



Island Breeze



News from the Island Creek PTA
Volume 8, No. 18

June 16, 2011

We Bid Dr. Owner Adieu – Goodbye and Good Luck

May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back,
May the warm rays of sun fall upon your home,
And may the hand of a friend always be near.

May green be the grass you walk on,
May blue be the skies above you,
May pure be the joys that surround you,
May true be the hearts that love you.



Huge Crowd Pays Tribute to Dr. Owner at June 3 Ice Cream Social

A crowd of nearly 700 well-wishers jammed the Island Creek cafeteria on June 3 as the PTA hosted an ice cream social to celebrate Dr. Susan Owner’s distinguished career as an educator and administrator. The PTA presented Dr. Owner with a personalized bench for her new garden in North Carolina. Additionally, in honor of Dr. Owner, the PTA will be purchasing permanent seating for the future Island Creek Learning Garden. It will be a lasting tribute to Island Creek’s founding principal.

How big was the party – well, the PTA dished out 110 gallons of ice cream, and served 564 brownies that were topped with 192 ounces of chocolate syrup and 12 cans of whipped cream.



New Crocodile PTA Board Takes Shape

We are pleased to announce that current PTA Treasurer Jane Kelly has agreed to serve again next year, and she was re-elected to the post during the June 7 PTA meeting. The new PTA Board looks like this:

President – Terri Maben
Vice President – Karen Patrick

Secretary – Stephanie Reybitz
Treasurer – Jane Kelly

Terri, Karen, Stephanie and Jane are pleased to report that two more important volunteer positions have been filled. Jane Horowitz has volunteered to serve as Financial Committee Chair and Toni Shipe has agreed to serve as Co-Chair of *Croctoberfest*. A few key positions are still in need of a good volunteer. These include Volunteer Co-Coordinator, Spirit Wear Coordinator and *Croctoberfest* Co-Chair. Please contact Terri Maben tmabe1001@aol.com if you are interested in becoming more involved in shaping PTA activities next year.

Thanks to 2010-2011 Island Creek PTA Officers

A big *Croc* smile goes to the officers of the Island Creek PTA for the 2010-11 school year. Their hard work and commitment to the Island Creek community led to an exciting and successful year. Under their stewardship the Island Creek PTA built an impressive list of PTA sponsored programs and activities.

President	Jane Horowitz
Vice President	Andi Caulfield
Secretary	Pam Haberstroh
Treasurer	Jane Kelly



Thanks to Outgoing Committee Coordinators

The Island Creek PTA would like to offer a big *Croc* smile to several outgoing committee coordinators. They exemplified the volunteer spirit, and their efforts have helped to make the PTA such a vibrant and constructive organization.

- Coleen Murray - Spirit Wear
- Karen Patrick - Co-Volunteer Coordinator
- Andrea Gurrola - Membership Coordinator
- Nora Clements - FLEX Coordinator
- Brian Talbot - Restaurant Coordinator



We Must Bid Adieu to Several Top Croc Volunteers

The end of the school year marks a transitional milestone for the Island Creek community, as some students graduate to Hayfield Secondary, while others move from the area with their families. These changes also apply to PTA volunteers. As we near the end of the 2010-11 school year, the Island Creek PTA bids a heartfelt goodbye to several generous volunteers who are leaving the Island Creek community. We will miss the following *Croc* volunteers:

Terry Brox
Kathy Del Campo
Jennifer and AJ Goglia

Heidi Miller
Judy Vickers
Mary Wood

Audit Volunteers Could Save PTA \$500

If you are good with numbers, the Island Creek PTA needs your help. The PTA is a non-profit organization and Virginia law requires that every non-profit conduct an end of the fiscal year audit. In the past, we have paid an outside company to do the audit, but we have learned that many PTAs use parent volunteers to conduct the audit. Performing the audit in-house would save our PTA about \$500. We are looking for at least three volunteers to perform the audit of the PTA's 2010-2011 financial records in July, after the receipt of the June bank statement. General information on the audit process can be found at <http://www.ptotoday.com/pto-today-articles/article/396-annual-audit-how-and-why>. Please contact PTA Treasurer Jane Kelly at Jane.Lee.Kelly@hotmail.com if you are available to help, or if you have additional questions.



PTA Serves Island Creek in Many Ways

The Island Creek PTA holds many fundraisers during the year, so you might wonder where all of that money goes. The PTA pays for things you might not even be aware of, such as paying the transportation costs of all class field trips and Thursday folders. Here is a sampling of your PTA dollars at work during the past year:



- Technology Devices and Software Upgrades
- Assignment Books for All 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th Graders
- Thursday Folders for All Students
- Purchase of Citizenship Pins
- Purchase of Music Awards
- Support for Teacher Professional Development
- Reimbursement Stipends for Teachers to Help Offset Classroom Supply Costs
- Support for the 5th Grade Medieval Day
- Bus Transportation Costs for All School Field Trips
- Custodian Appreciation Restaurant Gift Cards
- Back-To-School Breakfast for Teachers and Staff
- Veterans' Day Appreciation Breakfast
- Administrative Staff Appreciation Luncheon
- Teacher Appreciation Luncheon
- Dr. Owner's Retirement Party



In addition to providing financial support to the school, the PTA sponsored many events and programs that provided extra academic opportunities for students and promoted school & community spirit. These included the following:

- Croctoberfest
- Reflections Arts Recognition Program
- Craft Fair
- Holiday Gift Shop
- Family Photo Day
- Gingerbread Contest
- Basket Bingo
- Peeps Contest
- Croc Trot & Croc Crawl
- Internet Safety Presentation
- Box Top Collection and Parties for Winning Classes
- Spirit Wear
- Spirit Nights
- Combined Federal Campaign
- School Supply Kits
- FLEX Foreign Language After School Classes
- Mad Science After School Program



Finally, the PTA lived up to its name by holding monthly meetings that were open to all parents. Our PTA meetings offered parents the opportunity to meet informally with Island Creek's administrators and teachers, and hear first-hand about the school's academic programs. One meeting featured a presentation on the Fairfax County Public Schools' budget process by School Board Representative Brad Center.

Mike Macrina Set to Take the Helm at Island Creek

Assistant Principal Mike Macrina will become principal of Island Creek effective July 1. Mr. Macrina brings a wealth of experience to the job, along with a keen appreciation for the Island Creek community. He has served as assistant principal since the school opened, and his kids attend Island Creek. We look forward to working with Principal Mike Macrina next year.



"Diversity Means..." Is the Theme for 2011-2012 Reflections Program

The Island Creek PTA will be sponsoring the Reflections Program again next year under the leadership of Reflections Committee Chair Nancy Harris. The theme for the 2011-2012 Reflections Program is "Diversity means." Artistic *Crocs* are encouraged to work on their Reflections projects during the summer break to get a jump on the busy fall schedule.



The Reflections Program is the PTA's national arts recognition program, and during its 40-year history, the annual program has encouraged millions of students across the nation to explore and display their artistic talents.

The Reflections Program offers students the opportunity to create works of art for fun and recognition. Students from preschool through 6th Grade are encouraged to submit original works of art in six areas:

- Literature
- Dance choreography
- Film/video production
- Musical composition
- Photography
- Visual arts (drawing, painting, print making, and collage)

A Look Ahead: First 2011-12 PTA Meeting Is September 13

PTA President Terri Maben has scheduled the first PTA meeting of the 2011-12 school year for Tuesday, September 13.



Last Day of School Is June 21 – Have a Safe and Fun-Filled Summer

The last day of school for students at Island Creek is Tuesday, June 21. Best wishes to *Croc* Nation for a safe and fun-filled summer, and we will see you back at The Island in September.



A Final Word of Thanks

This is the 18th and final edition of *Island Breeze* for the 2010-2011 school year. Special thanks goes to the staff and volunteers who copied and distributed the newsletters and other PTA flyers that kept Island Creek families informed about programs and activities all year long. We offer a special *Croc* salute to Theresa Painter from the Island Creek staff for all of her help in these endeavors.

