

# COUNCIL MESSAGES

HAMILTON COUNTY COUNCIL of PTAs

*every child. one voice*

January-February, 2015

Issue 3

January 21 HCC General Meeting  
Tentative Program:  
Workings of the State School Board  
10:00 a.m. at the HCESC  
Auditorium

**Reflections Open House**  
February 17 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 18 HCC General Meeting  
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

## *IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP STILL GROWING?*

**CONGRATULATIONS** to our nine 100% Teacher Membership Award winners. They are **Delhi Middle, Bridgetown Middle, Oakdale Elem., Monfort Heights Elem., Springmyer Elem., Delshire Elem., Rapid Run Middle, C. O. Harrison Elem. and Whitewater Valley Elem.** It isn't too late to get your teachers to join! You can still send new members to the Ohio PTA Office. Any you send before March 31 will be a part of this year's total.

It is now an important time for you and Council to help us in our selection of this year's Council Membership Award Winner/Winners. How do we make this choice? We most often check the schools that have increased membership over the past year. Some schools have increased a lot and some schools just a little, but that is not the whole criteria. Did you do something special to promote membership in your unit? Did you push membership at each of your meetings? We would like to know what special ways you used to get more members to join your PTA.

You do so many great things for your schools during the year and we on Council, would enjoy hearing your success stories. You have wonderful fundraisers and programs and I know you find unique ways to increase your membership.

We would love to hear your ideas, especially those concerning your membership drive, and then we would like to print those ideas in our next "Council Messages" issue. We will, of course, credit your unit. This will help all our units to think about and plan for next year's membership campaign. And, this is one way to let others know how truly successful your unit has been.

Please e-mail me at [carolchili@fuse.net](mailto:carolchili@fuse.net) with your special campaign ideas. In this way you will help us to select our Membership Award Winner for this year.

Carol Kiradjieff, HCC Membership Chair [carolchili@fuse.net](mailto: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, 2015 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](http://www.HCCPTAs.org)

**Don't forget to select your district's Educator of the Year due to Council at the March 11th 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.**



## *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. They also remember the woman who in 1926 founded the National Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers, which united with the National PTA in 1970. Her name was Selena Sloan Butler.

This year we will be celebrating National PTA's 118 years, Ohio PTA's 114 years and Hamilton County Council of PTAs 94 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 18, 2015 at the Hamilton County Educational Service Center 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 10:00 am followed by the Founders Day Program.



## *The Official Emblem of the National PTA THE OAK TREE*

The original National Congress emblem was that of an angel with its arms around two children. In 1921, however, Mrs. A.H. Reeves, editor of the Children Welfare Magazine used the oak tree for the cover design.

Mrs. Reeves wrote..."The Congress began as a national organization, a main trunk, as it were, and like a tree threw out branches as it grew, which in turn spread into smaller shoots - the individual associations all drawing their life from the parent stem and carrying its vitality to the farthest reach of their influence - of all the trees, the oak seems best to typify the Congress spirit...with its sturdy heart, its usefulness in building, its broad protecting shadow, the acorns which perpetuate its life." For these reason, the oak was adopted as the National Congress emblem.

The **trunk** is the National Congress.

The **main branches** are the states.

The **smaller branches** stand for districts and councils.

The **twigs** represent the many local PTAs.

The **leaves** typify our millions of members.

Last, and most significant of all, the **acorn** represents **the fruits** or accomplishments of our work from which future developments will arise.

**Each** in turn **draws** its life from the **parent stem**.

# HAMILTON COUNTY COUNCIL of PTAs



## 2015 Founder's Day Service Project

### Comfort Quilts for Kids

Each new family coming in to Ronald McDonald House receives a Welcome Bag containing a few items to make their stay a little more comfortable and to make them feel special and cared for. They try to include a small toy for the child, a notepad and pen, some toiletries, and most importantly a small, handmade quilt. These quilts can be very comforting to the children and also serve as treasured mementoes of their time spent at the Ronald McDonald House.

As you can imagine the number of quilts needed is always high as is the cost of the materials needed to make them. Groups of Comfort Quilts for Kids supporters meet several times a month around the Cincinnati tri-state area to make these quilts. These volunteers donate their time and talents to making the quilts but the cost of the materials needed – fabric, batting, thread, etc. – is a constant expense. Each quilt is 40" x 40". Elaine Efke, Council Immediate Past President is one of these volunteers.

This year Council is asking our units to donate to this very worthy cause. All of our donations will go to the group meeting at the library in Lawrenceburg who make quilts for the children in our very own Children's Hospital.

#### Requested Donations:

*Gift Cards for JoAnn Fabric, Hancock's Fabric, Hobby Lobby  
(or any other place that sells quilt making materials)*

*Pre-paid Visa or Mastercard*

*Monetary Donations*

Make checks payable to: **Ronald McDonald House/Comfort Quilts for Kids**



*Quilts made by the Lawrenceburg group*



If you are interested in joining a group, please contact the founder of this program, Nora Kelly at [norakel@fuse.net](mailto:norakel@fuse.net).

Please bring gifts to the February 18th HCC Founders' Day Program/General Meeting. Contact Elaine Efke, 738-2770, [Elaine50@fuse.net](mailto:Elaine50@fuse.net) if you have any questions.



## ***Friend of Children Award***

The ***Friend of Children Award*** was designed by the Hamilton County Council of PTAs. It can be purchased by a unit or individual and presented to someone who has shown a special interest in helping children. The effort made by the recipient need not be PTA related. Possible recipients might be tutors, PTA volunteers, scout leaders, teachers, administrators, newspaper writers, corporate executives, a business volunteer group, and so on. Council would like to provide you with a way to show your appreciation for that individual's or group's efforts on behalf of children.

The cost of each award is \$20. The award includes a special cloisonné *Friend of Children* lapel pin and a certificate suitable for framing for you to present to the individual you are honoring. In addition, a donation will be made in the name of the recipient to the Hamilton County Council of PTAs Scholarship Fund.

For more information contact:                      Jan Hunter  
#922-1946 (H)                      jch8387@hotmail.com

Order an award by completing the order form below and sending form along with \$20 payment to:  
Jan Hunter  
2573 Countrylake Dr.  
Cincinnati 45233

### ***Friend of Children ORDER FORM***

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Recipient Name \_\_\_\_\_

Presented by \_\_\_\_\_

Date for Certificate \_\_\_\_\_

Short Description of Recipient/Reason for Award \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Contact person \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mail certificate and pin to:    Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Make \$20 check payable to: Hamilton County Council of PTAs



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 "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](mailto:lmuel@fuse.net)

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**CONGRATULATIONS** to our November General Meeting winner: **Elise Fessler**, President and Delegate from Bobbie Fairfax PTA, HCDDS and Alt. Del from Finneytown Secondary PTA in the Finneytown School District. Be the next winner of a nice prize package, it's simple to do. All of the answers can be found in the article: What is Founders' Day? or in this Council Messages.

### COUNCIL MESSAGE'S FOUNDERS DAY GAME

1. Who were the founders of the National PTA?
2. When and where was that very important and historic first meeting?
3. Who founded the National Congress of Colored Parents and Teachers?
4. In what year did the two organizations become one?
5. In what year was your Council formed?
6. What colors are associated with all PTAs?
7. What is the official logo of the National PTA?
8. What was the first emblem of the National PTA?
9. What is the official emblem of the National PTA?
10. What does the trunk represent?
11. What do the main branches represent?
12. What do the smaller branches represent?
13. What do the twigs represent?
14. What do the leaves represent?
15. What do the acorns represent?

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