



## President's Letter

It hardly seems possible, but Labor Day is past, summer is a distant memory, and here we are well settled into another school year! This is the first of four PTA newsletters you will receive this year. In this issue, you will find information to guide you through the 2006-2007 school year—another year filled with fun activities that enrich students' lives as well as fundraisers that provide monies to Northwood's teachers and departments. Before you read about these activities, though, I want to take the opportunity to thank the volunteers whose work will make these events possible.

Let me start by recognizing my fellow Board members: Treasurer, Angela Blackwell; Secretary, Susan Harper; Parliamentarian, Sandy Andrews; and Vice Presidents, Joyce Hosseini, Kathy Thomas, Tara Osborne and Stephanie Duffy. The Board works very closely with the forty-plus committee Chairs who lead Northwood's 32 committees. Committee Chairs are listed on the last page of the newsletter, alongside the name of their committee. I encourage you to read through this impressive list! Board and committee Chairs have been hard at work already—some throughout the summer—to organize events for this school year. I'm sure you already know many of these folks, and you will get to know others well as the school year progresses.

As soon as school began, another group of volunteers went to work—Northwood's Room Parents. Once again, there are almost 100 Room Parents serving Northwood's room-based teachers this year. This group of volunteers works directly with teachers and students, making sure students' birthdays are recognized and other holidays are observed appropriately. They also ensure that the needs of Northwood's wonderful teachers are met.

As we move into the school year, there will be many opportunities for you to join the volunteer ranks! If you are interested in exploring ways you could lend your time and talents to Northwood, please talk to any Board member or Committee Chair, or visit the PTA website ([www.NorthwoodPTA.com](http://www.NorthwoodPTA.com)) to read detailed descriptions of each Northwood committee as well as information about upcoming activities.

Now, if you read through the rest of the newsletter, you will learn about all the wonderful activities on tap for this fall as well as get a flavor for what lies ahead for the spring semester. We hope you will add these events to your calendar and plan to join us.

Finally, a big, "thank you" to those of you who came to our first General PTA meeting of the year. This meeting was held three times, before each Curriculum Night in early September. During those meetings, the membership voted to approve the PTA budget for this school year—always a critical milestone in the PTA year. I would also like to report that our audit of the 2005-2006 PTA budget was completed successfully in August. I want to thank Grace Pate for conducting this audit for us—very hearty "thanks" as she also performed the PTA audit last year. Northwood's PTA has had its books audited for many years, as it seemed prudent. The last two years, Georgia PTA mandated a formal audit for all unit PTAs, but luckily this was not new for Northwood. And as with so many things at Northwood, it is most gratifying that a volunteer was willing to step forward to help complete necessary work for us.

Thanks to everyone for helping Northwood get off to a wonderful start! If you have any questions or wish to offer input at any point this year, please do not hesitate to contact me or any PTA Board member.

Lisa Anderson

## Gift Wrap Update

Thank you for participating in our fall fundraiser with Sally Foster. We had great fun with our weekly raffles and "count the Stars" contest. We had 25 plus kids qualify for the "limo and lunch" prize. It will be an exciting day when the limousine pulls up to the school and takes all the prize winners out to lunch with the principal.

**Gift wrap pick up is scheduled in the Gym on:**

**October 4: 2:00-6:00 p.m.**

**October 5: 2:00-5:30 p.m.**

Please plan to come by on one of these two days to pick up your orders!

Now, if you didn't get a chance to finish shopping (or some of your family or friends outside of Atlanta would like to shop some more), please visit the Sally Foster website: [www.SallyFoster.com](http://www.SallyFoster.com) and register your child under the Seller Section using the "Account number: 507221". Write down the unique user ID, that will be generated and you will be ready to shop yourself or send e-mails to family and friends to let them know how to shop.

This fundraiser is the cornerstone of the PTA budget, so thanks again for your support! If you have any questions, please contact Cathy Riley, Annie Wehr, or Grace Pate, Gift Wrap Committee Co-Chairs.



The Annual *Northwood Carnival* is coming on *Saturday, October 14th, 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.* Save this date for a full day of fun. Just like last year, **one admission fee will let children play all day.** There will be obstacle courses, slides, boxing, games, food, and more! The main attraction this year will be a "DUNK TANK", we know you will want to come by and dunk your favorite teacher. A flyer will come home soon telling you how to reserve your admission pass. We hope to see you there! If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Lisa Anderson or Angela Blackwell, Carnival Committee Co-Chairs.

## Your Northwood PTA at Work For You!

**Join us for Hands on Atlanta Day at Northwood!** On Saturday October 7, 9:00-12:00, more than 17,000 volunteers like you will take to the streets to **Do Something Good** as part of Hands on Atlanta Day 2006. HOA is a non-profit community service organization that helps individuals, families, and corporate community groups find flexible volunteer opportunities at more than 400 service organizations and schools.



This year at Northwood we are undertaking the ambitious project of rebuilding the landscaping and drainage around the gym and basketball court area in addition to restriping the blacktop and creating aesthetic plantings in other bare spots around the school. Materials, especially attractive trees and shrubbery, are in short supply so we are in need of material support above and beyond the simple azaleas offered by HOA. Northwood has also been "adopted" by a 100-volunteer corporate group so we have a need for volunteers with landscaping experience to serve as team leaders to manage this large group in addition to regular volunteers. If you would like to volunteer to help, or if you would like to support the project by helping fund some of the finer landscape improvements, please contact Jud Shumway at [djshumwa@southernco.com](mailto:djshumwa@southernco.com).

After completing this volunteer project, join HOA at Centennial Olympic Park from 1-3 to celebrate your service and reflect on the impact of the day. The Celebration of Service party will feature refreshments, live entertainment and more. For information on other volunteer opportunities, visit the Hands on Atlanta website at [www.handsonatlanta.org](http://www.handsonatlanta.org).

**We are launching the 2006-2007 Box Tops for Education fundraising for Northwood.** With your help, we can earn more cash for our school than ever before! Simply clip Box Tops coupons from hundreds of your favorite General Mills products. Send them to school or drop them in the pink collection bin in front of the Media Center (in a baggie or envelope with your child's teacher indicated). The class that submits the most box tops wins a pizza party. For added fun, your child can fill up a collection worksheet available in the front office or on the Northwood PTA website. Each child that turns in a completed sheet with 25 box tops will receive a prize! The first collection date for box tops is Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup>.

Did you know you can also earn cash for Northwood when you shop online? Start every online shopping trip at the Box Tops Marketplace at [www.boxtops4education.com/Marketplace](http://www.boxtops4education.com/Marketplace). You can shop at over 200 stores (including Target, Best Buy, Dell, and Lands' End) and our school earns up to 8% of every qualifying purchase—all at no additional cost to you!

Thanks for making a difference for Northwood! If you have any questions, please contact Kim Tolleson, Big G Box Tops Committee Chair.

**Bruster's Scoop Day** was a success and a great ending to the first week of school. Thank you to all the teachers and staff that worked hard behind the counter, we couldn't have done it without you. Also thank you to the students and families that came out and supported the PTA. Mrs. Nall's second grade class had the most participation and won the ice cream cake, congratulations! We will hold another Bruster's Scoop Day in April so watch for more details later in the year.

**Have You Joined Yet?!** There is still time to join the PTA and receive a directory with certain memberships. Forms are available at the front desk in the office or on the PTA website ([www.NorthwoodPTA.com](http://www.NorthwoodPTA.com)). Remember, the best deal on this year's yearbook is available through the one-stop shopping on the PTA membership form! Added PTA membership benefits include:

- ◆ Discounts at the Alliance Theatre
- ◆ Discounts at the Atlanta History Center
- ◆ Discounts at Atlanta Hawks, Atlanta Thrasher, and some Philips Arena events
- ◆ Discounts at Honey Baked Ham stores
- ◆ Discounted Chattahoochee Nature Center memberships
- ◆ Discounted Fernbank memberships
- ◆ Discounts at Barnesandnoble.com
- ◆ Online Parenting resources

Let's reach 100% PTA membership *again* this year! Questions? Contact Lyn Shealy, Membership Committee Chair.

**MUSIC NIGHT: Calling all 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders** for a night of fun and games just for you! Join us **Friday October 27<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:45** in the cafeteria for a night of dancing, contests, games, snacks and more led by our favorite DJ, Matt who did last Spring's event. Parents, **this is not a dance**, but rather a special night of age-appropriate fun geared toward Northwood's older students. Questions or like to volunteer (if you haven't already)? Contact Jenny Bramel, Music Night Chair @ (770) 643-7932.



**Pizza Anyone?!** Domino's Pizza Night is a PTA-sponsored event that is held on the last Thursday of every month that school is in session. The day of the event, each child will bring home a flyer and a sticker as a reminder.

Your pizza purchase on that night will help the PTA. In addition, the classroom with the most participation will earn a free pizza party, and the teacher in that class will be given a School Box gift certificate. Thanks for your participation, and if you have any questions, please contact Karen Brown, Pizza Night Committee Chair.

**[www.NorthwoodPTA.com](http://www.NorthwoodPTA.com)** Have you visited the Northwood PTA website yet?! You can get PTA Board and Committee contact information there, get the dates of school events, learn about what individual committees do, pull up any/all forms that may have been "lost" somewhere between school and home, and more! We hope you will become familiar with this important source of information. And, this site continues to grow. If you have any feedback about the site, please contact Shelley Avant, Website Committee Chair.

**The Wild is Coming to Northwood!** Northwood's Kindergarten-3<sup>rd</sup> graders are invited to join us on Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, **TONIGHT**, for Movie Night. Meet in the cafeteria for pizza, popcorn and a movie from 6:45 until 9:00 p.m. If you have not saved your spot admission will be \$10.00 at the door if space is available. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please call Kathleen DeBuys or Darina Yankey, Movie Night Co-Chairs.

**Wear your Spirit on your Sleeve!** Wear your school spirit with pride! This year, we have cool looking  $\frac{3}{4}$  sleeve baseball shirts in grey with red or blue sleeves for \$12. Different sizes are available for children and grown-ups alike. We also have baseball hats in a dark grey for \$10. Cold weather is on its way! We have pullover and zip-front sweatshirts available by special order. Place your orders now and you'll have them in time for fall. Pick up an order form in the school office Or order forms are available online at [www.NorthwoodPTA.com/Forms&Fyers.htm](http://www.NorthwoodPTA.com/Forms&Fyers.htm) Place your form and payment in an envelope marked "PTA--SPIRIT WEAR and return it to your child's teacher. You may also visit our table at the Northwood Carnival. Any questions may be addressed to Sandy Lashley 770-664-9289 Sanlorlas@aol.com.

**My Favorite Place . . .** "My Favorite Place" is the theme of Reflections, 2006, and you still have time to submit an entry for this National Arts Recognition Program. Entry forms and official rules are available in homeroom classes, at the front office or on the PTA website ([www.NorthwoodPTA.com](http://www.NorthwoodPTA.com)). Entry categories include Visual Arts, Photography, Literature, Dance Choreography, and Photography. All entries must be submitted by October 6, 2006—there is a collection box in the front office. If you have any questions, please contact Tia Peterson, Reflections Committee Chair.

**Please Log Those Volunteer Hours!** Now that the new school year has begun and you are busy volunteering for Northwood, please remember to record your volunteer hours. When you are in school, be sure to log on (and—before you leave—off!) the computer in the front office. If you do anything for Northwood outside the school, just keep track of your hours and log them on a VIPS ("Volunteers in Public Schools") card in the file near the computer in the lobby—those hours get added into the system by hand. Not only does volunteering benefit students and teachers (and you!), but Northwood earns funding credit for the hours we capture. Questions? Contact Jamie John, VIPS Committee Chair.



**Looking Toward Spring . . .** Fall is packed with activities, but spring will be here before we know it! Highlights will include: another *Skate Day at the Cooler* on January 11<sup>th</sup> and *Movie Night*, January 26<sup>th</sup>. February 26<sup>th</sup> will be the *Kindergarten Musical*, preceded by the second General PTA meeting of the year. Bingo is held just once a year—it will be on March 2nd. The second *Music Night* of the school year will be on March 23rd. The *Foundation's Third Annual Walk-a-Thon* will also be in the spring. Finally, we'll wrap up the year with *Field Days*—May 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. Of course, there will also be Team Meetings, Pizza Nights, and more! Check the "Best of Northwood" as well as the Northwood and PTA websites for these dates, and be sure to put all these fun-filled family events on your calendar now!

**SAY CHEESE!** PTA Presents: Family Portrait Weekend Thursday Oct. 19-Sat. Oct. 21<sup>st</sup>. Family Focus Photography is offering one 11X14 canvas family portrait for just \$25.00. And \$20.00 per family will support Northwood PTA. Additional packages will be available 2 weeks after the shoot and reorders are guaranteed back before Thanksgiving Break. Flyers will be coming home with your child so that you have an opportunity to choose a time for your family portrait either Oct 19<sup>th</sup> 5pm-9pm, Oct 20<sup>th</sup> 5pm-9pm or Oct 21<sup>st</sup> 10am-6pm. If you have any questions please contact Kathy Thomas at 770-777-1914.

## Kroger and Publix Scan Card Updates

Here is how your weekly trip to the grocery store can benefit Northwood:

- ◆ At Publix (both the store at Haynes Bridge and Old Alabama in Alpharetta as well as the new store at 1425 Market Boulevard in Roswell)—you simply use your Publix Scan card every time you check out. Both wallet and key ring versions of the Publix Scan card are available by the volunteer computer in the front office if you need one or more!
- ◆ Kroger has changed their system last year. They no longer have a separate scan card. Instead, you need to take the Northwood "bar code" into the store to be scanned along with your KrogerPlus card when making a purchase. Once you have done this once, every time you use your KrogerPlus card, four percent of your purchase will be credited toward Kroger's "Earning Plus Learning Fund." Northwood will then be eligible to earn a share of that fund dependent upon total earned contributions attributable to Northwood. If you need a copy of the flyer with the Northwood's bar code, please pick one up at the front office by the volunteer computer or get one on the PTA website ([www.NorthwoodPTA.com/Forms&Flyers](http://www.NorthwoodPTA.com/Forms&Flyers)). We hope everyone will enroll in this program this year!

The monies earned by the PTA through these "Scan Card" programs each year are significant. Please help us by enrolling early!

## Important Dates to Remember

### October

- Mon, 2—Spirit Day
- Mon, 4—Gift Wrap Pick-Up, 2:00-6:00 pm, Gym
- Tues, 5—Gift Wrap Pick-Up, 2:00-5:30 pm, Gym
- Sat, 7—Hands-on-Atlanta Day, 9 am-noon
- Mon, 9—No School, Conference Day
- Sat, 14 – Carnival, 11:00am-4:00pm
- Thurs, 26— Domino's Pizza Night
- Fri, 27— Music Night, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grades, 6:30-8:30 pm, Cafeteria

See [www.NorthwoodPTA.com](http://www.NorthwoodPTA.com), for a full calendar!

## The Media Center Needs Your Help!

Northwood's Media Center is run by Cheryl Corrigan, Media Specialist, and Claudia Tillison, Media Para Professional. They work daily with classroom teachers to instruct students in media skills, research skills, and literature appreciation. Their goal is for everyone who comes to the Media Center—student, teacher, and parent—to find what s/he needs and to leave with a smile!!! Because their schedules are so busy, they are in constant need of **volunteers**. These volunteers assist students in checking books in and out, shelving books, and repairing books, just to name a few tasks. Any amount of time you can volunteer—small or large—is of value. If you are interested in volunteering in the Media Center, please contact Donna Conn, Media Center Committee Chair

## Northwood PTA Board and Committee Chairs

### PRESIDENT

Lisa Anderson 770/552-8055

#### ◆ 5th Grade Graduation

Grace Pate 770/587-2870

#### ◆ Carnival

Lisa Anderson 770/552-8055  
Angela Blackwell 770/667-0926

#### ◆ Newsletter/Website

Shelley Avant 770/619-9097

#### ◆ Walk-A-Thon

Sherrie Board 678/366-2254

### FIRST VICE PRESIDENT

Joyce Hosseini 770/640-1887

#### ◆ Bingo Night

Jan Kalb 770/667-1314  
Allison Nolen 770/645-0978

#### ◆ Business Partner Liaison

Amy Poteet 880/642-6328

#### ◆ Gift Wrap

Grace Pate 770/587-2870  
Cathy Riley 770/667-3287  
Annie Wehr 770/667-3433

#### ◆ Media Center

Donna Conn 770/410-0203

#### ◆ Reflections

Tia Peterson 678/352-8023

#### ◆ School Store

Kim Dean 770/664-7673

#### ◆ Yearbook

Amy Chandler 678/352-1453  
Jennifer Pugh 770/667-0956

### SECOND VICE PRESIDENT

Kathy Thomas 770/777-1914

#### ◆ Directory

Margaret Cash 678/319-0021

#### ◆ Membership

Lyn Shealy 770/649-7503

#### ◆ Hearing and Vision

Cathy Dougherty 770/664-5635

#### ◆ Music Night

Jenny Bramel 770/992-9237

#### ◆ New Initiatives

Kathy Kitzmiller 770/343-6465

#### ◆ Spirit Wear

Sandy Lashley 770-587-9444

#### ◆ Staff Recognition

Semmes Calvert 770/992-8067

### THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

Tara Osborne 770/751-7005

#### ◆ Book Fair

Beth Litterer 770/343-6227  
Tara Osborne 770/751-7005

#### ◆ Caring and Sharing

Becky Erickson 770/609-2635

#### ◆ Original Art

Chrissy Scartz 770/343-9567

#### ◆ Hospitality

Andrea Bourgeois 770/772-4981  
Christy Pincheon 770/754-9796

#### ◆ Spanish Liaison

Ana Hawk 770/558-6665

#### ◆ Room Parents

Kit Connick 678/297-6772

#### ◆ VIPS

Jamie John 770/998-3321

### FOURTH VICE PRESIDENT

Stephanie Duffy 678/339-0033

#### ◆ Accelerated Reader

Mary Beth Bierbaum 770/442-5306  
Susan Harper 770/754-0239

#### ◆ Big G Box Tops

Kim Tolleson 678/566/1562

#### ◆ Field Day

Jenny Storey 678/393-8927

#### ◆ Hands on Atlanta

Jud Shumway 770/992-6013

#### ◆ Movie Night

Kathleen DeBuys 770/619-3388  
Darina Yankey 770/643-9475

#### ◆ Pizza Night

Karen Brown 770/410-9004

### SECRETARY

Susan Harper 770/754-0239

### TREASURER

Angela Blackwell 770/667-0926

### PARLIAMENTARIAN

Sandy Andrews 770/410-0513



*everychild.one voice.*



*We would like to extend our thanks to the retailers listed below who have made contributions to our school through Northwood's PTA since the last PTA newsletter was published:*

#### **The Cooler**

10800 Davis Drive

#### **Domino's Pizza**

Haynes Bridge and Old Alabama

#### **Kroger**

Haynes Bridge and Old Alabama

#### **Publix**

Haynes Bridge and Old Alabama

#### **Publix**

1425 Market Boulevard, Roswell

#### **Wal-Mart SuperCenter**

970 Mansell Road

*Again, we thank these retailers for their support of Northwood Elementary School. And, we encourage Northwood families to support these businesses that have so generously shown their support for their community through their contributions to our school.*

## Remember Northwood When You Shop!

Visit the Northwood PTA website ([www.NorthwoodPTA.com/Sponsors](http://www.NorthwoodPTA.com/Sponsors)) to learn how money you already spend at retailers like Office Depot, Pike's Nursery, Target and Staples, can benefit Northwood! As always, if you know of any other retailers who offer arrangements such as these, please let us know. We would be happy to research them and add them to our list.

#### **PTA Explorer**

*A Publication of the Northwood PTA*

10200 Wooten Road  
Roswell, Georgia 30076

[www.NorthwoodElementary.com](http://www.NorthwoodElementary.com)

**President**—Lisa Anderson

**Principal**—Sheila Michael.

**Assistant Principal**—Dawn Giron

**Editor**—Shelley Avant