

THE Councilor



Shawnee Mission
Area Council

PTA[®]

every child. one voice.

Inside this issue:

Teacher Appreciation	3
PTA Educator of Year	5
Summer Film Series	6
Baseline Training	7
School of Instruction	8
School of Instruction	9

President's Message

With the end of the school year rapidly approaching, it is time to think about passing the baton to our successors. Please offer your help and support to whomever is assuming your position for the 2002-2003 school year, but keep in mind that your term is over. Everyone has different ideas and leadership styles and your successor may operate differently than you. Be supportive without being controlling. Remember to update your procedure books. There is nothing more valuable to a new PTA president or chair than a good procedure book. Refer to your annual resources as to what a procedure book should contain.

Continue to keep pressure on your legislators. We are being heard! Thank you for all the individual legislative

efforts throughout the district. Now, it is imperative that PTAs take an active role in promoting voter registration and compelling our neighbors to vote in the August primary. Information will be made available at the School of Instruction on May 8 about absentee ballots and advance voting. Since the primary occurs during summer break, consider planning a postcard campaign during the summer to remind parents to vote.

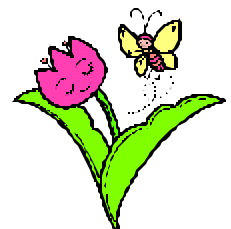
I was somewhat disappointed in our representation at the State Convention in Salina. We are all concerned primarily about our own children and their schools, but must keep in mind that we are part of a State and National Organization. There is much to be learned from our State PTA leaders and

from networking with PTA members in other school districts across the state.

I encourage all of you to send your incoming PTA officers and chairs to the School of Instruction on May 8, at Shawnee Mission West. This is an excellent opportunity for training in various areas in which PTA is involved, as well as a chance to share ideas with other schools within the district.

Best wishes for the coming year,

Kim Pflaum
SMAC President



April is National Alcohol Awareness Month

To help parents address the issue of alcohol use with their children, National PTA offers a mini-website, Common Sense: Strategies for Raising Alcohol- and Drug-Free Children. Common Sense recommends the following five guidelines for setting rules and talking to your kids about alcohol:

1. Clarity: Make sure rules regarding alcohol use are well-defined and understandable for your children.
2. Consistency: Be consistent in enforcing these rules, but be flexible as your children mature.
3. Communication: Discuss the reasons for these rules, and help your children express their feelings and confide in you.
4. Caring: Praise your children when they follow the rules, and respect your child's privacy.
5. Create: Instill a sense of caring and self-respect in your children.

The National PTA's Common Sense website can be found at <http://www.pta.org/commonsense>. National Alcohol Awareness Month is organized by the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Inc. (NCADD). For more information about National Alcohol Awareness Month, visit <http://www.health.org/seasonal.aprilalcohol>, or visit NCADD's website at <http://www.ncadd.org>.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

During April and into May, there are many learning opportunities throughout the Kansas City metropolitan area. These include:

April 25— Keeping Your Children Safe: What to Say, How to Say It and What to Do—Training for parents, professionals and the community, sponsored by The Children's Place. Reservations required. Contact Linda Dodds, 816-363-1898.

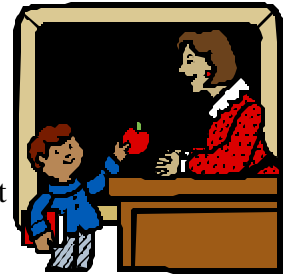
April 26—Child Abuse Prevention Night at the K, 7:05 p.m.

Throughout the Month—Prevention-based activities held by Grassroots Organization, sponsored by Heart of America United Way-KIDSAFE. Contact Donna Snead at 816-474-5111, Ext. 118 for a complete listing.

May 9—Public Symposium on Childhood Stress, Trauma, Abuse and Neglect, sponsored by KCPT, Channel 19, 125 E. 31st St., K.C., MO. The event will include a candlelight vigil, short films, information and resources. Contact Malinda Strahan at 816-756-3580, Ext. 4283.



Teacher Appreciation Week: May 5-11



Since 1984, National PTA has encouraged citizens to show their appreciation to teachers during the annual National PTA Teacher Appreciation Week. Each May, Teacher Appreciation Week offers the opportunity for all to reaffirm their commitment to parent-teacher partnerships. The National PTA web site, www.pta.org/programs/, and the National PTA Annual Resources manual have resourceful and creative suggestions for planning and implementing this week. Some suggested ideas are:

- Begin a publicity campaign. Contact the local media for promotional opportunities.
- Display posters, banners and flyers promoting the week.
- Find key places to distribute information about the dedication of teachers and the need for parent and family involvement and support. A pediatrician’s office, child-care centers and grocery stores are some suggested locations.
- Involve the students. Ask the students to express their appreciation to their teachers.
- Consider producing and narrating a slide or video presentation that highlights the accomplishments of your teachers.
- Develop a certificate of appreciation with your school logo on it and present it to the teachers.
- Begin a “Teacher Feature” in your school newsletter.
- Encourage the parents to take time to write a personal note to their children’s teachers.

Remember to honor our teachers and the great job they are doing. Let them know they are appreciated.

Source: The National PTA website at <http://www.pta.org>

We are on the Web at www.ptasonline.org/smac/

Clothing Center Schedule

	8:30-11 a.m.	8:30-11 a.m.	8:30-11 a.m.	4:30-7 p.m.
Apr. 22	Sunflower, Tomahawk	S. Beyer	D. Lawson	
Apr. 29	Trailwood, West Antioch	M. Breitmayer	J. Carper	
May. 6	Westwood View	M. Ralstin	J. Etherington	
May. 13				R. Kobylinski, C. Lafferty



The Clothing Center is located at the Indian Creek Technology Center, 4401 W. 103rd Street. Take the western most driveway and go all the way around to the back of the building by the day care playground. Enter through the back door and the Clothing Center is located just down the ramp. Each school is to send three (3) workers to assist in the sorting room at the Clothing Center on its scheduled Monday date. Sorting hours are from 8:30 a.m. until 11 a.m. Area Council officers and chairs must trade or find substitutes if they are unable to work on their assigned date. If you miss, you will be rescheduled.

Submit List of Your 2002-2003 PTA Board to SMAC

PTA Presidents for 2002-2003, complete the table below of your 2002-2003 PTA Board and send it to:
 Laura Bolter, 9320 Hall, Shawnee Mission, KS 66219 Phone: 894-5568, Email: lbolter@everestkc.net

This information is very helpful to SMAC Chairs when notifying board members of workshops and in sending them important PTA news. We would like information about as many of the positions listed below as possible. If your board is not complete, send a partial list and update it when you are able. Return this form by June 15 to Laura Bolter. Call if you have any questions.

Position	Name	Address	City	Zip Code
President				
Drug Abuse-Prevention				
Art Smart				
Block Parents				
Book Publishing				
Bulk Mail				
By-Laws				
Chat & Chew				
Citizenship				
Clothing Center				
Council Delegate				
Cultural Arts				
Environment				
Health & Safety				
Historian				
Legislation				
Membership				
Newsletter				
Parenting Education				
Reflections				
Summer Films				
Treasurer				
Ways & Means				

Tomahawk Principal Named Kansas PTA Educator of the Year!



Dr. Margaret McNeive, Tomahawk Elementary School Principal, was awarded the honor of Kansas PTA Educator of the Year. She received the award at a ceremony on April 14 at the Kansas PTA Convention in Salina. The award is given to only one candidate each year. The candidate is nominated by his/her own PTA unit. Maureen Frazell, Tomahawk parent and PTA Executive Board Officer, and Rae Ann Kobylinski, PTA Board Member, coordinated the nomination. Numerous letters were written by parents and staff members.

Dr. McNeive, who will retire this year, has been the principal at Tomahawk for six years. She has been an educator for 32 years, 26 of which were spent in the Shawnee Mission School District. She was a principal for 12 of those years.

Submit the Following Information To Kansas PTA

Unit Name _____ Clip and Send to KS PTA 2002-2003

As soon as you know who will be leading your PTA next year, please send the following information to **KS PTA**, US Mail: 715 S.W. Tenth, Topeka, KS 66612 E-mail: ks_office@pta.org
 Phone: (785) 234-5782 Fax: (785) 234-417

	Name	Address	City
President:			
Vice-President (Ways & Means)			
Vice-President (Membership)			
Vice-President(Other)			
Secretary			
Treasurer			

Celebrate Success! 2002 to Feature Wally Amos

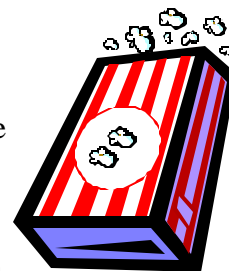
The Shawnee Mission Education Foundation's second annual Celebrate Success! event is scheduled for May 7 at 5:30 p.m. The evening consists of a reception at Prairie Elementary followed by the program at Village Church in Prairie Village. Celebrate Success! recognizes award-winning students and teachers from the Shawnee Mission School District.

This year's featured speaker is Wally Amos, founder and spokesperson for Famous Amos cookies and Uncle Wally's cookie company. Mr. Amos is a renowned motivational speaker and entertainer.

Tickets for the event are \$10 for students and \$25 for adults. To learn more about the event or volunteer opportunities, contact the Shawnee Mission Education Foundation office at (913) 993-9360.

Summer Film Series

Provide a great benefit to families by offering affordable summer entertainment, and at the same time raise money for your PTA unit and Area Council. You can do it! We even make it easy!



Cinemark Theater at 5500 Antioch Road is our location again for our Summer Film Series sponsored by SMAC. Movies in the ten week series will begin the week of June 3, and will be shown every Monday through Thursday at 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Season tickets will sell for \$6.50, and will include ten ticket stubs that can be used for any of the movies. The tickets will be sold through elementary school PTA units. From the sale of each \$6.50 ticket, the PTA unit receives \$1.75 and SMAC receives \$1. This is the **ONLY** fundraising activity that SMAC conducts during the year, and it's a great deal for everyone involved. Please support your Council!

There are a few Presidents of elementary PTA units that have not yet turned in the name of the person who will be handling the sale at their school. In those instances, the information has been sent to the PTA President. The following people have agreed to be our area distributors, South-Terry Wintering, North-Vicky Needham, West-Susie Beyer, East-Elaine Hodgson, Northwest-Melva Huston. If you have any questions, call me at 631-4490, or e-mail to sapuskas@juno.com. The flyers were sent out in early April.

Thanks for your support!

Sonya Puskas, Summer Film Series Chair

Baseline Training Workshop

Attention PTA Presidents: The Regional Prevention Center of Johnson, Leavenworth and Miami Counties is offering a Baseline Training Workshop. This two-day workshop would valuable training for your **Drug and Alcohol Prevention Program Chairs**.

Trained facilitators will guide them through interactive exercises and help them:

- ❖ Understand persons with substance abuse addiction
- ❖ Learn how substance abuse and addiction affect a person's life, his/her family and his/her community
- ❖ Explore the dynamics of families impacted by substance abuse and addiction
- ❖ Meet other professionals committed to strengthening positive, healthy communities

The training session will be Monday, April 29 and Tuesday, April 30 from 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days. It will be held at the Johnson County Mental Health Center located at 1125 West Spruce, Olathe, Kansas 66061. Their phone: 913-715-7880. The cost for the workshop is \$40 and will be paid for with grant monies designated for alcohol and drug prevention education for the Shawnee Mission School District. The Prevention Center has a few spaces left, they will most likely fill very quickly so we need a count **now**. If you have any questions, call Mary Ca Ralstin, VP Community Services for SMAC at 268-5970.

This two-day workshop includes a continental breakfast and lunch, contact hours for nurses and CEUs for social workers, plus many resource materials. Participants must attend both days to receive the continuing education hours.

Registrant's Name: _____

Agency Name: _____

Work Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Daytime Phone: _____

Please return this completed registration as soon as possible to: Mary Ca Ralstin, SMAC VP Community Services, 14708 W. 71 Terrace, Shawnee, KS. 66216

This information was taken from the Baseline Community Training flyer provided by the Regional Prevention Center.

Shawnee Mission Area Council PTA presents its annual

SCHOOL OF INSTRUCTION
(Revised Workshops)

May 8 from 6:15-9 p.m.
Shawnee Mission West High School
8800 West 85th Street

Registration begins at 6:15 p.m.
Visit the *Sharing Display** and enjoy refreshments from 6:15-6:45 p.m.
General Meeting and Installation of SMAC Officers at 6:45 p.m.
Workshops offered from 7:15-9 p.m.
(Some workshops may not require the full time allotment.)

Cost is \$5.00 per person.

Shawnee Mission Area Council provides training to new officers and chairs, as well as presenting fresh information to PTA veterans, at the School of Instruction. Incoming SMAC officers are also installed at the School of Instruction, according to our bylaws, thus making this a very important evening!

The School of Instruction is held in May so that the newly elected officers from all of the local PTA units may attend workshops that are presented to acquaint them with PTA procedures, to offer program suggestions, and to be a general training ground for all PTA leaders.

Workshops being offered are:

President, Treasurer, Secretary, Legislation, Fundraising/Carnival, Cultural Arts, Drug Abuse Prevention Program, Newsletter (along with the Parent Resource Center), Membership, Bylaws/Parliamentarian, Block Parent, Citizenship and Reflections, Chat 'n Chew, Book Publishing, and Teacher Appreciation.

Registration forms and checks made payable to SMAC-PTA should be sent to:

Candy Lafferty
10505 Bluejacket
Overland Park, KS 66214

Registration deadline is Wednesday, May 1.

On-site registration will be available!

*The *Sharing Display* gives PTA units the opportunity to "share" programs, awards, spirit wear, newsletters, and other special events at their schools. Tables are available at 6 p.m. on The Bridge at Shawnee Mission West. Plan to come early in order to have time to set up your display. This is a great way to brag a little and to see what other schools are doing! Questions: Feel free to call Candy Lafferty at 541-8747 or email cllafferty@aol.com.

School of Instruction Workshop Descriptions

Block Parent—Cate Hintz

This workshop will offer recruitment ideas for new Block Parents and tells how to renew current ones. There will be a brief history of this program and its current agreement with the KBI.

Book Publishing—Tina Crawford

This workshop gives elementary students the tools necessary to becoming published authors. Book Publishing chairs will learn about the goals of this project and how to get started. They will also receive sample materials and timetables.

Bylaws/Parliamentarian—

Maddie Breitmayer and Peggy Davis

Come to this workshop to learn about the importance of your unit's bylaws and how they help to guide you in setting your unit goals. You can also learn how to help your meetings become more organized and run more efficiently.

Chat 'n Chew—Mary Jorgenson

We will discuss how to prepare for your Chat 'n Chew program. We will talk about training, selecting books, and organizing a program that best fits your school's needs.

Citizenship and Reflections—

Lisa Schroeder and Carmen Sachs

This combined workshop introduces ways to encourage greater participation in these outstanding projects. It will help your unit to prepare for State and National PTA contest and will emphasize the value of these programs.

Cultural Arts—Amy Wheeler

You will find new and very useful information about planning your upcoming cultural arts events at this workshop. Included will be networking, sharing of valuable experiences, and a current guide to what is happening in the cultural arts area.

Drug Abuse Prevention Program—

Rhonda Talbot and Mary Ca Ralstin

Learn about programs that can help educate your unit and learn what your school and the District are doing to prevent underage drinking and drug abuse. All units are encouraged to send a representative.

Fundraising/Carnival—Jeanne Slaughter

Come to learn PTA and District guidelines on fundraising. There will be discussion about sales taxes and many other money matters. Fundraisers, including school carnivals, will be on the agenda.

Legislation—Cathy Boyer-Shesol

This workshop details how to be a Legislative Chair. You will receive vital information and suggestions about how to access legislative updates on the Internet and how to express your concerns to your legislators effectively.

Membership—Cynthia Jarrold

Come to get information and ideas for next year's membership drive. Share what has worked in your unit. Instruction will be given on State PTA deadlines, membership cards, and other useful details.

Newsletter (with the Parent Resource Center)—

Janet Martz and PRC Personnel

Suggestions/solutions about how to improve school to home communications. Discussions on format, editing, and copying. Parent Resource Center will provide valuable information about new projects.

Presidents—Kim Pflaum—SMAC President

This is not the same information as that given at the President's Information Course. Learn how to run your unit more effectively. We will discuss PTA policy and hear from District administrators. This is a very important workshop for PTA Presidents.

Secretary—Terry Wintering and Vicky Needham

Please come to learn about the duties of the Recording and Corresponding secretaries, including note taking and formats.

Teacher Appreciation—Janet Jackson

Bring your ideas for this lively discussion about hospitality and showing teacher appreciation.

Treasurer—Joni Etherington

Budget preparation, checkbooks, 990s, taxes, and treasurer's reports...it will all be discussed. This is a very important workshop for new Treasurers. It will prepare you for your new job. There will be very helpful handouts for you.

Dates To Remember

MAY

1	Wed.	Executive Committee Meeting	9:30 a.m.	McEachen
1	Wed.	Registration deadline for School of Instruction		
7	Tues.	SMEF's Celebrate Success!	5:30 p.m.	Prairie Elem.
8	Wed.	School of Instruction (Set-up for <i>Sharing Displays</i> begins at 6 p.m.)	6:15 p.m.	S.M. West
15	Wed.	Executive Training (2002-2003 Board)	9:30 a.m.	McEachen



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SMCA-PTA
7235 Antioch
Shawnee Mission,
KS

INSIDE

School of Instruction Information