoming Citizens for Classrooms meeting on 3/16 at 7:00pm at Crone. Noted that a website has been created: www.voteyes204.org to support the referendum. Passed out a sheet at the meeting for those who would like to volunteer their time by conducting phone calls, distributing flyers, and putting "vote yes" signs in yards. Please call Debbie if you would like to help.

Spring Job Fair- Lynn Patrick asked for all committee chairs to attend. Noted that the executive board will conduct a brief presentation, which will profile the various committees and their respective responsibilities. A brief Q&A will follow along with sign-ups. Please come to find out what Spring Brook has to offer and how you can help!

Unfinished Business:

Nominating Committee Report-Therese Mikulecky announced the nominations for the PTA Executive Board for the 2005/2006 school year. They are as follows:

President- Diana Taylor
1st Vice-President- Lisa Ohlhausen
2nd Vice-President- Kathy Hilgemann
Treasurer- Shirley Jeung
Secretary- Jean Hennessey

Lynn Patrick stated that all nominations are officially closed. The election will take place at the 4/7 PTA meeting. Many thanks to the people who have stepped forward in these leadership positions. Thanks also to the nominating committee for all their hard work and dedication.

Adoption of Revised By-Laws- Trudy Medhurst, Karen Sharpe, and Cheryl DeCraene comprised the committee to review the By-Laws as required. Listed below are the changes that were made:

- 1) Article VI Officers and Their Elections: under "a") eliminated the 2nd VP as the Emergency Calling Tree Coordinator.
- 2) Article VII Duties of Officers: under "a") added the "V.P.'s shall perform such other duties as may be delegated."
- 3) Article VIII Meeting: under section "1" eight meetings will be held per year instead of nine.

A motion was made by Linda Whitaker and seconded by Karin Siurek to adopt the above changes to the By-Laws. A vote was taken-- all were in favor with no opposed.

Committee Reports:

Sock Hop- Eileen Priestley reminded everyone that this event will be held on 4/15, from 6:30-8:30 pm at Spring Brook. Remember that this will be a "50's Theme" including *Radio Disney* and "Elvis" along with photo opportunities. A suggested donation of \$3.00 per child in attendance would be appreciated—this will go directly to the Red Cross Relief Fund to aid the Tsunami relief effort. Flyers will be sent home with further details regarding this event. Please plan on attending this fun event.

Artist in Residence – Annette Swanson provided an update on the finalized mural design, reading chairs and books that will be on display in the LMC for Mrs. McFerren's memorial. Spring Brook students will also have an opportunity to purchase/donate a book in her memory. Details to follow. Lynn Patrick also mentioned that there will be a brick purchased in her memory to be placed outside the office.

Habitat for Learners- Reported that a Purple Ash Tree with a Flower Bed will be planted in memory of Mrs. McFerren. Moreover, mentioned that Spring Brook did receive the two grants that were applied for. Six Native trees and a Butterfly Garden will be planted with the grant monies received. Finally, please contact Lacy Antonson or the committee if anyone knows of a source/supplier of mulch.

Children's Publishing- Reported that 3rd grade publishing will be starting after Spring Break. Letters will be sent home to train volunteers. This program will be "classroom contained" vs. being in the LMC. A file box will be located in each class. In addition, regarding 5th grade publishing, volunteers are still needed. Please consider donating your time. This will still be done in the LMC. A schedule will be provided the week of 3/14 for those who have already volunteered.

Box Tops- As a result of the success from the last contest, the committee purchased a low balance beam of Ms. Jansen's choice, recess balls and bases as well as k'nex/legos for each grade level. The next contest will end on 3/24.

Parent Programs- Noted that there will not be a program on 3/24. A video series entitled Dynamotion Food Fun and Dynamotion Muscle Hustle (geared for children ages 5-9) will be available for parents to check out in the LMC. These interactive videos, approximately 26 minutes in length, help children learn the importance of good eating habits and exercise. Moreover, noted that on 4/7 the next parent/child book club will be conducted—the book selected is The Longest Shot. Finally, mentioned that there is a website: <http://www.savingdinner.com> that provides meal ideas.

School Supplies- Stated that Spring Brook will continue to use current supplier; will work with teachers to make sure supplies are appropriate for each grade level. Order forms for supplies will come in registration packets in May and will be available for pick-up at the "Meet and Greet" event in August.

Community Service- The Spring Brook community donated close to \$800 for the blanket project. Karen Sharpe was able to secure \$225 in donations from Wal-Mart. Fleece has been distributed to volunteers for fringe cutting. Moreover, students will tie blankets (4 per classroom) during lunch recesses on Thursday, 3/17—parent volunteers have been notified. In addition, a special fleece blanket ("Chicago Cubs") will be made by the 5th grade for their classmate, Evan Garrett, who is currently undergoing treatment for leukemia. Finally, stated that there is a Trust Fund set up at the following location:

Evan Garrett Trust Fund
C/O First United Bank
2451 South Washington Street
Naperville, IL 60565
(630) 355-0899

Dough Raising- The 2/25-2/26 event with Traversos Restaurant raised \$945 for the Spring Brook PTA. The last event will be on 4/13 and 4/14 featuring Little Italian.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Lanman, Secretary