



SUNRIDGE BULLETIN

FEBRUARY 3, 2010

SUNRIDGE SCHOOL

487 WATER TROUGH RD.
SEBASTOPOL, CA 95472

PHONE: 707.824.2844

FAX: 824.2861

AFTERCARE: 824.2276

WWW.SUNRIDGESCHOOL.ORG

CALENDAR

Thursday, February 4, 4:30-7:30pm:

Special Charter Council Meeting

Friday, February 5, 6:30-8:00pm:

SunRidge Family Folk Dancing

At Apple Blossom School (see article)

Monday, February 8, 6:30pm:

Class 8 Parent Evening

Tuesday, February 9, 7:00 - 9:00pm:

Class 4 Parent Evening

Wednesday, February 10, 6:30 - 8:00pm:

Kindergarten Parent Evening

Thursday, February 11, 6:00pm:

Class 2 Play @ Two Acre Woods

Friday, February 12

Early Release

**February 15 - 19: School Closed
for Presidents Week Break**

Tuesday, February 23, 6:00 - 9:00pm:

Charter Council Meeting

Friday, February 26, 9am and 6pm:

Class 1 Play

Last Chance to Order a SunRidge Shirt

So many people asked to order more shirts, that we are doing another round!

Order forms are available in the office, **order by next Monday, February 8th**.

Also, there are a few extra shirts for sale in the office right now: a kid's medium and a women's medium. Come check them out!

Family Folk Dancing This Friday Night

Want to have some fun? Please join other SunRidge families for an evening of fun learning a variety of international folk dances. Children welcome, no previous experience needed. **At the Apple Blossom MUR, 6:30 - 8:30pm.**

Want to Teach Dancing?

Donna Burgess will also be leading an International Folk Dance Workshop this **Saturday, February 6, from 9:00am - 1:00pm.** This workshop is for teachers *and* parents who might want to bring international folk dancing to grades 3-7. *SunRidge would heartily welcome any parent who would be interested in volunteering to do folk dancing with any of our classes.* This workshop would give you the skills to teach others. Location: Sebastopol Independent Charter School. For information/registration: donna@hoffeckerburgess.com or 530-305-8129.

Whole Foods Scrip Card Support

If you were one of the 10 people who marked on their survey that they would like to offer community service on this project, please email Shyama, our Community Service Coordinator: shyama@sbcglobal.net. The program is gearing up to begin no later than the beginning of March, but we will need helpers to make this work as smoothly as possible.

Farmers' Market Next Week

Come one, come all to a Midwinter Market Day! Class Four invites you to join us for delicious nourishment, relaxing companionship and play, and some love-craft enjoyment on **Thursday, February 11th**. There may even be some sun to shine upon us! We look forward to celebrating February, Love and our community with you.

Thank You 8th Grade Parents

What delicious hot lunches carried us through the cold wet days of January! Many, many thanks to the 8th grade parents who kept us nourished and nurtured for our weekly January faculty meetings. We soooo appreciate it!

Auction Alert *from Mark Rice*

It is that time everyone. The time for each of us to do at least one small thing to make our annual auction a huge success. Last year's auction netted almost \$20,000, which was then matched by an anonymous donor. The almost \$40,000 total was enough to keep our Specialty classes almost fully intact this year (state cuts were about \$50,000). We have a similar matching donor this year (up to \$20,000 match). Let's make it happen!

Auction Scenario #1

You are out to dinner with your family at your favorite restaurant. You are in the

midst of your meal and your child bursts into story about the fabulous handwork project their class is working on. A light bulb radiates in your mind...handwork...specialty class...money for school...not enough.....budget cuts....auction can help.....you quickly excuse yourself and dash to your car to retrieve one of the donor letters you picked up from the office (hanging to the left of the door as you walk in). You grab the lovely letter, make sure it is still in good form (not the one with the shoe print on it because it was sitting on the floor of the back seat) and rush back into the restaurant and ask for the manager. When he/she arrives at the table, you introduce him/her to your family (scores extra points to have the kid present with the big eyes and hopeful face - but option two is to take the manager aside and explain that your child is at SunRidge school, a small and wonderful charter school in Sebastopol. You explain that you would love to give the community an opportunity to learn about his/her restaurant as you know everyone would love it as you do, and at the same time, the restaurant could be helping raise money for your child's school in this difficult time of budget cuts. The manager thanks you for the opportunity to help and get exposure for his/her restaurant and excuses him/herself for a moment. The manager returns shortly with a shiny envelope. You peak inside and see a \$100 gift certificate. You thank him/her profusely and emphatically state how much the SunRidge community appreciates their support. You return to the table and smile at your sweet child knowing you have done your part to make sure that handwork class will be part of his life next year.

Volunteer of the Month (last several months!)

John Thompson, Hands Down!

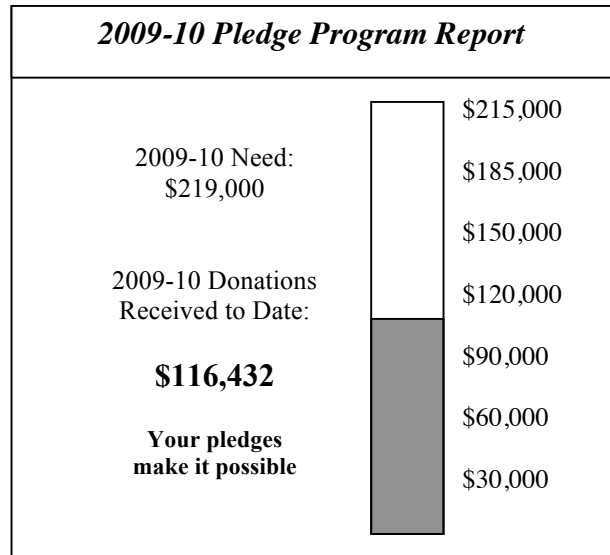
John almost single-handedly resurrected our boys' basketball program this year, bringing renewed energy, a long-term vision and the will to do the best you can no matter what. We wouldn't have had a season without John volunteering for this very challenging job, and he brought a lot of great teachings to the players – about basketball, about working as a team, and about playing hard and fair. Whatever the win/loss tally, the season was an incredible success. The boys learned about attitude and persistence and the importance of practice! John made a difference in the lives of his players – and for that we all thank you very, very much.

The Valkyries are Back

The Valkyrie girls have their first basketball game next Wednesday, February 10, at 3:45/4:45 for 8th and 7th respectively. We're playing with Harvest Christian of Petaluma at the Sebastopol Community Church, over on HWY 116. It will be a great time to come out and show our support for the Valkyrie's home opener - and a rollicking good time if you can make it!

SunRidge Open Enrollment for 2010-11

Our annual open enrollment period runs this year from February 8 through March 8. During this time we accept applications for next year for new students and offer ways for families to learn more about our school. Submitting an



application and attending an orientation meeting during the open enrollment period are required in order to be included in our lottery for available spaces, even if an applicant family already has another child enrolled at SunRidge. Current students do not need to re-apply, but if you are planning on enrolling a new child at SunRidge, contact the office for information and an application.

Please Keep Those Pledges Coming

As we enter the backside of the school year, it will be particularly important this year to have full and dependable participation in our pledge program through June. Every child benefits from parent pledges. The funds donated this year are paying for classes in Handwork, Movement and Games, Music, Woodworking, Spanish, Eurythmy, Choir, and Lifeskills, as well as for our classroom aides in Kindergarten and 1st grade. We simply cannot provide this rich, holistic educational experience for your children without the financial support of our parent body. Thank you for remembering this when you consider your spending priorities each month.

Community Service Hours Reporting

Here are the links for reporting your community service hours for the month of December and January. Thank you for helping us have good data on the impressive number of hours parents give to our school.

Report **December** community service hours here:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/K23DJ93>

Report **January** community service hours here:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/R6SJLG9>

If you have any problems with entering your data, please contact Melissa Morgan, as she is managing that project:

melissa_morgan@mac.com.

Community Events

The Most Happy Fella

Summerfield High School Musical begins this Friday: Performances Friday and Saturday night at 7:30pm and Sunday at 2:00pm. Repeated again the following weekend February 12th, 13th, and 14th. Admission \$10:00. For tickets and info call 575-7194.

Rising Moon Playback Theatre

The Subject Tonight is Love, Friday, February 12, 8:00pm at the Youth Annex of the Sebastopol Community Center. Playback Theatre uses movement, music, and improvisation to create theatre on the spot from the everyday stories offered by audience members. In honor of St. Valentine, the evening's stories will be on the subject of love: finding it, losing it, aching for it, singing with it.... Requested donation: \$15-\$25, but no one turned away for lack of funds. For more info contact Jacqueline at 823-7687.

Mothering and Spirituality

A Waldorf Parenting Conference

"Mothering and Spirituality: Resourcing Feminine Wisdom" will be the theme of the annual regional parenting conference **April 24-25 at Sacramento Waldorf School**. Designed to offer a weekend of inspiration and renewal, the conference brings together keynote speakers from Waldorf education with nationally-known authors/presenters to explore weaving the strands of mothering, spirituality and feminism.

Featured speakers include: Cynthia Aldinger, founder of LifeWays North America, with training for parents and childcare providers inspired by the work of Rudolf Steiner; Rahima Baldwin Dancy, Waldorf early childhood specialist and author; Carol Lee Flinders, author of *At the Root of This Longing: Reconciling a Spiritual Hunger and a Feminist Thirst*; Nancy Jewel Poer, wise elder, Waldorf educator and author of *Living into Dying*; and Regina Sara Ryan, author of *The Woman Awake. Feminine Wisdom for Spiritual Life*.

A complete brochure and secure **online registration** are available at < <http://www.waldorfinthehome.com/> > or by calling (303) 546-0070. The conference is organized by Rahima Baldwin Dancy at Informed Family Life.

Waldorf Teacher Training at Summerfield

The Center for Educational Renewal is now accepting applications for a their 4-year part-time course beginning in June 2010. The course has been designed to enable people who cannot leave the area to take part in a full-time course and to meet the growing need for Waldorf Teachers at Kindergarten, Elementary and High School levels.

For more information and to apply, visit their website: www.edrenew.org or contact Don Basmajian at (707) 575-7194 Ext. 301. Enrollment is limited to 30 students.

Classified

(We can list rentals, parents selling used items, free items, lost and found, or trades. We cannot list for-profit business ads)

Need a student desk, very cheap?

The SunRidge Foundation is clearing out no longer needed wooden desks and chairs. Large or small sizes, will sell for only \$10 each, with or without a chair. Contact Mira at the school office if interested, 824-2844.

Need a babysitter, yard help, or other helper need?

The Parent Council is sponsoring a student work referral system for students in grades 6-8. Students can fill out a form listing jobs they can do, and parents sign it to approve the referral form going into our Student Work Referral Binder. When you need a job done, stop by the office and look through the binder. Many of our students are excellent workers and are trying to earn money for various reasons. It's a win-win!

Looking for a House

SunRidge family is looking for a 3 bedroom house to rent in or near Sebastopol. Please call Rebecca if you know of anything: 525-8750.

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