



Rae Schauer

Bell Top News

November 2009

<http://www.myteacherpages.com/webpages/BellTopPTO/>

2009-10 PTO Officers

Mary Frances Sabo (283-7581)
President

Michelle Fiacco (283-3573)
President-Elect

Jim Lemire (283-5719)
Co-Vice President

Kimberly Printup (283-0909)
Co-Vice President

Dawn Lemire (283-5719)
Secretary

Deanna Muth (286-2061)
Treasurer

PTO 2009-10 Meeting Schedule

November 4th • December 1st
January 6th • February 3rd • March 3rd
April 14th • May 10th • June 2nd

Please join us in the cafeteria!

Congratulations to Jamisom Burke who won the boxtop raffle.



Congratulations to Mrs. Richardson's and Mrs. Nahal's classes. They donated the most items to the Fall Festival basket raffle and earned the pizza parties!

Bell Top's Community Wide

Fall Festival '09 wrap-up

by Mary Frances Sabo

The fall festival was a great success! The bouncy bounce and games brought smiles to children's faces. The baked goods were delicious, the barbecue mouthwatering, and the baskets beautiful! The face painting was so original! Even the rain held off.

I would like to thank the Fall Festival Committee members for their initiative and hard work:

Susan Blackburn and Gabby Koblenky – games
Barbara Harris – bake sale and volunteer coordinator
Liz Berger – publicity
Chris LaPlante and Nancy Witherell – kitchen

continued on page 2



Upcoming Events

- Holiday Fundraiser // November 2nd – 16th
- PTO Meeting // November 4th
- Emergency Go Home Drill // November 10th
- No School // November 11th
- Pizzeria Unos (Crossgates) Dine to Donate // November 11th
- Board of Education Meeting at Bell Top at 7:30 // Nov. 18th
- Half-day for Parent/Teacher Conferences // November 19th
- PTO Meeting (Tuesday) // December 1st
- Half-day for Parent/Teacher Conferences // December 8th
- 4th Grade Concert // December 17th
- 5th Grade Concert // December 21st

continued from page 1

Fall Festival '09 wrap-up

Sarah Hurley – Halloween costume sale
and the magnificent cake replica of Bell Top
Lynn Nadereski – raffle baskets
Monica Brady – basket assembly
Amy Gilbert – donations
Mindy Huerter – face painting
Deanna Muth – treasurer and dips/bbq sauce
Brian LaPlante and Aaron Gagnon – bonfire

I would like to also thank the following individuals, organizations and businesses who donated either their time or products to make the day a success:

The Defreestville Fire Department
The Columbia High School Junior Varsity
and Varsity Cheerleaders
The Columbia High School Student Leadership Group
Starbucks
Panera Bread

Dunkin Donuts
New Country Value Foods
Goold Orchards
Price Chopper
Zachary's Pastry Shop
Target
Yonder Farms
Freihofers
Country True Value Hardware
Miles by Design (Melissa Bieneman, current Bell Top parent)
Gourmet Confections (Lisa Ferreira, former Bell Top parent)
Cub Scout Pack 529 for cleanup
and All Bell Top parents and children who gave of their time



and last but not least, I would like to thank Ricky Cotrona and Jerry Bruce, who used quick thinking to put out the numerous little fires that sprung up during the day and to Principal McHugh whose wise guidance (and generator) enabled the day to happen.

Help Our School Get Free Equipment!

Log on to www.pricechopper.com to register your Price Chopper *AdvantEdge* card for our school – code 15864.



This will automatically earn credit for the school every time you use or *AdvantEdge* card from August 2, 2009 through February 13, 2010.

If you signed up for our school last year, you do not need to re-register, but it is a good idea to verify your enrollment by visiting www.pricechopper.com.

Labels for Education

Participating in the program is easy — simply save proofs of purchase from participating Campbell products and send them to school.



A collection box is located at the front entrance of Bell Top. Help multiply our efforts by asking your friends and family to collect proofs of purchase on behalf of Bell Top. Thank you!

Don't forget to clip Box Tops 4 Education

A collection box is located at the front entrance of Bell Top. Please include your students name on the back of each box top to be entered into our monthly drawing.



Any questions please contact Kim Deal, Coordinator.
www.boxtops4education.com

Take Charge of Education Program

We've discovered a terrific way to raise funds for our school. It's super-easy, and all you have to do is use your Target® Visa® or Target® Card. We will receive a percentage of the amount of each purchase in the form of a cash donation from Target through the Take Charge of Education® program.



It's easy. Just visit

www.target.com/tcoe

or call 1-800-316-6142, to designate our school (Bell Top ID# 75911). So if you're going to Target anyway, please consider using your Target® Visa® or Target® Card. Big thanks to those who are already doing their part to make a great school even better.

TAKE CHARGE OF EDUCATION®

© 2009 Target Brands, Inc. The Bullseye Design and Target are registered trademarks of Target Brands, Inc. All rights reserved. REDcard®, Target® Visa® and Target® Card are credit cards issued by Target National Bank, affiliate of Target Brands. Subject to credit approval.

Bell Top PTO Meeting Mintues

October 7, 2009

7 p.m.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Deanna Muth reported the checking account balance is currently \$5,461.37.

OLD BUSINESS

Ice Cream Social

Event went really well. Radio Disney can be requested now, for next year. Michelle Fiacco reported that Stewarts will only donate once per calendar year and if we are to hold event again we should use our one year request with Stewarts for this event.

Fall Fundraiser

Genevieve sale has ended. Amount sold \$5400. Total profit not yet calculated but roughly 40% of the sale.

George Steele

Mr. Steele spent four days in the classrooms and the learning barn. A school wide assembly was also held.

NEW BUSINESS

Bell Top Teacher Faculty Representative

Mrs. Jill Wilkes will be the faculty Rep for the 2009-10 school year. Mrs. Morgan attended in Mrs. Wilkes absence at this month's meeting. Thank you Mrs. Wilkes.

Fall Festival

The festival will be held Saturday, October 17th from 2-7 p.m. rain or shine. During the

day there will be games, a costume sale, pumpkin decorating contest, raffle, bake sale, chicken BBQ, bond fire.

Book Fair

Request for volunteers has gone home with kids. Kathy is compiling a schedule.

School Pictures

School pictures are scheduled for Thursday, October 29th. No makeup day has yet been scheduled.

Pumpkin Race

The schedule of each grades race time has been sent home with the kids.

Theater

Genet auditorium is undergoing renovations so the theater trips may be delayed this year. The administration is looking into using facilities at Columbia.

Halloween Parade

Parade date is October 30th.

Holiday Fundraiser

Holiday fundraiser of cookie dough and pie sale will be starting November 2nd.

Fabulous Fifth Grade

Barbara Harris reported that last year's students had extra money left over and donated \$230 to this year's class and \$1200 was used to buy 2 document readers and equipment for the school.

After School Programs

CMOST - The Children's Museum is holding an afterschool program on Tuesday's for grades 3-5 and Friday's for K-2.

Rensselaer County Historical Society holding a history detectives program for grades 4 and 5.

Yearbook

Sarah Hurley reminding everyone to please take pictures at school events and email them to her at sarah_a_hurley@yahoo.com

Box Tops

Mary Francis Sabo reported that last year we received over \$800 for collecting Box Tops. Please remember to collect them again this year.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Bowl-A-Thon

Third Grader Derek Murphy is holding a Bowl-A-Thon on November 1st at Uncle Sam Lanes in Troy. Two sessions are available. The first is from noon-2 pm and second from 2-4 pm. All proceeds will benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association for Duchenne research. Pre-registration and payment is required. Any questions please call Sue Ellen Murphy at 283-9273.

YMCA

A representative from the East Greenbush YMCA was present and offered a program for Bell Top families at the Y on Friday December 4th from 6:30-8:00 p.m. People can enjoy the facilities and there are incentives to join. Bell Top can hold a fundraiser (ex. bake sale) in the lobby of the Y on that night. More information will follow.

Meeting Adjourned

Minutes submitted by Dawn Lemire,
PTO Secretary