

Sequoyah Signal

The Sequoyah Elementary School PTA Newsletter

December 3, 2008
Volume 2, Issue 3

www.sespta.org/Signal.aspx

Editor: Amy Stevens



Monthly Message

From our Principal, Assistant Principal, & PTA President

Dear Sequoyah Parents and Guardians:

We hope you had a delightful and restful Thanksgiving break. We know you are looking forward to the Winter Break and spending time with your family and friends. Before we say "good-bye" to 2008, there are some upcoming events in December we know you will want to attend.

November was an exciting month for our school and our nation. Our country elected a new President and Vice-President. Congratulations to President-Elect Obama and Vice-President Elect Biden! The second graders attended the yearly performance at Strathmore Concert Hall. Our Sequoyah students have started their correspondence with the Busharo Primary School in Uganda. We can't wait for the Ugandan students to write us back!

This month the chorus is holding a Winter Gala concert on December 16th at 7:00 pm. Dr. Lively, our music teacher, has been working with the fourth, fifth, and some of our third grade students to present a concert for all to enjoy. Please mark your calendar. Also, our annual holiday Sing-Along will be held on December 23rd at 2:00 pm. Please join the staff and students while we sing our favorite holiday songs from all over the world.

Don't forget to make your Market Day purchases by December 3rd. Internet orders can be made until December 4th at

noon. Orders can be picked up on Wednesday, December 10th from 7-8 pm. in the APR. The money raised by the PTA continues to support our students by providing cultural assemblies and extracurricular activities. Thank you for your continued support of our PTA and our school.

Our second annual "Sequoyah Night at Barnes & Noble" is on Friday, December 12th from 6-8 pm. Sequoyah staff will be at Barnes & Noble to read stories, play board games, and display students' artwork. Every time you make a purchase at that store on December 12th or December 13th using the vouchers that have been coming home in the Wednesday folders, Sequoyah will receive a percentage of the proceeds for new books! What a wonderful way to keep our students reading! Dr. Lively will even have some of her students singing holiday songs. Please come out and join us for our "Spotlight on Sequoyah."

We hope you have a wonderful and safe holiday. After the week-long break, we look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Monday, Jan. 5th at 9:05 am.

Dr. Bobbi Jasper, Principal
Ms. Christine Woodcock, Asst Principal
Ms. Tina Webb, PTA President



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Sequoyah Elementary School

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(301) 840-5335

www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/schools/sequoyahes/

Principal: Dr. Bobbi Jasper
Asst. Principal: Ms. Christine Woodcock
PTA President: Ms. Tina Webb

➤ Support Sequoyah during the holidays:

- Night at Barnes & Noble Dec. 12 at the Rio - bring family and friends (and your Sequoyah vouchers!)
- Bring your GL Scrip gift cards for Barnes & Noble, Kohls, California Pizza Kitchen, AMC Theaters, and other Rio shops and make it a family day!
- Buy gifts for athletes and sports fans at Modell's! Share the SES coupon with family, friends, and colleagues!

➤ Join the Sequoyah email group at <http://groups.yahoo.com/subscribe/Sequoyah>.

Take Note: School Schedule

School Holidays - No school

Dec. 24 - Jan. 4 (Winter Break)

Monday, Jan. 19 - Martin Luther King's Birthday

Monday, Jan. 26 - Professional Day for Teachers

Save the Date

Market Day: Stock up for the holidays. Place an order online at MarketDay.com, or submit a paper order form.

- Order forms due Wednesday, Dec. 3
- Internet orders due noon Thursday, Dec. 4
- Pickup Wednesday, Dec. 10, 7-8 pm, APR

Contact: Ivette Sherman (301) 330-5151
IdShopper@comcast.net

GL Scrip: As noted throughout this newsletter, there are countless ways to use gift cards this holiday season and all through the year. Place your order immediately to receive your cards in time for the holidays.

- Orders due Thursday, Dec. 4
- Pickup Wednesday, Dec. 10, 7-8 pm, APR

Contact: Danielle Rice (240) 447-6019
Danielle.M.Rice@comcast.net

2nd Annual Bingo Night: 7:00 pm Friday, Dec. 5th in the Sequoyah APR. Come play 12 games of Bingo for only \$5 a person. Win great prizes and have lots of fun.

Contact: Andi Dumas (301) 330-9633
ajdumas@comcast.net

Book Fair Wrap-Up

Wow, it is wonderful to see that the recession has not impacted Sequoyah students' love for reading. Thanks to everyone's support, the Book Fair increased its sales by over 10% from the previous spring fair. We sold over \$7,400 worth of books and products and were able to grant the Sequoyah Media Center over \$700 worth of new books for students and staff to enjoy. In addition, the profits we reaped will help continue such wonderful PTA projects such as the Author's and Reflections programs.

Kudos to the Sequoyah students and staff for helping conduct a stress-free book fair. It was wonderful to see students and staff respect and honor the new hours and procedures set by the book fair committee. This community spirit resulted in a fair that was very safe, fun, and profitable for everyone.

Other Dates

Friday, Jan. 23 - Second Marking Period Ends

Tuesday, Jan. 27 - Third Marking Period Begins

Modell's Fundraiser: Shop at Modell's Sporting Goods Dec. 5 - Jan. 1 and save 10% when you present your SES coupon or mention Sequoyah. Tell your friends and help Sequoyah PTA earn money on every purchase!

Contact: Danielle Rice (240) 447-6019
Danielle.M.Rice@comcast.net

Sequoyah Night at Barnes & Noble: 6-8 pm, Friday, Dec. 12th, Barnes & Noble at the Rio in Gaithersburg.

Contact: Beth Deigan (301) 840-5335
Elizabeth_M_Deigan@mcpsmd.org

Shopping Event at Barnes & Noble: Friday, Dec. 12th and Saturday, Dec. 13th, Barnes & Noble at the Rio in Gaithersburg. Bring your voucher and save money on your purchase! In addition, Sequoyah will receive a percentage of voucher sales for the two days!

Contact: Beth Deigan (301) 840-5335
Elizabeth_M_Deigan@mcpsmd.org

Winter Gala Concert: Tuesday, Dec. 16th, 7:00 pm, APR. Call the school for details: (301) 840-5335

Holiday Sing-Along: Tuesday, Dec. 23rd, 2:00 pm, Gym. Call the school for details: (301) 840-5335

Thank you to our wonderful parent volunteers who helped set up, operate, and clean up at the book fair. Your time and support is truly priceless.

And who can forget the incredible teachers and staff members who sacrificed their evening to sit out in the cold and read to their beloved students at our Courtyard Reading Night. Each year we ask you to help us out and each year you never fail to make it a success.

This fall's Book Fair was especially fun and trouble free. Those of you who helped and supported this book fair can be assured that you made a positive impact on the Sequoyah community. It is always heart-warming to see the smiles on the students' faces and we cannot wait to do this again in the spring.

Your Book Fair Chairs, Tam Miller and Ellen Motley

Donation & Dedication

Recently the Stallion Bookstore received a generous donation of previously-enjoyed children's books in memory of a brave member of the Sequoyah community. Robert Riano died in Fallujah, Iraq, at the age of 49 while serving his country (as a civilian) in the war on terror. Before he died, he devoted a great deal of his time volunteering with Cub Scout Pack 1492 and Boy Scout Troop 1492 assisting young boys in their journey to become young men.

The PTA was contacted by his widow, Dianne Gorman Riano, a former teacher/volunteer who says she tried to instill a love of reading in their two boys. "I have a great

many children's books that I know would be of interest to your students," she told us via email. "If possible, I would like to donate them from my children [Christopher Riano, Magruder Class of 2001 and Nicholas Riano, Magruder Class of 2005] to their father, Robert Riano, who died in Iraq in 2006. Now that my kids are older, I find that I have a great many children's books in good condition hanging around my house."

Thanks to donations from the Riano family and others, Sequoyah students can keep enjoying good books from the Stallion Bookstore!



2nd Annual Bingo Night

At 7:00pm on Friday, Dec. 5th, bring the whole family to Sequoyah and play Bingo for only \$5.00 a person. Your entry fee pays for 12 games of Bingo and the chance to win fun prizes such as toys and gift cards! Daubers (Bingo markers) will be available for \$1.

Refreshments such as baked goods, fresh popcorn, and drinks will be for sale, courtesy of many fine members of

our PTA. Thank you to those who have signed up to help or to donate concession items.

This is a fun event for everyone!
Don't miss it!

Contact: Andi Dumas (301) 330-9633
ajdumas@comcast.net



Sequoyah Night at Barnes & Noble



A few weeks ago your child brought home a "Save the Date" for our second annual Sequoyah Night at Barnes & Noble at the Rio Washingtonian Center. On Friday, Dec. 12th from 6-8pm, this fun family event will be better than ever. It is a great time to get a little holiday shopping done and perhaps play a game, view some of your child's art work or listen to some wonderful Sequoyah singing. Teachers have signed up to read, play games, and create some crafts. Dr. Lively will invite students to sing on the

bookstore stage. Just like last year, Sequoyah receives a percentage of the monies spent when you use your voucher. I will send more vouchers home in the Dec. 10th Wednesday folder. We will also have them available at the store for anyone who comes out to support Sequoyah Elementary.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the Rio!

Beth Deigan, Reading Specialist
(301) 840-5335 or Elizabeth.M.Deigan@mcpsmd.org



Rio's the Place to Be Dec 12-13

Planning to shop for books, CDs, DVDs, games, or other popular items while at Sequoyah Night at Barnes & Noble? Help the SES PTA make the most of the event. **Order a Barnes & Noble gift card from GL Scrip by Dec. 5th** and use it on Dec. 12th and 13th to make your purchases. The school will earn 9% from GL Scrip in addition to contributions from Barnes & Noble for purchases made with our discount vouchers.

Many other GL Scrip participating retailers have locations at the Rio, including: Dick's Sporting Goods, Starbucks, Bath & Body Works, Kohl's, Pier 1, Macaroni Grill, California Pizza Kitchen, AMC, and Kay Jewelers. Help make the most of a great evening using GL Scrip Gift Cards at the Rio on December 12th and 13th and throughout the year!

Contact: Danielle Rice (240) 447-6019
Danielle.M.Rice@comcast.net

GL Scrip Update

In November the PTA sponsored the first monthly GL Scrip Fundraiser of the year, earning \$189 for our school. Thank You... to all of the families that participated.

The funds were generated by just 9 families ordering cards as gifts and for personal use on everyday purchases. Gift cards to Safeway, Giant and Walmart/Sam's Club are among the most ordered cards. This is a smart and easy way to help our school and community. Purchase the gift card of your choice, and the PTA earns a percentage of the total sale but you use the full face value of the gift card. It is so smart that the PTA will sponsor a GL Scrip Fundraiser each month this year, giving everyone an opportunity to learn about the program and make it part

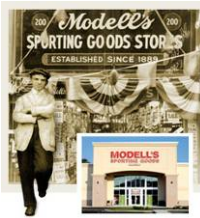
of their monthly shopping experience.

This month: Order GL Scrip gift cards before Dec. 4th for pick-up Dec. 10th at 7:00 pm.

New from GL Scrip:

- Order using our new consolidated order form (check your Wed. Folder or www.sespta.org for a copy).
- Order online at www.shopwithscrip.com. Use enrollment code 4B66LCLL16263 to register.
- Pay online using GL Scrip's Presto Pay service (\$0.39 service fee applies).
- Reload certain gift cards, including Starbucks and Lowes, at www.shopwithscrip.com.

Modell's – What's on Your Holiday Shopping List?



Our winter Modell's Sporting Goods Shopping Event will begin Dec. 5. Shop any time between Dec. 5th and Jan. 1st using your Modell's coupon and receive 10% off your purchase. In addition, our school will earn 5% of total SES sales. Watch your email and Wednesday Folders for the flier; take it to any Modell's location (locally near Target in

Germantown and on Wisconsin Ave in Bethesda) and you'll save on licensed Redskins, Steelers, Ravens, and Capitals merchandise and much more. Treadmills, Timberlands, Crocs ...Get to Mo's to save and support our school. SPREAD THE WORD and distribute the coupons...anyone can use them and support Sequoyah!!!

Contact: Danielle Rice (240) 447-6019
Danielle.M.Rice@comcast.net

Upromise – Savings for College

When you shop through www.Upromise.com, you can choose from over 1,600 of the most popular titles at www.magazines.com – and never pay sales tax. Delight your friends and family with subscriptions for the holidays or buy them for yourself. Either way, all subscriptions come with a 25% college savings for you and a special 25% bonus for Sequoyah. Just remember to

start your shopping at www.Upromise.com.

Not a Upromise member yet? Join now at www.Upromise.com/schools and designate Sequoyah as your school of choice. Look for many other ways to save money for college with Upromise.

Contact: Ellen Rahr (301) 208-0805
rahr@comcast.net

More Ways to Support Sequoyah

There are many other ways in which you, family, friends, and colleagues can help Sequoyah meet its fundraising goals with little effort. Spread the word and check out the Sequoyah PTA website (www.sespta.org) for more details about these fundraisers:

- Submit your PTA membership application and dues.
- Place used ink/toner cartridges, cell phones and accessories, and PDAs in the Recycle bins near the main office at Sequoyah.
- Continue clipping Box Tops and submitting them on redemption forms to Ms. Cameron.
- Clip Campbell's Labels for Education from participating products (including Swanson, Juicy Juice, and Pepperidge Farm) and place them in the PTA President's mailbox.

- Designate Sequoyah Elementary during checkout at Office Depot and www.officedepot.com.
- Click on ads on the Sequoyah PTA website to purchase participating products online.
- Purchase any Avon product online at youravon.com/lsidebottom.
- Use Sequoyah's Verizon Velocity code (12462) and call 1-888-695-5299 to purchase Verizon products.
- Go to www.distrips.net and mention Sequoyah when planning a Disney vacation!
- Make a tax-deductible donation to the Sequoyah PTA.
- Gather and submit your family's Giant, Safeway, and Food Lion (Bloom) card numbers so that we can enroll you in their school bonus programs.

Thank you for all your support!

Mamma Lucia Restaurant Night

Congratulations to the Dennison family, winners of the Restaurant Night Raffle at Mamma Lucia in Olney! They won a \$25 gift card for future dining at Mamma Lucia. Thank you to everyone who came out and supported the PTA. The raffle box was packed full of entries, the restaurant was swarming with Sequoyah families, and Mamma Lucia donated \$510 to the PTA! This sizable donation made November 19th the most successful

Restaurant Night yet, topping last year's \$490!

There will be another chance to win a gift card raffle at our next Restaurant Night, Thursday, January 15th at Ledo's in Derwood. Look for more information in upcoming Wednesday folders and on the PTA website.

Contact: Michelle Clarke
martinmichelleclarke@comcast.net

Shop at Target, Earn \$ for Sequoyah

We would like to let you in on a terrific way to raise funds for Sequoyah. It's super-easy. Through Target's Take Charge of Education® program, all you have to do is use your Target® Visa® or Target® Card. The School will receive a percentage of the amount of each purchase in the form of a cash donation from Target. It costs you nothing!

Just visit www.target.com/tcoe, or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate Sequoyah as your school of choice. Then whenever you shop at Target - or anywhere - please

consider using your Target® Visa® or Target® Card. All purchases earn money for Sequoyah! Big thanks to those who are already doing their part to make a great school even better.



- Find out how much money our school has already received at www.target.com/tcoe.
- Grandparents, alumni, neighbors and friends can take part, too.

Contact: Ellen Rahr (301) 208-0805

On-going Catalog Orders

Once again, a great big THANK YOU for helping us meet our fundraising goal of \$4,000 for the Great American Gift Wrap and Cookie Dough Fundraiser this fall! The money we raised will be used for some of Sequoyah's many enrichment programs.

Did you know...

...that you (as well as friends and family) can continue to order items online at www.GAfundraising.com and support our school? The month-long fundraising

campaign has ended, but fundraising opportunities through Great American have not! Any online order referencing Sequoyah Elementary School will be credited to our PTA - at any time throughout the year. So it is NOT too late to order that gift wrap, purchase holiday gifts for your loved ones, or subscribe to (or renew) that magazine you've wanted to read.

Thank you!

Sue Martin and Wanda Drake
 Co-chairs, Gift Wrap Committee

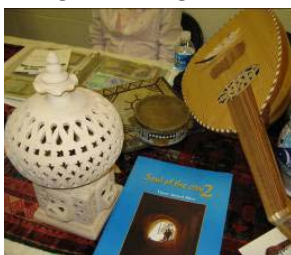
Around the World in One Night

We had no less than an incredible turnout at last month's International Night! Over 35 countries were represented at this bi-annual family event. Students and their families were introduced to food, dress, music, customs, and other cultural treasures from all over the world. What a treat to experience the cultures of our friends in the Sequoyah community!

Dozens of youngsters and adults showed off their traditional dress with colorful costumes. Boy Scouts led the Pledge of Allegiance, and families were entertained

with Irish dancers, a belly dancer, and a traditional dance from India.

It was a beautiful evening thanks to the hard work of chairs Jennifer Trickey and Isabel Seyed-Ali and all the families who participated. Thank you everyone for such a wonderful experience!



Picture Gallery



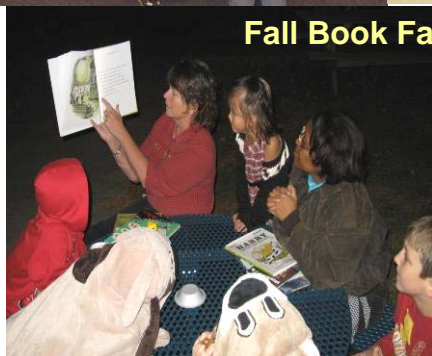
Author's Program



Halloween Parade & Parties



International Night



Fall Book Fair & Reading Night



Student Counsel Update



Announcing...

The Annual Student Council Food Certificate/Can Food Drive December 3-17, 2008

We are asking for canned foods/non perishable items and food certificates. Your donations will be distributed to families in our community in order to make their holiday brighter!

The Student Council would like to extend a big 'Thank You' for support we have received in the past. Our school community has been extremely generous and your support is greatly appreciated. Together, we can make a positive difference in the lives of many of our community members. We thank you.

Student Council and Mr. Plaisance

Don't forget to join the Sequoyah email group to receive the latest news and reminders right in your inbox!
<http://groups.yahoo.com/subscribe/Sequoyah>

Welcome to Bar-T
 Where kids learn, build confidence, and have fun!

At Bar-T children participate in well-Structured programs, offering flexibility through a variety of activities and clubs. Some of our clubs consist of:

- Football
- Soccer
- Basketball
- Tennis
- Gymnastics
- Young Artist
- Dance Revolution
- On the Go Field trips
- And so much more!

Bar-T staff are committed and experienced professionals who provide children with a caring and stimulating atmosphere.

Bar-T Kids Club is open from 6:45am until 6:30pm. We also provide Winter Break & Spring Break, Full and Half days off and Snow days.

Bar-T also works closely with the Montgomery County Public Schools system.

Bar-T accepts Vouchers, and if you need help we will provide you with the resources for assistance.

Don't Look Any Further, Sign Up Now!
 Bar-T is the Child Care Program for You and Your Family!

Please contact Nicole Davis at (240) 205-9202 or by email sequoyah@bar-t.com to schedule a tour and information session.

