



Paw Prints

The Monthly PTSA Newsletter of Washington Middle School

<http://www.seattleschools.org/schools/washingtonms>

APRIL 2007

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From the WMS PTSA Co-Presidents

Spring has sprung and while the cruel ruse of moving clocks has come and gone, we all need to give our heartfelt thanks to **Harriet Bakken** and **Jenni Gottschalk** and their volunteers who put on a fantastic auction last month. Thanks also to all of you who participated and many of you who went even farther and brought your friends and neighbors. It was a joyous evening with delicious food and many wonderful things to bid on. There were beautiful items that showcased the great talents in our midst and many extraordinary experiences and services available. If you missed this one, mark your calendar for next year when we'll do it all again on **March 29, 2008**.

Spring also means it is time once again to begin two annual PTSA activities: (1) Building next year's budget and (2) staffing next year's board and committee's. The first task is already well underway, thanks to the brave men and women of the Finance Committee. They will have next year's budget ready for your approval at the next and final PTSA General Meeting this school year, scheduled for **May 16 at 7pm**. Please come early to get a good seat.

For the second, we need everyone's help. Running the PTSA and all its committees to deliver enrichment to every classroom every day is a big job that needs your talent and the talent of your finest friends. Please, please, please consider serving as a PTSA officer next year. **The following positions are unfilled as of March 15: Co-President, Secretary, 6th Grade VP, 7th Grade VP, 8th Grade VP and both Co-Treasurers.** If you are interested, please contact **Margo Makowicki** (mmakowicki@comcast.net) to volunteer. Margo is chairing the Nominating Committee this year (Thanks, Margo!)

If an officer position isn't for you, please consider chairing a committee next year. The Auction committee, the *Bite of Washington* committee and the Staff Appreciation committees all leap to mind—and there are more. You can contact any PTSA officer any time to volunteer.

We realize that some folks simply cannot lead a committee or serve on the Board, but we all share in the responsibility of the success of the PTSA. If you find yourself unable to take a leadership role, please help by rallying one of your friends to lead, and be all you can be in the PTSA infantry. None of the great things that your PTSA does (*PawPrints*, Family Handbook, Student Directory, Emergency Preparedness, *Jr. Husky Happenings*, 8th Grade Promotion, Peer Mediation, Student Planners, 6th Grade Ice Cream Social, Star Recognition Awards, The *Bite of Washington* and more) happens by accident. It needs you and your finest friends to be successful.

Lastly, we would like to let you know how the PTSA Annual Fund is doing. **Meg Watson, Kathy Feldman** and **Audrey Sheffield** are running a great campaign this year and they've already collected 85% of this year's goal, but fewer than a third of our WMS families have joined in its success. Again, we would like to thank everyone who has already responded and redouble our encouragement for everyone's participation.

PTSA fund raising not only supports the great work your PTSA does in partnership with the teachers and staff at Washington, it demonstrates our solidarity with each other in giving over 1000 of

our kids a brighter future than we are enjoying now. Just imagine the profound statement that 100% parent participation in this year's Annual Fund would make in support of every student, teacher and staff member at Washington Middle School

Also please note that we have PayPal available for Annual Fund contributions, so it is even easier and more convenient to make a contribution. Just click the *Make a Donation* button on the Washington Middle School web page (<http://65.110.89.109/index.asp>).

If you need a form, or to find out more please pick up a brochure in the school office or go to <http://65.110.89.109/documents/AnnualFund/AFBrochure2006a.pdf>.

Thanks again for your participation, enthusiasm and sending your brilliant children to Washington.

*John Eickelberg, PTSA Co-President, father of 6th grade Brendan
Stephanie Shine, PTSA Co-President, mother of 8th grade Cally*

Legislative Report

Look for a recap of the legislative session in the May edition; in the meantime continue to call your legislators toll-free at 1-800-562-6000 to let them know that you want them to vote to make public schools the best in the nation.

Janis Traven

Give me just a little more time...

As some of you know, the *Principal's Note* is one thing I try very hard to put time, effort, and thought into. In most cases, I try to keep you informed of the happenings at school, trends that may impact middle school students and families, or other information that can help you navigate the journey of middle school. This month, that just isn't possible. Staffing and budget, the auction, *Writers Workshop*, *Project Excel*, letters of recommendation for students and staff, interviewing teacher candidates, required and optional trainings, assemblies, and meetings, meetings, and more meetings have whittled my time away to where I just won't be able to write the article that I want to share. Others have asked if I have an archive of past articles that I might tap into. While I do, I honestly don't think that's the precedent that I want to set. With that in mind, let me say thank you to those of you who responded to my question regarding the possibility of installing security cameras at Washington. If you want to add your thoughts, it's not too late to email your opinion. A big thank you to all of you who helped with this year's Auction. The note that follows is much more detailed, but a special thank you to **Harriet Bakken, Jenni Gottschalk** and **Lindsay Brown**, who worked so very hard to make this year's auction a big success. And finally, congratulations and thank you to all the students and staff who made this year's *Night of the Notables* so much fun. You made all of us very proud!

Have a great Spring Break, but stay sharp; WASL is just around the corner.

Jon Halfaker, Principal

Thanks to Everyone Who Helped with the Auction!

Thanks to everyone who helped with another successful auction!!! The auction grossed over \$90,000 and brought in an estimated \$67,000 to the PTA. It was a fun event and a great chance for WMS parents to socialize while helping the PTA. Many thanks to **Lana Abrams** from *ninedesign* for her graphic design work. Also, **Lindsay Brown** was an amazing asset who not only organized the wonderful contributions from the *Friends of Washington Music* families but who also headed up the set up of our venue. Her energy was infectious!! Many thanks. The wonderful decorations were created by **Liz Eickelberg** and **Sue Dietrich** with **Ann Costello** making all the fun signage and extra help from **Leah Opiniano-Bui**. *Thank you!!*

The middle school volunteers were awesome and so was their patient coordinator, **Karin Fosberg**. Of course, the big draw of the evening was our dinner that was expertly catered by **John Platt** from *St. Clouds* and **Thierry Rautureau** from *Rover's* with **Jayn Foy** and **Amy Arvidson** coordinating the details, preparation and volunteers. **THANK YOU!!**

Major thanks are also due to:

Silent Auction Judy Cochran
Bar Hildy Ko Raffle
Dessert Dash Beth Speck
Wine Toss Jeff Treistman, Polly Young
Centerpiece Masks Stephanie Jungblom, WMS 8th Grade Art Class
Fund-An-Item Slide Show Meg Watson, Andy Kwatinetz
Table Captain Coordinator Kathy Feldman

FOWM Procurement Lindsay Brown, Nancy Smith
Table Captains Laurie & Steve de Koch, Ingrid Holmlund & David Thompson, Barbie & Sean Kelly, Judy Cochran, Cathy & Phil Davis, Stephanie Bower & Richard Franko, Stephanie Shine, Sarah Robertson & Stephen Phillips, Linda & Rick Tanner, Lori & Stephen Markowitz, Bonnie Berk & Dennis McLean, John & Liz Eickelberg, Carriann & Alan Alabastro, Anthony Salisbury & Margot Page, Janis Traven & Mark Linsey, Karen Overstreet & John Reed, Su Chase & Bill Droegge, Todd Black & Marty Wentzel, Margo & Paul Makowicki, Suzanne Thompson, Peter & Jen Cole, Erica & Duane Jonlin, Jennifer & Ken Carter, Jacqueline Hubenet & Richard Marshall

The auction would not have happened without the great volunteers setting up and helping during the event:

Auction Announcer Carol Kelly (WOW! Wasn't she awesome!!!)
Live Auction Recorders Mary Curiel, Cristela Daniel
Live Auction Power Point Operator Ann Lyons
Registration Cathy Bronsdon, Deborah Piccard, Martha Layzer, Alison Sands
Raffle Ticket Sellers Lori Markowitz, Jenn Cole, Teresa Beery, Su Chase, Jai Lingappa, Catherine Staunton
Special Night of Assistant to John Platt Paul Wosniak
Assistance with Wine Donation/Purchasing Jaime Pisaruck
RSVP Database Input Anthony Salisbury
Platers Amy Arvidson, Liz Bell, Liz Bottman, Patty Burrow, Dori Cahn, Cathy Chutich, Cheryl Clark, Susan & Tom Colligan, Dick Dobyns, Jill Dutton, Liz Fitzhugh, Jayn & Hugh Foy, Rob Gertler, Matt Geyman, Jean Gorecki, Sue Hildreth, Tom Linde, Mary Minor, Marge Murray, Dorothy Orzel, Rob Smith, Theresa Thomas, Neal Thompson, Joan Tupper & Paul Wosniak, Patricia Chan
Dinner Prep Amy Arvidson, Loki Bedalov, Todd Black, Celia Brown, Dori Cahn, Shelly Cohen, Susan Colligan, Liz Fitzhugh, Jayn Foy, Kal Gelkin, Ingrid Holmlund, Satomi Murakami, Marge Murray, Dorothy Orzel, Nancy Smith, Beth Speck, Denise Takahashi, Joan Tupper, Paul Wosniak
Appetizers Lori Banni, Loki Bedalov, Jill Dutton, Diana Hausman, EllenLackerman, Mary Minor, Molly Seaverns, Margie Slovan, Beth Speck, Chris Turner, Marty Wentzel, Diane & Paul Wozniak
Silent Auction Bente Fernandi, Joan Tupper, Patreese & Josh Martin, Marissa LaMadrid & Glen Herrmannsfeldt, Margo Makowicki
Bar Karen Carlson, Ann Costello & Jim Tully, Cathy & Phil Davis, Susan Hildreth, Barbie & Sean Kelly, Hildy Ko, Molly & Glenn Seaverns, Jane Sheridan, Jeff Treistman & Polly Young

Thank you to the following businesses for donations and for underwriting portions of the evening: **Alaska Wild Salmon Company** – salmon, **Merlino Foods** – foodstuffs, **Alaska Distributors** – wine and water, **Charlie's Produce**

– produce, **Essential Baking Company** – bread, **Full Circle Farms** – greens, **Urban Press** – invitation printing, **Tully's** – coffee, **Theater Puget Sound** – use of stage, **St. Clouds, Rover's**.

Many thanks to **Mr. Robert C. Knatt**, the Senior Jazz Band Members and the String Quartet for providing the musical entertainment for the auction

Also, thanks to the band members and other student helpers for your superb waitering and all around pitching in. Specific thanks to

Nick Bissiri	Fiona Majeau	Sama
Sam Bottman	Abby Meyer	Claire Kevran
Kat Brightwell	Emily Ostrove	Clare Tonelli
Gus Comstock	Sam Perkins	Olivia Turner
Camille Coonrod	Charles Phillips	Emily Hayfield
Graham Davis	Stewart Renehan	Louis Weissman
Willem de Koch	Adam Stansell	Harrison Linsey
Jackson Dunnington	Richelle Tanner	Louisa Dunwiddie
Ian Frost	Colin Vandervort	Audrey Spaeth
Julian Garvue	David Wang	Jonah Golden
Jeff Gertler	Ian Zapolsky	Allison Lykken
Hannah King	Evan Zavada	Kat Brightwell
Erin Kelly	Toni McFall	Josh Markowitz
Franklin Sussman	Gabriel Wang	Wilson Platt
Jon Bakken	Zach Gottschalk	Tommy Foy
Cally Shine	Roxi Ko	Corby Johnson

Thanks to all our Fabulous Auction Donors!!!!!!

Airlocker, Alaska Distributors, All That Dance, Argosy Cruises, Attic Alehouse & Eatery, Harriet & Jon Bakken, Stella & Steve Bass, Monica Beckman, Beecher's Handmade Cheese, Teresa Beery, Bergans of Norway, Sharon Berlin, Sally Blake, Rafael & Cindy Block, Blue Dog Bakery, Art & Allison Boelter, Book-It Repertory Theatre, Phil Borges, Both Ways Cafe, Stephanie Bower, Daniel & Fumiko Bretzke, Broadway Across America, Cathy & Mike Bronsdon, Lindsay Brown & David Zapolsky, Burgermaster, Patty Burrows, Butch Blum, Teresa Carew, Castillos Del Rio, Center for Wooden Boats, Penny Cheuk-Low, Chihuly Studio, Chinoise Cafe, Catherine Chutich & Charles Martin, Judy Cochran, Kristine Coers, Susan & Tom Colligan, Corry's Fine Dry Cleaning, Creative Dance Center, Bernie Creaven & Rich Kovar, Cupcake Royale, Dakota Art Store, Daly's Paint and Decorating, Daniel Williams Architect, Cathy & Phil Davis, Del Rio Food Processing, Mary DeLorme Dick's Drive In, Display & Costume, Diviniti Jewelers, Michelle Doyle & Jeff Cantor East Madison YMCA, John and Liz Eickelberg, Elliott Bay Bicycles, Emerald Downs, Emerald Water Anglers, Jen Emrich & Andy Kwatinetz, Everett Aquasox Baseball Club, Monica Fawthrop & Ed Bronsdon, Kathy Feldman, Liz Fitzhugh, Delia Floor, Anai Flores, Karin Fosberg & Kevin Majeau, Hugh & Jayn Foy, Warren Franklin & Mary Pottier, Funtasia, Fusion Beads, Roger & Kris Garratt, Linda Giles, Dave Gleeson & Melissa Roe, Stephen Godbe & Caol Deckelbaum, Kim Gordon, Chuck Gottschalk, Jenni Gottschalk, Peter & Vanessa Greaves, Christine Gregoire, Grupo Familia Hispanic WMS, Guest House Log Cottages, Marie & Randall Guzzardo, Hallmark Resort Cannon Beach, Dana Harrison, Hector Peterson Secondary School, South Africa, Kim Herber & Thom Ditty, Hi-Spot Cafe, Brian Higham, Hilltop Yarn, Inn at Cannon Beach, Interiors of Edmonds, Intiman Theater, IslandWood, Ivar's and Kidd Valley, Jim & Fiona Jackson, Jan Drago, Jet Blue Airways, Jillian's, Julia's Restaurant, Jungle Mungle, King 5 Television, KingFish Cafe, Marc Kittner, Hildy & Dave Ko, La Tienda Folk Art Gallery, Lasley & Russ Violins, Laurel Ink, Le Gourmand Restaurant, Caroline Lee, Linda Fukuda D.D.S., Alan Low, Elizabeth Lowry, Lynnwood Ice Center, Carl Majeau, Marjorie, Stephen & Lori Markowitz, Martha E Harris Floral, Jim McDermott, Stuart McFeely, Rosamie Melcher-Ordonez, Merlino Foods, Mary Minor, Mitchell's, Moss Bay Rowing, Kayaking and Sailing, Mount Baker Community Club, Sen. Patty Murray, Sandy & Dick Murray, Museum of Flight, Jack Nicholson, Nick Licata, Greg Nickels, Northwest Chamber Chorus, Northwest Outdoor Center, Northwest Puppet Center, Northwest Trek, Olympic Athletic Club, Orchestra Seattle/Seattle Chamber Sing, Dorothy Orzel & Paul Ray, Owen-Sullivan's Winery, Pacific Science Center, Pacifica Children's Chorus, Ulrich Pakker, Ulrich & Pamela Pakker-

continued next page

Be a Tutor—Make a Difference

When our son entered 6th grade at Washington Middle School this fall, I asked for a volunteer job, and found myself working with 8th graders who were having trouble meeting reading standards. Each week I have been spending first period with one or two students, listening to them read fiction aloud to me. The students and I have been building rapport, and they have been discovering more enthusiasm for reading, while increasing their fluency and comprehension.

Since there are many other students who would benefit from this kind of regular encouragement, WMS has recently hired me to coordinate volunteer tutors. If *you* would enjoy sharing your proficiency in—and love for—reading, math, science or writing, either as a general classroom tutor or working one on one, please pick up a volunteer application in the main office. Enjoy the great satisfaction of helping all our children succeed in school! For more information, please contact me (252-2644, susan@smallnetworks.com).

Susan Huntley, Coordinator for Tutors

More Donors to the Annual Fund

Erik Aasen • David & Madeleine Brenner • Amy & Joseph Carter • Carol Deckelbaum & Stephen Godbe • Marie Donadio & Seth Wiessman • Jennifer Emrich & Andrew Kwatinetz • David Huffaker & Barbara Staley • David & Susan Huntley • John Kazanjian & Mary Ewald • Charles Martin & Catherine Chutich • Sandra & Richard Murray • Asha & Bimal Wadhwa

Academic Saturday School

Academic Saturday School will be held on April 21st and 28th. This is open to all Washington Middle School students. Applications are still available in the main office, counseling office and downstairs with **Mrs. Jones**. Please help your student organize their homework, class assignments and projects that they want to work on at *Saturday School* the night before. It is very helpful for the student to have a plan before they get to *Saturday School* instead of using time in the morning to figure out what to work on. *Academic Saturday School* starts at 9am sharp, students arriving after 9:30pm will be sent home, after a phone call to parent/guardian. We provide a breakfast snack and lunch. Metro tokens are available to those who qualify.

Auction Thanks *Continued from page 2*

Kozicki, Palomino Restaurant, Papyrus, Philharmonia Northwest, Karen Rathe, John Reed, & Karen Overstreet, Sandy Renner, Residence Inn by Marriott - Seattle Downtown, Restaurant Zoe, Ben Roseth, Phoebe & Dave Russell, Salon Divas, Salon Moto, Salty's on Alki, Karl Schmitz, Holly Schoenknecht, Science Art and More, Seastar Restaurant and Raw Bar, Seattle Art Museum, Seattle Athletic Club Downtown, Seattle Athletic Club Northgate, Seattle Chamber Music Society, David Della, Jean Godden, Peter Steinbrueck, Sally Clark, Seattle Seahawks, Seattle Shakespeare Company, Seattle Times, Seattle's Best Basketball Academy, Glen & Molly Seaverns, Audrey & John Sheffield, Stephanie Shine, Ron Sims, Doreen Smith, Nancy & Brian Smith, Tony Soper, Sound Mind and Body, Beth Speck & Eric Trupin, Spectrum Dance Theater, St. Clouds Restaurant & Catering, Starbucks on Jackson, Suzanne R. Thompson Hair Design, Valerie Tarico, The Comedy Underground, The Summit at Snoqualmie, Three by Three, Inc., Janis Traven & Mark Linsey, Jeff Treistman & Polly Young, Tubs Seattle, Chris Turner, Tutta Bella Pizzeria, Sen. Maria Cantwell, Union Bay Cafe, University Book Store, U W Department of Athletics, Funda Vakar-Lopez, David Vandervort, Volterra, Volunteer Park Cafe, Anna Wald, Victor & Sera Wang, Meg & Ron Watson, Lilia Widmayer, Wild Waves, Wilridge Winery, Annie & Dan Wilson, Wing Luke Asian Museum, Gail Wong, Woodinville Wine Cellars, Candace Yaplee, Yazdi, YMCA Camping Services, Yuen Lui, Andy Zavada and Ann Evans Zavada.

Music News

Upcoming Music Events

Tuesday, April 17 Mandatory Anaheim Trip Chaperone Meeting. 6:30pm in the Band Room (rm. 8)

Saturday, April 28 Gypsy Jazz ***PLEASE NOTE DATE CORRECTION FROM LAST PAW PRINTS*** 7:00pm at Town Hall Seattle. Don't miss one of our most highly acclaimed annual musical events featuring our award winning Senior Orchestra and the professional talents of multi-instrumentalist and percussionist, Joe Craven, and cellist, Natalie Haas.

April 26–29 Reno Jazz Festival Senior Jazz Band will perform at this competition.

Friday, April 20 Family Night with *The Young Eight* 7:00pm at Rainier Beach High School. Join us for an incredible evening of music with the professional classical ensemble *The Young Eight* and the talents of WMS Junior and Senior Orchestras, as well as Meany Middle School Orchestra and the string students of T.T. Minor Elementary.

Saturday, May 5 Northwest Jazz Festival in Gresham, Oregon for Senior Jazz Band.

Tuesday, May 8 Mandatory Anaheim Trip meeting 7:00pm in the WMS cafeteria. All parents, students and chaperones must attend this mandatory pre-trip meeting.

Thursday, May 10 WMS Spring Concert I 7:00pm in the WMS Gym. The following groups will perform: Beginning Strings, Beginning Instruments, Beginning Orchestra, Beginning Band, Beginning Jazz, Junior Orchestra, Junior Band, Junior Jazz I & II. Please have your student at school at 6:00pm in their formal performance wear (Tux shirt, tie & cummerbund, black pants/skirt, shoes, socks). We will be holding a bake sale at the event so come hungry! Vietnamese sandwiches, pizza, baked goods and beverages will be sold.

May 17–20 Anaheim Senior Music Trip Senior Orchestra, Senior Band, Senior Jazz Band and Voices Choir will participate in this trip.

Thursday, May 24 WMS Spring Concert II 7:00pm in the WMS gym. The following groups will perform: Senior Orchestra, Senior Concert Band, Senior Jazz Band, Voices Choir and the after school Drum Line class. Please have your student at school at 6:00pm in their formal performance wear (Tux shirt, tie & cummerbund, black pants/skirt, shoes, socks) We will be holding a bake sale at the event so come hungry! Vietnamese sandwiches, pizza, baked goods and beverages will be sold.

Thursday, June 7 WMS Music Awards Night 7:00pm in the WMS gym. All music classes are encouraged to come to this celebratory event. Every music class is introduced and their accomplishments described by the music teachers. Six students from each class will also be awarded most improved, most dedicated and most inspirational by their teachers and fellow students.

Attend a Friends of Washington Music Meeting

All parents are encouraged to attend our next *FOWM* board meeting on Tuesday, April 3 at 6:30pm in the band room (rm 8). Your participation can help make this a great year!

Laurie de Koch, FOWM Chair



Class of 2007 Graduation Update

Due to our extended school year, **graduation has been changed to June 21**. The 8th grade boat cruise is still scheduled for June 13.



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Washington Middle School PTSA

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Next Pawprints Deadline
APRIL 15TH, 2006

Molo (hello in Xhosa)!!!

8th Graders the time has come. *World Apart HeARTS Together* is gearing up for another wonderful experience with the students from South Africa.

Please welcome our special guests arriving from Hector Peterson School all the way from Cape Town—the young women: **Ongezwa Dingana, Ncebakazi Pilingane, Siphokazi Makeleni**; the young men: **Mafeka Dlamini, Athenkosi Mbemba, Mthobeli Lithiko**; and the Deputy Principal: Mr. **Denzyl Witbooi**.

The students will be staying in Seattle for three weeks and are excited to meet the WMS community. Look out for these upcoming events.

April 18 Students arrive from South Africa April 23rd: Panel Discussions in the library

April 28 *Gypsy Jazz* performance

May 4 8th grade Middle School Assembly—*Book It Repertory Theatre* performance of *Kaffir Boy*; The author **Mark Mathabane** will speak, panel discussion

May 11 Farewell celebration

If you'd like to visit South Africa please join us July 30th–August 10th for a special digital story telling workshop at the Hector Peterson School in Cape Town.

Additional information is available at the *Bridges To Understanding* website (www.bridgesweb.org).

Enkosi (thank you in Xhosa)

Lori Markowitz (925-5306, lori@bridgesweb.org)



Annual Fund is \$10,000 Short

PTSA needs your donation now, and PayPal has arrived to make it easy!

The *WMS Annual Fund* is \$10,000 short of its fundraising goal, and though we have over 1000 students at WMS, only 158 households have contributed so far. We have just a couple of months left to the end of the year, but we know we can reach our goal to help PTSA pay for the basics that we don't get from Seattle Public Schools. If we don't raise this money, there will be cutbacks in books, science, music and art supplies, and much more. So please send in your donation—any amount, any payment method, today. Pooling our resources to support our school gives our kids the strongest foundation from those who care for them the most. If we do our best by them, they can do their best in school.

Send your check or credit card information to *WMS Annual Fund*, 528 34th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98122, or **contribute to the Annual Fund online with PayPal**: visit the WMS website (www.seattleschools.org/schools/washingtonms) and click on the *Make a Donation* button.

April Calendar

- Apr 3 *Friends of Washington Music*, Room 8, 7–8:30pm
- Apr 9-13 **SPRING BREAK**
- Apr 19 APP Task Force Parent Group Meeting, Lowell