

We Pray  We Learn  We Care



President's Message

Sharon McConnell

It's GALA time!!! The single biggest event of the P.S.O. year and our primary fundraising activity is happening on Friday, February 4th. This year's "Chance of a Lifetime" Gala promises to be a fun-filled evening with many exciting new twists. And when it's over, we hope to have continued the tradition of generosity that our community has established at past auctions, enabling the P.S.O. both to fund its operations for the next year and support the capital needs of the school. Possible expenditures to be considered by the Managing Board from the gala proceeds include sponsoring Mrs. Rosko on her mission to Zimbabwe in April, providing teacher grants, and helping launch the STMM endowment with a generous collective contribution from all of the parents. (You are the P.S.O.!!)

A dedicated group of volunteers has been working hard since last school year to plan an event that will have something for everyone. While never losing sight of the fundraising purpose of the gala, the Fundraising Committee has also been planning to make the most of this unique chance for the parent community of St. Mary Magdalene to come together and socialize. There will be great food from Daniel's Pizza Pasta Café, music for dancing, several raffles with a range of prizes, and (of course!!) great shopping opportunities in the silent and live auctions. And, best of all, we are fortunate to be able to hold the gala in our own building this year. We can't wait to see you there! Want to help make it the night of a lifetime? E-mail or call Tom Mitchell to volunteer, or just show up at the Activity Building any time on Friday, February 4th and lend a hand.

After the gala, the P.S.O. board and many volunteers will have little time to catch their collective breath, because it is shaping up to be a busy spring. Throughout this newsletter you can catch up on our committees' many activities so far this year and what they have planned for the rest of the year. Highlights include Staff Appreciation Week, a family spring event on a Friday afternoon in April (carnival and dinner), the May Crowning, and Field Day in May. Please plan to join us for as many of these events as you can, and consider volunteering to help make some of them happen. They add so much color to the special fabric that is St. Mary Magdalene.

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VIPS

Patty Wangen

On February 14, students in grades Pre-k through 6th grade will be participating in Jump Rope for Heart. This is a great event for the kids with the focus on exercise being fun.

We will need a number of volunteers that day to help set up, assist the children with the activities and to clean up. If you can help on the 14th, please contact Patty Wangen at pwangen@bellsouth.net, or 387-0005.

On Saturday, April 16th, StMM will host the 2nd annual Chess Tournament, hosting other Catholic schools from the Dioceses. We will need volunteers for this event, if you can help, please contact Patty Wangen at pwangen@bellsouth.net, or 387-0005.



Artist Leni Newell will work with 2nd - 6th grades to create silk banners for the activity building.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT

The safe environment committee had planned to have personalized name tags available for all approved volunteers in January. Unfortunately, due to the large number of people who have not yet completed the process, the name tags have been delayed. As of January 26, 2005, 351 volunteer applications had been submitted, with 99 applications completed and approved. If you have not yet gone online to complete your application, please do so as soon as possible.

Cultural Arts

Cheryl Kelly

February 28-March 4- Leni Newell, a professional artist, will be at our school. Together with grades 2nd -6th grades we will be creating silk banners. The banners will be hung in the entry to our new activity building. We are currently in the planning process, and are looking forward to this exciting art project.

Community Relations

Patricia Sullivan

The Community Relations Committee is collecting information for the business directory. If anyone would like their business listed, they need to submit pertinent info to Patti Sullivan at phoule@nc.rr.com.

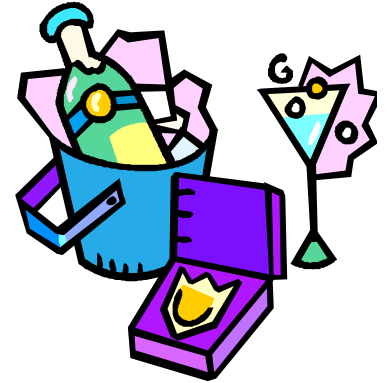
Our committee will also be coordinating newspaper publication of school events and happenings. Committee chairs are to send information they would like to appear in the papers to Christa Brixey at brixeyC@bellsouth.net. Information must be sent in by Wednesday for publication the next week.

Special Events

Kristen LaViolette

As hopefully you all know, “**The Chance of a Lifetime**” Gala is the next big event for STMM. This event is a way for parents/friends/family and staff to enjoy a night out while making it an enjoyable way to achieve funding for future events and projects sponsored by the PSO. If anyone wants to help make this night a success, the meetings are held on Wednesday evenings at 7:00pm at school.

The next item on the agenda for our committee to focus on is the Spring Event. This is going to be a carnival type event with lots of rides/activities and fun held after school on Friday, April 22nd. The details are going to be worked out in the upcoming meetings. We are looking forward to making this a really fun family event! If you have any ideas you would like to share, everyone is welcome! For details about our next meeting, e-mail Kristen at klaviolette@nc.rr.com



Room Parents

Andrea Taggart

Our room parents have been very busy working on the class baskets and projects for the auction. There are some really creative basket ideas this year such as a money tree and a gift card basket. And the favorites such as family games and sports are returning. Many thanks to the room parents for taking the lead with these projects and thanks to all of the parents for their contributions. The Gala is shaping up to be our best one yet - see you all there!

The Chance of a Lifetime Gala
Fundraiser

February 4, 2005

Tickets \$25 per person

Dinner
Dancing
Silent Auction
Live Auction

Staff Appreciation

Laurie Wendt

The Staff Appreciation Committee is working on Valentine surprises for the staff.

The Gala Fundraiser is the main source of funds for the PSO and helps our committee to give the staff a wonderful Christmas and Spring Luncheon each year. Hope to see you at the Gala!

Faith Enrichment

Paula Hils

As January is a month for pro-life activities, the faith enrichment committee wanted to focus on promoting an understanding of the sanctity life as a precious gift from God. We are purchasing a few books for teachers to share with the students and place in the library. The second project is "the joy of Life" and similar to the Thanksgiving tree. We would like each student to share his/her thoughts of about the joys of life. Members of the committee will organize a display in the lobby.

Booster Club

Steve Werner

Check out all of the sports schedules at <http://stmm.net/school/sports/index.htm>

Come out and cheer for the Monarchs!



Come out and watch one of our three basketball teams!

PSO Managing Board meetings are held the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7pm.

Any parent is welcome to attend.

*Next meeting **Feb. 8th***