



**Upcoming Events**

**NOVEMBER**

- 3 - 4th Grade Concert (DL)
- 8 - DL Picture Retakes
- 8 & 9 - Dine-Out Las Palmas
- 9 & 10 - FH Conferences
- 11 - No School
- 16 - PTO Meeting
- 17 & 21 - DL Conferences
- 18 - FH & WO Relative's Days
- 23-25 - No School

**DECEMBER**

- 2 - Kids Night Out--WO
- 3 - Market Day
- 6 - WO Band Concert
- 7 - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Concert DL
- 8 - Winter Choral Concert
- 9 - Barnes & Noble Fundraiser
- 17 - Winter parties
- 19 - Winter Break Begins
- 21 -PTO Meeting

**JANUARY**

- 3 - Return to school
- 7 - Market Day
- 16 - No School
- 18 - PTO Meeting
- 25 - No School

**60 Blue Dine Out**

Thank you to all who joined us for two fun nights out at Blue 60. Over the course of two nights, we earned a record-breaking (for dine-outs) of \$650! Thanks to the Music Boosters for joining with us in this great fund-raiser!

Save-the-Date

Fri., Dec. 2nd  
Kids Night Out!!!  
Look for flyer soon!

**Market Days**

Pick up some convenient and delicious food and support your schools as well. The last day for orders is Wed., Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>. Drop your order form at school in the morning or you may order until 11 pm on-line. Pick up is on Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, between 8:30 and 9.

**Note from the President**



Hi great Diamond Lake (District) parents-

Thanks so much to all of you who have helped the PTO start off the new school year so successfully! The beginning of the year is always so busy with lots of fund-raisers and lots of volunteer hours. I truly appreciate your patience during this PTO Board's maiden voyage!

And speaking of volunteers, we have had a wealth of wonderful parents who have taken up the PTO's challenge of stepping up this year to make a difference! I have so many examples, but I want to highlight a few each month:

Maureen Collier, Andrea Fisher and Liz Plummer: These ladies are first-time moms to the district. Before they even put their babies on the school bus for the first time, they threw their names in the PTO volunteer hat. Maureen and Andrea are Fairhaven Representatives and have done a fabulous job negotiating the ins-and-outs of Fairhaven and the PTO. Liz Plummer has stepped up as volunteer-extraordinaire for the district-wide Oktoberfest. These three ladies are on their way to securing their "Rookie of the Year" nominations! Anyone else in the running? Julie Jacoby, Jen Brunkow, and Sandy Lee. These ladies were powerful PTO board members the previous two years. Not only have they remained dedicated to the PTO, they have all taken on important roles as Entertainment Book Chair, Gift Wrap Chair and Diamond Lake Representative, respectively. Thank you so much for your continued support ladies. You are an inspiration to all of us!

Alice Dutler and Einot Berkman, both of whom have kids graduating from West Oak this year, took up my challenge of stepping up this year to make a difference. Alice has agreed to chair our Manna program this year and has truly committed to making this program the best it can be. She has spent countless hours registering participants, sorting and delivering cards, developing marketing material, etc. Einot Berkman chaired our apparel program this year and has more than quadrupled the profits from last year! It proves that it is never too late to start helping out the PTO. Thanks so much, Alice and Einot!

If you would like to join our volunteer corps, please do not hesitate to contact me at your convenience. We are still in need of volunteer help for various fund-raisers and events. And, as always, thank you so much for your support!

Jamie Epstein, PTO President, 847-968-2815, jamieeps@aol.com

**Great American Sales**

Thank you for all that participated in the Great American Catalog Sales. We expect sales to be higher than previous years, but we don't have the final numbers yet. We attribute this mainly because of the special assemblies we were allowed to kickoff the program. Thank you schools for your GREAT cooperation with the PTO!!! I'm sure your kids were all fired up, mine sure were. We hoped you bought something! This is our PTO's largest money maker.

**Barnes & Noble Fundraiser**

TGIFH! Thank goodness it's finally here - our annual Barnes & Noble fundraiser! Friday, December 9 is the date to load up on books, games, stationary, CDs, DVDs - everything you can use from Barnes & Noble. We've got great activities scheduled at the Hawthorn store - choir performances, a D76 art display, noon book chat with BN Book Expert Dan Radovich, student poetry readings, and more. Shop the Hawthorn store & just mention D76 for a donation to go back to the PTO. Shop online and enter book fair code 10557841 for the PTO to receive credit. Take advantage of this great opportunity to shop for the holidays, for gifts and treats for you!

**Entertainment Books**

Thank you to all who supported the Entertainment Book fundraiser this fall. The PTO profited \$1,260. This money goes a long way in giving back to our schools and teachers. We were also able to gift a free book to every one of our amazing District 76 employees. If you would still like to purchase a book, please let Julie Jacoby know at jjacoby71@me.com. They are \$25.

**District 76 PTO  
Directory 2011/2012**

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## From the Treasurer's Corner



For the month of September to date, our fundraisers have included: Blizzard Days at Fairhaven, Diamond Lake and West Oak, Dine out with District 76 (BoBo's) and 60 Blue, Market Day, Manna, and Vernon Hills Oktoberfest.

Not all the numbers are in but so far we have profited over \$2200!

We have been able to give back to the schools in the following ways:

- \* Contributed funds towards Red Ribbon Week for Fairhaven
- \* Helped fund 2nd and 3rd grade field trips
- \* Contributed funds for awesome art project at Fairhaven

It's been a GREAT month! Let's keep up the good work, and remember, we couldn't do it without ALL of you!!!!

## School Apparel

Now that the temperatures have dropped yet AGAIN, it's time to show off your new spirit wear !!! Thank you to all the staff and student who have purchased the new exciting apparel. All orders have been delivered the week of October 10<sup>th</sup> and you all should have received them by now. The PTO is already looking forward to next year's sale, so if you have any suggestions for exciting new logos or other apparel please email Einat Berkman@ [berkmana@sbcglobal.net](mailto:berkmana@sbcglobal.net). Few extra items have been printed and are available for sale, so please check the PTO website for the complete list. Don't forget to show your spirit! Enjoy your new apparel!!!

## Community Corner

The PTO is working in conjunction with the schools on their annual food and supply drive. Mr. Willeford has challenged District 76 to provide food baskets to 125 struggling district families this holiday season! We need your help. Look for flyers coming home soon to see what food items your child's class has been asked to donate. If we all work together we can meet and maybe even exceed Mr. Willeford's goal! In addition, if you have any contacts with grocery stores or companies who might be able to donate to this project, please contact Lori Briere at [loderick2000@comcast.net](mailto:loderick2000@comcast.net).

The schools are still collecting the following: sports equipment for use at recess at West Oak and underpants and pants (no shorts) to keep in the office for boys and girls at Diamond Lake. If you are able to help, please feel free to either drop them off at the school or my home (Lori Briere ~ 164 Southfield Drive, Vernon Hills). Thank you for your support!

## Concert Sales

New this year, the PTO would like to offer you the opportunity to reward your child after his or her concert at Diamond Lake. We will sell homemade cake pops to celebrate the great concert, as well as to entertain any siblings along for the show! Our first sale will be Thursday, November 3rd for the 4th grade concert!

## Dine-Out at Last Palmas

Join us for another two nights out of NOT cooking at Las Palmas Tuesday AND Wednesday night, Nov., 8th and 9th! Bonus--while you are enjoying a great meal you can also start your holiday shopping early--right at Las Palmas. We will set up a special boutique show just for District 76 by G-dottygo!, jewelry by Claudia Winter Collection and more!

## Misc. Items

- Halloween parties are coming up Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup> (D.L. parade @ 1:30 & party @ 1:45; FH parties are at 1:15-2:05. The parade will follow at 2:10-2:40.) Party moms have been chosen. Make sure your party money (\$6) has been turned in and if you are interested in helping out, please contact your class party mom.
- Don't throw away your Capri Sun packages! All schools will collect Capri Sun juice packs for the Terracycle recycling program. An easy way to earn additional funds for our schools!
- All schools accepting donations of old cell phones
- If your kids have grown out of last year's winter coats or boots, please consider donating them to Del Parra in the Family Resource Center at West Oak.

## Volunteers

Thank you to our parent, teacher, and student volunteers - Marla Adams and Grisell Avita, Dan Rath, Debbie Einhorn, Christine Croteau, Elise Hauptman, Steve and Samantha Nickl, Maureen Collier, Pam Wagner, Xiao Stroming, Sandy Lee, Julie Jacoby, Elise Hauptman, Mindi Gold, Annde Levi, Steve and Samantha Nickl, Cari Markeli, Anna Rasmussen, Gigi Dong, Theresa Pataky, Jen Brunkow, Einat Berkman, Lisa Javorkuti, Jennifer Phelan, Sol Cabichuela and Alice Dutler.