

Burning Issues

President's Message

It's hard to believe another school year is almost over! Where did the time go? It seems like just yesterday

that I was sending my 6th grader off to Pyle and wishing my 4th grader well as she boarded the bus on her first day of school.

As a community working together, we really accomplished a lot this year. A new Kindergarten Family to Family program was started to welcome new kindergarten families to the school, the invaluable BTPTA website got up and running, a new kindergarten playground and two climbing walls on the back playground were installed, we had some excellent programs and speakers at our PTA meetings, the landscaping and grounds in front of the school have never looked better, and we have worked hard at revamping the role of room parents for next year as well as taken steps to streamline our PTA events and programs for next year to alleviate the need for so many parent volunteers and demands on your time.

There are so many people in our community who made contributions large and small who had a hand in making BT a better place for our children. When I think back, I can honestly say that every single executive board member made a substantial contribution in one way or another. Their hard work and dedication to the school is remarkable, and it has truly been a privilege to work with them all. The members of the BT Foundation have also made an impact and are already making plans for next year. There are also so many committee chairs and other parent volunteers who took time out of their busy lives to coordinate or help out with one or more of our many PTA programs and events. You really made a difference, and my heartfelt thanks go out to all of you.

Of course, many thanks go out to Dr. Chaset and Mr. Tark for their guidance and support throughout the year. They both value and encourage a true partnership among the staff and parent community, and that has been the cornerstone of our amazing school. Dr. Chaset will soon be off to the sunny warmth of Florida after 8 years as principal of BT.

She has led our school to great heights and has answered the day-to-day challenges with flare, humor, and conviction while never losing sight of her number one priority...our children. We will miss her tremendously. Undoubtedly, BT's new principal, Mrs. Nancy Erdrich, will carry on where Dr. Chaset left off. I am certain this community will support her wholeheartedly and work with her as we move BT forward together.

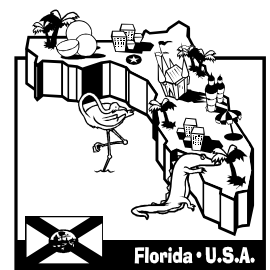
I have truly enjoyed serving as PTA President and I thank you for putting your trust in me to lead this amazing PTA. As we look forward to next year, I am confident that you will find true leaders in Lisa Sanfuentes and Cindy Campbell. Many thanks to all of you for making this a fabulous year!

From my family to yours, have a relaxing summer, and I look forward to seeing you next year!

Olivia Lai, PTA President

Farewell Celebrations for Dr. Chaset Taking Place Today!

We hope to see you at one or both of the farewell celebrations taking place for Dr. Chaset today. This is your opportunity to wish Dr. Chaset a fond farewell and to honor her for her 8 years as principal of Burning Tree! Before we get to the details, there are many thanks to go around! Thanks so much to Yvonne Van Lowe, Vicki Herson, Dorene Rosenthal, Amy Brown, Elissa Ginsky, Farish Perlman, Kathy Chelst and Karen Judson for all of their help with the farewell celebrations.



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“Positions Vacant”!

We hope you will join us in 2008-09 and contribute your time and talents to enriching the Burning Tree experience for all our children. We literally can't do these PTA programs without you!

Arts Festival

A co-chair is needed to run the bake-sale. Our annual Arts Festival is a large exhibit of student artwork. The walls of Burning Tree are transformed into a beautiful art gallery. Don't miss this evening event when friends and family can view the many different mediums the students explore in art class.

For further information, contact Mary Zambri mzambri@comcast.net or (301) 365 2367.

Back To School Picnic

A co-chair is needed to help organize Burning Tree's kick-off family activity! The Picnic brings Burning tree families together early in the fall to renew acquaintances and make new friends. The kids have a great time seeing old and new friends outside the classroom! For further information, contact Robin Gonzales gonzales.robin@arentfox.com or (301) 320 7448.

Bulletin Boards

Express your creativity and delight the children by taking on responsibility for the PTA bulletin board in the front hall. The board entices and informs parents and students about upcoming Burning Tree events such as International Night and the Spring Fair.

For further information, contact Brenda Conroy brenda.conroy@gol.com or (301) 229 1703.

Chess Club

A new chair is needed for the chess club which meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month (barring a holiday or school closing) from 8am to -9 am. Players of all levels, including beginners, are welcome to join the club. The only requirement is an interest in the game. For the more serious players there will also be opportunities for competition both within the club (there will be a rating ladder), and also against players from other schools. Parent volunteers will be sought to help with administrative tasks. We ask that for each family participating, a parent volunteer works one meeting during the course of the year.

For further information, contact Don Connors don.connors@mac.com or (301) 263 0211.

Child Care for PTA Meetings

A chair is needed to recruit and co-ordinate Pyle student volunteers to provide free, on-site childcare for children aged 4 and over during PTA meetings and Back-to-School nights.

For further information, contact Brenda Conroy brenda.conroy@gol.com or (301) 229 1703.

Creative Writing Club

The Burning Tree Creative Writing Club needs a co-chair to apprentice. The club welcomes poets, novelists, mystery writers, and humorists in 2nd through 5th grade. It meets every other Tuesday from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. starting October 9. Club members are given the opportunity to write poems, short stories, songs, puzzles, and more, and they publish a magazine in the spring. The club is led by a Burning Tree mom and is limited to 22 students. Registrations are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Registrations are sent out in the Friday Update in mid-September.

For further information, contact Rosanna Morrison (301) 469 5949.

Cultural Arts

One or two co-chairs are needed to assist with booking and follow-up.

The PTA organizes various cultural arts assemblies throughout the year for the kids. Art, dance, drama, history, music & science programs at Burning Tree are enhanced through these events, which bring outside artists and scientists into Burning Tree.

For further information, contact Joan Wolf-Chiaverini joanwolfjoanwolf@aol.com or (301) 252 8088.

Friday Update Photocopying

The *Friday Update* is crucial to Burning Tree in conveying important PTA information to the BT community. The *Friday Update* Copier Coordinator is responsible for recruiting a group of copiers, creating a schedule for the year and monitoring to ensure that the *Friday Update* gets copied on a weekly basis, approximately three times a month. Copying is done on Thursdays at 1:35 pm. This is a

minimal time commitment job but crucial to the PTA!

For further information, contact Brenda Conroy
brenda.conroy@gol.com or (301) 229 1703.

Landscape and Grounds Committee

This committee oversees the maintenance, beautification and safety of our play areas and school grounds. Co-chairs are especially required to help organize the popular Beautify Burning Tree event in October 2008 and the Clean-Up Day in May 2009.

For further information, contact Lisa Baker
bakewoman@aol.com or (301) 767 1730.

Recess Equipment

The PTA provides a variety of balls and other sporting items for the playgrounds. A chair is needed to ensure the maintenance of the equipment periodically throughout the year

For further information, contact Brenda Conroy
brenda.conroy@gol.com or (301) 229 1703.

The Ribbit Report - BT's student newspaper

This before-school program provides an opportunity for students to write articles featuring news about people and activities at Burning Tree. The paper also includes photos, book and movie reviews, and puzzles. It is published four times a year for distribution to the student body. Three or four new chairs are needed to work with our student reporters. Help and support will be provided by current chairs.

For further information, contact Ellen Singer
ellen@singer.net or (301) 263 3020, Jim Feinerman
feinerma@law.georgetown.edu or (301) 951 1020,
Aisha Haque aishahaque@comcast.net or (301) 263 9460.

Sally Foster Fundraiser Chair

This is BT's biggest Fall fundraiser. The school gets 50% of all Sally Foster sales including its high-quality wrapping paper, gift items for children and adults, cookie dough, and delicious "Harry London" gourmet chocolates. For further information, contact Ellie Abramowitz ellie.abramowitz@verizon.net or (301) 365-0543.

Spring Fair Chair(s)

For many of our children, this is the absolute highlight of the school year! It's the day BT is turned

into a carnival with games, crafts, delicious food, music and fun for kids of all ages – even the grown up ones! Get-together with friends to organize this event, and you'll be the most popular parents in the school! For further information, contact Ellie Abramowitz ellie.abramowitz@verizon.net or (301) 365-0543.

Field Days

Thank you to all the fabulous parents who gave their time to make the Field Days so much fun again this year.

The Grade 3-5 volunteers were: Christine Brake, Heidi Grunwald, Julie Fliieger, Kristin Shaver, Laura Weiss, Sharon Thompson, Hongshan Wong, Liza Fues, Sophie Rixe, Eric Wenger, Tammy Schulman, Bud Doran, Dorene Rosenthal, Elisa Bragale, Nancy Samit, Joan Ishimoto, Kathy Chelst, Patti Klepp, Olivia Lai, Darius Khaghani and Elissa Ginsky.

The Grade K-2 volunteers (as at Burning Issue's deadline) were: Sharon Tompkins, Kathy Chelst, Renata Sheyner Bianchi, Tammy Schulman, Rosemary Mitchell, Kristin Shaver, Monica Mirestean, Barbara Notley, Maria Lopez-Silvero, Marna Deleon, Christine Brake, Nancy Samit, Brenda Conroy, Mark Simkin and Gurvinder Ravery.

Above all, thanks to Ms Loftus for the incredible time and effort she puts into ensuring the health and happiness of the children on Field Days!

Lunch Room Volunteers

On behalf of all the students, the PTA would like to thank every parent who helped in the Lunch Room this year:

Delia Tang, Katherine Lewis, Lasse Lindegaard, Marcia Berman, Katerina Papaioannou, Vicki Herson, Lisa Ginns, Teresa Halabi, Britta Battaile, Jennifer Katz, Olivia Lai, Jo Chang, Laurie Thomas, Olia Onyshko, Sujata Chakrabarti Pasic, Sophie Rixe, Sharon Hwang, Julie Zebrak, Pamela Gibbs, Surya Shah, Debbie Paffel, Courtney Nowell, Catherine Yang, Tanaz Jalinoos, Ling Ling, Tanya Kreter, Donella Kay, Marilu Enciso, Madhavi Pillai, Robert Toborek, Yazgul Murat, Rebecca Smith, Debbie Bunker and John Bragale.

Volunteers' Corner

I don't know who is going to need the summer vacation more: the kids, or our fantastic parent volunteers!

From the start of the school year to the end of May, we logged more than 4,400 volunteer hours. And that figure represents only those hours recorded in our sign in sheets. It doesn't include the countless hours parents contributed at home – or the hours we served when we forgot to sign in and out!

On behalf of the PTA – and the children – thank you so very much!

Next year, we want to make logging our hours a little bit easier by computerizing the process. We'll have a laptop, instead of sign-in sheets. It will make it a lot quicker to sign in and out, and a lot easier to tabulate our volunteer effort.

Another change we're introducing next year is the way we employ our invaluable Room Parents. With your feedback and ideas, we have reorganized the duties and created the following positions:

PTA Liaison Parent

Role: To be a point of contact between the PTA and classroom parents and to lead parent involvement in Staff Appreciation Week and at the Spring Fair. The PTA Liaison Parent is also responsible for recruiting parent volunteers to supervise the children when they lunch in the classroom on the few days of the year when the All Purpose Room is not available, for example during the Science Fair.

Teacher/Classroom Liaison Parent

Role: To liaise with the teacher and coordinate the monthly roster of classroom volunteers. Depending on the teacher, this parent may also be responsible for securing volunteers for class events such as concerts and field trips. In Kindergarten, this parent is also responsible for coordinating the Kindergarten playground roster. Parents from the classes of Ms Merritt, Ms Backenstoe and Ms Choe rotate responsibility for supervising the playground during recess, each month.

Treasurer

Role: To collect and administer class funds for parties and teacher gifts. \$20 is collected for each child at Back to School Night. The Treasurer is also responsible for purchasing an end of year gift for the teacher with any remaining funds - usually this gift is a gift voucher.

Halloween Party Coordinator*

Role: To take the lead in coordinating the contributions of all the parents who signed up to help with this party. This includes coordinating

classroom decorations, party activities, snacks and party favors.

Valentine's Day Party Coordinator*

Role: To take the lead in coordinating the contributions of all the parents who signed up to help with this party. This includes coordinating classroom decorations, party activities, snacks and party favors.

End of Year Party Coordinator*

Role: To take the lead in coordinating the contributions of all the parents who signed up to help with this party. This includes coordinating classroom decorations, party activities, snacks and party favors.

(* Note: Each family will be asked to sign up at **Back-to-School Night** to help with (at least) one of the three parties. This doesn't mean the parent necessarily has to attend the party, but he/she will be asked to contribute by ordering party favors or purchasing snacks etc.)

We will also begin recruiting Room Parents earlier next year so they are in place before Back to School Night. We will be inviting nominations in the school's mid-August mail out when we all learn who our children's teachers will be in 2008-09. Nominations can then be submitted to the Room Parent Coordinators. For Grades K – 2 that will be Brenda Conroy brenda.conroy@gol.com and for Grades 3-5 it will be Dorene Rosenthal dorene@verizon.net

Thank you very much all the parents who served as room parents this year and to the current tireless Room Parent Coordinators, Shyami Desilva and Nicki deCastro.

I would also like to thank all the other Committee Chairs in the VP Volunteers' portfolio: the BNet Administrator, PK Kannan; the woman behind those amazingly creative PTA bulletin boards, Gina Okon; for the calendar, Jay Kaufman; Amy Lenkin and Wynne Sitrin who coordinated the copying on *Burning Issues* each month; Ellie Abramowitz who coordinated the copying of the *Friday Update* each week; Liza Fues and Dale Sorcher who undertook and conquered the mammoth task of editing the directory; our school historian, Brian Liu; the Landscape and Grounds Committee Chairs, Lisa Baker and Lisa Norwalk; Jan Hauck who coordinated the Media Center volunteer roster and birthday books program; Parliamentarian, Darrin Hartzler; our indefatigable playground roster chair, Sharon Tompkins; Patti Silver who has been the schools

Public Relations Officer for many years; school supply kits coordinator, Cheryl Liu; Kathy Chelst and Beth Martino who coordinated all our staff appreciation activities; the *Friday Update* Editors, Lisa Sanfuentes and Katerina Papaioannou; and last, but not least, our *Burning Issues* Editor, Joe Busch.

Thank you too to every one who worked with these incredible Chairs and helped make this a successful year.

Finally, June marks the end of my two year term as VP Volunteers. It has been a privilege and a delight to work with Burning Tree's teachers, staff, parents and, above all, students over the past two years. Our strong school spirit and sense of community is something to cherish and a great gift to our children. Thank you all and best wishes to Elissa Ginsky, the new VP. I hope you all have a safe and fun summer.

Brenda Conroy, Outgoing VP Volunteers

Farewell Celebrations for Dr. Chaset Taking Place Today! *(Cont'd from p.1)*

Kudos to Seemeen Hashem for the many hours she spent putting together the wonderful slide show for Dr. Chaset. Also, huge thanks to Karen van Loon, Brenda Conroy, and Santi Karamchetty who did a great job of putting the scrapbook together, along with Diana Deem's assistance. All of your contributions really made a difference! Now here are the details.....

For BT students and families (past and present): Stop by the Open House which will be held from 4:30 to 6:30 pm in the media center at Burning Tree.

For BT parents (past and present): The PTA's adults-only, Hail and Farewell Pot Luck Dinner will be taking place at 7:30 pm at the Carderock Springs Swim and Tennis Club. Current and incoming PTA executive board members and committee chairs will be honored, and there will be a special tribute to Dr. Chaset during the evening.

If you are planning to attend, please make your contribution to the pot luck dinner according to the following breakdown. Please plan for your dish to serve 8-10 people. If the first letter of your last name begins with:

- A-I bring a side dish or salad
- J-Q bring a main dish
- R-Z bring an appetizer or dessert

Questions? Please contact Olivia Lai at laigill@comcast.net or 301-365-0417.

From School-Based Programs

Now that I am finishing up my first year as VP for school-based programs, I have one very important and also very pleasant last "job" to do and that is to thank all the wonderful, creative, hardworking and amazing chairs and co-chairs of this years school based programs and events. It has been an amazing year and the Burning Tree students, parents, staff and community definitely could and would not have enjoyed all these exiting, helpful and amazing events and programs without you. THANK YOU. Can't say it enough! So, I'll just say it many times....

After School Programs: Joan Wolf-Chiaverini. THANK YOU.

Arts Festival: Mary Zambri. THANK YOU.

Back To School Picnic: Robin Gonzales. THANK YOU.

Chess Club: Don Connors. THANK YOU.

Creative Writing Club: Rosanna Morrison. THANK YOU.

Cultural Arts: Joan Wolf-Chiaverini and Cheryl Yu. THANK YOU.

Family to Family – New Families: Sujata Pasic. THANK YOU.

Family to Family – Kindergarten: Julie Zebrak, Katerina Papaioannou, Kristin Shaver and Renata Bianchi. THANK YOU.

Fifth Grade Farewell: Jodie Rasch and Joan Ishimoto. THANK YOU.

FLES (Foreign Language in the Elementary School): Aparna Gude (French), Patti Klepp (Spanish) and Ruby Lee (Chinese). THANK YOU.

Intercultural Committee: Sujata Pasic and Nic Ryba. THANK YOU.

International Night: Allison Ellis, Nikki deCastro, Tanaz Jalinoos, Maria Lopez-Silvero and Karen van Loon. THANK YOU.

Math Day: Nic Ryba, Amy Lenkin and Sheryl Isaacs. THANK YOU.

Newspaper - Ribbit Report: Ellen Singer, Jim Feinerman and Aisha Haque. THANK YOU.

Science Fair: Katerina Papaioannou and Michele Greenberg. THANK YOU.

Walk To School Day: Robin Rosenblum. THANK YOU.

*Karen van Loon,
VP for School-based Programs & Events.*

Media Center -- Thank you

A big thank you to all of our wonderful and devoted Media Center volunteers: Cheryl Liu, Lauren Cernea, Marci Ruderman, Mary Jacquotte, Sharon Curry, Cathy Houston, Min-Ling Chang, Jennifer Katz, Nicole Gurland, Barbara Notley, Betty Sagle, Amy Lenkin, Kathy Peterson, Dale Sorcher, Marna Deleon, Lisa Ginns, Libby Noyes-Palmer, Rosanna Morrison, Surya Shah, Georgina Val Mas, Laurie Thomas, Gail Haven, Suzanne Flyvholm, Vicki Herson, Nic Ryba and Karen Feuerstein.

FUNdrasing Finals...

SPRING FAIR

Dr. Chaset once said to me that it never rains on our Spring Fair. After being here for 7 years of sunny BTES Spring Fairs, I think she is on to something! The weather couldn't have been more perfect nor could the organizing of the event. Many thanks to Ellie Abramowitz and Kristen Farren for their endless hours of hard work in planning this fun-filled day. It really was a great success thanks to them and to their committee chairs. In addition to the good memories that we made, we also made over \$2,500 for Burning Tree!

See you at Ben & Jerry's on June 12th!

Want something cool to do with the kids on the last day of school (June 12th)? Then join your BTES friends at Ben & Jerry's in Bethesda from 1pm - 4pm and celebrate the beginning of summer! Your kids will love the treat and you'll love knowing that you're supporting BTES one more time, since a percentage of your purchase will go to our school. Email me, Cindy Campbell CampbellHannegan@comcast.net or Lisa Sanfuentes Lisa.Rizzolo@verizon.net if you have any questions.

A Final Thanks!

What a terrific fundraising year we had at Burning Tree this year. Many thanks to all of the co-chairs, volunteers, teachers and families who supported our events throughout the year. Your participation and enthusiasm made it possible to fund many wonderful school activities such as the Back-to-School Picnic, Arts Festival, and Cultural Arts, and to provide assistance to our sister school, Broad Acres. Your support also makes it possible to purchase teacher and community "wish list" items that greatly improve

the educational and athletic experience of our children here at BTES.

Much appreciation goes to the following people for their willingness to co-chair our 2007-08 fundraisers. It was a pleasure working with such dedicated and energetic people. Many thanks to the following co-chairs:

Adult Fundraiser: Michael Chelst, Surya Shah, Erin Deric, & Cindy Campbell

Bingo Night: Laura Weiss, Tracey Fitzsimmons, & Christine Brake

Book Fair: Jeanne Pettenati, Debby Rubin, Heidi Grunwald, & Sharon Curry

Dine Outs: Nancy Sandler

Fix 'n Feast Liza Fues

Original Artworks: Britta Battaile & Marianne Katinas

Plant Sale: Lisa Baker & Mary Kunst

Sally Foster: Ellie Abramowitz & Jamie Pierce

Shop for our School: Amy Lenkin

Spirit Shop: Laura Weiss

Spring Fair: Ellie Abramowitz & Kristen Farren

I've enjoyed serving as VP for Fundraising and hope you will continue to be generous with your time and support for our incoming VP for Fundraising, Ellie Abramowitz. Ellie has been involved in many of the fundraising programs at Burning Tree including co-chairing Sally Foster for the past 3 years and co-chairing the Spring Fair this year. She will be an energetic and very hardworking addition to the Board! Thanks again and I hope you all have a wonderful and relaxing summer!

Cindy Campbell, VP for Fundraising

Staff Appreciation Luncheon Thank You

Thanks to Amy Lenkin, Anne Ruskowski & Olivia Lai for all their help at the Staff Appreciation Luncheon on May 9th. The wonderful desserts & apples so many families donated were enjoyed by the staff. We appreciate all the volunteers who helped throughout the year and for the generosity of those who donated food & drinks.

*Kathy Chelst & Beth Martino,
Staff Appreciation Co-Chairs*

Community Based Programs

Thank you to the fantastic BTES students, teachers and parents for your generous support and contributions to all of the Community Based Programs throughout the school year. Together we accomplished an enormous amount within our community.

A special thank you goes to Cathy Houston who has been organizing the sandwich collection for Martha's Table every other month. Martha's table is a non-profit group providing daily meals to over 1300 hungry and homeless people living in our area. It is Cathy's last year at BTES and I know we all will miss her and the huge contribution she has made to the school very much.

In October our students all participated in the Fannie Mae Walk for the Homeless led by Julie Zebrak. A huge thank you also goes to Dr. Chaset and Mr. Tark who led this worthy event.

Over the Winter Holidays Gail Haven led one of our most talented groups of students ever in the Talent Show for the elderly at Springhouse Manor in Bethesda. Julie Garcia brightened the holiday season for scores of local holiday children through our annual Adopt-an-Angel program which matches needy children with Burning Tree families who buy them holiday gifts.

In March the students participated in "1000 Sandwich Day" to benefit Martha's Table. The students spent part of their lunch break preparing sandwiches for distribution and ultimately prepared over 1500 sandwiches! A special note of thanks goes to our co-chairs Cathy Houston and Britta Battaile for organizing this great activity.

Our sister school, Broad Acres Elementary in Silver Spring benefited from our various collections throughout the year, financial donations from the PTA, and collaborations. Karen Judson, Sheryl Isaacs and Wynne Sitrin did an amazing job organizing our assistance and working with the leadership at Broad Acres for this significant program.

Our year wrapped up with the exciting Mini-Relay for Life led by Liza Fues where the children walked during two consecutive days of their recess to promote awareness and commemorate those touched by cancer.

A special thank you to Doreen Rosenthal who served as our School Board/County Council Liaison and to our phenomenal PTA President Olivia Lai and

President Elect Lisa Sanfuentes who gave their support and guidance to each of these important events.

Vicki Herson, VP for Community Based Programs

Spring Fair Thank You

Sandwiched in between days of cold and rain, once again the weather cooperated (thanks to our good luck charm, Dr. Chaset) and Saturday, May 17th was full of warm sunshine and lots of sunny smiles!

Not only are we grateful for such a gorgeous day, we are so thankful to the people who helped make it such a great day. Many thanks to all of our hard-working committee chairs: Cindy Campbell and Teresa Halabi (Bag-O-Mania), Melinda Gray and Tracey Fitzsimmons (Volunteer Coordinators), Santi Karamchetty and Farish Perlman (Prizes), Sheryl Isaacs and Celine McGowan (Arts and Crafts), Jodie Rasch and Joan Ishimoto (Cake Walk), Mary Kemper (Decorations), Amy Lenkin (Drink More Water), Brenda Conroy (Incoming Kindergarteners), Russell Ginns and Amy Brown (Homemade Games), Laurie Mackey (Hospitality), Mary Jacqueline and Georgina Mas Singla (International Café), Anne Ruskowski (Signs), Robert Hazan (Sandwich Boards), Mary Kunst and Matt Wells (SGA Table), Ellen Agler (Ticket Sales) and Lisa Sanfuentes (Troubleshooter). Thanks also to the many parents and BT staff who came out to enjoy the Fair and volunteered their time the day of the event. It truly takes all of us pulling together to make the day a success for our school and children!

We also want to thank the parents who came to a Bag-O-Mania stuffing party (or parties), donated a bag (or multiple bags) and/or made a financial donation to help support Bag-O-Mania and to Cindy Campbell for hosting the parties. Bag-O-Mania was a huge undertaking and we couldn't have done it without the help of these people. Thanks again and we hope you and your kids had a wonderful time at the Spring Fair!

Ellie Abramowitz and Kristen Farren, Spring Fair co-chairs

Spring Fair Volunteer Thank You

Many thanks to all our Burning Tree families for making the Spring Fair a great success! Burning Tree's extraordinary families and friends contributed to a fun and well-run Spring Fair. The kids had a

fantastic day. The fair would not have run without you.

Volunteers: Dave Abramowitz, Enitan Adebonojo, Jeff Agler, Aisha Ahmad, Monica Antsey, Lisa Baker, Nancy Bauman, Britta Battaile, Linda Blumberg, Gisella Brain, Christine Brake, Joe Busch, Kathy Cantor, Theo Chuang, Kathy Chelst, Jenny Chen, Tracy Crittenberger, Nikki De Castro, Etienne de Gonneville, Bud Doran, Zubeida Elhindi, Marilu Enciso, Adam Feuerstein, Nina Fisher, Ilissa Flamm, Tom Fong, Liza Fues, Walter Gillcrist, David Gillette, Elissa Ginsky, Robin Gonzales, Stacie Gould, Robert Guest, Vicki Herson, Michael Herson, Joan Jermakian, Karen Johnson, Felicia Jung, Jennifer Katz, Patti Klepp, Reymer Kluever, Nikola Koritz, Olivia Lai, Ruby Lee, Kelly Levy, Katherine Lewis, Ling Ling, Cheryl Liu, Maria Lopez Silvero, Karen Manzanilla, Alin Mirestean, Monica Mirestean, Rosemary Mitchell, Yazgul Muratnazarova, Donovan Neymour, Kim Nordheimer, Lisa Norwalk, Joe Okon, Lisa Orange, Robin Owens-Wright, Lyn Penniman, Jeanne Pettenati, Jamie Pierce, Jill Posin, Vivian Riefberg, Cecelia Roos, Julie Rosenblatt, Dorene Rosenthal, Mireya Rossi, Debby Rubin, Marci Ruderman, Anthony Sandler, Misako Sano, Jodi Schwalb, Karen Sepucha, Carmen Serna, Surya Shah, Mark Simkin, Kathy Sklar, Raisa Slepoy, Sheryl Steinberg, Gordon Swartz, Delia Tetelman, Laurie Thomas, Steve Turow, Marita Valianatos, Celeste Wallander, Laura Weiss, Berta Wengle, Reno Wright, and Catherine Yang. We hope we remembered everyone.

Additional thanks to all the Pyle and Whitman students who volunteered. They did a great job and played a huge role in working this year's Spring Fair.

Melinda Gray and Tracey Fitzsimmons, 2008 Spring Fair Volunteer Coordinators

Thanks to Friday Update Copiers

Thanks so much to my copying crew who worked behind the scenes all year long to deliver the weekly PTA *Friday Update*: Betsey Hudis, Pi-Yu Kuo, Rosanna Morrison, Lisa Orange, Farish Perlman, Saide Saboia and Karen van Loon. Without these devoted parents the PTA would not be able to communicate so much valuable information to the BT community!

Ellie Abramowitz, Friday Update Copying Coordinator

Thank You PTA Members

A big thank you to the 321 families who joined the PTA this year. With your special talents, time, and contributions, you helped make the 2007-2008 school year such a fun learning period!

Have a nice summer!

Katerina Papaioannou, PTA Membership

Have a great summer vacation!



***Burning Issues* is published monthly by the Burning Tree PTA, usually the week following each PTA meeting.**

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Olivia Lai 301-365-0417

Lisa Sanfuentes 301-320-6214

Newsletter Editor:

Joe Busch 301-767-9786

We welcome your contributions and suggestions. Please send your articles via e-mail to Joe Busch at jbusch@urban.org or call him at 202-261-5569. This is the final newsletter for this school year.

