

COUNCIL MESSAGES

HAMILTON COUNTY COUNCIL of PTAs

every child. one voice

January-February, 2014

Issue 3

January 15, HCC Program
10:00 a.m. at the HCESC
Auditorium

Reflections Open House
February 18 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 19, 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

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Congratulations to all the units who have sent in their membership lists by Nov. 30. Because they have sent in their membership dues on time they are in good standing with Ohio PTA and are eligible to participate in Reflections, Scholarships, etc.

However, this should not mean you stop with your Membership Drive. It is now time to send out your second membership notice to those who have not joined. It is never too late to become members of a unit. Don't forget to set up a Membership table at each of your functions and remember to contact school board members, grandparents, school neighbors and local businesses.

REMEMBER!!! All board members should be promoting membership, not just the chairman. One or two people cannot do this job alone. Become a team and you will be successful.

Don't forget to try for the 100% Teacher Membership Award and to notify me when you reach it so I can announce it at our general meeting.

Carol Kiradjieff, HCC Membership Chair carolchili@fuse.net



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, 2014 will be applied to this year's scholarships. Remember, any unit that does not contribute to the HCC Scholarship Fund will be ineligible for any scholarships.

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

Send to: Linus Ryland, Council Treasurer
1065 Sundance Dr.
Cincinnati, OH 45233

Scholarship forms will be available in January. Students please see your school counselor. Teachers please check with your principal. Applications can also be found on our website at www.HCCPTAs.org

Don't forget to select your district's Educator of the Year due to Council at the March 12th Board Meeting. Any questions specific to how your district selects their nominee and/or the due date within your district, please check with your Area Advisor.

COUNCIL'S TIME IN HISTORY

At the same time that American Soccer Leagues were being formed, Babe Ruth became the all-time homerun champ and two doctors in Toronto announced the discovery of insulin your Hamilton County Council began its long run working for children and youth. The year was 1921.

And just as J Edgar Hoover was named Assistant Director of the FBI and the first Miss America, Margaret Gorman, was crowned; Council named its first President, Mrs. J.L. McArthur. By the way it wasn't until 1971 that the presidents stopped being referred to as Mrs. and their husband's first name and are now listed with their own first name. Interesting sign of the times. Another interesting sign of that long ago time, 1921, the police in Sunbury, Penn. issued an order requiring all women to wear skirts at least 4 inches below the knee. Can you imagine what they must have thought when the mini skirt hit in the 60's.

Did you know that at one time Council was made up of 9 schools districts: Finneytown, Forest Hills, Lincoln Heights, Loveland, Mt. Healthy, Northwest, Oak Hills, Southwest and Three Rivers. Lincoln Heights, Loveland, and Mt. Healthy went to Valley Area Council many years ago and Forest Hills formed their own council a few years ago. We gained the Hamilton County Developmental Disabilities Services and with 5 local school districts we now number 6.

Initially Council met at the Red Cross/Hamilton County Education Building downtown before moving to the its current location at the Hamilton County Educational Service Center.

Before NPTA initiated their theme of Everychild.Onevoice each newly elected Council President was responsible for coming up with a theme for their term and picture depicting it to go on the cover of the Council Handbook. Some of the themes over the years have been: Progress Through Action -The Time is Now; Where Children Come First; Linked Together for Children; and Children Are the Keys to Our Future.

Council has had two former Presidents become Presidents of OPTA and many more Past Presidents, as well as other Council board members, have served on the state board.

A FEW FUN FACTS ABOUT SOME OF OUR COUNCIL PRESIDENTS:

Just as the Coneheads were making their debut on "Saturday Night Live" and Jay Leno made his first appearance on the Tonight Show, **Gay Guethlein** made her debut as President from 1977-1979. Gay's biggest challenge was being able to have a meeting. This was the years of the subzero temps and freezing river. Gay did make history as she worked against the violent trend television was taking and trying to measure the effects of such programming on our children.

As Ronald Reagan was being inaugurated as President of the United States and Walter Cronkite was signing off as anchorman of "CBS Evening News", **Marilee Broscheid** was busy signing on as Council's President from 1981-1983. Marilee had a passion for membership and she carried this enthusiasm for membership into her term as president finding it to be an excellent way to meet new people from districts you probably otherwise would have never met. Communication was also a key point for Marilee. At each month's general meeting Council would spotlight some special area or service provided by one of the districts. Marilee served on the Ohio PTA Board of Managers as the Membership Chairman of course, and she also did a turn as the Legislation Chairman.

As VHI was making its broadcasting debut and Coke debut New Coke with its new formula, Council debuts its newest president, **JoAnn Rice**. The New Coke only as lasted a few months before going back to its old formula that it had had for 99 years. Fortunately for Council JoAnn wasn't as short lived. Council didn't ask JoAnn to serve for 99 years but she did serve from 1985-1987. In 1985 the first United States mandatory seat belt law went into effect. JoAnn made history at HCC by receiving a grant from the NPTA and working with Channel 9 TV to make a Seat Belt Safety tape for our units. Council's "Service to Children" Award was developed during her term. Joann served on the Ohio PTA Board of Managers as Secretary.

Americans are captivated by the rescue of "Baby Jessica" from a well after being trapped for 59 hours. Lt. Col. Oliver North is convicted of Obstruction of Justice and Destruction of Documents in the Iran-Contra Affair. The convictions are later overturned, but **Karen Nichols'** convictions are strong, as she is elected President for 1987-89. Karen made PTA history when a community- wide PTA Day was held on Fountain Square.

An earthquake measuring 7.1 on the Richter scale strikes San Francisco and disrupts the 3rd game of the World Series. The Berlin Wall falls and East and West Germany are formally reunited. And Council continues to be united as **Linda Martin** is elected President, 1989-1991. Linda made National PTA history when she and members of Council researched, wrote and submitted a resolution on nutrition that was adopted by both the Ohio and National PTA delegates. The *Friend of Children* Award was also developed during her term.

Pete Rose was officially banned from being elected into the Hall of Fame and minimum wage was only \$4.25 an hour; but Donald Trump gave Marla Maples a 7 ½ caret engagement ring and we gave Council, **Carol Kiradjieff** as our next president, 1991-1993. That was of course without the 7 ½ caret ring or the minimum wage as an incentive. Carol made history at HCC by tackling tough issues like - AIDS education and awareness and Inhalant Abuse. Carol joined the OPTA Board as the Gifted Education Commissioner. She also served as the Bylaws Commissioner which meant she had

to review all unit Bylaws word by word. And you thought it was hard getting a committee together to review just one set of Bylaws.

The Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City is destroyed by a truck bomb, shocking the American people with the then worst terrorist attack on US soil. The Channel Tunnel linking England to France officially opens and is hailed as one on the century's greatest feats. Council has its own great feat when it elects **Karen Rolke** as President, 1993-95. Karen made Council history by taking us on the road, so to speak. The Council board went to the districts to present the Basic Keys Workshop. Council also won the Ohio PTA President's Gold Membership Award.

The summer Olympics, being held in Atlanta, are marred by a bombing. Scottish scientists clone an adult sheep's DNA and produce a healthy sheep they named Dolly. March '97 Cincinnati had their worse flood in 33 yrs. The river crested at 64.2' The National PTA celebrates 100 years of working on behalf of children and **Lana VanMetre** realizes that she will have 100 things to do now that she has been elected President, 1995-97. Lana made history at HCC by focusing on parent involvement, starting with a new chairman position and featuring parent involvement tips at each general meeting. Lana enjoyed being president so much returned for a repeat engagement in 2001-02.

As Bryant Gumbel was co-hosting his final "Today" show and "Entertainment Tonight" was airing their 4000 episode, Council was installing their 44th President, **Linda Day**, 1997-1999. "Bright Ideas" was started with delegates sharing what has worked/not worked in their units. The Vocational Readiness Scholarship was developed and Founders Day was very special because we celebrated NPTA's 100th Birthday with a big birthday party. And not to be out done by "All My Children's", Susan Lucci who finally won a Daytime Emmy after 19 nominations; Council, on their very first time being nominated, won the 1998-1999 OPTA Outstanding Council Award. Linda served on the Ohio PTA Board of Managers as the Health, Welfare, & Safety Coordinator. In 1998 the HWS Commission produced the "Keeping Kids Safe" kit which was mailed to all unit presidents as a reference for programs, assemblies and articles. And even though this was the year Western Union discontinued use of its telegram service, Council never discontinues use of someone as shown in the fact that they brought **Linda Day** back to serve another term as President, 2004-2006. Linda was one of only three Council Presidents to serve more than one term. And just like people are brought back to serve, sometimes great ideas from the past are brought back. And so Marilee's great idea from 1981, of spotlighting our individual districts and the great things that go on in them, was brought back. It was just as successful in 2004 and it was in 1981.

Unfortunately the time had come when the United States felt it necessary to have a Department of Homeland Security but not all was depressing in the world because it was also a time when the Spirit Rover was launched which officially began NASA's Mars Exploration Rover Mission. Maybe someday Mars will become our newest PTA Congress. And it definitely wasn't a depressing time for Council because we elected **Sue Hummer** as our next president, 2003-2004. Sue initiated the Founders' Day Service Project with the first one being Gifts for Fernside, followed by Books for Children's Hospital and Adopt a Katrina PTA. Sue also came up with the idea of the HCC Chicken, given to a board member at each meeting acknowledging something special or above/beyond their job that they did the previous month. The idea is that "We all have something to **CROW** about." Sue served on the OPTA Board of Directors as the By-Laws Director.

Hope Sweeney was President, 2006-2008 and continued the Service Project program with gifts to St. Aloysius and St. Joseph Orphanages and One Way Farm. Council held their first "bingo" as part of the Founders' Day celebration. Delegates played bingo using fun facts about PTA as their cards and markers.

Even though Malta and Cyprus were in the process of officially adopting the Euro currency and Fidel Castro was retiring as President of Cuba, after nearly 50 years, our own **Jan Hunter** was just beginning her term as Council's President, 2008-2010. And just as Danica Patrick, the first woman to win an Indy race (she won the Indy Japan 300), changed the 'old ways' in the business of racing; Jan and her board made a change in the old way of doing Council Meetings. Council, adapting to our members busy schedules, moved the School of Information's General Meeting and Workshops to an evening meeting. OPTA re-instated recognizing district educators so we started submitting our Council Outstanding Educator as our OPTA District 6 nominee and several have been honored so far.

Unfortunately North and South Korea tensions were on the rise but the world saw what the human race was really about when, after 69 days of being trapped below ground, 33 Chilean Miners were rescued. And Council had good news to when **Elise Fessler** was plucked from the board to serve as President, 2010-2012. Elise continued to promote Advocacy within our units and we started the Council Messages Game both for fun and as a way of passing along information/knowledge to our units.

In 2012 Facebook goes public, Encyclopedia Britannica stops its print editions and Queen Elizabeth celebrates her Diamond Jubilee. Not to be outdone by the English, Council has its own diamond in **Elaine Efke** as its newest president. In her first year as President, Council debuts its new multipurpose book, "Life Made Simple" and, again going with our delegates wishes, moved us to back to daytime General Meetings for our informational programs.

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2014 Founder's Day Service Project

Supporting: May We Help

Their Mission: "Our volunteers design and create unique, custom solutions to free individuals with special needs to engage in, and pursue their passions."

Visit their website for more information: www.MayWeHelp.org

Requested Donations:
Gift Cards for Home Depot or Lowes
Pre-paid Visa
Monetary Donations

Make checks payable to: **May We Help**

Examples of "May We Help" projects:

Music stand for person with visual impairments



Locker shelving unit



Tracheotomy water therapy guard



Please bring gifts to the February 19th HCC General Meeting or contact Elise Fessler (931-4234, bfsing@cinci.rr.com) for other arrangements.



Hamilton County Council of PTA's has a variety of pins, note cards, key chains, earrings, and PTA board position pins available which make great thank you gifts to your volunteers and school staff. We also have the new "Life Made Simple" book which is great for anyone and any type gift. Prices vary from \$2 to \$5. They are available at our General Meetings or you can contact our Chairperson, Lori Mueller, 513-367-1069 or lmuel@fuse.net



CONGRATULATIONS to our November General Meeting winner: **Debbie Huber**, Delegate from Harrison Elementary in the Southwest School District. Be the next winner of a nice prize package, it's simple to do. All the answers can be found in the article: Council's Time in History. I know it's a little long but I think you'll find it interesting, so please read the article and then complete the game below.

COUNCIL MESSAGE'S GAME: COUNCIL'S TIME IN HISTORY

1. Does Council have 9, 7, or 6 school districts?
2. How many Council Presidents have also been president of OPTA?
3. What is the name of Council's new multi-purpose book?
4. Which president initiated the spotlighting of our districts?
5. In what year was Hamilton County Council organized?
6. Who was the first president of Council?
7. During Karen Nichols' term, what was the big PTA history making event?
8. In what year did Council win the OPTA Outstanding Council Award?
9. What new Council project was started during Sue Hummer's term?
10. How many Council Presidents have served more than one two-year term?
11. What was the biggest challenge of President Gay Guethlein's term?
12. On what topic did President JoAnn Rice work with Channel 9 TV?
13. Where did Council initially meet?
14. Which two presidents were also Bylaws Chairmen for OPTA?
15. The Resolution that Council wrote and was adopted by both the OPTA and NPTA was on what topic?

**Bring your answers to the January General Meeting and enter in the prize drawing!
Good Luck!**