

Weekly Update



Prairie Hill Waldorf School ■ Pewaukee, Wisconsin

February 5, 2010

WHAT'S GOING ON...

February 2010

- 6 - Open House 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- 9 - Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- 10 - Board Committees Meet 6 p.m.
- 10 - Marketing Task Force Group 6:30 p.m. All Welcome
- 11 - Grade 6 Play 7 p.m.
- 12 - Special Friends Day - Early Release 12:15 p.m. Middle School Afternoon Activity. No Care Programs
- 13-21 **No School** - Mid-Winter Break
- 22 - School Resumes. Care Programs Resume
- 23 - Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- 25 - Middle School Exploratorium and Parent Appreciation Pancake Dinner 5:30 p.m.

March 2010

- 5-6 - Great Lakes Conference with Nancy Mellon; Mt. Mary College
- 9 - All School Meeting 7 p.m. Important, please attend
- 10 - Half Day of School 12:15 p.m. dismissal
- 10 - Board Committees Meet 6 p.m.
- 11-12 - **No School** - Parent Teacher Conferences
- 15 - Re-enrollment Support Day 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
- 17 - Pledge Contracts & Tuition Support Forms Due
- 20 - Open House 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- 23 - Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.
- 26 - Grade 8 Play 7 p.m. All welcome
- 27 - Grade 8 Play 7 p.m. All welcome

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Special Friends Day, Friday, Feb. 12, 8:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

Prairie Hill will be opening its doors and welcoming all Grandparents and Special Friends of our students next Friday. We welcome our visitors to participate for the whole morning but want to emphasize that the visitors may also come for portions of the morning only. Signing up beforehand is encouraged to help us accurately predict how many guests per classroom there will be. Signed up visitors are not automatically put on our mailing list unless they personally request this. A snack will be provided in the classroom for the visitors to share with their students.

We wanted to clarify that the Wonder Garden is not participating in Grandparent and Special Friends Day. It is overwhelming for three and four-year-olds to have so many visitors, and could be disruptive as they would be very self-conscious. However, Wonder Garden Grandparents and Friends are invited to join the Wonder Garden outside at 11:15 or attend a special viewing of the Grade 8 Choreography class in preparation for their March debut of "The Music Man." Thank you for your understanding.

Please watch your parent mailboxes on Monday for a detailed agenda.

Board of Trustees Announcement

An additional Board meeting is being scheduled each month to adequately attend to current issues. In addition to our regular meeting on February 23, we are meeting on Tuesday, February 9. Future additional meeting times will be announced in the Weekly Update. Most meetings are open, and 15 minutes are reserved for open comments from community - you are welcome to attend.

Please note the new starting time - 6:30 p.m.

Come One, Come All to the Parent Appreciation Pancake Supper and Middle School Exploratorium! Thurs., Feb. 25 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 25 will be a special evening. The faculty are hosting a family style pancake dinner in the community hall to honor the many hands on deck that keep The Prairie Hill boat rowing merrily down the stream. Service begins at 5 p.m. and ends by 6:30. Then after wiping off the maple syrup, wander through the science exploration displays. Middle Schoolers will be present to explain their findings and engage you in hands on activities to illustrate principles of the natural world. Other classrooms will be set up with displays of student book and artistic work as it relates to science as well. This is a great event for ALL families, especially if you have ever wondered about what happens once you turn the 4th grade corner of the hallway!

ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Parent Council meeting on Wednesday, February 10, 2010 – 9:00 a.m. at Stone Creek Coffee Shop

Come and help define the "new" parent council; we would love to hear your thoughts! All are welcome. Please contact **Stanlee Maliszewski** for more information.

Grade 6 Performs Robin Hood, Thursday, February 11 at 7:00 pm

Robin Hood and his band of merry men have been branded as outlaws by Prince John, who is in charge of protecting England while King Richard is off fighting in the Crusades. Robin Hood lives with his men in Sherwood Forest, taking from the rich and giving to the poor. The sheriff of Nottingham will do anything to capture Robin. Lady Merle, however, is the real brains behind the sheriff. When Robin finds out that his childhood friend, Maid Marian, is to marry Prince John, he tries everything to rescue her. Please join us in this exciting adventure.

Box Tops – Keep Them Coming by February 12

We have one more opportunity to receive a Box Tops check this school year. The next opportunity to receive a check won't come until December...do continue to collect your Box Tops and bring them to school. Please bring in your Box Tops before the February break so we can send them in by the deadline.

Musical Wish List for the Grade 8 Play

Band instruments are needed for the upcoming production of "The Music Man." We are looking for people to loan us any and all band instruments that may be sitting unused and gathering dust. Possible instruments include: trumpet, trombone, tuba, baritone, flute, clarinet, marching snare, marching bass drum, saxophone, or crash cymbals. We will return the instruments with grateful hearts at the end of March. Please contact **Peg Kasun** or **Betty Link** (Grade 8 Teacher) to share your instrument.

PHWS is also in need of a good quality, working, sound system to be used for presentations and special events as they occur in the life of the school. If you are able to donate equipment, or wish to donate funds toward the purchase of this equipment, please contact **Peg Kasun**.

Come See Our Student's Artwork at the Helen Farnsworth Mears Exhibit & Art Contest!

The General Federation of Women's clubs (GFWC) sponsors an art contest every year, featuring artwork from 7th and 8th grade students around Wisconsin. The art contest was created in 1927 by the GFWC in Wisconsin, to honor Oshkosh sculptor **Helen Farnsworth Mears**, with the purpose of promoting the work of young, developing artists and to encourage Wisconsin youth to pursue art. Artwork

passes through a series of three evaluations, at the local, district and state levels, before the final winning pieces are selected. The contest focuses on two art categories, painting/drawing and sculpture. Local interest and participation in the contest has been steadily growing every year.

This year, at the local level, it features pieces from Prairie Hill Waldorf School, Asa Clark and Kettle Moraine Middle Schools, Queen of Apostles, St. Anthony on the Lake, and St. John's Northwestern Military Academy. You are all invited to the Opening Reception of this Exhibit, tomorrow (Saturday), Feb. 6, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Pewaukee Public Library. The exhibit will be on display at the library through February 13th. It is always a treat to see our children's work in this context, and truly witness how our school awakens the capacity for creativity, inspiring children to contribute their unique gifts to the world. Congratulations to all the contributors this year...we are proud of you!

Results of the contest are: **Erin Herdeman** received 2nd place for her sculpture., **Raquel Hafner** received Honorable Mention. Both pieces will go on to the district contest. **Jacob Beres** received the Women's Club of Pewaukee award, **Jaclyn Schwanke** received the Young Designer Award and **Jacob Sulzer** received the Pewaukee Arts Council Award.

Horner Family Update

Dear Friends,

I am quite relieved to say that Scarlett is doing much better. For the first time since we arrived on Sunday, I feel like I know she will definitely pull through! That tells you how sick she actually was!

The doctor. just informed me that she should be able to leave the ICU today and move to a regular room in the hospital. The blood infection seems to be gone, and we are now focused on healing the pneumonia in her left lung. They plan to remove the chest tube today since not much fluid is draining out anymore. She continues to be on antibiotics, and they are encouraging us to have her get up and move as much as possible in order to speed the healing process of the lung. She was able to get out of bed twice yesterday and take 2 steps to a nearby chair. Today we hope to get her out of this room for a short stroll down the hall. She is in pretty good spirits and is having fun playing. She has an unstoppable spirit. That's something I always knew, but wow do I ever know it now. I can't thank you enough for your calls, e-mails, prayers and good energy. Love, Liz & Chris

Friday Morning Craft Group Meets after Drop-off in the Handwork Room

You are welcome to join, just bring a project you are currently working on.

Needle Felting Group, Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. in the Handwork Room

Melinda Bond will resume needle felting mornings beginning in February. She will go into more detail on some of the basics presented before the holidays. All are welcome – bring your supplies or purchase them through School Store.

Thank You, Thank You!

The Good Harvest Market Day resulted in a huge benefit for PHWS (we received a check for almost \$2,500) and for Good Harvest. Turns out it was their biggest day ever in sales. It shows what can be done when each of us mobilizes the forces around us. Thanks again to all the volunteers who went, and to all the PHWS families who rallied their friends and relatives to come and shop too.

IN REVIEW (WHAT YOU MAY HAVE MISSED IN LAST WEEK'S NEWSLETTER) ...

Thank You, Thank You!

- * Joyful, balanced teachers
- * Happy, healthy children
- * Freedom in creative expression - in our play, our work, our surroundings, our words
- * Honest, authentic, compassionate communication
- * Committed, engaged parents
- * Challenges viewed as opportunities for growth
- * Deep, settled play
- * Joyful celebrations

These are the intentions that Laura Cassidy has for the Juniper Tree Kindergarten which were spoken last weekend during a cleansing/blessing of our school. Our gratitude to Julie Szyba for organizing this good work and for all those who were there Saturday cleaning, painting, repairing, redecorating, and enlivening the school with such beautiful spirit! Many of us walked in on Monday morning and could feel the TLC that had been gifted the community. And in turn, it re-energized us for our good work ahead.

Lights! Camera! Auction! Annual Spring Auction, Saturday, April 24

Clear your calendars and prepare to attend the 23rd annual auction on April 24! (please note the date has been changed from what was originally printed in the community calendar)

If you would like to get involved or have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact us. We look forward to seeing you at the auction!

Kathleen Hafner - 646-5658, clash66@centurytel.net

Sue Krantz - 408-9809, srkrantz@wi.rr.com

Kathleen Traudt - 367-3325, kstraudt@wi.rr.com

Janice Zimmerman - 414-543-8867,

latravia2968@att.net

Thank You Good Harvest Market and Congratulations Prairie Hill!

For Good Harvest Market's 5th Anniversary, Prairie Hill was selected to receive 5% of all the sales on Tuesday, Jan 26. Thank you to everyone who came and shopped, and to those of you who emailed and called friends and family asking them to shop on this special day. Prairie Hill received a check for \$2,473.29! WOW! Additional thanks go to a whole crew of people who greeted shoppers at the Prairie Hill literature table in the store: **Cathy Brummer, Lisa Dedinsky, Cindy Farmer, Crystal Hess, Mary Steiner-Ng and Nancy Solomon**. We also thank our teachers, **Laura Cassidy, Vicki Flanagan and Peggy Lippe** for sharing activities with the children. Thank you to **Samara Noll** for stuffing 50 information packets to take to this event, and to **Jessica Faga** for updating the Kindergarten brochure, and creating the Open House flier that was stuffed into all the shopping bags. Together we all created this amazing event.

Grade 8 Play Costume Request

Grade 8 is singing and dancing the songs from The Music Man which will be performed for the community on March 26 and 27. This production requires a few very special prop pieces and costumes that we are hoping to find somewhere nearby without having to pay a rental fee. Please check basements and closets for any of the following items that you may be able to lend us. The story takes place in Iowa at the turn of the last century, roughly 1912 or before WWI. Please contact **Betty Link** to contribute or if you have a contact (a band uniform source) or ideas for resources.

- A white men's suit - roughly size 34-36 reg, 31-32 inseam (or we could alter it?)
- Bright plaid jackets (sport coats), bow ties, straw hats
- Felt hat, bowler hat, top hat
- 6-7 matching band uniforms – middle school size if possible
- Band hats
- One adult band uniform with hat
- Child- size band instruments – cornets, trumpets, trombones, tuba, clarinet, flute, sax
- Old leather or "cardboard" suitcase
- Pool table packing case frame
- A vintage phone, "parlor" type vintage couch or chair from that era
- Train conductor hat
- Police hat
- Full indian headdress
- Foot bridge

Alumni Newsletter Call for Information

Meghan Cassidy, PHWS class of 1998, is currently compiling alumni updates for the first issue of "Beyond the Hill," a newsletter for the Prairie Hill community featuring its alumni's work and achievements. Please email news of what you—or your alumni children—are up to these days, including graduations, awards, scholarships, adventures, jobs, marriages, children, etc., with a name and class year, directly to Meghan at: mcassidy9@gmail.com by Sunday, February 7. Thank you.

Study Group Now Meets Mondays at 9:00 am

The Steiner Study group has changed our meeting day to Mondays. We meet in the handwork room and study Anthroposophy together. We are currently reading *Theosophy* by Rudolf Steiner. All are welcome to join us.

Congratulations Mahn Family

Help us welcome the newest member of the Mahn family, baby **Sofia Grace**. Born January 22, 2010 at 3:45 a.m. Brother Jack is in Wonder Garden.

IN THE COMMUNITY BEYOND PRAIRIE HILL

Nurturing Resilience Conference, March 5-7

Life's not so easy...these days especially, it seems to me. Nature and humanity are threatened by our own lack of care. Can they--can we--bounce back? YES! Through storytelling! And story-listening! Come find out how, **March 5-7, 2010**, at Mount Mary College in Milwaukee, WI. "**Nurturing Resilience: The Power of Storytelling to Build Healthier Bodies and Communities**," a conference featuring Nancy Mellon, psychotherapist, visionary author, and storyteller. For more information about **Nancy Mellon** and her work, go to www.healingstory.com. For more information about the conference being presented by Great Lakes Teacher Training, go to www.waldorfrtraining.com

Kettle Moraine Community Education Courses

Sign up for KM Community Courses today! For a registration form and more information go to www.kmsd.edu/communityed.

LifeWays Early Childhood Part-Time Training Seminar

Seminars/training for Child Care Providers, Nannies, Parent-Child Teachers, Preschool Teachers, Extended-Day Care Providers, Parents and Grandparents. For more information contact Mary O'Connell, Midwest Training Director at 414-218-8558 or visit www.lifewaysnorthamerica.org

Fundraiser for the Children of Haiti

YOGIS FOR HOPE, hand in hand with the Save the Children Foundation, Benefit on Sunday, Feb. 28th from 10-4p.m. \$25 for a day of Yoga and wellness, silent auction and more! 100% of the proceeds go to helping the children of Haiti. To register for this Country Springs Hotel Event and for more info. see www.yogabringshhealth.com or e-mail Karen at karyoga@hotmail.com

Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, February 9, 2010 6:30 P.M.
Please note the new starting time - 6:30 P.M.

- I. Opening verse
- II. Open comments from community
- III. Agenda confirmation
- IV. Board Study: Trustee Handbook 2-3
- V. Administrator update
- VI. Faculty Chair update
- VII. Parent Council status
- VIII. Board Organization
 - a. Board membership update
 - b. Nominating committee
 - c. Selection policy - revision
 - d. Committee meetings - effectiveness
- IX. Action items update
- X. Closing Verse

2009-2010 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MEMBERS

President	Jewell Riano
Vice President	Open
Treasurer	Open
Secretary	Laurie Rhody

Pam Harsch	Community Representative
Karen Hartz	Faculty Representative
Phil Kasun	Parent Representative
Ted Tuescher	Community Representative

Email: phwstrustees@gmail.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS/CO-CHAIRS

Finance:
Open

Fund Development:
Phil Kasun/Janice Zimmermann

Enrollment/Marketing:
Pam Harsh/Jeanne Ring

Buildings and Grounds:
Ted Tuescher/Steve Traudt

Capital Improvement and Visioning:
Open

Parent Council:
Laurie Rhody/Stanlee Maliszewski

Yuletide Co-Chairs:
Barb Johnson, Laurie Rhody & Janice Zimmermann

Auction Co-Chairs:
Kathleen Hafner, Sue Krantz & Kathleen Traudt