Parents, Teachers, and Liberty Community,

Wow! What a terrific response we have received with parents and teachers joining the PTA! We have surpassed last year’s numbers (in the first 3 weeks of school) and we are well on our way of meeting our goal of 100% membership in the PTA. Please scan the membership list for YOUR name and give yourself a double thumbs up if you are on the list. If you haven’t joined yet, it is NOT too late. Our membership drive runs through October and we will continue to seek out members and talk up all the benefits to you and your student(s) of having everyone join PTA.

Our September General Membership meeting drew a small crowd – so exciting! We spent exactly one hour talking about the happenings at your child’s school. We passed the 2011-12 Budget and voted to fund a Fall reading program. One of the true benefits of being a PTA member is having this one-hour meeting (that will start on time and end on time – guaranteed!) where you will be informed, be inspired (hopefully) and hear about how you can be involved at YOUR child’s school. Our next meeting is Tuesday, Oct. 11th from 7pm to 8pm. We would love to see you there! (Did I mention that there will be fruit, dessert and drinks at all meetings? Good, I wanted to be sure and mention that.)

We are pleased to report a sizeable number of volunteers on our General Volunteer e-mail list. And, we have gotten excellent responses to all our requests for volunteers for individual projects. It really does work when each person takes on a small task when called upon and some one else takes on the next one and so on.

We hope you participated in the Fall Fundraiser (our biggest fundraiser of the year). Fundraising is the way we are able to come together (by each of us doing our part) to be able to pay for large projects like Playground Phase II, an Outdoor Classroom and a Liberty Marquee sign. Direct donations are always welcome.

Looking ahead, October 22nd from 4pm to 6:30pm will be our annual Fall Festival. This has been designated a 5th-grade sponsored Event. That means all parents of 5th graders (and the 5th graders themselves) will be asked and encouraged to volunteer at least one (1) hour of your time at this event (or support the event financially). Please note that volunteers (teachers and parents of students in any grade) are ALWAYS welcome. (We do NOT turn away volunteers and you are always wanted and needed). This is a great event for all ages. Come show your school spirit!

Thank you for joining, attending meetings, volunteering, fundraising and participating in PTA activities and events (we don’t ask much)! It is appreciated!

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

October 3 – After-School Enrichment Begins
October 5 – PTA Exec Board Meeting – 7 PM
October 6 – Pathways Parent Meeting KG-2 – 6 PM
October 11 – PTA General Membership Meeting – 7 PM
October 16 – Stone Ridge 5k and 1K Fun Run
October 18 – Fall Fundraiser (Innisbrook) Delivery Day
October 20 – Comprehension/Test Taking Strategies Grades 3-5 – 6 PM
October 22 – Fall Festival 4 – 6:30 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

Hello Liberty Families! It’s time for another year of awesome initiatives brought to you by your PTA. The PTA helps fund the school playground, supplemental curriculum-related materials, several fun family-oriented events, and more! Thanks again for supporting us this year by joining the PTA, volunteering, and participating in our fundraisers and events! Here are some awesome ways to get involved with the PTA:

• Join today!! Over 70% of your $10/person PTA dues go right back to Liberty! You don’t see that kind of profit margin very often. What an easy, inexpensive way to support your school!
• Participate in our fundraisers!
• Register for the Stone Ridge 5k or Fun Run on October 16. Liberty received over $2,000 from last year’s race, with no offsetting costs to net against it. This event is pure profit for Liberty and is super fun. Mark your calendars and don’t miss it!

Thanks in advance for supporting the PTA’s efforts to foster another year of fun and learning for the children!

The Stone Ridge Fun Run and 5K

The Stone Ridge Fun Run and 5K Race for Education is coming up on Sunday, October 16th and we need your help! There are several ways you can get involved:

• Not a runner? Walk the 1K with your kids.
• Runner? Run the 5K!
• Prefer to volunteer? Fill out the volunteer sign-up sheet available on the Liberty website under the Stone Ridge 5K information link.
• Busy that day? Do packet pickup the day before the event.
• Lots to do that day? The Fun Run starts at 8:30 and the 5K at 9:00, so you will still have most of the day after the event is over.

The more volunteers, runners and walkers Liberty has, the more money we make for the school, so please consider volunteering and/or signing up for the 5K or Fun Run. Help us earn money for our school and win back the trophy for the most participants! Don’t forget to designate Liberty as your school.

More information about the volunteer opportunities and race registration can be found on the PTA website at: http://www.lcps.org/Page/63568. If you’re interested in volunteering, complete the form online or email Julie McGoldrick at julesmcgoldrick@yahoo.com
Upcoming Events and News

**Fall Festival**

Fall Festival is October 22nd and planning is underway. Mark your calendars now and save the date. You will not want to miss out on all the fun we have planned.

This event uses the most volunteers, so PLEASE, sign up to volunteer an hour or more of your time. Fifth grade parents, this is your event and every parent should be signed up to help out in some way. Either sign up to volunteer at the event, help with event planning, or sponsor the event. Be sure to look out for the weekly flyers. There will be lots of information distributed. See you all at the event.

**Liberty Fall Spiritwear Sale**

It is that time again and we will be starting up our Fall Spirit Wear Campaign. Please look for information to come home in your child’s Thursday Folder very soon. We will be using the on-line website for ordering again this Fall. For those of you who cannot access the internet, you will be able to submit a paper order. We are very excited to introduce a new product, the Liberty Flannel Pajama Pant.

**PTA Reflections Program**

Each year, the PTA Reflections Program challenges students to create art inspired by a specific theme. The 2011–2012 theme is “Diversity Means...”. Students participate in the Reflections Program by submitting entries to the Liberty PTA. The program has six arts areas—dance choreography, film production, literature, musical composition, photography, and visual arts—and four grade divisions—primary, intermediate, middle/junior, and senior.

We encourage students to participate in the Reflections program and unleash their artistic talents! The deadline for entries is November 2, 2011.

For additional information on the Reflections program, please see Liberty’s website http://www.loudoun.k12.va.us/Page/63565 or contact Anu Kaur, Liberty Reflections Chair, at anukaur@mac.com.

**Odyssey of the Mind**

Odyssey of the Mind program is a creative, problem-solving program for students ages K-College. This program provides an opportunity for children to work on their creativity and teamwork, to learn to appreciate and understand others, and to experience how much more powerful a group is than an individual. Students learn all of these lifetime skills while having fun in a nurturing environment provided by volunteer Coaches in our community.

Odyssey of the Mind is free and open to all students. Please enroll your child in this program and also volunteer as a Coach/Co-Coach – the more Coaches/Co-Coaches that we have, the more children we can accommodate. Be a coach and become your child’s HERO!

The deadline for registering for OM is September 30th! The form is available on our school website. If you have any questions please contact Deepa Jha @ dipajha@yahoo.com or @ 703-568-2361.
Fundraising News

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. If you don’t have a Target card, now is a great time to sign up for one.

These generous businesses donate a percentage of your purchases to our school. You need to link your Giant and Harris Teeter cards to our school each year. Even if you designated Liberty last year, you need to designate Liberty again this year. Go to the PTA Website and click on the PTA - Fundraisers Link for all the details. Make sure to use the Liberty code:
- Giant Code - 05654
- Harris Teeter Code - 7219
- Bloom Code - 01196
- Target Code - 149682

Fall Fundraiser Update - Still Accepting Direct Donations!
Thanks to everyone for participating in our Fall Fundraiser. Your support makes great things happen and funds our yearly budget. If you weren’t able to participate in the Fall Fundraiser, but would still like to give a Direct Donation to the PTA, go to the PTA Website and click on the PTA - Fundraisers Link, then select Direct Donation. Your donations are tax deductible!

For those of you that ordered from Innisbrook, your products will be coming some time between October 17th - 28th. Stay tuned for more information on how to receive your products.

Thanks again for your support. And, special thanks to those families and students who went the extra mile and received the Grand Prize: Justin Abel, Melissa Abel, Ana Paula Arvelos, Maliyah Hackey, Emily Hang, Noah Hull, Courtney Golden, Cate Jones, Kaylee Knox, and Rylee Moorman. Grand Prize winners will be getting a trip to the Prize Machine during lunch one day! Also, congratulations to Mrs. King’s 5th grade class who had the highest percentage participation and will be getting extra recess time one day. Our special instant prize winners were Parker Johnson, Andrea Silva, Jonathan Moore, Kalix Martin, Rohan Mengle and Ryan Broussard who won lunch with an administrator or their teacher. Our scavenger hunt winner was Rabbani Kaur.

Dining at Glory Days Pays!
If you like to eat at Glory Days Grill, it really pays. The next time (anytime) that you and your family eat at any Glory Days in the area (closest one is in Stone Ridge), please save your itemized receipt/Guest Check. Send your receipt to school in an envelope marked PTA or put it in the mailbox outside of the office. Glory Days will give us 10% of your food and non-alcoholic purchases. This applies to take out as well. For more information on Glory Days Grill, go to their website at www.glorydaysgrill.com.

Box Tops For Education
Start clipping those Box Tops! By doing so, you are earning “free” money for Liberty Elementary School. Every Box Top clipped is worth 10¢ and if we all pull together, we can earn THOUSANDS of dollars for our school. We all shop for groceries, so let’s turn those shopping trips into easy cash for our school! Just look for the Box Tops logo on hundreds of
products like Cheerios®, Hamburger Helper®, Kleenex®, and Betty Crocker® products such as Fruit Roll Ups®. All you need to do is clip and send them to school in your child’s backpack.

We'll have more to follow with some exciting ways for the children to collect Box Tops. In the meantime, thank you for supporting Liberty Elementary School and...HAPPY CLIPPING!

FALL FEST T-SHIRTS!

Keep an eye out for the Fall Fest t-shirt order form! The t-shirt will feature the front of the scarecrow (as pictured above) on the front and the back of the scarecrow on the back. T-shirts can be purchased for $10 each (pre-sale only). Orders will be due October 5th (this is a firm deadline).

We are also seeking sponsors for the t-shirts. Sponsorships (also due October 5th) are available in the amounts of:
- $1,000 (one "big" sponsor - front of t-shirt)
- $250 (logo on back of t-shirt) - 4 sponsors needed (no minimum)
- $100 (parents and businesses - name listed on back of shirt) - 10 needed (no minimum)

Contact Julie Abel at julieabel@comcast.net if you want to be a t-shirt sponsor for Fall Fest.

Shout-Out

Our PTA was hard at work this summer before the doors even opened for the students. A big Shout-Out goes to:

Beth Cattafesta and Lynn Hood for the Teacher Welcome Breakfast

Lisa Strother and Julie Abel for the School Supply Kits,

Rebekah Cox for coordinating the PTA audit, and;

Crystal Geller for installing the bluebird boxes.

Great work all!

This column will be a standard part of our monthly newsletter and will be used as a way to recognize the hard work, effort and time that our members dedicate to bring us the great programs and events that enhance our school.

If you know of a PTA member that you think deserves a Shout-Out, please e-mail Laura Tubridy at lauraturbridy@verizon.net so we can include them in this new section of our newsletter. We will publish "shout-outs" in the newsletter for the month following the activity (e.g. shout outs for September events will go in the October newsletter).
Volunteers Needed

The Liberty PTA events and activities are only possible with the help of our Liberty parents and guardians. The donation of your time and talent is the only way to keep our events going, which in return keeps our programs funded. Be a special part of your child’s life and show them the difference volunteering can make. With your help, we can make this school the greatest it can be. To volunteer, contact Anaheeta Minwalla at acminwalla@verizon.net.

Open Committee Chairs

We are still looking for volunteers to fill the following committee chairs. For more information please contact Anaheeta Minwalla, acminwalla@verizon.net.

⇒ LEAP Representative & Alternate
Requirements are to attend monthly meetings the LCPS Administration building and report to the PTA Executive Board.

⇒ International Festival Chairperson(s)
This is one of our biggest events of the year! If you choose to chair/co-chair this event, our outgoing committee chair will meet with you and give you information from previous years!

Fall Festival Volunteers Needed!

To make our Fall Festival on October 22nd a success, we need lots of volunteers. Please volunteer for one hour to assist in this great event. You'll have fun volunteering and you will be helping to make the festival a huge success!

Looking for Outdoor Classroom Volunteers

Liberty PTA's Green Team is working on an exciting new project for our school - an OUTDOOR CLASSROOM! We hope to convert one of our courtyards into an awesome natural environment with seating where students can learn first hand about plants, habitat, and other cool things. Plans are just getting underway and we need help. We need volunteers who know about landscape design and installation, horticulture, habitat creation, grant writing, construction or who just want to help with this project. If you would like to help out, please contact Laura Tubridy at lauratubridy@verizon.net.

Family Movie Night

A great success!! Our PTA kickoff event had a great turnout. The crowd seemed to have doubled from last year's movie night. Thank you to all the families that came out to enjoy the movie and a BIG THANK YOU to all of our volunteers:

Amanda Castillo        Gina Fink
Luis Galicia         Alex Galicia
Monica Galicia       Ashley Keene
Karin Meenan         Anaheeta Minwalla
Vedika Pande         Emily Parker
Tom Parker           Danette Peralta
MaryAlice Piper      Steve Sebestyen
Mila Slavitt         Laura Tubridy
Aban, Ann Jennifer
Aban, Edmund Descartes
Abel, Julie
Abel, Mark
Ablaiza, Joannah
Ablaiza, Melvin
Ag, Tammy
Ahn, Ken
Ahn, Judy
Ahuja, Anu
Ahuja, Jitin
Almeida, Premila
Anannaidu, Sudhamai
Anokye, Kwame
Anthony, Michelle
Arumugam, Vinayak
Arvelos, Andrea
Arvelos, Joao Paulo
Aslamyar, Mary
Aslamyar, Qais
Atmavilas, Vijay
Atwater, Angela
Atwater, James
Austin, Stacey
Aversano, Karin
Azarian, Nazanin
Bajakian, Michele
Balasubramanian, Dheepa
Baldonado, Shaun
Ballinger-Brotman, Elizabeth
Banks, Christy
Barham, Ilie
Barone, Amy
Bautista, Kellie Salinas
Beardslee, Natalia
Beardslee, Mike
Bell, William G.
Bell, Darlene L.
Berry, Jamila
Bhat, Poornima
Booth, Sandra
Booth, Robert
Elliott, Kyle

Borges, Ivette
Borkowsky, Joy
Boyklin, Arlene
Boyklin, Skip
Brady, Helen
Broady, Phillip
Brotman, Bruce
Broussard, Karen
Broussard, Chris
Brown, Vonetta
Brown, Jason
Burch, Suzanne
Burkholder, Marie
Burnes, Anthony
Burnheimer, Bonnie
Burre, Srinivas
Burton, Robin
Butash, Tammy
Campbell, Janet
Canody, Teri
Cashin, Regina
Casson, Molly
Casson, Dirk
Caton, Christine
Cattafesta, Beth
Cavero, Lina
Chamaiah, Ramesh
Chance, Lynn
Chance, Brandon
Chandol, Yuva
Chaudhary, Aliya
Chaudhary, Moeen
Che, Thuy
Cheng, Chung
Chi, Kelly
Chi, Jae
Chiaramonte, Diane
Chimaladinne, Shri
Chimaladinne, Anjan
Chinthapatla, Swapna
Cho, Rose
Cho, Yoon
Gutierrez, Ana

Choi, Kyung Soo
Choi, Wonjun
Choi, Beth
Chon, Suhee
Chromey, Katie
Chromey, Brian
Chukwu, Rebecca Eseonu
Chukwu, Chris O.
Chun, Eunhee
Chung, Mi
Chung, Jae Yong
Clark, Laura
Clay, Danielle
Clay, Shawn
Coates, Steven
Coleman, Richelle
Cooke, Paula
Cooke, Howard
Cooper, Chandra
Corej, Anne
Corej, Tom
Crafton, Bob
Crawford, Katie
Crawford, Justin
Culver, Stephanie
Damick, Jeffrey
Dempsey, Kim
Deshmukh, Shweta
Devitt, Donna
Devitt, Andy
Dhillon, Harinder
Doffermyre, Karin
Donepudi, Raghu
Doniparthi, Bhoopathi
Duncan, Jennifer
Durairaj, Yamunarani
Ebel, Amelia
Edla, Rajeshwari
Ehsan, Tallat
Ehsan, Adnan
Elias, Nermine
Elias, Emad
Jain, Hemant
Don't see your name on the list? It's not too late to join! Send in $10 along with the membership form. You can find the membership form on the Liberty website under PTA.