

Bishop Events and Committees 2011-2012

Hospitality - ongoing, **chairperson/coordinator needed**, please contact Breck Peabody <bpeabody@gmail.com> This is a really simple way to get involved ... bring coffee and/or baked goods to various events, and organize the Back to School Coffees in September. If you like to cook, bake or simply pick up prepared foods and beverages you will enjoy volunteering on this committee, or becoming the chair.

New Family Outreach - ongoing, coordinator - Amy Speare <aspeare@verizon.net> New for 2010, an ambassador program designed to welcome new families to Bishop and help them in their transition. A group of volunteers will be available for any questions and to offer tips and advice, to those new to school. Kindergarten families and those new to the Bishop district.

Annual Fundraising Drive - ongoing, coordinator - Ken Lubar <ken@lubar.net> and Breck Peabody <bpeabody@gmail.com>. The Annual Appeal is one of our most important sources of funds. It's the PTO that provides enrichment, that makes a difference for our kids, with fun school-wide assemblies, enlightening author visits, engaging nature programs and enriching social studies activities. Beyond enrichment, the PTO funds classroom checks that teachers use to purchase books, art supplies and other educational materials. Our goal this year is to have every family demonstrate their commitment to keeping Bishop a great place for our kids. We're asking for a family donation of any amount—\$5, \$25 or \$50 what ever you feel is appropriate—from every Bishop family to the annual fund raiser. We have a special thank you gift this year; "Bear Bucks" for every \$50 donation. We've set a high bar—and with your help we can achieve it. Volunteers and donors needed.

Room Parents - ongoing, coordinator - Maria Henehan <paulhenehan@verizon.net> Room Parents act as a liaison between classroom teachers and the parents in the class. Each class typically has two individuals who work with teachers to find volunteers for classroom celebrations, field trips, Teacher Appreciation and the Bear Fair classroom game. This is a meaningful way to support your child's teacher, while getting to know your child's classmates and their parents.

School Spirit - ongoing, coordinators - Amy Speare <aspeare@verizon.net>, Heather Hewitt <heh1211@verizon.net> and Joanne Routenberg <jroutenberg@yahoo.com> Selling t-shirts, cinch bags and other school spirit gear and organizing school spirit days to foster Bishop pride

Gardening - ongoing, coordinator - Eliza Burden <elizaburden@comcast.net> These volunteers help with the fall and spring cleanup around Bishop. Volunteers also plant annuals and perennials to brighten up our school. If you love gardening and have an hour or two to spare...this is a perfect opportunity to share your green thumb with us.

Recycling- varied and ongoing - The Bishop PTO is committed to environmentally responsible fundraising. Printer cartridges, cell phones and digital cameras can be recycled in the box from Think Recycle, in the lobby, **chairperson/coordinator needed**, contact Mary Ellen Aronow - <meaarlington@gmail.com>

Box Tops for Education - ongoing, contact Ann Gerrietts <neat.stringer@gmail.com> By joining Box Tops for Education, you can see our school's earnings, receive member perks like bonus Box Tops and coupons, and be able to start earning cash for your school while you shop online. Clip "Box Tops for Education" from a variety of products - send in to school for redemption, and shop online through the Box Tops website to earn Bishop

School a donation

Stop & Shop - ongoing, contact Ann Gerrietts <neat.stringer@gmail.com> Sign up for Stop and Shop's A+ program, designate Bishop School and use your Stop and Shop card every time you shop. Bishop will earn a percentage of each sale. Get friends, family and neighbors to sign up too. No extra cost to you, and the school earns money.

Target - ongoing, It's super-easy, and all you have to do is use your Target® Visa® or Target® Card. We will receive a percentage of the amount of each purchase in the form of a cash donation from Target through the Take Charge of Education® program. It's easy. Just visit target.com/tcoe, or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate our school. So if you're going to Target anyway, please consider using your Target® Visa® or Target® Card. Big thanks to those who are already doing their part to make a great school even better.

Bishop Dines Out - ongoing, coordinator, Sara Dolan <sqdolan@verizon.net> and Jen Goodwin <jagoodwin67@gmail.com>. **"coordinator in training" wanted, to learn the ropes this year, and take over for 2012** The Bishop Dines Out Coordinator arranges Bishop fundraising dining at one local restaurant approximately once per month from September-June. Responsible for promotion, ticket distribution, reporting back to the PTO on each event and writing thank you letters to restaurants when appropriate. Many restaurants in our area offer such promotions - Kelly's, Not Your Average Joes, and Papa Ginos are past offerings.

Scrip Program - ongoing, Contact Ann Gerrietts <neat.stringer@gmail.com>. Buy gift certificates, at face value, and earn a percentage of each purchase for Bishop School. Great for gifts as well as everyday shopping. Buy gift cards for weekly grocery shopping, gas, back to school shopping, etc. Plan ahead for shopping trips and Bishop will earn a percentage of each sale, with no additional cost to parents. Email notices and order forms are sent via the Bishop email list OR to place your order online, create an account by visiting <http://www.shopwithscrip.com/>, and click on "Create Account". Follow the four simple steps and click "I Accept". Enter your enrollment code (Bishop Enrollment Code 92B4F94C23617) and click "Join".

Picture Day - October, **chairperson/coordinator needed.** Contact Mary Ellen Aronow <meaarlington@gmail.com> to volunteer. A professional photographer comes to Bishop School each year to take individual and class pictures. Volunteers are needed to help comb hair and straighten collars! This is small but meaningful effort.

Town Day - September, coordinator - Laura Pierce <laurapierce1@verizon.net> Bishop School has a table/booth at Town Day each year. This is both a community builder and fundraiser as we take part in a yearly Arlington tradition. Volunteers are needed to head the event and also to work shifts through-out the day.

Original Works - October/November, coordinator - Shannon Knuth <shannon.knuth@gmail.com> Turning children's artwork into professionally made products you can wear and share, they make fantastic gifts. Each student is sent home an Artwork Package which includes an order form, full color brochure and a customized letter describing the program. Parents/families wishing to purchase items showcasing their child's very own artwork complete the order form and return it with their payment and the original artwork. Since all products are pre-purchased and completely customized, no up front inventory or door-to-door selling is required. Volunteers are helpful when gathering orders and delivering products.

Pumpkin Sale - October, coordinator - Abigail Gertner <abigail@lee-gertner.net>
coordinator in training" wanted, to learn the ropes this year, and take over for 2012

New in 2008, this was a great success. Volunteers are needed to cover hourly shifts for this Saturday event; pumpkins, hay bales, caramel apples and hot cider are among our offerings.

Walk a Thon - October - Catherine Hoffman <catherinewhoffman@hotmail.com > and Usha Iyer <dreamermama@gmail.com> In it's third year - a huge success last year, both as an activity and as a fundraiser To encourage physical fitness and get the students involved. Students take real pride in knowing they are taking an active part (literally) in helping their school. Pledge forms will be sent home the week before. This is an after school, optional event, we hope many will be able to participate. Volunteers are needed to track laps completed and cheer on our student walkers!

Chili Cook-Off and Gamewright Game Night - Winter, Chili Cook-Off Coordinator - Suzi Lubar <suzi@lubar.net>, **"coordinator in training" wanted, to learn the ropes this year, and take over for 2012**, Game night coordinator - Colleen Kirby <kirby.cho@gmail.com>

Our first ever was held in 2009, and was a popular event. An exciting evening of chili eating, judging and game playing; with pizza for any non-chili lovers. Volunteers needed to help serve chili, sell games, set-up and clean-up. Nominal charge to cover school rental and food.

Election Day Bake Sale -November - **chairperson/coordinator needed**, please contact Ann Gerrietts <neat.stringer@gmail.com> to volunteer. Voters, and teachers, love our Election day Bake Sales. In addition to the usual coffee muffins, breads, cookies and brownies, we often offer a selection of soups (in crockpots) at lunch - very popular with Bishop staff!

Craft Fair- December - coordinator - Mary Ellen Aronow <meaarlington@gmail.com>
A very popular community event, held in the evening, early December. A group of crafters and vendors gather for an evening of selling, shopping and socializing. Open to all to attend. A modest entry fee, \$1, covers the cost of snacks we provide. All proceeds from space rental and silent auction (each crafter/vendor is asked to donate one item) benefit the Bishop School PTO.

Skating Party - March/April, coordinator - Patti Brennan <patti11274@yahoo.com>
Join your friends for a fun filled day of skating. Great community building event - tons of fun!

Bear Fair - May, Chairpersons - Barbara Dumery <bdumery@hotmail.com> and Amy Speare <aspeare@verizon.net> This annual fundraiser is what keeps programs of all kinds running at Bishop School. Without the Bear Fair, many of our activities would not be funded. This committee works primarily during the late winter and spring to organize all aspects of the Fair. It's lots of work ... but lots of fun.

Teacher Appreciation - ongoing - Room Parents work to schedule, coordinator Maria Henehan <paulhenehan@verizon.net> and Mary Ellen Aronow <meaarlington@gmail.com>. Special lunches, coffees, desserts, flowers for the teachers. A formal tea is an annual special event Everyone is asked to chip-in, with donations and or volunteering their time.