



A Little HOOT

Parents Club Newsletter
Austin Creek Elementary



September 2008

www.austincreek.org

Volume 9, Issue 1

NEXT PARENTS CLUB MEETING — FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7 AT 8:45 A.M.

Author/Illustrator Day

On **Thursday, October 2 at 8:45 a.m.**, grades K - 3 will meet Robin Preiss Glasser, book illustrator extraordinaire! Robin is the illustrator for the much beloved *Fancy Nancy* books, and is currently on tour for a book written by the Duchess of York (Fergie), called *Tea for Ruby*, a delightful picture book about manners and being yourself. Books may be ordered for your child and Robin will be happy to autograph them! Please send your orders by October 1. Order forms are available at the school website.



Parents are welcome to attend the event and see Robin entertaining our children of Austin Creek!

ACPC Membership

By joining the Austin Creek Parents Club your donation helps fund our goals of assemblies, field trips, artist in the classroom, enhanced science instruction and replacement of playground equipment. In addition it helps fund standing activities and requests from teachers, and offsets the business expenses of running the parents club.

Thank you to all families that have joined. We currently have 105 families that are members, 39% of our total families at Austin Creek. We are still accepting your tax deductible donations. The cost for a family for 1 year is \$5 (additional amounts welcome). Please make checks payable to ACPC and place in the Parents Club basket in the office. Membership forms are available at the school website.

~Cathy DeRecat & Ann Hudson

Letter from the President

We are off to a very enthusiastic year with the Austin Creek Parents Club. All of our committees are filled and our Auction event is fueled by great volunteers, energy and excitement. Thank you to everyone thus far who has committed to GET INVOLVED. There are still plenty of opportunities to participate in small and large ways for the upcoming fundraising event, taking place in January. Contact any Executive Committee Member or Yvonne Stillman, our team coordinator for information.

Remember that we produce our own yearbook, so we need parents willing to take high quality digital candid photos of each child in each classroom to include in that grades' yearbook page. In addition, it would also be helpful if we had one or two parents from each grade willing to take on that grade to collect the photos. We have sixth grade covered.

Kudos to Brett Bryars who has updated our user friendly website. Brett, the ACPC appreciates all of your hard work and responsiveness. You are ON TOP OF IT! Thank you!

A gentle reminder that the goals for each year are set the prior year, based on parental surveys. I have been approached already this year by many parents wondering why something was not included in the goals. I would be very pleased to discuss the procedure for how goals are reviewed and set and also to provide some historical background on some recurring requests. Just call me!

Welcome Fall and Happy Halloween!

~Karen Grotte, ACPC President

Family Fun Nights

Join Austin Creek families for fun, food and fundraising for the school. More details will be announced.

Put the following dates on your calendar:

- ☞ September 18 Baskin Robbins, 6-9 p.m.
- ☞ October 16 Skyhawk Village Market Patio BBQ
- ☞ November Family Community Service
- ☞ December 2 Dinner & Movie: Phyllis' Giant Burger and Video Schmideo
- ☞ February Pamposh Dinner



ACPC Mission Statement

This club is established as an organization to provide service to the school community, to conduct activities to foster community spirit, involvement, and awareness, and to raise funds solely for the purposes of supporting school goals and programs.

Executive Board

President: Karen Grotte,
karengrotte@sbcglobal.net
1st VP: Lynne Trainor,
lynnetrainor@yahoo.com
2nd VP: Lorie Banks,
loriekay@sbcglobal.net
Treasurer: Larry Kidneigh, *lrkidd@yahoo.com*
Secretary: Raylene Leavitt, *raylene@sonic.net*

ACPC Meetings

Nov 7, 2008 @ 8:45 a.m.
Jan 30, 2009 @ 8:45 a.m.
Mar 5, 2009 @ 6:30 p.m.
May 8, 2009 @ 8:45 a.m.

Hoot Deadline

November 14
February 6
March 13
May 15

Please email newsletter submissions to Karen Gould at gouldk@sbcglobal.net.

Black & White Night Update January 31, 2009

The plans are coming along wonderfully. We had a **kickoff meeting on August 25** and received many signups for volunteers. You could really feel the excitement in the room.

Our **solicitation kickoff** meeting was on September 12 and we are now getting our donation letters out.

Invitations are looking beautiful as they will set the mood for our *Classy Romantic* evening. Keep your eyes out in mid to late October for the invitations in the Thursday folder.

We can always use more **volunteers for set-up and clean-up** so please contact me if you are able to help, even for an hour.

We will be putting out a **basket** call soon so if you have baskets laying around your house or garage please put them aside and we will ask for them when we are ready to package.

We met with the **Flamingo** last week and are getting the details of the venue figured out.

Thank you to all the committee members that have already started working. Get ready for a wonderful evening, it will be one you won't forget.

Any questions please contact Yvonne Stillman at 591-4637 or ystillman@gmail.com.

~Yvonne Stillman



Check Out Our Updated Website at www.austincreek.org!

We have recently given our website a slight facelift and hope you like it! The school colors have been integrated into the layout, and we

have tried to incorporate even more useful information and tools. The usage of our school website has continued to grow steadily over the last two years as more parents "discover" that we even have a website! Last year was our first full school year of hosting a website, and we averaged over 500 visitors per month. This was up from about 150 visits per month during the last half of the 2006/2007 school year.

For those of you not familiar with our website layout, the home page (www.austincreek.org) gives a quick overview of some of the current or upcoming school events. If there is additional information on an item, you will find a link from here. You can also get directly to the eScrip page for Austin Creek from a link right on our homepage.

The second most accessed page at our site is the school calendar. We try to keep this up-to-date with the latest and most complete information, so this is a great source if you lose some of those pages that come home in the Thursday folder. It should all be right here online for you. There are also convenient links from calendar entries to additional information if available. For example, the movie night pre-registration form can be accessed from the Movie Night calendar entry with just a click of your mouse!

The parents club website also allows you to retrieve information about the lunch menu, board members & meeting dates, the ACPC budget, contacts on any of our committees, reimbursement form, and of course copies of our ACPC newsletter. We invite you to explore our updated website and ask you to help us make this a useful tool by sending your comments and suggestions to bbryars@sonic.net.

~Brett Bryars, Webmaster