



Island Breeze



News from the Island Creek PTA

Volume 7, No. 5

November 19, 2009

December 5: Children Delight in the Holiday Gift Shoppe

If your children missed the Creek PTA Holiday Craft and Gift Fair earlier this month, the Children's Holiday Gift Shoppe will offer them another chance to experience the thrill of picking out their own gifts for family and friends. The Gift Shoppe will provide a range of items priced to fit even the smallest budget. The Gift Shoppe is set for Saturday, December 5 in the Island Creek cafeteria. We will need lots of parent volunteers to make this a memorable event, so please consider helping. This also is a wonderful opportunity for any secondary school student in need of volunteer hours. If you or someone you know would like to help with this event, please contact Andrea Gurrola at mnagurrola@cox.net.



Register Now for December 5 Family Photo Day

In concert with the Children's Holiday Gift Shoppe, the PTA will be offering family photos by professional photographer, Brian Knapp. For a flat-rate sitting fee of \$25, Brian will take a series of photos of your family. About a week after the event, B Street Studios will email you a link to your private photo gallery. You can download your photos and make your own prints, or you can use them for holiday cards or gifts. You may also order prints from B Street Studios at reasonable prices. Brian will be taking family photos from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM.



Register today to reserve your slot; the schedule is filling fast. Follow these steps to set up your appointment:

- Step 1:** Sign up here - <http://www.wejoinin.com/sheets/lhshj>. Sign up on the photo appointment sheet. Step 1 is that simple, but to confirm your sitting time you must complete Step 2.
- Step 2:** Go to PayPal link and make your payment https://www.paypal.com/us/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_flow&SESSION=a5uBzHE8n5WOq5NtkK0p4b8PGE_17SA7rhOtLMvjQIrILXd9uw3Dmnhiure&dispatch=5885d80a13c0db1ffc45dc241d84e953d0e88f8d71535079b246201019c8adab
- Step 3:** Show up about 15 minutes before your appointment.
- Step 4:** SMILE!

Original Works Art Orders Due Friday, November 20

The PTA has sponsored a new program called *Original Works*, which allows you to memorialize your child's own artwork by having it reproduced onto a variety of full color products – from magnets, to mugs and t-shirts. Magnets were sent home last week for you to preview. You can purchase the magnet for \$6.00, or you can return it with no obligation. Payments for the magnets and orders for other *Original Works* orders are due Friday, November 20. Orders will be filled in time for holiday gift giving.



November 11: A Proud Croc Salute to Island Creek's Veterans

Island Creek rolled out a **Red, White and Blue** carpet for veterans and active duty armed services personnel on Veterans' Day, Wednesday, November 11, as our school honored the women and men who defend our nation. In classrooms throughout the school, proud children introduced their military parents to their classmates. The PTA organized a hospitality refreshment stand for our special guests, and they were treated to a wonderful array of tasty dishes prepared by the Island Creek Baking Corps. Thanks to everyone who contributed, as well as the crew of parents who helped serve and clean up. A special Croc smile goes to the 6th grade class SCA officers who helped serve our veterans, and to Alison Smith, who was our greeter.



December 9: Chase the Blues Away at Croc Spirit Night

The King Street Blues restaurant in Kingstowne will serve as host to our next Crocodile PTA Spirit Night on Wednesday, December 9. Please join us as we "chase the Blues away." King Street Blues is located in the Kingstowne Center at the corner of Van Dorn Street and Manchester Lakes Boulevard (across the street from Kohl's and Wal-mart). King Street Blues will donate 15 percent of the day's sales to the Island Creek PTA. Please be sure to note Island Creek PTA on your bill/check – this is how they will tally our sales.



It Is Never Too Late to Snap Up a Crocodile PTA Membership

We currently have 325 members, which is 93 percent of the way to our goal of 350 members! Please help us reach it. Your \$8.00 membership fee will be well spent in supporting your child's education.

Checks can be made out to "Island Creek PTA" and sent to your child's classroom. Please include your name, address, phone number, email and your child's teacher. Please contact Andrea Gurrola at mnagurrola@cox.net if you have questions.



October Box Top Chomp Nets Big Results – 9,134 Collected

Island Creek's *Baroness of Boxtops*, Toni Shipe, reports that last month's **Box Tops for Education** collection brought in 9,134 box tops. Each box top is worth a dime, so last month's haul amounts to \$913.40 for our school.



The younger crocs were the big winners in collecting box tops. Here is a listing of the top eight classes:

Pikul (Kindergarten) – 979
Spiro (Second Grade) – 784
Preschool – 669
Moses (Second Grade) – 484

Connell (Fourth Grade) – 478
Fay (Second Grade) – 447
Asbie (First Grade) – 433
Putnam (Third Grade) – 409

Our next Box Top submission is set for February 19, so please continue saving these pink gems. For additional information on the Box Top program, please contact Toni Shipe, Box Top Coordinator Tonishipe@msn.com.

Island Creek PTA: #27151 in Your CFC Contribution

The Island Creek PTA has been designated as a charitable organization by the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) of the National Capital Area. If you are a federal employee and you participate in the CFC, please select the Island Creek PTA as recipient. Our number is **27151**. Your donation through the CFC will help fund the many programs sponsored by the PTA to support our Island Creek community.



On the Lookout for a New FLEX Coordinator

The PTA is looking for a new Foreign Language Experience (FLEX) Program Parent Representative to work with the current Parent Representative for the remainder of this school year, and take over FLEX responsibilities in fall 2010. The FLEX program is designed to be an experiential enrichment activity for grades K-6 with an emphasis on listening and speaking skills of the target language. The FLEX PTA Representative works with the county FLEX coordinator to identify teachers, schedule classes and advertise enrollment. The PTA Parent Representative also receives \$100 FLEX tuition voucher for their child. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Nancy Blyler at 703 550 7941.



PTA Website: Keeping Up on Breaking News

The Island Creek PTA website www.islandcreekpta.org is humming with activity, as Webmaster Terri Maben posts all of the news on PTA activities. Visit the website whenever you need to find out something about one of our many activities.



Holiday Craft and Gift Fair Draws Hundreds of Shoppers to Island Creek

Seasonal music supplied by our school's talented musicians greeted hundreds of holiday shoppers as they descended upon Island Creek Elementary School on Saturday, November 7 for the largest PTA Holiday Craft and Gift Fair in school history. The lobby, gym and cafeteria were filled with booths featuring wares of some of the area's most skilled crafters.

The 6th Grade students enjoyed a big day at the cash register with their bake sale. They hauled in \$315.31 from hungry shoppers.

A special Croc smile goes to Jeanne Igo, who coordinated this ambitious project. Even though her children have moved on to Hayfield, Jeanne offered to coordinate this ambitious program one more time. Her tireless efforts made this event a giant success.



Hundreds Flock to October 23 Croctoberfest

Hundreds of hungry Crocs feasted on spaghetti dinners at the October 23 Croctoberfest. More than 200 meals were served by our friendly hosts at the Alexandria Moose Lodge. Many more Crocs turned out for the games, moon bounce and raffles as the Crocodile PTA celebrated autumn with an evening of feasting and fun.

More photos of this event are available on the Island Creek PTA website www.islandcreekpta.org.



Upcoming Events on the PTA Schedule

Original Works Orders	Due November 20
Combined Federal Campaign	Ends December 15
Children's Holiday Shoppe	December 5
Family Photos by B Street Studios	December 5
<i>King Street Blues</i> Restaurant Night	December 9
<i>Vera Bradley/Longaberger</i> Bingo	February 19
Box Top Collection Day	February 19
Croc Trot 5K and Croc Crawl	May 1
Health Fair	May 1

Next PTA Meeting Set for December 1

The next Island Creek PTA meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 1, at 7:00 PM, in the Island Creek Library. Attending PTA meetings is a great way to keep up on events at school and all of the activities of the Island Creek PTA.

Island Creek Board for 2009-2010 School Year



**From left to right: Andi Caulfield – Secretary, Lisa Jacobs – President,
Nancy Hervey – Vice President, Dawn Nelson – Treasurer**