

**Solon Middle School**  
**PTA Newsletter**  
**January 2006**



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## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

It was good to come out of 'hibernation' and back into the world of PTA again. I have kicked around the building during November and December and can tell you that all is well. We have a great group of kids who come to school prepared, on time and ready to work.

There has been a lot of activity with the Dance Committee of PTA preparing for Dancival on this Friday, the 20<sup>th</sup>. This is the dance that is our big 'blowout' full of games and prizes and music. Encourage your child to attend. Volunteers are always needed and appreciated at our dances. Please help. What a great way to see first hand what happens in our building.

I want to personally thank Sara Koontz for publishing the Middle School Directory. This book represents many hours of editing data and setting up programs. This was a big task that Sara accomplished quickly. Look for updates in our Newsletter.

We're already looking at the next school year, 2006-2007 and planning on filling our PTA offices. At today's meeting we elected a Nominating Committee (Tammy Strom, Lynn Ptak, Diana Materna, Cindy Castro, Nancy Veto and Mrs. Eugenia Green) to meet and set a slate of officers for next year. If you are a current PTA member and interested in holding a position for next year, please contact one of these people for consideration.

As we close another grading period, I'd like to thank the Student Recognition Committee for sending out the magnet buttons for academic achievements of the first grading period. Success and hard work should be recognized!

The Nominating Committee for Solon Council of PTA has met and given the following slate of officers for the 2006-2007 school year.

President ~ Lisa Cartellone  
Vice President ~ Kari Kreft  
Treasurer ~ Lynn Ptak  
Recording Secretary ~ Beth Bickel  
Corresponding Secretary ~ JoAnn Branstetter

Our next scheduled PTA meeting is February 14<sup>th</sup> at 9:15am in the Media Center. Please join us.

Marianne Horvath 349-1022 [mkhorvath@core.com](mailto:mkhorvath@core.com)

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**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

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## **PTA OFFICERS 05-06**

President: Marianne Horvath 349-1022  
[mkhorvath@core.com](mailto:mkhorvath@core.com)

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Beth DeMarco 349-1367  
[monitormom@sbcglobal.net](mailto:monitormom@sbcglobal.net)

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Eugenia Green 349-3848  
[egreen@solonboe.org](mailto:egreen@solonboe.org)

Recording Secretary: Mary Ellen Guastella 248-5641  
[meguastella@aol.com](mailto:meguastella@aol.com)

Corresponding Secretary: Celeste Fischer 498-0423  
[scfischer@sbcglobal.net](mailto:scfischer@sbcglobal.net)

Treasurer: Lynn Ptak 498-1051  
[parksidemom@yahoo.com](mailto:parksidemom@yahoo.com)

Council Delegates:  
Beth Bickel 248-8782  
[jbsbickel@adelphia.net](mailto:jbsbickel@adelphia.net)

Enid Friedman 349-4863  
[ceramtek96@aol.com](mailto:ceramtek96@aol.com)

Ellen Lim 498-0124  
[ellenlim@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ellenlim@sbcglobal.net)

Diana Materna 248-1568  
[dianalulu@aol.com](mailto:dianalulu@aol.com)

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## **NOT TO LATE TO JOIN PTA!**

It's not too late to join PTA! Only \$5 helps the SMS PTA to sponsor so many great activities for our students. Just place your dues in cash or a check made out to "Solon Middle School PTA" in an envelope marked with your name, address, child's name, team and homeroom teacher, and send it to school with your child today. Donations are also accepted and greatly appreciated.

Nancy Thistlethwaite  
Holly Becker  
Membership Committee

## COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

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To receive the award at the end of the school year, each student must submit a form to the School Office for each qualifying volunteer activity by May 3, 2006. All the necessary information must be filled in and a signature from an Organization Representative is also needed. The volunteer activities must take place between May 1, 2005 and April 30, 2006. Paid jobs and extracurricular activities do not qualify for this award.

Please submit your hours collectively. This will ensure that your child receives the proper credit. It is not too early to start submitting service hours.

There are lots of opportunities for children to participate in community service during the winter months. Here are a few suggestions:

- ❑ Offer to help the elderly in your neighborhood by shoveling snow.
- ❑ Tutoring opportunities exist at Parkside Elementary School. If interested, your child should stop in the school office to pick up the form. Prior approval is needed by the parents and Guidance Counselor.
- ❑ Help in the concession stand at home SMS sporting events. Please call JoAnn Branstetter at 519.0726 or send her an email at [joann@hippodirect.com](mailto:joann@hippodirect.com)
- ❑ Help at Spring Budget Bin.

The form was included in October's PTA newsletter. Blank forms are also available in the school office.

Please encourage your child to help others!

Ellen Lim            498.0124  
Beth Bickel        248.8782

## SMS DIRECTORY REVISIONS

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### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade - Missing

Jeremy Kulbarsh  
34425 Blue Heron Drive  
519-9623  
Parents: Robert and Robyn

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade - Revisions

Jessica Dorner  
Correct phone # for dad, G. Fred Dorner, Jr. is  
498-0215

Tristan McKinley  
Primary phone # should be  
248-2607 for the 34185 Pettibone address

Please report any other corrections to PTA directory chairperson, Sara Koontz at 248-3947. Thank you!

## BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

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Box Tops offers three easy ways to earn cash for our school through everyday activities like buying groceries, shopping online, and making purchases with a credit card – **all at no additional cost to you.**

**Clip** - Clip Box Tops from hundreds of participating products. Box Tops are worth 10¢ each when our school redeems them from Box Tops for Education.

**Shop** - Shop your favorite online stores at the Box Tops Marketplace. Up to 8% of each qualifying purchase is donated to our school.

*Parents please send your Box Tops with your student anytime throughout the school year.* A collection container is located in the cafeteria during your child's lunch period. Another opportunity for you to help is to join the Box Tops for Education Booster Club<sup>SM</sup> at [boxtops4education.com](http://boxtops4education.com). Signing up takes only a few minutes and membership is so rewarding. Please contact Arlene Rosen (Box Top Coordinator) @ [lilsci@aol.com](mailto:lilsci@aol.com) if you have any questions.

## ACADEMIC STANDARDS COMMITTEE

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In a standards-based educational system, assessment plays an important role. Teachers use formal and informal classroom assessments throughout the learning process to verify each student's understanding of the material presented.

Informal assessments are used as checkpoints in the early stages of learning. These may come in the form of Exit Slips, which contain a single question, or in the form of a simple statement from each student indicating "I get it" or "I need help." Teachers use information from these assessments to make decisions regarding grouping or re-teaching.

On formal assessments, students are asked to process and apply what they have learned. Formative assessments such as a quiz, project, or classroom activity occur in the middle of a unit and mark the student's progress toward complete understanding of a content area. At the end of a unit, grades on summative or common assessments reflect the student's mastery of the curriculum.

Teachers and students reflect upon data from all assessments, and plans for enhancing learning, understanding, and success are made based upon these results.

**Elizabeth Goodin**  
**Academic Standards Committee**  
**Solon Council of PTAs**

**PTA Committees 05-06**

Academic Boosters	Beth Eidnier	248-2067	<a href="mailto:reidnier@aol.com">reidnier@aol.com</a>
	Eva Dickman	349-3120	<a href="mailto:Emd.tech@stratos.net">Emd.tech@stratos.net</a>
Box Tops	Arlene Rosen	349-1551	<a href="mailto:Lilsci@aol.com">Lilsci@aol.com</a>
Budget Bin	Carol Akromas	914-0556	<a href="mailto:cakromas@sbcglobal.net">cakromas@sbcglobal.net</a>
Bylaws	Julia Wainblat	498-2126	<a href="mailto:steamenginelocho@aol.com">steamenginelocho@aol.com</a>
Calendar	Lynn Ptak	498-1051	<a href="mailto:parksidemom@yahoo.com">parksidemom@yahoo.com</a>
	Jackie Robbins	248-5766	<a href="mailto:jackierobbins@ameritech.net">jackierobbins@ameritech.net</a>
Community Service Awards	Beth Bickel	248-8782	<a href="mailto:jbjsbickel@adelphia.net">jbjsbickel@adelphia.net</a>
	Ellen Lim	498-0124	<a href="mailto:ellenlim@sbcglobal.net">ellenlim@sbcglobal.net</a>
Dances			
Food	Nancy Veto	248-4589	<a href="mailto:nancyveto@juno.com">nancyveto@juno.com</a>
	Donna Bard	349-1812	<a href="mailto:Bardsdkk@aol.com">Bardsdkk@aol.com</a>
Tickets	Enid Friedman	349-4863	<a href="mailto:Ceramtek96@aol.com">Ceramtek96@aol.com</a>
Games	Cindy Koenig	498-9368	<a href="mailto:Cynthia_Koenig@sbcglobal.net">Cynthia_Koenig@sbcglobal.net</a>
Advertising			
Chaperones			
Directory	Sara Koontz	248-3947	<a href="mailto:Skootz@progressive.com">Skootz@progressive.com</a>
Health, Welfare and Safety	Tammy Strom	349-2914	<a href="mailto:Tstrom@solonboe.org">Tstrom@solonboe.org</a>
Hospitality	JoAnn Green	519-1470	<a href="mailto:Greenhm@aol.com">Greenhm@aol.com</a>
	Sue Pohle	519-0174	<a href="mailto:Five_for_pohle@sbcglobal.net">Five_for_pohle@sbcglobal.net</a>
Legislation	Rhonda Wien	248-5421	<a href="mailto:mrs Wien@aol.com">mrs Wien@aol.com</a>
Membership	Nancy Thistlethwaite	248-1925	<a href="mailto:nancy1005@sbcglobal.net">nancy1005@sbcglobal.net</a>
	Holly Becker	542-9887	<a href="mailto:Hwill914@aol.com">Hwill914@aol.com</a>
Newsletter	Rick Taylor	498-9986	<a href="mailto:rtaylor@parker.com">rtaylor@parker.com</a> <a href="mailto:rekmtaylor@yahoo.com">rekmtaylor@yahoo.com</a>
Parent Volunteers	Kari Kreft	498-8217	<a href="mailto:Kckreft@yahoo.com">Kckreft@yahoo.com</a>
Pictures, eighth grade	Lisa Thomas	349-4055	<a href="mailto:Scraper104@aol.com">Scraper104@aol.com</a>
School Supplies	Judy Polley	349-2061	<a href="mailto:jmpolley@adelphia.net">jmpolley@adelphia.net</a>
	Jackie Robbins	248-5766	<a href="mailto:jackierobbins@ameritech.net">jackierobbins@ameritech.net</a>
Sports Refreshments	JoAnn Branstetter	519-0726	<a href="mailto:joann@hippodirect.com">joann@hippodirect.com</a>
	Kari Kreft	498-8217	<a href="mailto:Kckreft@yahoo.com">Kckreft@yahoo.com</a>
	Michelle Zayak	349-2862	<a href="mailto:jmzayak@aol.com">jmzayak@aol.com</a>
Staff Appreciation	Nancy Veto	248-4589	<a href="mailto:nancyveto@juno.com">nancyveto@juno.com</a>
Student Appreciation	Louise Isroff	519-1650	<a href="mailto:Laitwin@aol.com">Laitwin@aol.com</a>
	Lisa Crowl	519-0743	<a href="mailto:lisacrowl@hotmail.com">lisacrowl@hotmail.com</a>
Student Recognition	Mary Kilmer	542-1801	<a href="mailto:mmkilmer@yahoo.com">mmkilmer@yahoo.com</a>
	Bridgette Riddle	349-3176	<a href="mailto:sbsssriddle@sbcglobal.net">sbsssriddle@sbcglobal.net</a>
	Sue Schneir	349-3723	
Workroom	Debbie Heller	914-1025	<a href="mailto:Missdebbie011@aol.com">Missdebbie011@aol.com</a>

