

RT is important to me

RT es importante para mi

Rolling Terrace News

A publication of the Rolling Terrace Elementary School PTA

May, 2007

Your PTA on the Web: web.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/rollinges/pta

Upcoming Events

MAY

**Fri. 4th - Family Fun Night
Square Dancing.** 7 to 8:30 p.m.

**Week of 7th-11th Staff
Appreciation Week** (see inside for details).

JUNE

Fri June 8th - Spring Carnival.
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

**Tue 12th - 5th-Grade Promotion
Ceremony.** 5:30 p.m.

Birth Announcements!

Our wonderful Art teacher, **Bissy Leighton** and **Ben Jones** are PROUD parents of twin boys, born April 12th.

Andrew was born at 11 a.m., 6lb 7oz, 18.5 inches. Matthew was born one minute later, 5lb 10oz, 18.5 inches.

And **Anne Bartlow**, 4th Grade teacher, gave birth to a baby girl on Sat., April 14th at 2:30 am...Chloe Marie Bartlow, 8lbs, welcome!.

If you would like to provide a meal for either family, please contact Peggy Walsh Edwards at peggyw56@earthlink.net

Our Year in Review

The end of the year is right around the corner. We have accomplished a lot this year—Family Fun Nights, International Dinners, Book Fair, Craft Night, Black History Month, Mini-Grants for Teachers, Hands on Science, Creative Adventures in Art, Hispanic Heritage Dance, Family Fun Walk/Run, International Walk to School Day, Baja Fresh/Sally Foster Fundraisers, Newsletters, National Geographic Bee, Staff Appreciation Breakfast, Lunch and Dinners, Kindergarten Picnic, Website, Gardening, Student Directory, healthier lunch snacks, and Tiger Tales. All of these experiences build our community. None of them could have been done without the commitment and dedication of numerous volunteers.

Our final PTA meeting is on May 1st from 7-9PM. Please join us to elect new PTA officers for the 2007-08 school year. A guest speaker will also talk to us about healthier eating for our families.

If you are interested in running for a PTA officer position, serving on the nominating committee, or holding a board position, please contact Ruth Schilling at ruth4sons@aol.com or by phone at 301-949-8415. As we look towards the next school year, I encourage everyone to take a look at the available positions listed on our PTA bulletin board in the main hall and sign up to volunteer.

I also invite you all to enjoy an evening of Square/Folk Dancing complete with a music group and professional caller on Friday, May 4th from 7-8:30PM. This is one of Rolling Terrace's favorite events and promises to bring many smiles to kids and adults alike.

And Carnival Night is not far behind in June!

Thank you all for your generosity and help in making Rolling Terrace a great school!

**Paz,
Nora Cartland**

FROM OUR VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Ruth Schilling (ruth4sons@aol.com or 301 949- 8415)

Please know that ALL PTA posts are "open". Most committees are committees of ONE. I don't know of ANYONE who would turn down a volunteer to work with them on their committee. Some that have recently gone unfilled and could really do a lot of good at RT include:

- Lunch/Recess Coordinator(s)
- Safe Routes Committee – coordinates our
- International Walk to School Day, and for organizing volunteers for morning and afternoon for drop off and dismissal
- Bulletin Board Committee
- Spirit Committee (first Friday's -- Loteria/Blngo/Craft ▪ Fair/Square Dance/Carnival)
- Creative Adventures in Art

And many more. We need as much new blood as we can get! It is always good for someone to join in the first year and then take over when the main person leaves or moves on to other volunteer opportunities.

The Nominating Committee needs members NOW to search for volunteers for next year. This group puts out feelers to the entire community and should be made up of current PTA people, people not in the PTA, & teachers/staff at RT.

CARNIVAL is coming up, and we have GREAT NEWS! The Board of the Long Branch Business League agreed to fund both the MOONBOUND and the DUNK TANK. We are very grateful for their generous support, but we need Volunteers to run booths, sell tickets, help with the dunk tank and moonbounce, bake cupcakes for the cakewalk, sell pizza, etc. GO FOR IT! We would love to have as many booths as possible for the kids. The sky's the limit as far as creativity goes. If you're stuck, send us an email or give us a call -- we can help you have fun too! Ruth Schilling
ruth4sons@aol.com & Mamie Bittner
mbittner@imls.gov

Finally, Firth Grade parents would enjoy the support of parents from other grades to help out at the Promotions Ceremony so they can enjoy the festivities!

We Appreciate OUR STAFF

It's almost time for us to show the staff and teachers of Rolling Terrace how much we appreciate them! During **the week of May 7th - 11th**, let's give some love back to them during RT's Staff Appreciation week!

Monday 5/7 - have your child share with their teachers a picture, poem or story he/she created.

Tuesday 5/8 - have your child bring in a sweet treat for teachers and/or staff.

Wednesday 5/9 - have your child bring a flower for his/her teacher.

Thursday 5/10 - we'll all provide lunch for the teachers.

Friday 5/11 - all the kids can give out thank you cards for their teachers that they make in art class.

Please encourage your kids to make additional ones for the para-educators, media specialists, and all the many people who make Rolling Terrace the special place that it is!

Ginger Geertsema at 301.649.7045 or e-mail hill2hunt@starpower.net can't wait to hear from all those interested in distributing flowers on Wednesday or on Thursday making a dish for lunch, or to help set up, serve, or clean up the luncheon.

FOURTH GRADE STEP INTO HISTORY AT ST. MARY'S

Thanks to everyone who came out to support the fourth grade at Baja Fresh! Through the efforts of friends, families, and staff we sold \$2,203

worth of food at Baja Fresh. The PTA will receive \$440.57 of this amount.

It took special effort on the part of the 4th grade volunteers and to those who donated extra funds to cover the cost of the trip to historic St. Mary's.

The Ice Cream Fundraiser made over \$600! Thanks again to Greg at Summer Delights for donating his delicious ice cream!

Digest of Board Meeting March 22, 2007 Minutes Rolling Terrace Elementary School PTA

A regular meeting of the Rolling Terrace PTA Executive Board was held on March 22, 2007 at Rolling Terrace Elementary School. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. Those in attendance were: Nora Cartland, Jennifer Ostrowski, Judy Wyman Kelly, Jenny Apostol, Kate Bauer, Parry

Wilson, Tom Jacobson, and Robin Pollock. University of Maryland student Elizabeth Smith observed. The meeting commenced at 7:10. After the approval of the minutes of the last meeting, Ms. Ostrowski informed the Board regarding the status of a task force of parents, teachers and staff convened to assist in recruiting and retaining Spanish immersion teachers, a planned showcase of the upper grades to parents of rising 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders, MSA testing and plans to communicate to parents what will happen next school year if RT does not make AYP this year, and security issues which continue to be monitored closely by

staff and parents. The Treasurer's report included presentation of the current budget, discussion of the upcoming Baja Fresh and successful 4th grade ice cream sundae fundraisers, and a draft of a direct appeal fundraising letter. Tom's Blair Cluster update included a discussion of priorities to request that the County fully fund in the proposed budget including The Judy Center, more school counselor positions, translation services, community outreach programs, and pre-school expansion. The book fair newsletter, recruitment for next year's board, and the April 11th membership meeting were also discussed.

TAKOMA PARK LIBRARY CORNER

Spanish Storytelling Saturdays, 10:30 a.m. continues May 12 and June 2. RT families with little ones also might be interested in Spanish Circle Time, held the first two Thursdays of each month through May. It starts at 10 a.m. and is presented by local educator Lupe Marks. No registration required; just come!

Storytelling Fiesta, Saturday, May 19, from 10 a.m.-noon. "El día de los niños/El día de los libros, Children's Day/Book Day" The day will begin with themed crafts, and then stories told by popular, dynamic storyteller Arianna Ross at 11 a.m. Register at 301-891-7259 so we can be sure to have enough craft materials.

A Close-Up Look at Jamestown, May 14, 7 p.m., On the eve of the 400th anniversary of the founding of Jamestown, local author Karen Lange, who has just published a National Geographic book for children on Jamestown, gives an in-depth look at the settlement. The talk will be of most interest to children (and grown-ups!) ages 5 up. Please call 301-891-7259 to sign up.

On to Middle School!

Dear Fifth Grade Parents,

We are in the process of planning a special Rolling Terrace send-off for our fifth graders. Please keep the following dates in mind:

- **Tuesday, June 12th at 5:30:** The Promotion Ceremony at Montgomery Blair High School,
- **Friday, June 8th:** Class pool party at Long Branch Pool (during school hours)



In past years, a video presentation documenting our students' years at Rolling Terrace has been a special feature of the ceremony. This year, Nancy Martin has very kindly volunteered to make a video. We need photographs of students (from field trips, classroom activities, school performances, etc) to include in the video. Photos with large groupings of children are especially desirable.

Please email digital photos to Nancy at nmartin@sprynet.com.

Nondigital photos can be dropped off at school in the PTA box, addressed to the attention of Colette de Marneffe. Please write your name on the back of the photos so we can return them to you.

If you have any questions, please contact Colette de Marneffe at cdemarneffe@starpower.net or 301-270-2711.

The Fifth Day of the Fifth Month...

The National Cinco De Mayo Festival celebration will kick off festivities at 12 Noon on Saturday, May 5, 2007 beside the Washington Monument (on the outdoor Sylvan Theater) on the National Mall. The Festival is free and open to all. It will be held rain or shine. Please visit www.marumontero.com for more information.

Activities will include:

- Dance Performances
- A Fashion Show
- A special horse and cowboy performance troupe
- Music Performances
- "Hands on Science" Activities for children
- A Soccer Clinic
- Piñata games,
- Traditional Latino arts and crafts activities.

Also a Special Guest appearance by Maya and Miguel, of PBS television fame