

# Rushwood PTA News

## President's Message

### 2011-2012 Officers

#### President

Chrisy Siewert  
330-908-0398

#### 1st Vice President

Valerie Rice  
216-246-2744

#### 2nd Vice President

Jacqui O'Connor  
330-467-0581

#### 3rd Vice President

Tammy Strong  
330-908-1202

#### Treasurer

Renee Piper  
330-467-7737

#### Recording Secretary

Kimberly Watson  
330-554-6221

#### Corresponding Secretary

Megan Angus  
330-468-5757

#### Council Delegate

Rebecca Wiehe  
330-468-7772

#### Council Delegate Alternate

Linda Imrie  
330-468-8751

Happy New Year! I hope everyone had an enjoyable time with family and friends, and especially with your children during our long holiday break. While we are all likely looking forward to getting our children back into their school routine, PTA is also looking forward to gearing up for a busy winter and spring. Our first order of business will be voting at our January 11<sup>th</sup> meeting on our Educator of the Year, and Helping Hands award winners. We need you to nominate those deserving teachers and volunteers so we can vote! Think of all of the amazing teachers and volunteers at Rushwood who would be so deserving of this honor, and fill out a form today!

January is also the time to begin thinking about getting involved in next year's PTA board. We have board members (including your president) who are currently in their second term in office and cannot serve next year in the same capacity. I am pleased to say we have an outstanding and experienced group this year, who will help make your transition into a PTA role simple. Please contact anyone listed on the officer list if you are interested in serving next year. Intent to serve forms will be coming out soon!

Other coming events include Book Fair and Breakfast with Family. Both events will take place the week of February 6<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to Becky Keller and Laura Knotts for chairing these events!

Finally, I need to send a big thank you to Valerie Rice for planning an outstanding COSI day in December, Linda Imrie for her great work coordinating another successful Holiday Shop, and to Nicole Shamblin for a fabulous Holiday Luncheon for our staff. Thanks to everyone who helped with these events as well. PTA is lucky to have you.

Chrisy Siewert

Siewertc@me.com

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# HOLIDAY SHOP THANKS

HOPEFULLY EVERYONE ENJOYED THE COLORFULLY WRAPPED PACKAGES BROUGHT HOME BY OUR RUSHWOOD STUDENTS! THANK YOU TO ALL WHO DONATED SUPPLIES OR TIME TO OUR HOLIDAY SHOP. IT IS TRULY A JOY TO ASSIST OUR STUDENTS IN SHOWING THEIR LOVE TO THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS WITH A LITTLE GIFT THEY CHOSE THEMSELVES! SEE YOU



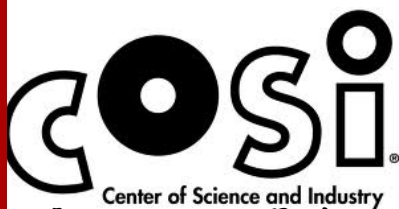
## *Holiday Staff Lunch Thanks!*

**The tables were beautifully decorated, and the food was delicious! Thanks to NICOLE SHAMBLIN and her committee for planning an outstanding Holiday lunch for our beloved Rushwood Staff on December 12<sup>th</sup>. Your efforts were greatly appreciated!**

## **Kinder-Corner Skills Night Is Coming Soon!**

Rushwood's first-ever Kindergarten grade-level event is scheduled for Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup>. It will be a fun night of skill-building activities for all Kindergartener's and their families! Kindergarten families, look for a flier with more information in your PTA folder soon!

If you would like to help with the event, we need **volunteers for planning, welcome, set up, event stations, etc. Any time that you can give would be appreciated!** Please contact Kim Brown at [kimbar34@yahoo.com](mailto:kimbar34@yahoo.com). Thanks Kim for planning this great event!



## **INCREDIBLE HUMAN MACHINE IS AN INCREDIBLE SUCCESS!**

**Once again, our Rushwood community has come together to give our students an energetic day filled with mind-expanding, hands-on, scientific fun! We learned that our Incredible Human Machine works like an engine and discovered what it takes to keep it running in tip-top shape. We couldn't have done it without Rondi Ardo, Chrisy and Rob Siewert, Ann Marie Garvey, Wendy Bush, Renee Piper, Dawn Sedor (and neighbor Barry), Tammy Guy, Connie Perney, Tricia Kimble, Lisa Ballard, Jon Sarkissian, Amanda Osborne (Erin Kremyar's neighbor), Hanah Kilchenman, Jeff and Michelle Cochran, Ziad Asim, Becky Mohler and her Son, Keri Canzoni and Julianna Hovan. With the addition of our community neighbors and college aged siblings, we were able to fully staff all of our stations. A great big Thank You to our staff for providing lunch for all of our volunteers too! ALSO, A thank you must go out to Valerie Rice for organizing this outstanding event!**

# Volunteer Spotlight

## VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

This month's volunteer has been a part of Rushwood's volunteer team for many years often without being thanked. She has seamlessly organized PTA's Holiday Shop for more years than she would probably care to count, and this year, has also taken on the task of co-chairing our Save and Earn program, along with a PTA office. This volunteer has also been a Girl Scout Leader for many years, and has been a positive influence on many current and former Rushwood students. This month, we thank LINDA IMRIE for her many years of service to our school. Rushwood is a better place because of you!

If you wish to nominate a volunteer of the month, please email me at [siewertc@me.com](mailto:siewertc@me.com)

## NEW VAST COORDINATOR AND NEW PTA EMAIL ADDRESS!

Rushwood PTA is pleased to introduce to you our new VAST (Volunteer) Coordinator, **Lisa Kellerman**. We are confident that Lisa will continue to provide you with outstanding service and timely information about PTA events and needs. Lisa can be reached at [kellermannLM@aol.com](mailto:kellermannLM@aol.com).

In another exciting development, Rushwood PTA has a new email address through the school district's website that you will be seeing soon. VAST emails and other PTA information will soon be coming to you from [rw.pta@nordoniaschools.org](mailto:rw.pta@nordoniaschools.org)

## Kindergarten Intervention Helpers Needed!

We are looking for several volunteers to help some of our Kindergarten students with letter and number recognition. Thanks to those who have already signed up. A schedule will be published soon. We are still in need of some additional volunteers. We are hoping to have enough volunteers to come in to each classroom 5 days a week. The times are as follows:

Juhasz 9:00-10:00  
MacRaild 12:40-1:40  
Glorioso 1:45-2:45 or 12:40-1:40

If you can volunteer for one day a week at these times, please email Chrisy Siewert at [siewertc@me.com](mailto:siewertc@me.com).

## Educator of the Year & Helping Hands

On Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at our PTA meeting, Rushwood PTA will choose this year's honorees for our Educator of the Year and our Helping Hands Awards. Applications for these awards were sent home with the December PTA newsletter. In 2011, Rushwood proudly presented Mrs. Kelly Boebel, A First Grade teacher, with this distinctive honor. Mrs. Boebel was not only Rushwood's Outstanding Educator, but was chosen as the Nordonio City School District's Outstanding Educator! Last year's Helping Hands winner was Mrs. Valerie Rice, our PTA treasurer from 2009 – 2011 and an extremely involved volunteer for our school.

Please take a few moments to fill out an application for a deserving staff member or volunteer. If you need additional applications, you can find them on our PTA website, at the sign in table outside of the office at Rushwood, or contact Chrisy Siewert at [siewertc@me.com](mailto:siewertc@me.com). Thanks for taking the time to help us honor some outstanding members of our school's community!

# PTA Fundraising Update...



## Market Day

**Fundraising while feeding your family!**

### Results of the Rushwood Elementary Market Day Food Drive

*December 1st through December 9th, Rushwood Elementary School participated in a fundraiser for Rushwood families in need. By donating \$1 or purchasing a box of Market Day cookie dough and coloring a gingerbread man, our children were able to participate in "Pajama Day". The classroom with the most participation was awarded a Milk 'n Cookies party, provided by our Market Day representative, Amy Cantor. 300 of our 400 students participated in the activity, as you can tell by the colorful Gingerbread Men that lined our hallways! The students raised over \$390.00 from the \$1 food drive, and 143 boxes of cookie dough were purchased. With the money raised we were able to buy enough cut out cookie dough and french toast sticks along with many other food items to feed 15 Rushwood families in need. The response was overwhelming. Mrs. MacRaild's kindergarten class was the winner of the Milk 'n Cookies party with 20/24 kids participating in the food drive. They thoroughly enjoyed their chocolate chunk cookies and milk!*

Don't forget, January is **FREEquent buyer redemption month**. If you made two purchases of \$40 or more October – December and purchase \$40 in January, you will receive your **free insulated bag** at pick up. If you met the Freequent buyer requirements the insulated bag will show on your confirmation.

**Deadline to order online is Saturday, January 14 at 12 midnight.**  
**Pick up is Thursday, January 19, 5-6pm in the cafeteria.**

Questions, contact Kelly Pastir at 330-468-5278 or [kpastir@roadrunner.com](mailto:kpastir@roadrunner.com)

## SAVE AND EARN

Did you know that many of your purchases on-line can earn valuable BoxTop points for our school? Use the link on our PTA website, or go to [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com) to find out which on-line retailers are offering bonus BoxTops month. Keep sending in those BoxTops and Campbells label sheets! We are earning valuable funds for our school every day! Additional sheets can be found on our PTA Website. Thanks to Ann Cook and Linda Imrie for working so hard on this program!

### OTHER WAYS TO HELP OUR SCHOOL:

**Upromise**-Link the credit card you use and Rushwood earns \$\$\$ [www.upromise.com](http://www.upromise.com)

**Giant Eagle** – link your Eagle Advantage Card to Rushwood

**Printer Ink Cartridges** – Rushwood receives \$2.00 per cartridge collected

**Paper** – Please place in the green and yellow container in the parking lot



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Birthday Book Club

**Birthday Book Club is back! Honor your student with a membership to PTA's Birthday Book Club. Birthday Book Club benefits the Rushwood Elementary Library, and provides many new books for our children to read every year. Order forms and instructions are being sent home this week. Please contact Cathy Pendleton with questions at [cathypendleton26@yahoo.com](mailto:cathypendleton26@yahoo.com).**

## STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM NEWS

**Our Rushwood Student Leaders showed their caring spirits as they brought some much welcomed holiday cheer to the residents at Elmcroft and Brentwood Senior Living Facilities in December. They sang Christmas carols, read holiday stories and shared cards and conversation.**

**We are so proud of these children! Our next meeting will be after school at Rushwood on January 18<sup>th</sup>. We are looking forward to more service projects this spring!**

## MILLIONAIRE MINUTES

### Approaches the Million Mark

**No one can deny the benefits of reading. Studies have shown that reading daily results in improved vocabulary and analytical thinking skills...and can be relaxing, too! Our relaxed Rushwood students are well on their way to greater genius! As of December 1st, the kids have read for 779,663 minutes! We are well on our way to achieving our goal of 2 million minutes of reading. Keep up the good work, Rushwood! Thanks to DAWN SEDOR for adding up ALL of those minutes for us!**



## NOTEWORTHY NEWS ON THE WEB

**Check out our newest features on the Rushwood PTA Website. We are adding photos from our PTA and Rushwood events. New photos will be added after each event. We are excited to show you the fun things happening at Rushwood!**

**Need more information about something in the newsletter, or looking for a PTA form? You can find it on our website at <http://teacherweb.com/OH/RushwoodElementary/PTA> Also look for our school's link on FACEBOOK and Like Us today!**

# PTA HAPPENINGS...

## January Dates to Remember:

- January 11<sup>th</sup> – PTA Meeting 3:45pm at Rushwood
- January 13<sup>th</sup> – Ohio School Pictures Candid Day for Yearbook Photos
- January 14<sup>th</sup> - Market Day Ordering Deadline
- January 16<sup>th</sup> – No School – Martin Luther King Day
- January 18<sup>th</sup> – Student Leadership Team Meeting 3:30pm
- January 19<sup>th</sup> – Market Day Pick Up 5:00 – 6:00pm in the Rushwood Cafeteria
- January 20<sup>th</sup> - No School for Students – Records Day
- January 26<sup>th</sup> – Kinder-Corner Skills Night-Kindergarten Students and Families-Rushwood Cafeteria 6:00 – 7:30pm

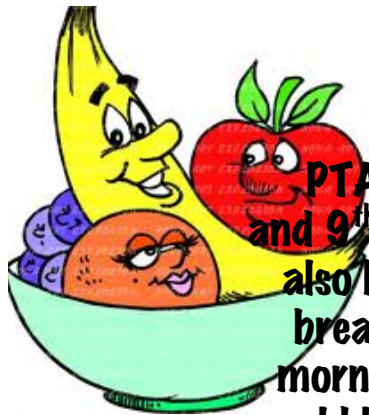
## PTA MEETING NOTICE

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup> at 3:45 PM in the Rushwood Library. Childcare is provided for school aged children only please. Minutes from the last PTA meeting are available on the PTA website. The agenda for this month's meeting will be published soon. We hope to see you there!

## SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR 2012

Rushwood PTA is very pleased to bring the Scholastic Book Fair back to you and your children during the week of February 6 -10<sup>th</sup>, This year's theme is "Book Fair Luau - Celebrate Reading". If you are interested in volunteering for this year's book fair, please contact Becky Keller at [dougkeller@windstream.net](mailto:dougkeller@windstream.net) or at 330-467-0814. More information will be coming home soon.

## Breakfast with Family



PTA will be hosting Breakfast with Family on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 9<sup>th</sup>, in the Rushwood Cafeteria before school. The book fair will also be open these mornings. All families will be invited to share breakfast, provided by PTA with your children on one of those mornings. Look for more information to come home soon. If you would like to volunteer to help with this event, please contact Laura Knotts at [whyknotts@windstream.net](mailto:whyknotts@windstream.net) or 330-468-5700.