As we start to wind up the 2011-12 school year, I want to thank Steve, Anaheeta, Julie, Rebekah, Deepa and Laura for serving on the PTA Board this past year. To the many committee chairs and parent and teacher volunteers, I also want to say, “It is appreciated! Because, it truly is.”

We have had a terrific year of showing community spirit and achieving fundraising goals. Our Staff Matball Game is the perfect example of how terrific things can be accomplished when we all work together. The teachers were phenomenal, whether taking the field or kicking with all their might, leading the flash mob, or scooping the popcorn – so much more than we could ever ask – and yet, exactly what we have come to expect from our super-star teachers and staff. Students shined also, whether singing the National Anthem, cheering their teachers on, joining the flash mob, kicking at halftime or being “green” and helping clean-up at the end. This was certainly an all-around great event that highlighted our teamwork as a school!

Also, please give a high-five to our newly elected Board Members when you see them. When asked to step-up and lead, these parents graciously said “Yes!” Welcome Chris, James, Lisa, Mel, and Taryn and welcome back Anaheeta and, yes, me too.

We will have our “list of great things we accomplished together” ready for the last newsletter of the year (next month). It’s always fun to take the time read through it and see how joining ($10 membership fees), volunteering, and fundraising come together to make incredible things happen at Liberty.

Gina Fink, Liberty PTA President 2011-12, gina.fink@comcast.net

Upcoming Events
May 2 – PTA Exec Board Meeting – 7:00 pm
May 4 – Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast
May 7 – 11 – Teacher Appreciation Week (TAW)
May 8 – PTA General Membership Meeting – 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

For a complete listing of Liberty events, please visit the school website at http://www.loudoun.k12.va.us/Page/62937

Treasurer’s Report

Greetings Liberty Families,

As the weather turns warmer and the school year winds down, I’d like to thank all of you for your generous support of all our PTA programs and activities thus far. We’ve beat our budget again this year, which means we have even more funds to work with than initially expected. Excess funds will be spent on initiatives that will make Liberty an even better place for our kids to learn and grow. As we enter into the home stretch, we are working on
solidifying our final cash position so we can accurately plan for the next school year. As such, if you’ve purchased items for PTA initiatives this year and have related reimbursement requests, please turn them in as soon as possible so that they may be factored into our year-end calculations. Please fill out the reimbursement request form on the Liberty website (see the PTA tab) and submit it per the instructions. Thank you!

Rebekah Cox  
2011-12 PTA Treasurer

Liberty PTA Executive Board  
2012 – 2013

The Liberty PTA is pleased to announce our officers for next school year!

President – Gina Fink  
VP Fundraising – Anaheeta Minwalla  
VP Committees – Chris Jackson-Coates  
VP Events – James Milam  
Treasurer – Lisa Teetz  
Recording Sec. – Melinda Mansfield  
Coordinating Sec. – Taryn Henderson

Please see http://www.lcps.org/Page/83756 for their background and goals.

Outdoor Classroom News

This has been an exciting few months for the Outdoor Classroom project. Committee member Jeremy Woon took on the project of constructing a kitchen garden in the second courtyard. Jeremy, Mr. Thiessen, Vinayak Arumugam and Suk Rawat spent a Saturday in April constructing raised beds and hauling soil to get this started. Thanks guys! It looks awesome!

We have some more great news to report. We received a donation of our bench materials from Trex Company Inc. Trex boards are created from a composite using recycled plastic grocery bags. So using them for the bench seating in our "green" themed outdoor classroom is a perfect fit. They have generously donated enough boards to construct all of our bench seating. Thanks to our Dad’s Club Chair, James Milam, for driving his truck and trailer all the way to Winchester to pick up the boards. Thanks James!

Anne Corej has completed our permit application for our benches so we hope this project can start soon. James and the Dad’s Club will be organizing a "barn raising" of sorts – well actually a "bench raising." James and I will be recruiting a team of Liberty parents who know how to wield a hammer to help construct the benches for the Outdoor Classroom - stay tuned...

Nabeela Fischer completed the design and specs for the water feature so this permit application will be approached next and we can get started on that with our group of Eagle Scouts.

Of course, those of you who attended STEMmer Day, or who have otherwise heard about it from your Liberty students, know about our very successful Rainbow Fundraiser. Stay tuned for more on that from our VP of Fundraising Julie Abel.

Things are falling nicely into place. For more information or to participate in this exciting project, e-mail me (Laura Tubridy) at lauratubridy@verizon.net.
### Teacher Appreciation Week  
**May 7th - 11th**

Please join us in letting the teachers and staff of Liberty know how much we appreciate all they do for our children. The theme this year will be “Students go bananas over our terrific teachers!”

The schedule for the week includes:

- **Monday** (May 7) – Fruit Day & PTA-hosted Breakfast-in-a-bag
- **Tuesday** (May 8) – Flower Day & Thank You’s
- **Wednesday** (May 9) – Dessert Day
- **Thursday** (May 10) – PTA-hosted Lunch & Banana Splits (“toppings” from students)
- **Friday** (May 11) – Book Day (new or gently used book for classroom libraries) & Classroom Activity or Gift (Optional – coordinated by Room Parents)

Students are encouraged to bring in an item to match the day e.g. on Monday, bring in one piece of whole, table-safe fruit; on Tuesday, a flower; on Wednesday, a dessert item; on Thursday any “topping” that can be put on a sundae; on Friday, a book donation to the classroom and contribution (optional) to group gift (coordinated by Room Parents) or individual token of appreciation.

The PTA is also hosting or coordinating special things throughout the week e.g. treats for bus drivers, raffle prizes for teachers, 10-minute lunch-break massages, etc. If you wish to contribute a prize(s) for PTA to raffle off, please contact Gina Fink at gina.fink@comcast.net or deliver prizes to any TAW Committee member.

Thank you!

The TAW Committee of Gina Fink, Kaye Findley, Suman K wandelwal, Neha Jain and Anaheeta Minwalla.

### Reflections 2012-13

Reflections is a National PTA program that offers students the opportunity to create works of art for fun and recognition. Students are encouraged to submit works of art in six arts areas: (1) Dance choreography; (2) Film production; (3) Literature; (4) Musical composition; (5) Photography, and; (6) Visual arts.

For our student-artists that may wish to work on their Reflections submission(s) over the summer, the 2012-13 Reflections theme is:

“The magic of a moment...”

What a wonderful theme that is sure to draw a varied and magical number of entries!

For additional Reflections program information, you can visit the National PTA website at: [http://www.ptareflections.org/](http://www.ptareflections.org/).
Link Your Store Cards

Help us earn money for Liberty with your retail purchases! Make sure to designate Liberty Elementary School as the beneficiary for your Giant, Harris Teeter, and Bloom shoppers' cards. You can also link your Target REDcard.

Go to the PTA Website and click on the PTA – Fundraisers link for all the details.

Art to Remember

If you placed an Art To Remember Order, it will be delivered to your student the week of May 7th. Thank you for your orders!

Many thanks to Mrs. Stine and Kristy Jones for heading up this program. If you have any questions about your order, please contact joneskrist@aol.com.

Outdoor Classroom Fundraiser

Thanks to all of the Liberty students, parents, and community partners who have helped to sponsor Liberty’s new Outdoor Classroom with donations of cash, supplies, material, and labor. So far we have raised almost $4,000 and we are still counting! Included in that amount is over $750 in donations from students and over $3,000 from Liberty families. We have also received many donations of supplies, material, and labor from our community partners. Many thanks go to Mrs. Koch and the SCA for helping to coordinate the fundraiser.

We will be able to create two wonderful new spaces in both of Liberty’s outdoor courtyards! For more information about the Outdoor Classroom Fundraiser and our sponsors, please visit the PTA website.

GLORY DAYS – ANY TIME, ANY DAY!

Keep sending your Glory Days receipts to school. Send your receipt to school in an envelope marked PTA or drop it in the Glory Days box near the office. See the PTA Fundraiser website for more details.

Box Tops End of Year Prize

Since we are nearing the end of the school year, we would like to update and remind everyone about the GRAND PRIZE for the class that has brought in the most Box Tops for the year. The grand prize winning class will receive a Pizza, Popcorn, and Lemonade Party. The second place class will receive a popsicle party, and the third place class will receive a popcorn party. Currently, the top five classes are:

- Ms. White’s 2nd Grade Class with 895
- Ms. Langan’s 4th Grade Class with 795
- Ms. Culver’s 4th Grade Class with 727
- Ms. Bank’s 1st Grade Class with 721
- Ms. McAtee’s 2nd Grade Class with 649

Many other classes are very close to the top five, so any class could win at this point. The deadline to turn in Box Tops to count towards the end of year prizes is Friday, May 18th. Please be sure to include teacher’s name on all Box Top submissions in order for your class to receive proper credit.
Thank You to Our
Staff Matball Game Volunteers

Alex Rast
Anaheeta Minwalla
Andrea Jones
Andrew Azzouz
Angie & Kaylee McKinney
Beth Cattafesta
Bonnie Giacinto
Brown Family (2 adults/2 kids)
Cassie Sebestyen
Chris Jackson-Coates
Christine/Alec/Brianna Maggio
Cyrus Minwalla
Dawn McClintic and son Alex
Emily Parker
Erin Stakel
Gina Fink
Grace Sebestyen
Haley Nystrom
Heba Naseer
Huong Tran
Jeremy Woon
Joshua Woon
Julie Abel
Julie McGoldrick
Karen, Steven & Ryan Broussard
Karen, Sean, Ryan & Rebecca O’Connor
Kaye Findley
Kate Kuo
Kelly Gray
Kimber Garland-Holmes & daughter
Laura Tubridy
Mansi Mody
Mark Abel
MaryAlice Piper
Medhini Nagaraj
Megan Elliott and Olivia
Michele McGraw
Mike Sebestyen
Molly Casson (with 6-8 boy scouts)
Neha Jain
Nicole Swain
Omkar Kulkarni
Raj Parthaje
Rebekah Cox

Robert & Zachary Teetz
Ryan
Sandra Vaughan
Sarah Welz
Michele, Dave, Jordan & Mia Sbitan
Sharon Lamb
Sridevi Kompally
Stephen Rast
Steve Sebestyen
Sukdev Rawat
Tom Fink
Tricia Fink
Vedika Pande
Ying and Karen Xu

If you volunteered with the Matball Game and we missed your name, we apologize. Your efforts were greatly appreciated!

Shout-Out

A big Shout-Out to the following people for their extra efforts over the past couple of months:

=> Miss. Koch and the SCA for their help with the Outdoor Classroom Rainbow fundraiser.

=> Mrs. Stine for her contributions in the Art to Remember fundraisers and for creating a beautiful artistic rendering of our outdoor classroom.

=> Kristy Jones for her contributions in the Art to Remember fundraiser.

=> Gina Fink, Steve Sebestyen and Anaheeta Minwalla for organizing the Staff Matball Game.

=> All of our wonderful principals and teachers who participated in the Staff Matball Game.