
The Rare Bird

Audubon Charter School PTO
October 1, 2009

CUB SCOUTS RAINGUTTER REGATTA; PTO GIFT WRAP & COOKIE DOUGH SALE EXTENDED!;
FALL FETE COMMITTEE UPDATES--& WE STILL NEED YOUR HELP!; BOX TOPS & LABELS;
POWER SCHOOL AVAILABLE NOW; CARROLLTON CAMPUS REMINDER; VOLUNTEER
OPPORTUNITY THIS TUESDAY; VOTE FOR ACS; CALL FOR FALL FETE MUSICIANS/BANDS; JCC
FALL BREAK CAMP; SEND A TEACHER TO MATH & SCIENCE CAMP!; STUDENT POETRY

RAINGUTTER REGATTA



Cub Scout Pack 48 met for the Sailboat Regatta Saturday, Sept. 26th at St. Andrews. ACS French 1st grade students Maxwell H. and Jarvain B. (Tiger Den members) raced their sailboats in the raingutter lanes. Pack leaders Bill Daly and Mark Woodward were great, too—and very prepared with tape and plenty of straws! The next event will be the Pinewood Derby.

IMPORTANT DATES

- *Tuesday, October 6:* PTO Gift Wrap & Cookie Dough Sale ends
- *Monday, October 12-Wednesday, October 14:* Fall Break—No School, No ArtsReach, No French Homework
- *Thursday, October 15:* Box Tops Collection Day—*see the story in this issue*
- *Thursday, October 29:* Report Card Conferences: Half Day of School: No ArtsReach or French Homework

- *Wednesday, November 4:* Individual student photo retakes, Broadway and Carrollton Campuses
- *Saturday, November 14:* FAME Board meeting, 10 a.m., Broadway Campus cafeteria
- *Saturday, November 14:* Fall Fete

PTO GIFT WRAP & COOKIE DOUGH SALE: EXTENDED!

Innisbrook has confirmed that there have been problems with its website, and the company has agreed to extend our sale until **Tuesday, October 6th**. Please go to www.innisbrook.com, enter your order, print the voucher, and return it to school with a check for your orders in the envelope with the monkey. Remember, no cash. You can put your envelope in the PTO boxes or return to your child's teacher.

If you have computer problems, you can call Innisbrook and they will enter your order for you. to place an order by phone, call toll free 1-800-334-8461. Remember to give your school number (Broadway - **102789**, and Carrollton – **105916**)

You can also return your forms to us. Since we will have to physically enter those orders that come in on forms, we really appreciate your trying to input your orders first. But, of course, send them in if you can't get online, don't have a computer, or have problems.

If you have questions you can email Jeannie Jones at basiebites@gmail.com or Jennifer McNamara at jmcnamara@bakerdonelson.com.

FALL FETE COMMITTEES: UPDATES

For more information, contact PTO Fundraising Co-Chair Jean Kijko (504-283-3240 /504-621-2315; simko4460@cox.net) or Jennifer McNamara (504-566-5240 /504-450-2403; jmcnamara@bakerdonelson.com). Or contact the chair of the individual committee in which you are interested.

Graphics/Publicity: STILL NEEDS CMTE. CHAIR!

Description: Design/Publicity—Help design logo for T-shirts, brochures, signs (in French and English). Publicize in local papers (such as *Gambit*), radio stations, etc.

Logistics: STILL NEEDS COMMITTEE CHAIR!

Description: A site plan has already been designed. We need someone to arrange security, communications, street closure(s), and electrical needs and to coordinate signed-up volunteers for set-up, take down and clean up as per the site plan.

Tents, Tables & Chairs: Miriam Maxwell

540-952-8766 mcgeemax@gmail.com

Description: A site plan has already been designed. Miriam will coordinate with the Logistics chair to acquire tents, tables and chairs as per the site plan and to coordinate volunteers for set-up and take down.

Volunteer Coordinator: Tracy Cameron

540-723-5147 tracy.cameron@gmail.com

Description: Tracy has volunteered to run the volunteer sign-up registration site at www.friendsof Audubon Charter.org and to make sure we have the volunteers needed.

Ticket Sales: STILL NEEDS COMMITTEE CHAIR!

Description: Set up of Points of Sale for cash and credit card, run pre-sales of tickets and wristbands, make ticket collection boxes, and help set prices.

Food & Drink: Linda Baynam

Linda@BaynamEnvironmental.com

Description: Linda has volunteered to solicit volunteers to run Food Booths (Food Booth Chairs), help plan menus, solicit donations from restaurants, acquire paper products and help set prices. On the day of the event, she will help monitor the food booths and help the Booth Chairs.

Music & Entertainment: Stephanie Adler

540-415-340 Stephia@bellsouth.net

Description: Stephanie has volunteered to recruit bands and musicians to play at Fall Fete and organize the line-up. Also needed are 2 additional co-chairs:

○ Band & Musicians Line-Up:

COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR NEEDED!

Description: Set-up the stage and equipment, set up a "Green Room," and supply volunteers to make sure the stage line-up runs smoothly, including giving assistance to bands/musicians.

○ Stage Management: NEEDS

COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR!

Description: Set up/decorate the stage and signage; make sure necessary equipment is in place on the day of the event; schedule volunteers to assist bands/musicians, run the line-up, and get food/drink for "Green Room" and staff.

Inflatables: Alida Brimmer

540-415-4012 alidadaley@yahoo.com

Description: Alida has volunteered to solicit donations of inflatables, help select bouncies and slides for multi-age children, coordinate volunteers to help run the inflatables, help with pricing, and coordinate with the Ticket Chair for pre-sales of tickets and wristbands.

Activity Booths: Jessamyn Cameron

JessamynCameron@yahoo.com

Description: Jessamyn will solicit volunteers to run Activity Booths (Confetti Eggs and Crazy Hat already have Activity Booth Chairs), help set prices, and, on the day of the event, help monitor activity booths.

Product Booths: STILL NEEDS CMTE. CHAIR!

Description: Solicit volunteers to run Product Booths (Audubon Gear already has a Chair), help set prices and, on the day of the event, help monitor product booths. Possible product booths may be Raffle Table, Cake Table or Art Table.

~ Jean Kijko and Jennifer McNamara, PTO Fundraising Co-chairs

BOX TOPS AND LABELS

We are doing really well this year. To date, we have \$195 in Box Tops, which equals two-thirds of our entire 2008-2009 submission. We plan to make our first submission in mid-October [next submission dates: October 15, November 18, and December 16]. Please remember to send the PDFs listing eligible products [available at the school website <http://www.auduboncharter.com>] to family and friends so they can collect for us. It all helps.

We know we ask a lot of you for our smaller fundraising efforts, and we appreciate your willingness to help. Campbell's Labels For Education is holding a sweepstakes for \$25,000 in athletic equipment. All we have to do is flood their system daily with submissions. It LITERALLY takes 2 minutes. Here is how I do it: my 6 a.m. slot on my Outlook calendar has this recurring item and link, <http://campbellsoup.promotionexpert.com/busloadofgear/index.html>. Every morning, I click it, it unfolds, I put in my email address and the password of the day, and submit. The program runs through 10/31/09. If you have time (all you need is the URL; you don't need an Outlook calendar), can you sign up and submit to this program, please? We will hopefully win, and we can all rejoice in our "LUCK." Thanks for the consideration.

Please keep saving, in Ziploc-style bags, your Box Tops (including Scott/Cottonelle products, Avery office products, General Mills cereals, Ziploc and Hefty products, and ZooPal plates), Campbell's labels (including Prego, Pepperidge Farms breads/cookies/goldfish, Campbell's soups, and Swanson broths), CCs Coffee products, and A+ labels.

If you have any questions, please contact Todd Taylor at audubonvolunteer@yahoo.com or 504-232-0362. Please put "Boxtops/Labels" in the subject line of your email.

~ Todd Taylor

POWER SCHOOL

Power School is a valuable tool for parents. You can check your child's grades and attendance, have e-mail alerts sent to you and send e-mail to your child's teacher. This is a great way to keep up with how your child is doing in school. There is a link to

Power School in the upper right corner of the school's website. You can also type it in manually at ps.powerschoolnops.com/public. If you did not attend Open House, please stop by the office to pick up your user name; we cannot send this information home with students. If Carrollton campus parents are having difficulty accessing Power School, please contact Alisa Dupre at Alisa_Dupre@auduboncharter.com.

Parents at the Broadway campus have a user name; however, since students do not receive letter grades, the only information that shows up in Power School is attendance. If you would like to receive a user name and password for attendance, please send a note to your child's teacher and we will assign a Power school user name and password.

~ Alisa Dupre, Operations Manager

CARROLLTON CAMPUS REMINDER

Carrollton Campus Parents, an important reminder—Students participating in ANY and ALL after school activities, [including Charter Care, Athletics, ArtsReach, Homework Center, Scouts, etc.] must be picked up at the Hampson Street gate ONLY. Thanks for your cooperation!

~ Ms. Dawn Collins, Assistant Principal

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY THIS TUESDAY

Volunteers are needed to stuff and seal annual fund letters and envelopes at the Broadway campus on Tuesday, October 6 anytime between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Please contact Sophia Griffies, Development Specialist, at 504/862-5135 or Sophia_Griffies@auduboncharter.com.

VOTE FOR ACS

Vote to help our favorite school, Audubon Charter School, win \$20,000 in the "America's Favorite School" online contest, sponsored by Care2.com and Great Schools.net. \$20,000 would make a **huge** difference for our school in this economy. Please help our school win by voting today. Thanks! Vote today to help Audubon Charter School win \$20,000: <http://www.care2.com/schoolcontest/2201418/?refer=24307.08.1253152730.551957>.

~ Nancy Elliot

CALL FOR SERIOUS MUSICIANS

We are still looking for serious musicians to perform at this year's Fall Fete, November 14th. Our goal is to feature headliners who will spark community interest and bring in fundraising dollars. If you or someone you know would like to volunteer or suggest a band, please contact Stephanie Adler at stephia@bellsouth.net.

WHEN SCHOOL IS OUT...THE JCC IS IN!

When school is closed, spend the day with the J!

The Jewish Community Center (5342 St. Charles Av.) will hold a fall break mini-camp (MINIMUM ENROLLMENT REQUIRED). All children must bring a bagged lunch—no peanut butter, please.

Monday, October 12 - Wednesday, October 14
9:00 am - 3:00 pm, Grades K – 5
\$40 member/\$50 member guest per day
After Care: 3:00 - 5:30 pm (5:00 pm on Fridays):
\$12 per day

All children staying past 3:00 pm must be enrolled in aftercare. There is a \$1.00 per minute late fee.

Questions? Contact Rachel Zoller at 897-0143, ext. 139 or rachelz@nojcc.org.

SAVE THOSE EGGSHELLS!

Fall Fete is approaching and we still need **lots** of clean, dry eggshells for confetti eggs. Please keep saving them and stay tuned for collection and volunteer hour details.

SEND A 3rd - 5th GRADE TEACHER TO SCIENCE & MATH CAMP!

You learn a lot of cool stuff from your teachers every day. But where do teachers go to learn about math and science? Some get to go to the Mickelson ExxonMobil Teachers Academy.

The Mickelson ExxonMobil Teachers Academy is a cool summer camp just for teachers! At the Academy, teachers do lots of fun math and science

experiments to share with students in the classroom. The experiments seem like games, but really they help everyone learn about math and science!

To nominate your favorite 3rd, 4th, or 5th grade teacher, go to <http://www.sendmyteacher.com> to send your teacher an e-card or print out a certificate to let them know how special they are. Parents can nominate teachers, too.

~ Elizabeth Nicol, PTO Grantwriter

STUDENT POETRY

Hollow

I listen to the whispering leaves,
And feel young and gay in their ancient presence,
But this is merely illusion,
For I am as old as the prophecies of this Earth.
And before.

I see the whirling sands and their timeless dunes,
And feel naked and newborn,
But this is merely hallucination,
For I am as inexplicable and dark as they.
And more.

I sense the cobwebs and gossiping ghosts,
And feel weak and vulnerable against their might,
But this is merely apparition,
For I am more powerful than human mind can
conjure.
And more.

I observe the mighty elders,
And feel hollow in their presence,
But this is no trick of mind,
For I am hollow with death and malice.
And are them.

~Elise G.

GOT NEWS?

If you have an announcement for the Rare Bird, please send it to the editors at rarebirdnewsletter@yahoo.com. The deadline for the next issue is **Monday, October 7, 12 noon**. Deadlines are always 12 noon the Monday before the Thursday issue.