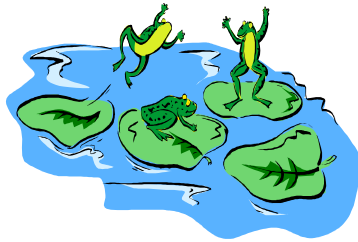


Burning Issues

FUNdraising Update

**Hop to the Fill Our Pond Party, Saturday,
March 14th 7:30 – 10:30pm**

The Fill Our Pond celebration is only two days away! The party will be held at the home of BTES parents Julie and Jon Garcia, 8517 Beech Tree Road. Don't



miss a fun and casual night out with BTES staff and parents. Haven't written a check yet? Bring your checkbook to the party to make a donation, and also so you can bid on the wonderful teacher and staff outings! The entire list of outings can be found at www.burningtreepta.org/DOWNLOADS/FOPbids.pdf

These are favorites from the Adult Fundraiser/Auction we've had in the past, and they're the only items available for auction. Thank you to the teachers and staff for offering them!

Have you RSVP'd yet? Have you booked your babysitter? If you answered no to either of these questions, **then it's time to do it!** You can email your RSVP to FillOurPond@aol.com and pay at the door that night (the cost is \$10 per person and checks should be made out to BTES PTA). Decide last minute to go even if you haven't RSVP'd? That's fine too – everyone is welcome! Additional information is available at www.BurningTreePTA.org. Hope to see you there!

Dine Out at Ledo Pizza, Tuesday and Wednesday, April 21st and April 22nd

Make dough rise! Join us at our last Dine Out of the year at Ledo Pizza on River Road on April 21st and 22nd. Thanks also to all of the Burning Tree families who attended the BD's Mongolian Barbeque dine out in February. And HUGE thanks to Nancy Sandler for organizing all of the dine outs for the last two years! (More FUNdraising news on page 2)

Consider Serving on the 2009-2010 BTPTA Board of Directors!

The Nominating Committee has been formed and is now beginning the process of searching for candidates for the 2009-2010 BTPTA Board of Directors (formerly called the Executive Board). The Nominating Committee will consider candidates for open positions, provide notice to the PTA membership of its recommendations, and the PTA membership will vote to elect its 2009-2010 Board of Directors at the May 5th PTA meeting. Additional nominations may be taken from the floor at that time.

These are the positions that are currently open on next year's Board of Directors: President-elect, VP for Volunteers, VP for School-Based Programs, VP for Community-Based Programs, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary/Membership, and MCCPTA Delegate. Please keep in mind that as positions are filled, additional positions on the Board of Directors may become available. Important information about the role of the Board of Directors as well as the job descriptions for all of the positions are posted on the BTPTA website at www.burningtreepta.org.

If you are interested in being considered for a position on the Board of Directors or would like to recommend someone else for a position, please contact Olivia Lai at laigill@verizon.net or 301-365-0417, or you may contact any of the other members on the Nominating Committee (Nikki de Castro, Joe Busch, Jennifer Katz, Cristina Arumi, Lisa Norwalk or Joan Ishimoto). Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you!

Tax Service

We would like to thank Dan Suissa, CPA, for preparing and filing the PTA's 2008 federal tax return on a pro bono basis. Mr. Suissa is a partner in the firm of Heymann, Suissa & Stone in Rockville, MD.

Lisa Norwalk, PTA Treasurer

Plant Sale Saturday, April 25th

Make your yard beautiful and at the same time help out the Burning Tree PTA! Buy your spring and summer annuals at our annual Plant Sale on Saturday, April 25th. The plant sale offers the highest quality plants and flowers for less than area nurseries charge, and your purchases benefit our school! Thanks to Lisa Baker and Mary Kunst for running this again!

Popcorn and Prizes – Mark Your Calendars For Spring Fling/Movie Night!

Announcing exciting big changes this year to the Spring Fair! Update your calendars - the fair will still be held on Saturday, May 16th, but will start at 5:30 pm instead of noon. There will be fun games and prizes, super new inflatables, yummy food and the ever-popular Burning Tree Bag-O-Mania and Cakewalk. Immediately following the fair, it will be time for popcorn and a movie at 8:30 pm. The kids will be amazed as we transform the blacktop into an outdoor movie theatre with an incredible giant movie screen! Thanks to Tami Chambers, Laura Weiss and Cindy Campbell working to make this fun evening a great success. Stay tuned for more details in April.

Ongoing Fundraisers

It's not too late to support Burning Tree with our easy "ongoing fundraisers". Register your credit card or shoppers' card at one or more of these businesses. It will cost you nothing and could raise thousands of dollars for BTES if every family would participate! Please contact Amy Lenkin if you have additional questions or concerns about any of these programs: www.Schoolpop.com (for on-line shopping); www.giantfood.com/aplus (for Giant, BTES's code is #666), www.escrip.com (for Safeway, BTES #6480304), and www.target.com (for Target stores).

Visit our School Spirit Shop! Proceeds go to BTES and you can buy spirit items like t-shirts and sweat shirts, important supplies like pencils, water bottles, tote bags and "Note to School" memo pads. To download an order form go to www.BurningTreePTA.org/DOWNLOADS/spiritholiday.pdf or contact Laura Weiss if you have additional questions.

Thanks for your ongoing support of Burning Tree's fundraising programs and see you Saturday night at the Fill Our Pond party!

Ellie Abramowitz, VP Fundraising

Thousand Sandwiches Day Success!

By the end of the afternoon, 1300 sandwiches were delivered to Martha's Table downtown. Martha's Table drives around a wagon that gives out 3000 sandwiches in the city every day at designated locations.

Thank you to all of the people who helped everything go so smoothly: the families for sending in cold cuts and cheese, building services staff for setting up the lobby, Mrs. Singh for making room in the cafeteria fridge, classroom staff for getting the kids to us, and of course the students for making all of those sandwiches!

Also, many thanks to all of the parent helpers and glove donators: Sheryl Steinberg, Amy Lenkin, Nikki deCastro, Celine Barker, Karyn Miele, Anne Mandigo, Pam Janssen, Sharon Curry, Wynne Sitrin, Cathy Houston, Ana Kiron, Ellen Singer, Kirsten Truitt, Jennifer Katz, Vicki Herson, Karen Feuerstein, and Sharon and Mitchell Hwang, and the Padgett and Fues families.

Britta Battaile and Ruth McDonald

Calendar of Upcoming Events



Saturday, March 14 – Fill our Pond Party

Adult Cocktail Party -- 7:30 – 10:30pm

March 16-26 – MSA Testing (Reading & Math)

Grades 3 & 4 Mon/Tues; Grade 5 Wed/Thur.

Monday, March 30 – No School

Professional day

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

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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. Deadline for the next newsletter is **Fridav, April 3.**