

COUNCIL MESSAGES

HAMILTON COUNTY COUNCIL of PTAs
every child. one voice

January-February, 2010

Issue 2

January 20, HCC Program *Cincinnati Museum Center Programs*

Speaker - Ms. Karen Venetian,
10:00 a.m. at the HCESC
She will discuss field trips to the
museum and programs the museum
can bring to our schools.

Reflections Open House February 16, at the HCESC 6:30 –8:30 p.m.

This will be your first
opportunity to see the entries
that won at the Council level
and to find out which ones
went on to State.

February 17, HCC Program *Founders Day Celebration & Reflections Display*

Reflections will be displayed
before the meeting/program which
begins at
10:00 a.m. at the HCESC
(look for an additional article on
Founders Day in this newsletter)

MEMBERSHIP - The Importance of Retaining Your Members

You now have asked everyone possible to join your PTA – or have you? Moms, Dads, Grandparents, neighbors, school board members, past presidents of your PTA, senior citizens and community members are all people who could be a wonderful asset to your unit. Are you keeping them informed and involved?

Remember - it takes more effort to recruit new members than to retain the existing ones. And those members that are asked back year after year may be more likely to take leadership roles in your unit's PTA. You should encourage them to step forward and use their talents to help your unit grow. So here are some tips to retain those members you have and to be able to keep them year after year.

1. Participate in PTA's electronic bulletin board on membership at www.pta.org
2. Use your newsletter to inform members of important upcoming dates. Make sure you let them know how to reach you: e-mail, on-line or voice mail.
3. Be attentive to their needs, know what is important to them and their reasons for joining.
4. Let them know the importance of State and National PTA and how they represent you and your unit on Capital Hill in Ohio and in Washington, D.C.
5. How you treat your members will make sure your PTA thrives. If you ask for volunteers for different events, make sure you use *everyone* who offers their help.

If you formulate a plan to keep your unit strong, you will find that the members are the most important facets of your unit. Without them and all their talents and leadership abilities you may not flourish. Retain them and your 'flock' will grow every year.

Carol Kiradjieff
HCC Membership Chair
carolchili@fuse.net

Don't forget to select your district's Educator of the Year due at the Council Board Meeting, March 10. Any questions specific to how your district selects their nominee please check with your Area Advisor.



WHAT IS FOUNDERS DAY?

FOUNDERS DAY, FEBRUARY 17, commemorates the day when the PTA idea took on the force and vitality of a nationwide movement. On that day in 1897 about 2,000 people came to Washington, D.C. to discuss "Questions most vital to the welfare of children and the manifold interests of the home." They came in response to the call of Alice McLellan Birney and Phoebe Apperson Hearst. As a result, the national organization came into being, one dedicated to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in home, school, church and community.

This year we will be celebrating National PTA's 113 years, Ohio PTA's 109 years and Hamilton County Council of PTAs' 79 years of working with and for the children and youth in our communities. I bet most of you had no idea your Council had been around so long. Many of the topics and areas of concern have changed over the years but not the tireless efforts of you the volunteers who help to make each of our local units such a success thereby making your Council a success.

Please join your Council on February 17, 2010 at the Hamilton County Educational Service Center for a fun filled program to celebrate all these wonderful years of PTA. The Reflections display may be viewed from 9:30am-10:00am. The general business meeting will begin at 10:00am followed by the Founders Day Program.

Linda Day, Past President of Council

Complete the Council Scramble on the last page of this newsletter, sign your name and then bring it with you to the Founders Day Program to be entered in a drawing for a special PTA 'birthday' present.



HAMILTON COUNTY COUNCIL OF PTAs
7th ANNUAL FOUNDERS DAY SERVICE PROJECT
THIS YEAR'S RECIPIENT IS THE RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE

Cincinnati's RMH assists families of children who are patients at Cincinnati Children's Hospital and who must remain for any length of time. Most families come from out of town and even out of the country.

HCC of PTAs is asking members of each unit to participate by bringing gas cards and gift cards for Meijer, Walmart, Target and Kroger Stores. These will help families with travel, meals, personal items and prescriptions. Please bring the gas & gift cards to the Founders Day Program/Meeting on Wednesday, February 17, 10:00 a.m. at HCESC.

HELP END WASTEFUL SPENDING!!!

Our newsletter can now be delivered electronically to your email address. Help us save money, trees and 'go green' by eliminating the need to print and deliver the newsletter. Just type www.hccptas.org (ptas—plural) into your web browser and click on the link to Subscribe to the HCC Newsletter. Give us your email address and your name and your next newsletter will arrive electronically. Signing up just takes a minute, so please do so as soon as possible.

While you're on our website, subscribe to the Advocacy Newsletter as well. It is being sent electronically now but the format is being changed to allow our website to do the delivery automatically. This should help eliminate some problems we've had with it being rejected as spam due to the size of the distribution list. Thank you.

Bill Fessler, HCC Webmaster

931-4234



Council is proud to award scholarships for students and educators from the PTA units which are members of Council. All Council PTA units are encouraged to make an annual contribution to any or all of the scholarship funds. Please send contributions early so that scholarship amounts may be determined. Any donations received before February 15, 2010 will be applied to this year's awards.

Please make checks payable to:
Hamilton County Council of PTAs Scholarship Fund.

Send donations to:
Ms. Rosiland King, Council Treasurer
11616 Willowcrest Court
Cincinnati, OH 45251

Scholarship forms will be available in January. Students please see your school counselor. Teachers please check with your principal. The deadline for scholarship submissions will be early March.



Hamilton County Council of PTA's has a variety of pins available which are great for saying "thanks". There are PTA board position pins, earrings, key chains, cookbooks and PTA note cards also. Prices vary from \$2 to \$5. Contact Lori Mueller, Ways & Means Chairman for information at:

lmuellet@fuse.net or 367-1069

Calling All Cooks

Help Council update the Cookbook (and you can reserve a place in Council history) by bringing your favorite recipe to the January or February General Meeting. It can be for any type of food. Council would like to make an addendum to their current Cookbook but we need lots of recipes so please help us out.

Don't forget to add your name to the recipe you bring.

COUNCIL SCRAMBLE

Unscramble the words which all relate to your Council

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|--------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. lgedetea | 8. ribeehmmmps wsaadr |
| 2. ohlcsa fo mtoifrnnoai | 9. uesodrfn ady |
| 3. cphoarsisshl | 10. ipn easls |
| 4. cnliocu smaessg | 11. taigdtusnno iocculn dctroaue |
| 5. esdu | 12. listfreoecn |
| 6. nveiegn stsrede | 13. tnerulevso |
| 7. ernifd fo icdnrhle | 14. reaenlg semgneit |
| | 15. ceveisr orcjspte |