



LET'S GO SHARKS!



Shatekon Elementary School
PTA Newsletter

March 2009
Volume 2, Issue 6

Shatekon PTA Newsletter

A note from the President

These are turbulent times. We are going to have to deal with unprecedented changes over the next year across all aspects of life. The school budget is a big area of concern, and because of this, the Board of Education will be receiving reports from school administration on every Tuesday of March (7PM, Gowana Library). These meetings are open to the public, and I urge anyone who is concerned or has questions to attend the meetings if possible.

Also, because of these meetings, I am moving our scheduled meeting this month from 3/24 to **Thursday, March 26th**, from 7-9 pm in the Shatekon library. Please come and join us if you can!

As always, thank you for your support.
John Belkevich
Shatekon PTA President

Arts in Education...

Kindergarteners learn what food does for the body and how to make healthy food choices, when Scotia Glenville Traveling Museum visits their classrooms and takes them on an Eating Adventure, March 16 and 20.

Kindergarteners will also learn more about nutrition and healthy eating habits when their class goes on a field trip to Hannaford on March 24 and April 1.

You might think a picture book about hairy bats on vacation, roasting bugs at night over an open fire, would give kids the creeps. Wouldn't they say "Ewwwww!?" But you'd be wrong, see what Shatekon students learn about New York Times Bestselling author/illustrator Brian Lies, when he visits with Shatekon 1st - 4th graders on Friday, March 20th

Thank you for your support of the Arts in Education programs at Shatekon.

Shatekon Sharks Take the Title

Months of planning, practicing and panicking paid off as the Sharks of Shatekon walked away with the championship trophy at the first annual Almost March Madness basketball tournament. Taking on teams from Skano and Arongen, the Sharks (players and cheerleaders alike) dribbled, shot, rebounded, yelled and "cha cha'd" their way to victory.

It took the assistance and cooperation of many people to bring this event to fruition. Starting at the top, with Ms. Wood, we would also like to pay a special thanks to the following people:

Mr. Anderton, Team Rep & coordinator; Ms. Ryan, Cheer coordinator; Mrs. Kelley, The Shark!; Mrs. Quinn & Mrs. Russell, Ticket volunteers; Mrs. Poniatowski, All around messenger / helper; Mr. Sokol, Shark face painting; Gina Martin, Cindy Sherman, Lorraine Bernard & Carolyn Duscha, Program photocopiers



Our players:

Mr. Aley, Mr. Morcone, Coach Thompson, Mrs. Plantz, Mrs. Burnetter, Mrs. Ryan, Ms. DeLuca, Mrs. Crozzoli, Coach Burns, Mrs. Robertaccio, Mrs. O'Sullivan, Mrs. Mulholland, Mrs. Drejas, Miss Sloat

Our cheerleaders:

Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Beck, Ms. Carmody, Mrs. Duscha, Mrs. Ellis, Mrs. Fiet, Mrs. Martin, Ms. Puntel, Mrs. Ropitzky

...And of course all of the faculty, staff, parents and students who came out to support the event.

For anyone that may be interested, there were professional videographers at the event, and the PTA is selling DVD's of the night's festivities for \$3. Order forms will be sent home with students soon.

Stay tuned for Round 2 - February 2010 - as Shatekon defends its title and tries to hold on to the trophy!

GO SHARKS!!!!

Honorary Lifetime Awards

This year we are pleased to honor two parents and two of our Shatekon staff members with Shatekon PTA's Honorary Lifetime Membership Award. Please join us in congratulating John Belkevich, Jennifer Connell, Laura O'Sullivan and Mary Quinn. All four recipients will be honored at the Council PTA Founder's Day dinner in April.

Please note:

Due to a scheduling conflict, we will once again be moving our meeting this month. We will be meeting Thursday, March 26th, 7-9 PM in the library.

Spring Pictures

Spring pictures will be March 18th and 19th this year. More information will come home as we get closer to those dates.

Virtual Lobby Day

...March 18th! On this day we ask all PTA members to call, email and/or fax their legislators. Tell them:

- You want to safeguard mandates
- You have concerns about the budget and property tax caps. Alternative measures that will provide needed property tax relief AND **preserve the quality of our schools** and communities must be examined!

Remember to use Cap Wiz under *Take Action* on the New York State PTA website- www.nyspta.org.

Visit <http://nyspta.org/advocacy/lobbyday.cfm> for more information.

SHEN's 3rd Annual Health and Wellness Fair



Interactive Health Resources

Healthy Bodies
Healthy Minds
Rain or Shine
In 2009!



Medical Screenings

Thursday, March 12th
High School East - Main Gym
5:00 - 7:30 p.m.

American Red Cross Blood Drive

Please contact Nicole Holehan (holenico@shenet.org) or The American Red Cross at 1-800-GIVE-LIFE to schedule an appointment. Walk-Ins are welcome. All presenting donors will receive a free T-shirt.

Fire Prevention Bus
Self-Defense Lessons

Massage Therapy
Taste Testing

Brought to you by the Health and Physical Education

March is PTA Advocacy Month

"Advocacy is at the heart of PTA's mission and vision. Taking action provides both parents and PTA leaders with the resources to become more involved with their community at home and their community across the nation." Excerpted from National PTA website: http://www.pta.org/take_action.asp

Upcoming Events

Shen Health and Wellness Fair

Thursday, March 12th, 5-7:30 PM
HS East Main Gym

Community Conversations w/Dr. Robinson

Saturday, March 14th, 9:30 AM
Arongen Library

PTA Virtual Lobby Day

Wednesday, March 18th
<http://nyspta.org/advocacy/lobbyday.cfm>

Spring Pictures

March 18th and 19th

PTA Meeting (**Note Date Change!**)

Thursday, March 26th, 7 PM
Shatekon Library

Bowling

Friday, March 27th, 12-2 PM
Spare Time, Clifton Park

Spring Recess ****NO SCHOOL****

April 13th - 17th

Connecting Boys with Books @ CP-H Library

The Friends of the Clifton Park-Halfmoon Library are co-sponsoring author Michael Sullivan's program "Connecting Boys with Books," on Monday, March 23rd at 7:00 PM. For more information, go to <http://www.cphlibrary.org/>

Host a Child this Summer

Fresh Air is a program that gives NYC children a chance to see another way of life. They get to leave the city and become a part of your family. They get to escape the dangers, noise and pollution. You would be giving a child (ages 6-12 for first time visit) a chance to enjoy the small things we take for granted each day. Many of these children don't get to sit and see the stars, play outside in the yard, swim, bike, or just have a picnic in the park. It is truly a rewarding experience both for the child that comes and for your own family. Children arrive in Clifton Park on July 3, July 20, and August 11. Please consider hosting a child. This program can change a child's life forever. Contact Deb L'Amoureux at 348-1018 or freshair@nycap.rr.com for more information.