

March 2010

**March Dates:**

- 3/6 Odyssey of the Mind Shen Campus
- 3/8 ASEP Begins
- 3/8–3/12 Book Fair
- 3/12 Lucky Leprechaun Bingo
- 3/15 PTA Meeting 7 PM in Chango Cafeteria
- 3/17 Kindergarten Registration
- 3/22–Grade 4 Orchestra Showcase 7PM Chango Cafe
- 3/26 No School— Superintendent’s Conference Day.

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# Chango PTA News



Editor: Shannon Silva [news4chango@yahoo.com](mailto:news4chango@yahoo.com)

## Letter from the President

Dear Parents,

Happy Spring! We're almost there. We are heading towards the "home stretch" now but stay tuned we still have lots of amazing programs and planning yet to do. Check out Krista Ferguson's "Checkpoint" for some great upcoming events!

We are now accepting nominations for the 2010-11 Chango PTA board! All are welcome to throw your hat in the ring! Below are brief descriptions of positions to be filled. Listed next to descriptions are current nominees. There is no limit to the number of nominees that can be put to vote for a position. The board meets every month as needed and attends the PTA general meetings an additional one night per month. The commitment is not large, but the board is valuable to keeping our events and programs running smoothly and to be in good standing with the NYS PTA. Please consider the options and see how you might be able to help. For further info or to put your name in as a nominee, please contact Idalia at 956-0785 or [iisepulveda@yahoo.com](mailto:iisepulveda@yahoo.com). The vote on these positions will be held at the April PTA meeting.

**President** - oversees PTA board and committees, arranges meetings, creates agendas, meets with school principal, PTA council and school leadership as required/needed. - Idalia Sepulveda

**Secretary/Communication** - takes minutes at all meetings, oversees email list and correspondence. Will need computer access and internet. – Tina Harris

**Treasurer** - oversees everything to do with PTA funds. - Karen Calhoun

**VP Events** - generates volunteer interest, works w/ volunteers to oversee non-fundraising committees. - Krista Ferguson

**VP Fundraising** - oversees fundraisers and fundraising event committees. – Maria Fiffe

**VP Arts in Ed** - plans and oversees Arts in Ed programs. - Idalia Sepulveda

**VP Membership/Hospitality** -creates member interest, works with NYSPTA on membership drives, and organizes hospitality for meetings/events. - Gigi Litvaitis

**In addition to the board we will need:**

**1 Council Delegate** – Nancy Paulsen - attend District PTA Council meetings, usually held every other month and report back to the PTA membership at a monthly PTA meeting.

**1 Special Ed committee representative** - attends District SPED committee meetings and reports to Chango PTA membership at a monthly PTA meeting.

**1 Legislative committee representative**- attends District Legislative committee meetings and reports to Chango PTA membership at a monthly PTA meeting.

**1 Preschool committee representative** – attends District Pre-school committee meetings and reports to Chango PTA membership at a monthly PTA meeting.

**1-2 Health & Wellness committee representative** – Maureen Flaherty and Nancy Kinkead - attends District H&W committee meetings and reports to Chango PTA membership at a monthly PTA meeting.

**2 Partnership Team representative (2 positions are held by parent reps)**- Marlene Sweet, Tina Harris, Christina Cook - attends meetings with the school partnership team (School principal, 2 Chango teachers, school nurse) every 6 weeks. This is a 2 yr term.

Please take a moment to consider helping our PTA! Thanks for making our school the best it can be! Our PTA meeting this month is on Monday, March 15th, from 7-8 pm in the cafe. Please come and join us if you can. We will have some great guest speakers with us; you won't want to miss it!

Idalia I. Sepulveda, Chango PTA President

Don't  
Forget  
Your .....



AND.....



Soup for Schools

## LUCKY LEPRECHAUN BINGO

### PLEASE JOIN US FOR LUCKY LEPRECHAUN BINGO

Friday March 12 7- 8:30 PM

Chango cafeteria

This is a PTA sponsored event

Children's prizes will be awarded

Donations of snacks to share (no nuts please) would be most welcomed!

Children must be accompanied by an adult

Any questions, or to volunteer to help

contact Beth Schreiber [eschreiber@nycap.rr.com](mailto:eschreiber@nycap.rr.com)

### SPECIAL THANKS TO:

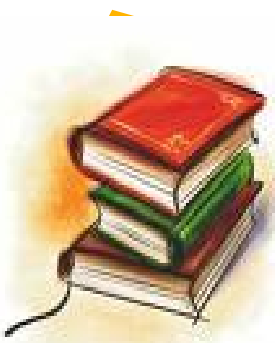
- Breakfast w. your family – Mrs. Evans (Cafeteria) & Sharyn Roy – what an overwhelming response!! We got to connect with Chango families and enjoy a scrumcious breakfast too. Thanks for your awesome idea!
- Boys Bowling – Marlene Sweet & Donna Kinkaid – Mrs. Legnard (School Nurse) held at Spare Time Bowling at Clifton Park – Chango mom and sons had an amazing time! Thank you for coordinating.
- Almost March Madness – Sharyn Roy, Noel Day, Michelle Schweda and committee folks: Bob & Jennifer Carey, Deb Espey, Karen Calhoun, Danielle Canterbury! – What a blast! Thank you for your commitment!
- PTA Web Page – Ed Litvaitis, Webmaster – has done a fabulous job with our PTA website. Check it out if you've not yet done so at: <http://www.shenet.org/community/ChangoPTA/changopta.htm>. Thank you for working on so diligently, you're awesome dude!
- Mrs. Legnard (School Nurse) – Thank you for joining us the Chango Boys Bowling. We appreciate your presence and commitment to our Chango families.
- Mrs. Weiner (Art Teacher) – What an awesome presentation at Feb 8<sup>th</sup> PTA meeting. We thank you for allowing us a peek into “a day in the life of our children’s day” in your art class!
- Chango’s Custodial Staff - We thank you for your help during our PTA functions/events this school year - as always you guys are fantastic!

# PTA In The Classroom

**March 8: Scotia-Glenville Museum, Grade 3 and March 24 & 25 Grade 4 "Measures for Measuring"** - Using a hands-on practical approach, students learn how and why measurement standards have evolved and experiment with over 40 different devices to learn about length, mass/weight, capacity/volume, time, temperature, money, area and perimeter. Both metric and customary (English) units will be used.



**March 9: Scotia-Glenville Museum, Grade K, "Virtual Field Trip to a Farm"** - Where does my food come from? This farm field trip into the classroom presents a visual journey to several farms in the region, where students will encounter local foods such as fruit, vegetables, eggs and milk. Students participate in related hands-on activities as they make connections between the food on their table and what is produced on local farms.



**March 11: Grade 4: "Freedom Train" at the Palace Theatre, Albany** - "Freedom Train" tells the thrilling story of Harriet Tubman, the Moses of her people, in a fascinating series of highly theatrical scenes that use dance, dialogue, and music of the period. Songs include "Follow the Drinking Gourd," "Steal Away," "Wade in the Water," "Good News, the Chariot's A-comin'," and many others still sung today. Freedom Train is the story of self-sacrifice, dedication and survival, laced with warmth and a sense of humor that celebrates the human spirit -- a universal story for all. Target is the National Tour Sponsor of this production.



*Do you realize that many of the educational programs your children enjoy are paid for by the PTA?*

## News from the District

On Saturday March 27th, the Shenendehowa Central School District will hold its first ever "SHENSATIONAL! Global Expo 2010" hosted by our school's Cultural Diversity Committee. The EXPO will be held from 9-2 at High School East. The intent of this year's expo is to acknowledge and celebrate the array of backgrounds, cultures, and viewpoints reflected in our community.

Vendors, booksellers and community organizations will present materials, crafts, foods or information regarding the background, culture or organization they represent.



2009-10 Chango PTA Board Contact Info



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Treasurer–Karen Calhoun	<a href="mailto:Karen.calhoun@ge.com">Karen.calhoun@ge.com</a>	877-0271

### What Does a Hero Look Like???

What does a hero look like to you? Are there capes, tights, lightning bolts, masks? How about just an adorable little boy with a toothless smile, in jeans and a ski jacket with a normal mom, dad and little brother? To The Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America in Upstate/Northeastern New York, our hero is Liam Carlson. If you want to hear more about Liam's story, please check out his story at Chango's PTA website



**THANKS TO CHANGO FAMILIES**

**FOR RAISING \$1,542.00**

**in The American Red Cross Student Council Collection to support the people of Haiti.**



## Mother/Son Bowling Update

The Chango PTA Mother-Son bowling event was held on Saturday and Sunday February 6th & 7th at Spare Time in Clifton Park. We had about 150 people from Chango there enjoying the fun. There was some extra excitement on Saturday when there was a fire alarm.



We wish to say thank you to the Dads who volunteered their time to help and an extra special thanks to our Chango celebrity Mrs. Legnard for coming to help out. All the parents and kids were very excited to see her. Thanks to everyone for attending and we look forward to seeing you next year!

## PTA NEWS

**Honorary Lifetime Award:** This year we are pleased to honor two of our Chango staff members with Chango PTA's Honorary Lifetime Membership Award. Please join us in congratulating William (Billy) Philo and Eric Smith. Both recipients will be honored at the Council PTA Founder's Day dinner in April.

Quick reminder, **the Chango Elementary School PTA is offering two \$750.00 scholarships** to college-bound Shenendehowa seniors who graduated from Chango. The student must have attended Chango for at least 2 years. Award selection is based on academic achievement and outstanding character as demonstrated by community service, employment, sports or extra-curricular involvement. **Applications are available at the HS East Counseling Center and must be received by March 1st.**

The PTA will host its Spring Fundraisers shortly be on the look out for some really neat gift items, just in time for Mother's Day.

## CHARACTER KIDS

### Jan ~ Trustworthiness & Honesty

K: Ariana Valle (v)	3: Alyssa Litvaitis (F)
1: Christian "CJ" Harver (sh)	4: Kasy Kinkead (sk)
2: Emmett Odorizzi (F)	5: Carter DeCarr (k)

## OTHER NEWS

- Our annual Chango Talent Show will be held on Friday, April 23rd in the Gowana auditorium. Get your Act together and keep your eyes open for more details and audition information.
- Coaches Game to Benefit Patrick Snyder Scholarship Fund—On Thursday March 4th at 7 pm at the Clifton Park Ice Arena the 4th Annual Clifton Park Youth Hockey Game will be held. This year the CPYHA's coaches will play to benefit the Patrick Snyder Scholarship Fund. Patrick was a student from Tesago who lost his life tragically and unexpectedly due to a brain aneurysm.
- Shenendehowa Dollars for Scholars is holding a 5K Family Run/Walk for Scholars on Saturday May 8th. Registration forms may be downloaded from the [www.cliftonpark.org/shendfs](http://www.cliftonpark.org/shendfs) or picked up from schools in the Shenendehowa School District after February, 2010.





## Chango Checkpoint

Check in here each month to learn about upcoming events and volunteer opportunities!

The big excitement for the month of February (from some people's perspective) has been the 2010 Winter Olympics. Let's test your Olympic trivia prowess (answers at the very bottom):



- Where were the first Winter Olympic Games held?
- Which country has hosted the Winter Games the most?
- Where is Vancouver?
- What are the mascots for the 2010 Winter Olympic Games?
- Where will the next Winter Olympics take place?



**Closer to home (as a PTA), we kept ourselves busy with many events such as:**

**Teacher Soup Day** – Many thanks to all those that helped either by cooking a plethora of scrumptious soups, stews and chilis or salads and decadent desserts (all calorie free of course). It truly is wonderful to see the outpouring of helpers that pulled together to make this a day the teachers always look forward to!

**Breakfast with your Student** – Thanks to Sharyn Roy and the cafeteria staff for bringing us a new (and yummy) event this year. For those of you that partook (and as you may be learning...anytime someone else does the cooking, I am there) it was a great time to have breakfast and a chat with your kids. The Shenwich and the event were both a hit.

**Boys Bowling** – The Chango boys and their moms (or other fun loving adult) got together at the beginning of the month for some quality time at Spare Time – bowling, pizza and even a fire alarm were part of the excitement! Many thanks to Donna Kinkaid and Marlene Sweet for organizing this event.

**Shen Inventors** – Congratulations to Dylan Salica and Gregori Vagnini for putting their creativity and ingenuity to the test by partaking in the Shen Inventors competition. They could very well be a force to reckon with and our scientists of the future! Thanks to Emily Bowman for representing Chango PTA and coordinating this event for us.

**Movie Night** – We joined a special FBI organization of trained secret agent animals known as G-FORCE. We sat on the edge of our seats (or pillows and sleeping bags) as we watched this squad of highly trained guinea pigs on their mission to prevent an evil billionaire from taking over the world. It was a night of good family fun (and adventure). Thanks to Kristin Renauld, Steve Plansker and the rest of the Movie Night planning crew for all their work.

**Almost March Madness** – As I write this we have not set foot on Shen Campus to compete but... **GO CHANGO CHAMPS!!**

**Here's what's coming up in the month of March – Don't forget to mark them on your calendars!**

**March 6** – Odyssey of the Mind Tournament. Come to Shen High School to see how students use their creativity to solve problems ranging from building mechanical devices to presenting their own interpretation of literary classics. Come and be both impressed and inspired by the genius of our children.

**March 8 – April 1** – After School Enrichment Program (ASEP). From basketball to KidzArt, Cheerleading and being a vet – we've got a program for everyone's interest. We are able to run these programs through the efforts of MANY volunteers. Thanks to all who help make these programs a success.

**March 12 (Friday)** – Lucky Leprechaun Bingo – Feeling like the "luck of the Irish" might be on your side this month? Come try your luck at Bingo and have a family fun night at the same time (7:00 pm).



**March 15 (Monday)** – PTA Meeting in the Chango cafeteria at 7:00 pm.

**March 1-31** – Pizza Hut Book It Reading Program. Encourage your child(ren) to chart their reading progress on the March Book It! reading log. This is the final month for this program this year.

We can always use help at these events. If you want to volunteer to help with any of the above events or if you have questions, please contact Krista Ferguson at [changoevents@yahoo.com](mailto:changoevents@yahoo.com)

1. 024: Champanuk, France. 2. The United States has hosted the Winter Olympics four times, 1992 in Lake Placid, 1994 in Squaw Valley, 1998 in Lake Placid and 2002 in Salt Lake City. 3. Vancouver is a coastal city and major seaport located in Western Canada in southwestern British Columbia. 4. Miga (left in picture) is a young sea bear who is part killer whale and part bear who lives in the ocean out past Vancouver Island. Quatchi (center) is more famously known worldwide as Sasquatch or Bigfoot, and has been the subject of hundreds of sightings for centuries throughout the Pacific Northwest. Soom (right) is part orca, whale, part phenix and part bear, considered a "guardian spirit" by Pacific Northwest Indian tribes. 5. In 2014 the winter games will be held in Sochi, Russia.