

The Casis Elementary

PTA POST

Issue 40

November 2005



The Prez Sez.....

Thanksgiving is almost here and it is a good time to think about all that we at Casis are thankful for: dedicated teachers, staff and administration; the opportunity to provide an enriched curriculum that includes Technology, Spanish and after school activities; beautiful grounds; our fabulous forest and Science Lab; and an exceptional force of parents who support the school with financial contributions and many hours of time, talent and enthusiasm. Thank you each of you!

For anyone that was at Carnival, you know what an absolutely fabulous event it was!! The weather was perfect, the decorations were awesome, the new lighting was fantastic. Everything was wonderful. I want to give a huge thank you to the Carnival Queens of 2005: Brooks Franklin, Sharon Hornfisher, and Robin Shepard. What a team and what an amazing feat!! I also want to thank the Carnival Committee for all of their hard work resulting in a spectacular event. Finally, thanks to all the volunteers for their time and hard work and to the Casis Community for its generous support. We definitely kept Casis Cool and had an Austintacious time!

As we turn the corner to November we look forward to the upcoming book fair. Thanks to this year's chairs: Lisa Christian, Francis Thompson, and Susan Wise, Casis will "Open the Door to Your Imagination" on November 14th with another wonderful event for the whole family. Hope to see you there.

If you have not had a chance to stop by the office and introduce yourselves to our Interim Assistant Principals, please do. While Elyse Smith is recovering from knee surgery, she has left us in the capable hands of Maggie Cates and Claudia Santamaria. We hope Elyse's recovery is quick and as painless as possible and we appreciate these two wonderful principals for stepping in to make sure our children's needs are met.

The Casis PTA submitted a record 671 member dues to the Texas PTA in October. Thank you to Montse De Muller and Laura Lee for compiling the roster and submitting the paperwork.

There has been a change in your calendar of events. Our speaker for the November General Meeting could not make it on the 8th and so we are in the process of rescheduling for later in the month or the first week of December. We are working out the details of the program and will be sending information as soon as that is completed. Look for details in your Friday folder.

Cami Hawkins

Casis Carnival 2005

We did it! We worked hard, then played hard, all to KEEP CASIS COOL. This year's carnival was a huge success. We want to take this opportunity to thank all the people in the community that helped make CASIS CARNIVAL 2005 the grooviest event in town.

Of course the totally tubular families, teachers and staff at Casis made this event possible. To them we have endless gratitude. We are tallying our numbers and cannot wait to give a full report on just how successful this event has been for our school.

The food supplied helped make the evening extra groovy and we also want to thank our food vendors: Randalls, Seattle's Best, Central Market, Hula Hut, County Line, Whole Foods, Thundercloud Subs, 2 Mamas Bakery, Mr. Gattis, Maine Root, and TCBY, If you ever stop by these establishments, please take a



Abigail Chambliss sits among the record-breaking Keep Casis Cool tie-dyed t-shirts bought to support the Casis Carnival.

Visit www.casispta.org for the latest news!

More news continued on page 2.....

UPCOMING BOOK FAIR TO OPEN THE DOOR TO YOUR IMAGINATION

Mark your calendars now for the 2005 Casis Book Fair to take place Monday and Tuesday, November 14 and 15 in the Casis library! Our theme -- "*Open the Door to Your Imagination*" -- is in part based on the upcoming holiday movie release of the much-loved C.S. Lewis book, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*.

"Family Night" will take place on Monday, Nov. 14, from 5:30 - 8 p.m. This is always a fun-filled event, and this year, we are starting earlier so students and their families will have the convenient option of eating dinner together during the Book Fair (thanks to Casis fifth graders who will sell pizza, salad and fruit to raise money for their annual Port Aransas trip). The Book Fair will also feature free apple cider courtesy of Seattle's Best Tarrytown, baked treats for dessert, and a raffle for items such as a hardback *Chronicles of Narnia* collection, movie tickets, a family membership to the new Blanton Museum and other surprises.

Join in celebrating our love of reading!!!

GROUNDS GARDENING MORNING

NOVEMBER 12th at 10 am

Please join other Casis families and help plant some new native flowers in the Casis flower and butterfly gardens. With your help, this will only take a couple of hours. The Casis grounds were re-landscaped in 2000 to commemorate Casis' 50th anniversary. To maintain the beauty of the landscape, it is an ongoing investment. If your family would like to be a Landscape Benefactor and help cover expenses such as sprinkler maintenance and repairs, lawn fertilization treatments and mulch, please let me know. For more information about our gardens, contact Sara Marler at saramarler@sbcglobal.net or 452-4814.

NOMINATIONS BEING ACCEPTED

Nominations are being accepted throughout November for the PTA Nominating Committee. This committee is responsible for recommending a slate of officers for the 2006-2007 school year. Five persons will serve on this committee with one alternate. They all must be members of the Casis PTA. The Nominating Committee will be elected at the January general meeting of the PTA. Nomination forms and the box to put them in are located in the office. If you have any questions, call **Jana Howden**, 474-4139.

Casis Chess Club Off to a Great Start

Stop by the Casis Library any Tuesday after school and you will see 80-100 enthusiastic students arrive--ready to match up for a game of chess. Each week kindergarten through 5th grade students play chess with friends, receive chess instruction from experts and parents, and learn good sportsmanship. Many Casis students have learned how to play the game of chess during Chess Club meetings. Casis students also have opportunities to compete in local chess tournaments for individual and team awards. The Chess Club is offered as a free after-school enrichment activity thanks to the generous support to the Casis PTA. Join us Tuesdays from 2:45-3:45 pm. We want to teach you how to play!

At right, Casis chess club members pose with their second place trophy from the St. Andrew's chess tournament.

