



## From the Desk of Mr. Epplen

The excitement of a new school year includes staff changes and new assignments.

St. Gabriel Consolidated School has had a track record of low turnover among staff and, while the changes we have this year are minimal in number, they are significant in our continued ability to nurture all of our children and to provide for the needs of our families.

Mrs. Kerry Shelton, a teacher of fourth and fifth grades since the fall of 1998, will be a part-time assistant principal this year. Fresh from her experiences as part of our leadership training through the Catholic Schools Initiative at Xavier University, Mrs. Shelton will teach fifth grade classes in the mornings and perform her Assistant Principal duties in the afternoon. Her duties, while varied, will include all of our testing programs, teacher in-services, and curriculum nights.

Mrs. Terri Richter will teach part-time fifth grade in the afternoons. She has most recently worked at St. John's on Dry Ridge Road and brings about fifteen years of teaching experience.

Mrs. Megan Dixon is our new music teacher. She has taught at St. Vincent Ferrer and has two years of experience.

Mrs. Donna Reisinger will be working in our after school latch key program full time.

We believe these staff changes and assignments will provide fruitful experiences for our students individually and our school as a whole.

In addition to the above information I want to share a report from the Office of Safety, Health and Nutrition which is part of the Ohio Department of Education. Our school's food service operation was reviewed this past winter and the final observations were submitted to us on July 20, 2007. I quote from the report:

"In addition to the review of all critical and general areas of regulatory compliance, the following observations were noted in regard to your program's operation:

\* very high meal participation

\* well prepared and eye appealing meals

\* the staff is very dedicated to the care and welfare of the students."

Our average participation for hot lunches is 68% of our student body. We are thankful for the commitment of our cafeteria staff to our students and their ability to encourage healthy eating for our students. All of this is accomplished without any increase in our \$1.75 lunch prices which have remained the same for the past four years.

### Dates to Remember

- Oct 12—Online Ordering Deadline for Market Day
- Oct 17—Market Day Pick-Up
- Nov 1 & 2—8th Grade Play—Who Killed Elvis?
- Nov 8 & 9—Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Nov 10—Cougars' Night Out
- Nov 14—Market Day Pick-Up
- Dec 7—SCRIP Holiday Order Deadline

## Letter from the PTO President

Happy Fall to All!

We are back to school and back to the sounds of children learning and laughing in the classrooms and halls of SGCS. What a welcome sound it is! And just as the children are jumping in full throttle, so are we parents and teachers in our efforts to make their time spent at school a valuable experience. Not just valuable in terms of the education they receive, but also for the opportunities to grow in their Christian faith and personal development. All the little and not-so-little acts that parents and teachers do around and for our school help to foster the learning experience of each child. Even efforts that may seem insignificant at first glance can have a powerful effect on a child, because when we serve, we become role models, mentors and life coaches to these children. Here at SGCS I have personally witnessed countless

efforts in this vein by dedicated and enthusiastic volunteers. Thank you to all of you who choose to make a difference in the life of our children!

Many exciting things have been happening here at school during this first quarter. We just finished another amazing M&M sale—thanks to the efforts of our Coordinators and students (and all the parents too)! The proceeds will go to funding field trips and enrichment assemblies and other such activities that benefit our children and school. We held our first PTO meeting on September 12<sup>th</sup>, and attendance was phenomenal! (We counted at least 100 people present that night; what a testament to the commitment of our parents and staff to being part of the children's education!) Check out the minutes from that meeting and the PTO announcements on the web site to get

(cont'd on back page)

## Cougars' Night Out—Donations and Guests Wanted!

What is exciting about the Big Apple?

Why dancing, Monte Carlo games, food from the boroughs of New York, a cruise raffle, silent and live auctions and basket raffles, of course! You'll find all of this at our annual Cougars' Night Out fundraiser. Your invitation to this night of fun and fellowship will be coming home soon. Tickets are \$25/person and \$45/couple. Bring your family, friends and neighbors! Raffle tickets for the cruise vacation will be coming home too, so even those who are unable to attend can get in on the fun!

**DONATIONS, DONATIONS, DONATIONS!**

We are still in need of committee helpers and **DONATIONS!**

The SGCS website has many donation ideas (gift cards, vacations, jewelry, sports tickets, games, money,...).

Contact our CNO chairpeople, Katrina Hoelscher (759-0859) and Tiffani Wills (200-9797), for more information or to make a donation!



Date: Saturday, November 10th, 2007

Time: 7:00pm—11:00pm

Location: St. Maximilian Kolbe, Fr. John Porter Family Life Center

Open to All!

Please support our event sponsors:

- Dr. Ahmad of the Asthma & Allergy Clinic
- Bob Sumerel Tire & Service
- Brower Insurance
- Dentistry at University Pointe
- Dr. Joel Koch, D.D.S.
- Alan and Nancy Young  
Comey & Shepherd Realtors

### TOP SELLERS

#### 1st Place

*Liam Davis(4C)*—17 boxes-  
\$100 cash prize

#### 2nd Place—tie

*Michaela Fetter(3H)*- 15  
boxes- \$75 cash prize

*Jessica Kern(2K)*- 15 boxes-  
\$75 cash prize

#### 3rd Place

*Alexis Dicks(KH)*- 10 boxes-  
\$50 cash prize

## M&M Sale—The results are in!

We have just completed another successful M&M sale. We sold 701 boxes of M&Ms, compared with 668 last year. That is over 25,200 bags of candy! This year's sale is expected to make \$12,500 for PTO.

Students in grades K-5 who sold 4 or more boxes received a pizza lunch at school. 39 students qualified for this treat. Students in grades 6-8 who sold 4 or more boxes received a limo lunch, where they were taken to LaRosa's in a

limo for lunch. 37 students enjoyed this special prize.

Students who sold 4 or more boxes were entered into a drawing for an autographed poster of Bengal Chad Johnson. The winner of this poster was Tyler Williford(8H).

Thank you to all who participated to make this sale a success!

PTO thanks the awesome Co-chairs: Laura Ernstes, Debbie Stoeckel and Amy Zimmerman...for their tremendous efforts!!



\* \* \* \* NEWS FLASH \* \* \* \*

\$400 in Scholastic Books – FREE!

Yes, you read correctly. Our school could receive \$400 worth of scholastic books FREE from Market Day simply by meeting two goals for the October sale. The two goals are: 1) 123 orders and 2) \$7,231 in sales. That is A LOT of Market Day food!!!! We need more people to place orders than just our “regular” customers. With that in mind, here are a few suggestions for our SGCS community to help us reach our goal.

1. If you don't normally place a Market Day order, please consider placing an order in October.
2. If you normally place an order, consider adding a few extra items to your order in October.
3. If you normally place an order and are willing to pick up an order for a family member, friend or neighbor, please consider asking them to place an order. If they order and pay on-line, then all you have to do is pick it up!
4. If you don't normally place an order because you can not get to the school by the pick up time, please call Mary or Cindy. If you are willing to place and pre-pay an order on-line, and can not re-arrange your schedule to make it by 5, then please call us to see if special delivery and/or pick up arrangements can be made. If we know in advance, we might be able to work out an arrangement that works for everyone. We are willing to go that extra mile for this great opportunity!

To order on-line, go to [WWW.MARKETDAY.COM](http://WWW.MARKETDAY.COM) and register. Our school account number is: 5923 St. Gabriel School. The benefit of on-line ordering is the ability to pay on-line, change your order and order CLEARANCE items! If you manually turn in your order forms, they need to be turned into school by Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. If you order via the web site, you have until NOON, Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup>.

Thank you for supporting our PTO, our children and our teachers by your support of the October Market Day sale!

Your Market Day Co-Chairs: Mary Biehle 868-9163      Cindy Lasonczyk 851-2290      Janet Barker

## SCRIP—Try it, you'll like it!

Shop with SCRIP this holiday season and avoid the holiday traffic, long lines, and parking at mall!

SCRIP is the perfect answer for your busy holiday season. Gift Certificates are the perfect gift for teachers, babysitters, friends, coaches and the person who has everything! We have restaurants, fast food, movie theaters and many on-line and retail stores. Order forms are available just inside the flag door with the other PTO forms and on the SGCS website at

<http://www.stgabeschool.org/forms/ScripOrderForm.pdf>

Be sure to get your order in on time...please check the adjoining box for the dates and deadlines.



### **November**

Order on 11/2...Delivery on 11/8

Order on 11/12...Delivery on 11/15

Order on 11/16...Delivery on 11/29 (DELAY due to THANKSGIVING BREAK)

### **December**

Order on 11/30...Delivery on 12/6

Order on 12/7...Delivery on 12/13 (FINAL HOLIDAY ORDER)

(Contact Melinda Yonchak for more information)

## 8th Grade Play

# Who Killed Elvis?



Order up one "Heartbreak Hoogie," some "Love Me Chicken Tenders" and an "All Shook Up Shake" as our very own St. Gabriel 8th graders bring this comedy to life.

The Verelli family holds an Elvis impersonation contest at the "Elvis Ate Here" Inn. They get more than they bargained for when thieves, thugs, high schools students, Elvis fans, and a fortune teller show up adding to the general chaos. It's Elvis hysteria! Please bring your family and support the

8th graders as they bring you the joys of this comedy.

Play Dates:  
Thursday, November 1<sup>st</sup>  
Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Time:  
7:00 PM (About 1 hour 30 minutes long)  
Location:  
Glendale Elementary

Parent Volunteers from all grades welcome. Even if your students aren't involved. (Contact the Breens at [dmbreen@fuse.net](mailto:dmbreen@fuse.net))

The Breens have agreed to continue directing the plays through the 2008/2009 school year but are looking for people interested in taking over from there. They would love to have you join them during the next couple of plays to see why this has become such a rewarding experience for the St. Gabriel students.

## From Trash to Treasure—Save those labels!

Box Tops—

Did you know...  
the Zone Book  
fundraiser  
brought in  
\$296 to date?!

Last year we earned about \$1050 from sending in the box tops and over \$150 for those who do their online shopping through the [boxtops4education.com](http://boxtops4education.com) website (over 200 stores). Something to keep in mind for the upcoming Christmas shopping season!

Thanks to the 6th grade girl scouts for counting the box tops!

Tyson Labels—

Save the Project A+ label from various Tyson products. It's worth 24¢ !

Campbell Soup Labels—

Campbell's labels are collected all year. The more we send in, the more credit we earn to receive school equipment and supplies.

Thank you for  
your support!

## Scouting at St. Gabe's



The Cub Scout Popcorn Sale is underway. Please support our scouts and buy a box!

The 7th grade Girl Scout Troop 479 bridged to Cadette scouts in August. They are looking forward to attending Cadette activities through the Girl Scout Council such as, Camp Spookybrook, rockclimbing and a winter conference. The girls made fleece blankets which were donated to Project Linus. They are also preparing for the November

Teacher's Conference dinner.

1st grade Brownies earned the Outdoor Adventurer try-it at Sharon Woods and will be visiting Camp Spookybrook for Halloween. Any new Brownies interested in joining us should contact Teri Dean or Jennifer Childers.

3rd grade Brownies Troop 1831 will be camping out

under the stars in October at Camp Millikin (the Dean's backyard). If they survive the camping trip, they'll take on Camp Spookybrook!

6th grade Juniors will be planning a trip to Savannah GA, birthplace of Girl Scouting, next February. Until then, they will be learning Archery and Bouldering at Camp Butterworth in November.

## Adopt-A-Book for your Birthday

This PTO sponsored program allows St. Gabriel Consolidated School to continually enhance the selection of books in our library by giving our very own students a chance to select which books are available.

It's simple:

- During your child's birthday month (or half-birthday month for summer babies), you will be sent a special birthday card from SGCS

PTO inviting you to purchase a book (or books) in honor of your child's birthday.

- You return the birthday card to your child's teacher, along with a check (made payable to SGCS PTO) or cash in the amount of your choice.

- Your child will be called to the library by Mrs. Motz, our librarian, to select a book (or books) from our birthday cart, which will be donated

in his or her name to our school library.

- Books start at \$5, with most books in the \$10-\$15 range. Please take this into consideration when making your donation.

- Your child's name will be stamped in the book, and he or she will be the first one to take the new book home to read before they are placed in the school library.



## Catholic Schools Week

Looking for a rewarding way to give? Consider joining the Catholic Schools Week Committee! Catholic Schools Week is coming this January, when all 8,000 Catholic Schools around the country celebrate the amazing gift of Catholic Schools Education. It's a faith-filled fun week with opportunities for volunteers! Only have a

little time in the evenings? We have low commitment level opportunities! Like to lead? We have big commitment opportunities! Like the Catholic Education St. Gabe's gives your children? Join us! Please contact Aimee Davis at 779-3328 or via Gracie Davis in 1-H.



## Need to Renew a Magazine Subscription?

St. Gabriel's has an ongoing fundraiser through QSP Magazines. Order and 40% comes back to SGCS! To place an order, go to our website at [www.stgabeschool.org](http://www.stgabeschool.org). Click on the "PTO" menu, then click on "Fundraising". On this page you will find the

link to the QSP magazine website. Our school id is 425005668. For more information, please contact Gail Motz.

Visit the Fundraising page on our website for more information regarding ALL of our ongoing fundraisers. They're EASY money for our school.

Go to "PTO" then "Fundraising" and help us earn \$\$\$ today!





# Saint Gabriel Consolidated School

## 2007-08 PTO Board

Maria Laib, President  
Kris Koch, Vice President  
Coreen Brown, Treasurer  
Laura Hendy, Secretary

Email: [PTO@StGabeSchool.org](mailto:PTO@StGabeSchool.org)  
Website: <http://www.stgabeschool.org>

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in on all the latest information about PTO happenings. And coming quickly around the corner are the 8<sup>th</sup> grade play (which is sure to entertain us!) and our biggest CNO event yet: Cougar's Night Out in the Big Apple—November 10<sup>th</sup>. Plan to come and plan to help; we need every person to participate to make this event a smashing success for our school. And we promise a great time in return!

On behalf of this year's PTO Board, I welcome all of you to another exciting year at SGCS filled with many wonderful activities! And I look forward to working with you over the coming months to further our efforts to create a fantastic learning environment for our children. Please feel free to contact the Board officers at [pto@stgabeschool.org](mailto:pto@stgabeschool.org) with any questions, ideas or volunteer interests.

See you around school!  
Maria Laib  
PTO President

## Meet the PTO Board

Hello! My name is Maria Laib and I am President of the PTO Board this year. I have 3 children at St. Gabe's: Josie (8<sup>th</sup>), Jenna (6<sup>th</sup>), and Ryan (3<sup>rd</sup>). We have been a part of the school for 9 years now. Josie started kindergarten here, and now we are preparing for a graduation! They say time flies when you're having fun!! I have really enjoyed volunteering in many different ways, but my favorite way to help at school has been in the cafeteria....so far my kids still seem to enjoy seeing me there, so I have to enjoy every minute before they stop! I also really enjoy helping to set up the Scholastic Book Fair and helping in the Library, because I absolutely love books. My job in the real world, besides being a mom and wife, is managing the Special Services Division of Hamilton County Juvenile Court's probation department. I've done this for almost 17 years, and working with such troubled youth and families makes me really appreciate the nurturing environment I find here at SGCS. In the little spare time I can seem to find these days, I enjoy reading and hiking and stamping. My favorite thing about SGCS is the small, close-knit community of people that make it up, including parents and staff. I have enjoyed serving this community as part of the PTO Board, and I look forward to working with many of you during the current year!

Hello! My name is Laura Hendy and I am serving as Secretary of the PTO Board this year. Like Maria, I have 3 children at SGCS: Caroline (5<sup>th</sup>), John (3<sup>rd</sup>) and Zach (K). My volunteer time for our school is spent maintaining the website and co-chairing the Community Relations Committee—I love to hear about the great things that happen at SGCS and to share them with others! When I am not spreading the word about SGCS, I enjoy reading, traveling and scrapbooking. Currently I am a stay-at-home Mom, but in my former life, I was a software/website developer. Now that all of our children are in school, I may be called back to that life! I appreciate the opportunity to serve as Secretary this year and I look forward to a great year!

## Booster Update—Go Cougars!

Every year, the Booster Organization is asked, "Where do all our sports fees go?" Last year Boosters paid about \$14,700 in GYM RENTAL FEES. Gym time is very difficult to obtain and rates continue to rise. Boosters is always looking for gym rental facilities and currently is in need of additional gym time for boys basketball and girls volleyball. If you have any information regarding possible gym rentals or facilities that we might be able to use, please contact a Booster Board Member. We

have been in contact with over 20 different facilities in an attempt to secure reasonably priced gym time for girls volleyball and boys basketball.

The current Cougar teams are doing great this fall! The Reserve Football Team (5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade) has won their last three games and the Varsity Football Team (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade) is undefeated (5-0) and well on there way to another CYO City Championship...GO Cougars!

Girls basketball is underway

and providing some exciting games for the players and parents alike! Check out game times for both football and girls basketball at the CYO link on the Booster web page.

Support your Cougars by purchasing a LaRosa's Buddy Card and Cougar spiritwear! Contact Teri Dean for a Buddy Card. The order form for spiritwear can be found on the "Forms" page of our school website or contact Angie Elsass for information.

