

the Parent Organization Bulletin



St. Mary's Episcopal School *June 2009*

Parent Organization Information

(HOW CAN YOU SUPPORT OUR P.O. – SEE INFORMATION ON THE LAST PAGE)

Greetings parents! I hope this finds you well and enjoying your summer. I wanted to take this opportunity to introduce myself and give you a quick glance of various events happening during the school year.

Our family is returning for our second year at St. Mary's. I say "family" because as those of you who are also returning know, St. Mary's quickly becomes your family. For those of you new to our school – WELCOME! I know that you will find St. Mary's to be a special place and an integral part of your lives. I am anticipating another excellent year at St. Mary's and am looking forward to serving as your Parent Organization President. We have a great group of officers for the 2009-2010 school year and are currently planning another successful calendar.

I want to encourage each of you to get involved. St. Mary's is full of many volunteer opportunities. I found volunteering to help with Beau Geste during our first year to be one of the best decisions I've made. I got to work with so many wonderful and talented parents and have made many new friends along the way. Whether you have a lot of time to spare, or just a few minutes – there is a place for you.

Below you will find some of the scheduled PO events for the school year. I want to encourage you to read your weekly bulletin that comes via e-mail. Each week there will be important information and you will find this helpful.

FALL FUNDRAISER – This year St. Mary's PO will partner with Innisbrook for our annual wrapping paper fall fundraising program. Last year our efforts allowed us to earn over 5,000 which were used to enhance classroom technology. Thanks to Shelley Dabney who has graciously volunteered to chair our fall fundraiser again this year. More information will follow in our July mailing.

FALL EVENT – This year's Fall Festival will be held on Friday evening, October 9. This is always a fun filled evening for children and parents. Watch for more detailed information in next month's mailing and look for ways you can sign up during Orientation day to volunteer your time and support.

BEAU GESTE – Beau Geste Co-Chairpersons Jennifer Abney and Stephanie Gray are already busy working on this year's big event. Beau Geste means "GOOD DEED" and is an annual auction and our largest fundraiser for SMES. Despite the challenging economic times, last year's event was extremely successful. The theme for this year is "PEACE, LOVE and BEAU GESTE". Everyone seemed to enjoy the casual attire and laidback atmosphere of last year's event, so we hope to again have a great turnout! This fundraising event has been a wonderful blessing to our school but could not possibly be done without the countless hours and talents of the Beau Geste committee members. This is the event that allows us to

pull together as a team and provide wonderful opportunities for our children! This is a fun evening for parents, grandparents and any of your adult friends to enjoy. Items gathered for the auction will definitely WOW you! What a rewarding experience for us all! Since this is our largest event – WE NEED YOUR HELP! Please see the volunteer opportunities on orientation day and sign up where you feel you can best serve. Beau Geste monthly meetings will be held in conjunction with our Parent Organization meetings on Friday mornings.

ST. MARY'S PARENT ORGANIZATON and BEAU GESTE COMMITTEE: meets on the first Friday of each month (with exceptions in February, March, April & May) each month at 8:45 am. We welcome all parents to our meetings and value your input. However, if you are unable to attend these meetings please know that attendance is not required for you to be a beneficial part of our organization. We need our parents support!

Look for more detailed information about the various PO events in upcoming mailings. I know many of you that are new to our school will have questions regarding the various fundraisers, etc. Each and every fundraiser is optional at St. Mary's. You can choose to participate in all or just one. Information is sent home and via the bulletin to help you decide. Additionally, if you ever have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the officers.

Enjoy the remainder of your summer. Whether you are travelling or staying close to home, I wish you a safe and healthy summer full of many memories and blessings.

Jamie Kalcich
St. Mary's Parent Organization President

PO Officers

Jamie Kalcich - President

Nicole Lenochan – Vice President

Regina Hedrick – Secretary

Donna Goins – Treasurer

Shelley Dabney – Benevolence/Chaplain

Jennifer Abney & Stephanie Gray – Beau Geste Co- Chairs

Parent Organization

FAMILY DONATION

At the beginning of each year, your Parent Organization (PO) asks for a donation to assist the efforts of our PO's work. **This donation request will also be available during Orientation Day,**
The following family donation is suggested:

One child: \$50

More than one child: \$75

or any amount would be greatly appreciated (and helpful!)

This will be a one time contribution to assist with the following:

Benevolence: provides SMES families with support for events such as births, deaths, hospitalizations, family illnesses, etc. by providing a meal or gift.

Faculty/Staff appreciation: provides faculty luncheons and gifts to show how much they are appreciated.

Beau Geste class projects: provide a wonderful, original project from your child's classroom to be auctioned off at Beau Geste, our school's annual fundraising auction.

Our Parent Organization, in partnership with the school, exists to further the school's vision through combinations of volunteer work, fundraising efforts, and special events that offer many ways to encourage SMES families to become involved.

IF YOU WISH TO MAKE A DONATION — PLEASE SEND THIS BOTTOM SECTION WITH YOUR CHECK!!!—THANK YOU!!!

To support the work of your Parent Organization as suggested above, please make a separate check to St. Mary's PO and mail it or bring it by the office. **THANK YOU!**

NAME: _____

AMOUNT: _____