

Call of the

WILDCATS

April 2005

Lake Wilderness Elementary

PTSA

everychild. one voice.

CO-PRESIDENTS

Amy Granger
425-413-4918

Tracy Allen
425-432-2544

VICE PRES. OF FUNDRAISING

Terasa Snoozy
425-432-7966

VICE PRES. OF WILDCAT CASH

Peggy Zemek
425-413-2900

SECRETARY

Vicki Freelund
206-313-0699

TREASURER

Beth Schilling
425-413-1006

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Thursday, April 7th
3rd Grade Concert

April 11-15
Spring Break - NO SCHOOL

Friday, April 22nd
Family "Fun and Games" Night

Thursday, April 28th
Skate Party

President's Message

Hello Lake Wilderness Families,

THANK YOU to all those who called and volunteered to help distribute the Cookie Dough. I know Terasa was very pleased to have extra hands during that busy time.

Here is a brief summary of the main items we covered at February's Board meeting. Budget revision: In reviewing our current budget, we recognized the need to revise a few items to better reflect the needs of the PTSA's goals. A few of these issues were: School Ground Improvement goals, and a Disaster Fund. These changes can only be done with the consent of the General Membership. We also discussed some important issues about the WASL tests that are currently in progress. Many thanks to QFC and the Quaker Oats representative, Maury Robinson, for their donations to our WASL "brain-food" program!

The General Membership meeting was held on March 17th. Thank you to everyone who came out. The budget was amended and after reviewing several playground options, the general consensus was to focus our efforts on a full court basketball court as well as a few benches for the playground. Thank you Gina Castagna, LWES Building Manager, for taking time to research the different options for us. We are really excited to be able to do this for everyone who will be using this court; school children and community. We definitely could not have entertained this idea if it wasn't for everyone who supported our fundraisers. We recognize this and thank you! This will be a great addition! If you have question concerning this decision please feel free to call either Tracy or myself.

Our nominating committee was voted in at our General Membership meeting as well. Thank you Gwendolyn Phelps, Laurie Heiden and Erin Weaver! Don't be surprised if you get a phone call from any one of these ladies. Even though we are in the middle of the school year, we are already looking to fill positions that will be available next year. Please take a look at the openings and consider volunteering in your PTSA. We are always looking for fresh ideas! It has been a great experience to participate in positive and rewarding activities and programs benefiting the school, teachers and families of our community.

Amy Granger
PTSA Co-President

Earth Day's 35th Anniversary

April 22nd is the 35th anniversary of Earth Day. Earth Day, which began in 1970, is now celebrated by millions of people worldwide.

Here are some ideas on what you can do to help the environment:

Save energy by turning off the light when you leave your room.

Save trees, which are used to make paper, by using a lunch pail, rather than a paper bag each day.

Pick up litter that you see in your neighborhood and recycle whatever can be recycled - aluminum cans, glass, paper, cardboard, plastic things.

Ride your bike or walk, when you can, rather than ride in a car.

Turn off the water while you are brushing your teeth.

Use less water in your bath or shower.

Recycle aluminum, glass, newspapers, cardboard and plastic containers.

Use water-saving devices on toilets, shower heads and faucets.

Plant trees in your yard.

Use both sides of a piece of paper when drawing, coloring or writing.



Earth Day – Every Day

Be Informed! Stay Informed! Be Active!

There is an old saying that goes, "Show me your calendar or your check-book, and I will show you what is important to you."

Now that may sound a bit crass, but there really is quite a bit of truth to it, isn't there?

You don't have to be Perry Mason or Dick Tracy to figure out what someone is really passionate about when you have the luxury of looking at their calendar. You see, my calendar is filled with the things that really matter to me. Sure, I admit that running my son back and forth to lacrosse practice isn't the most thrilling event of my day, but the fact that I love him so much, makes that otherwise mundane task much more of a joy than a drudgery.

So, what about our children?

What "child-related" entries are listed on your calendar? I suspect that you might see things like sporting events, music lessons, club activities, and the like, but what about school related items? What about PTA? What about helping in the classroom? Are there any of those kind of entries in your calendar?

Now before you get upset and move on to another article, allow me to offer you a pain-free way to get the facts and get involved in the life of your child's education, no matter how busy you might be.

The 2005 Washington State Legislature is in session in Olympia and there are a number of bills impacting children currently being debated. Information on these issues and the status of PTA priorities is available in the "Grass Roots Connection", a weekly summary from Mary Kenfield the WSPTA Government Relations Director. This, as well as additional information on PTA Legislative issues, is available at www.wastatepta.org by clicking on "Legislation."

Then, after getting informed about what is going on, make a difference by letting your legislator know what you think about the issues being discussed. To do so, go to www.wastatepta.org, click on "Legislation," then click on "Click here to take action now" under Legislative Action Center, or call the Legislative Hotline at (800) 562-6000.

It really is that easy.

While it is very important to be informed and stay informed about what is going on with our children's education, it is most important to be active, making a difference in the lives of our children.

For more information on PTA Legislation contact Brad Ross at brad@lsc.org.

Teacher Appreciation Week

May 1-7, 2005

National Teacher Appreciation Week is a special opportunity for PTSA, parents and students to reflect on the importance of teachers and an opportunity to give them the recognition they genuinely deserve. This is our week to show our support and say "thank you."

Here are four ways your children can show gratitude to their teachers.

1. Make a Bouquet of Thanks

Color and cut flowers out of paper and write a word of thanks on each flower.

2. Give a Report Card

Make the teacher a thank-you card that looks like a report card. Include areas for "grading" such as: Makes Class Fun; Helps Me Learn A Lot; Smiles Every Day.

3. Do Five Nice Things

Children can do five things, one each day, during Teacher Appreciation Week to assist their teachers, such as: help teacher put away supplies; clean out a classroom closet; draw a special picture; etc.

4. Give Your Teacher an Apple Gram

Cut out or trace an apple shape and write words of gratitude to tell the teacher how much he/she is appreciated. Pre-made, blank apple grams can be found on the PTSA bulletin board outside Office A for children to use.

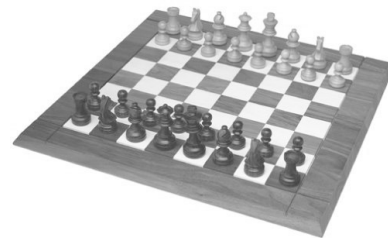
We are extremely fortunate at Lake Wilderness to have such wonderful teachers. We honor their dedication and hard work during National Teacher Appreciation Week. Please take time to say, "thanks."



Family Night

Just when you thought you had tough week at school and can't go on...let loose and reenergize at Family Night.

Come join us for some old fashioned family games and feast on pizza afterwards. Mark your calendars for April 22nd. We will be starting at 6:30pm, so don't be late. Cost is \$5.00 per family.



Fundraiser Update

The PTSA would like to thank all the parents who supported our spring fundraiser. Together we raised over \$15,000 for our programs. We'd like to thank everyone who picked up their cookie dough orders. If you still haven't picked up your order please call 425-432-7966.

If you forgot to place an order, or would like some extra cookie dough we have some extras for sale at \$12.00 a box. For more information, please call 425-432-7966. Finally, a VERY BIG THANK YOU to all those who helped hand out cookie dough on March 16th, I'd have never done it without you!

Newsletter Submissions

Deadline for submissions to the May newsletter is April 20th. Please email articles to Mary Anne Hoben at maryanne@3storygarage.com.

Wildcat Cash

We are open again on Thursdays. Thanks to Patty Phippen for volunteering to work in the booth. It takes dedicated volunteers to keep this fundraising program operating all year long.

Other volunteers that make Wildcat Cash a success are Brooke Vaughn, Angela Wickstrom, Erin Weaver, Jennifer Bennett, Chrislee Howard, Beth Schilling, Jill Evans and Kristin Pinter. Amy Granger, Tracy Allen, Terasa Snoozy, Julie Nay, Mary Anne Hoben and Vicki Freelund have made our first Saturday of the month a wonderful convenience. Thanks to you all.

The Wildcat Cash booth is open every school morning from 8:15 to 9:15 am. The booth will also be open on Saturday, April 2nd from 9:30 to 11:00 AM. April is a wonderful time to buy a little gift for your school staff and teachers just to let them know how much they are appreciated.

Wildcat cash order forms come home in your children's backpacks. Just send in one check to purchase gift cards for all the stores and restaurants you visit each week. There is no additional cost when ordering a gift certificate. It is a dollar for dollar purchase for our parents. It is more convenient to swipe a gift card at Safeway than to write a check. And you can use your Wildcat Cash Safeway card to purchase lattes at the new Starbucks located at the Four Corners store.

If you have any questions on how the PTSA uses the Scrip gift certificate program as a fundraiser, please call Peggy Zemek at 425-413-2900.

PTSA Membership

Please join the Lake Wilderness PTSA and support the children of our school. Lake Wilderness supports the school curriculum with second field trips, teacher allotments and 1/3 of Camp Casey costs. We provide student relief, bookfairs, popcorn, skate parties, family events and more. It is a terrific organization!

To join, simply fill out the info below, clip out this portion of the newsletter, slip it into an envelope with a check and send it to school with your student. The teachers will send it to the office to get put into the PTSA box.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Payment enclosed (please circle):

Child(ren) Name: _____ Teacher: _____

Individual membership - \$10

Family membership - \$15

"No Guilt" membership - \$20

Staff/Faculty membership - \$8

Bet you didn't know...

It is impossible for most people to lick their own elbow.

A crocodile cannot stick its tongue out.

A shrimp's heart is in its head.

If you sneeze too hard, you could fracture a rib.

Like fingerprints, every one's tongue print is different.

There are 293 ways to make change for a dollar.

A shark is the only known fish that can blink with both eyes.

Almonds are a member of the peach family.

Maine is the only state that has a one-syllable name.

A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.

An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.

Tigers have striped skin, not just striped fur.

Most people fall asleep in seven minutes.

