



In the Know

NEWS & NOTES FROM YOUR PSO

October 17, 2011
Volume 1, Issue 2
St. Mary Magdalene PSO

Our PSO President, John Patterson

Dear StMM Parents,

Fall has arrived and this time of year offers many wonderful activities for our families to enjoy. The PSO welcomes the season with several efforts underway that we are excited to share. The Garden Committee is taking advantage of the beautiful weather and fall planting is in full swing. The new gardens will host the Harvest Fest Staff Appreciation Luncheon on October 27. Finally, I am pleased to announce StMM's Walk-A-Thon: Footsteps to a Healthy Future scheduled for Tuesday, November 15. This is the PSO's

primary fundraising event for the school year, but it is also a great opportunity to promote a healthy lifestyle to our children. Festivities begin with a pep rally on Monday, October 24. Please plan to support this worthwhile initiative. Thank You!

Until next time,
John

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CiCi's Back to School Spirit Nights

Thank you to everyone who attended - a fun time was had by all! Special thanks to CiCi's, Pelican's, Phillip's Farm, and The Ice Cream Shop for their generous donations. Congratulations to the following door prize winners:



- The Kazezian, Millet, and Pistone families: Voucher for StMM Spirit Wear
- The Trombetta, Laborde, Rishel, Losack, and Frey families: \$10 Gift Certificate to The Ice Cream Shop
- The Vardis and Frewerd families: Two tickets to Philip's Corn Maze
- The Malone, Falls, McCafferty, Dombkowski, L. Johnson, and Boletchek families: Five rounds of mini golf & five snoballs from Pelican's



Thank you for supporting our PSO!

StMM Walk-A-Thon: Footsteps to a Healthy Future

The PSO's primary fundraising event for the 2011-2012 school year

On **Tuesday, November 15**, all StMM students (PreK 3yr-8th grade) will participate in a fun day of walking and celebration to promote health and wellness while raising money for our school. First through eighth grades will walk for one mile as a class along the cross country course, and the PreK and Kindergarten students will walk up on the athletic fields. After getting a bit of exercise in, we will celebrate our Gold Brains and Bodies Award with activities and education provided by community partners including Advocates for Health in Action, Triangle Rock Club, Carolina Railhawks, Kids In Training, Whole Foods, Western Wake Tennis, Western Wake Farmer's Market, Be Active NC, and much, much more!

WALK-a-THON



WALK-A-THON festivities will kick off with a school-wide pep rally on **Monday, October 24** followed by three weeks of fundraising, contests, and activities. For every \$5.00 in collected pledges, students will be given a ticket to win cool prizes like gift cards, summer camps, birthday parties, spirit wear, Gibbons wear, and

more! Stay tuned as we continue to add prizes. In addition to all the fun, the students will learn more about eating healthy breakfasts, creating healthy food plates, and incorporating physical fitness into their daily activities throughout the three weeks.

Again, this is the PSO primary fundraiser for the year, so please join us in making it a huge success and helping our kids to take

FOOTSTEPS TO A HEALTHY FUTURE!

If you have any questions, please contact Laura Aiken, LAiken@wakemed.org, and Jodi Kleiber, jkleiber@nc.rr.com.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE WALK-A-THON!

The PSO will need 50 to 60 parent volunteers the day of the walkathon to make this a great event for our students and for our school. Please consider giving one or two hours of your time to make this PSO fundraiser a success! Sign Up here www.SignUpGenius.com/go/stmm16



REQUEST FOR PRIZE DONATIONS

We are in the process of collecting prizes for the students for this event. If you have a business or company or know of someone who might be interested in donating a prize or sponsoring this great event, please contact Judy Goetz at aaron_goetz@hotmail.com.



Q & A with StMM Staff

Meet Nikki Curliss, StMM's New Guidance Counselor

Q. How long have you been a Guidance Counselor?

A. This is my first year as a guidance counselor. I have my Masters Degree in Education and Guidance & Counseling and previously worked in higher education at ECU, NC State, UNC, and Meredith.

Q. Why did you become a Guidance Counselor?

A. I wanted to become more involved in school now that my 4 year-old daughter attends StMM. I like helping the students as well as the parents. I have been involved in church at StMM so I met with Mr. Cadran to talk about what I could do for the school.

Q. If you could give some general



advice to students and their parents what would it be?

A. Growing up can be tough for students and we need to let them know that they are not alone. It is also important for parents to help teach our children to be proud of who they are and have self-respect.

Q. What do you like to do when you are not working?

A. I love to take walks and bake – especially

new recipes!

Q. Do you have a role model? If so, who and why?

A. I had a supervisor in grad school at Clemson who is now a professor. He not only was knowledgeable but practical. He taught us the theories but also helped us apply them to real world situations.

Q. What is your hidden talent?

A. I love to draw with my daughter and my family tells me I am pretty good at it!

Q. If you could have one super power, what would it be and why?

A. I would be invisible so that I could see everything that was going on without others knowing. I could also come and go as I please!

Volunteer of the Month



Cynthia Hickle

October PSO Volunteer of the Month

The PSO would like to congratulate Cynthia Hickle as our October Volunteer of the Month! Cynthia was instrumental in helping to implement and run the Monarch Money program over the last two years. This program raised over \$16,000 for use by the PSO and school.

Cynthia has a son, Gus, in 8th grade and a daughter, Marley, in 6th grade at St. Mary Magdalene. In addition to her years of service with Monarch Money, Cynthia has also helped with the Spring Festival and Gala for a number of years.

As our October Volunteer of the Month, Cynthia will enjoy use of the reserved parking spot! Thank you and enjoy!

The November Volunteer of the Month will be announced in the next PSO Monday mail.

Nominations for the December Volunteer of the Month must be submitted by Tuesday, November 15. Nomination forms and a submission box can be found in the school office. Previously submitted nominations will re-submitted for the consideration.



Garden Committee



Fall planting has begun in the new garden area and our students, teachers, and parents have been hard at work! The Garden Committee would like to thank all of the generous families who have participated in the Adopt-A-Plant program. Over 90% of the plants have been adopted and most have been planted. We still have a few unique plants available for adoption including our signature Autumn "Monarch" azaleas. There are many varieties and price points to choose from so visit <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/adoptaplant> to get started!



Also, we are in need of builders, contractors, or re-modelers to form a team to build our pergola. The pergola will be used as an outdoor classroom and a gathering area for StMM events. All participants will be recognized with a plaque affixed to the structure. If you are interested in helping to construct the pergola, please e-mail John Patterson at JPatterson.PSO@gmail.com.

Please take time to visit the gardens and see all that has been accomplished. Thanks again for your overwhelming support of this program!



Staff Appreciation



Cafeteria Volunteers

Don't forget we need volunteers in the cafeteria to keep our program growing! Volunteers must be Level B or C certified and all volunteers must follow the health guidelines including wearing closed toe shoes, a head covering, apron and gloves.

Go to
www.signupgenius.com/go/cafeteria2

password: stmm lunch

A big THANK YOU to Chick-fil-A of Beaver Creek for the fabulous lunch they **DONATED** for our staff on their first work day September 23. Everyone was thrilled to have lunch provided for them!



Our next event for Staff Appreciation is the Harvest Fest Staff Appreciation Luncheon on Thursday, October 27. Please consider donating a soup, salad, stew, or chili for this occasion.

Contact Kim DeGeorge at kimdegeorge@earthlink.net.

Chess Club

The following Fridays are the dates Chess Club will meet during the 2011-2012 season:



October 21	February 3
November 11	February 24
November 18	March 2
December 2	March 3 – Tentative Chess Tournament
December 16	March 9 – Tentative Chess Party
January 6	
January 20	

Should you have any questions or would like to help with Chess Club, please contact Jenny Kosnik at jensk@nc.rr.com or at 363-7143.

Adopt-A-Highway

Our next highway cleanup is scheduled for Sunday, December 11th at 1 pm. If you are interested in helping keep the roadside beautiful near our church and school, please contact Annette Hollis at dhollis@nc.rr.com to volunteer.



Pet Food Drive



In celebration of St. Francis and The Blessing of the Animals last week, Mrs. Wiegmann's kindergarten class sponsored a Pet Food Drive. Bags of pet food and boxes of canned goods as well as treats were collected. All items were donated to the SPCA and SPCA Food Pantry that help animals and families in need. With your help, 438 items were collected. A huge THANK YOU to all that made the Pet Food Drive a success!

We're on the Web!

www.stmmpso.org

Santa's Village Christmas Bazaar

Save the Date!

Join us at the Santa's Village Christmas Bazaar on **Saturday, December 3rd** from 9 am – 3 pm in the Activity Building. There will be vendors selling unique gifts, live entertainment, a huge bake sale, Christmas trees, and more! All the way from the North Pole, the Jolly Guy in Red will make a special appearance for pictures and wish lists!



Help Spread Holiday Cheer!

If you enjoy baking and are creative, Santa needs your help!! Santa's Village is looking for someone willing to share their talent to create a festive Gingerbread House to be raffled at the Christmas Bazaar. If you're up for the challenge and want to make it on Santa's "Good List" contact Stephanie O'Rourke or Sheila Miller at stmmsantavillage@yahoo.com.

Christmas Card Contest

Attention all StMM students in K thru 8th grades:

The Third Annual Christmas Card Contest is now under way! The contest will run from October 12th to October 21st. Please get your entry form with guidelines under "Resource Documents" in RenWeb. There will be one winner from K – 3rd grades as well as one winner from 4th – 8th grades. Each of the winners will receive a \$25 gift card from a store of their choice at Beaver Creek Crossing. The winners will be announced on RenWeb as well as by Mr. Cadran on October 27th after mass. Please email any questions to Anne at p_amoores@yahoo.com or Wendy at walshwlw@bellsouth.net.



2011-2012 PSO Executive Board Members

Listed below are your 2011-2012 Executive Board Members for the school year. If you have any questions, they can be contacted via the PSO website at www.stmmpso.org. A special thank you to each of you for your time and dedication to StMM!

John Patterson, *President*

Jessica Greco, *President-Elect*

Karen MacDonald, *Recording Secretary*

Delise Falls, *Treasurer*

Amy Golitz, *Treasurer-Elect*

Amy Snow, *Communications Coordinator*

Jane Zureich, *Volunteer Coordinator*

Kori Losack, *Enrichment Coordinator*

Heather Dapolite, *Service Coordinator*

Denise Cornicelli, *Social Coordinator*

A Note from the Editor....

I hope you enjoyed the second edition of *In the Know, News and Notes From Your PSO*. This newsletter will be distributed each month during the school year.

If you have any suggestions, please contact me at stmmpso@gmail.com.

Amy Snow, Communications Coordinator