

SAINT VIATOR PARENTS' CLUB MINUTES  
OF THE MEETING 02-04-2008

Present: Cheryl Lardner, Deni Janus, Kathy Loy, Jackie Frett, Gabriele Banaszak, Pam Tidaback, Cathy Sweeney, Kay Haubenreiser, Cindy Dougherty, Sue Abrahamson, Sondra Stanley, Mike Cowsert, Barbara Frenzer, Debbie Roman, Chris Schmidt, Mary Kay Morsches, Carol King, Jean Simpson, Jean Spiegelhalter, Kathleen Guth, Eileen Manno, Diane Dettloff and Terri Bordes

THE MEETING:

The meeting was brought to order at 7:50 PM by Parent's Club Vice President Jean Simpson, who will be running the meeting tonight in lieu of Jean Spiegelhalter, Parent's Club President. Jean began by discussing Br. Ruhl's sudden passing before we were led in prayer. (Psalm 23)

Jean Spiegelhalter made a motion to approve last month's minutes and Jackie Frett seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

School Principal Eileen Manno began by thanking everyone for all that was done for Catholic Schools Week and all the support they received last week after Brother Ruhl's sudden passing. Brother Ruhl was a student favorite and taught at St. Viator for almost forty years. The faculty is devastated by his loss.

Brother Ruhl died suddenly Saturday night. He was supposed to chaperone the play, Godspell, on Saturday evening, but failed to show up. He appears to have died from a Myocardial Infarction. On Monday morning, all Br. Ruhl's students were called to the chapel to tell them what happened and grief counselors were available to students if they wanted to talk. Some students were reluctant to be in Br. Ruhl's classroom without him, so counselors were in his room on Tuesday to help students express their grief. There is also a blog on the St. Viator web site for students to express their feelings. To accommodate services being planned for Br. Ruhl, school will be closed on Friday. The all school mass on Ash Wednesday is canceled, but students will receive ashes in their religion classes. PE students will go to the Chapel for ashes during their scheduled gym time. Thursday dismissal is at 1:30 for a faculty meeting.

Services for Br. Ruhl are as follows:

Thursday: Visitation in the St. Viator Chapel from 2:30 - 8:00 PM with a prayer service at 7:00 PM.

Friday: Funeral Mass at St. James 12:00 PM

Mrs. Manno also commented that the senior class has had to weather a lot of changes this year due to many faculty changes. Mr. Nall was on leave for a significant portion of the first semester;

Mrs. Phillips will be on leave for a couple of weeks for back surgery; Mrs. Krestal, who was on maternity leave, returned for a couple weeks of the second semester, only to leave again due to child care issues. Mrs. Krestal is being replaced by Jim Lewnard. Mrs. Manno said that the faculty is taking all of these changes into account and will make every effort to be understanding.

The boys basketball game that was scheduled for Thursday will be played on Wednesday due to the wake for Br. Ruhl. No activities will be scheduled on Thursday.

Mrs. Manno said that next week incoming freshman will receive registration materials. February 13 is the Freshman Parent Meeting. Summer School information will be online February 8. The Curriculum Guide will be available online February 26. On February 20, upper classmen will get information for registration. Mrs. Manno said a letter will be sent out regarding payment information. Incoming Freshman will be registering for summer school via mail and registration will be decided by a lottery, if needed. A wait list will be established for classes that reach the maximum allotment. If a class is full, you need to send an e-mail to request getting on a wait list for that class. Regular Registration begins on February 27 and closes on March 7.

Mrs. Manno said that about 303 eighth graders took the entrance exam for St. Viator. Last year 360 eighth graders took the test. She said the difference in the numbers could be the economy, but they are not sure. The class of 2008 has about 263 graduates.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Parent's Club Vice President Jean Simpson is standing in for President Jean Spiegelhalter. Jean said that we will be hosting Maggie Hahn from Northwestern Adolescent Mental Health for the March pre-meeting beginning at 6:45 PM. In April, Timothy Smith will be our speaker and the topic is Crashproof Your Kids/Safety Behind the Wheel.

Freshman registration is being held in the library next month, so the March Parent's Club Meeting has been moved to the conference room on the 3rd floor.

Jean said new board members are needed for next year as several slots will be open. They are: Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary (these two positions can be shared); Treasurer; Vice President; President. Anyone interested should talk to Jean Simpson or Jean Spiegelhalter.

#### ARLINGTON HEIGHTS POLICE OFFICER'S REPORT:

Officer Mike Cowsert wanted to revisit last month's topic of the New Curfew laws that went into effect January 1, 2008, for drivers under the age of 18. He wanted to clarify some of the finer points of the law. He said that the information provided on the web site is different from the law. There is no graduated curfew law. He also said that the curfew law is not probable cause for stopping a car. In other words, a teen would need to be stopped for another offense and if they are also violating the curfew, they can be cited for it. There was a brief discussion about some news reports regarding the new law and that not a single teen has been cited for violating the law to this date in the State of Illinois. Officer Cowsert stated that in Arlington Heights, police will usually call the minor's home first to talk to the parents and confirm that the teen is returning from a school event or a job, both of which are exceptions to the law. They would prefer to put

the liability on the parents for their child's whereabouts.

Officer Cowsert also gave us some sad news when he announced that after 6 years as our School Resource Officer, he is being reassigned back to Patrol. He said that the Resource Officer job is usually a 3 year assignment. He will remain in the position until the end of the school year. He could be replaced by another officer as soon as next month. He also said that he will have the same e-mail address, in case anyone wants to communicate with him. He will still be participating in the Rockin' with the Cops and Operation Rio until the end of his term. Officer Cowsert will train the new officer.

Officer Cowsert also said that he will be participating in the Polar Plunge for the Special Olympics in March in Palatine.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT:

Deni Janus said that the Parent's Club purchased an ad for the program for the student production of Godspell. A deposit of \$900.00 has been made for the post prom buses. There was also a deposit made for the hypnotist and games for senior events. Senior Events earned \$183.00 from a split the pot held at one of the boys' basketball games. There is total of \$7,251.00 in Senior Events account. There is \$69,429.00 in the General Account at this time.

Cathy Sweeney made a motion to donate \$100.00 to Polar Plunge in support of Officer Mike Cowsert. The motion was seconded by Terri Bordes. The motion was approved.

Parents Club wants to send flowers for Br. Ruhl's services and a donation to an organization to be determined at a later date.

Mrs. Manno said that the Winter Ball will change the time of the event to accommodate the new curfew laws. The dance will go from 7:30 to 10:30 PM instead of 8:00 to 11:00 PM.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

##### FLORAL SHOW - Wednesday, March 12, 2008

Pam Tidaback, Kay Haubenreiser and Sue Abrahamson said that the tickets for the Floral Show are now available for \$10 a ticket. You can purchase them from the chairs and they can also be ordered on the web. They said that they are mailing promotions/flyers to grade schools and junior highs. They said graduation cards were sold at the Floral Show last year. They are looking for donations for raffles. Kathleen Guth is running the bake sale at the Floral Show with proceeds to go to Sr. Events. Kay Haubenreiser said they are sending complimentary tickets to Garden Clubs and florists.

##### SENIOR EVENTS:

##### Sr. Celebration - Friday, May 9, 2008

Deni Janus, Diane Dettloff and Terri Bordes reported that the Senior Events Committee is in the process of receiving donations and working on the theme for the event and calling volunteers.

Post Prom - Friday, May 16, 2008

Cheryl Lardner said that the buses are confirmed and that she already has 8 chaperones lined up, but needs 10 more.

Cheryl said that Staczak Chevrolet would be donating \$625.00 for a bus and that the Cheerleaders are hosting a Jamba Juice promotion with the proceeds going towards sponsoring a bus.

#### MARKETING/WEB PAGE:

Teresa Stewart could not attend, but sent an email with the following information: The deadlines for LionLines is February 5. She put in the Flyer for the Floral Show with the link to the web pages for the ticket information; information about the March and April meetings and the pre-meeting speakers; Graduation Card piece with a picture of the card; information regarding Open Board Positions, Class Reps and Committee positions and an invitation to join Parent's Club and general information about the Web Page such as events, minutes, posted articles on topical issues with the link.

#### HOSPITALITY:

Barb Frenzer wanted to know how many people they should expect for the Spring Open House scheduled for April 6. She wasn't sure what to expect since we've never hosted one in Spring in the past. Kathy Loy, who was a previous Hospitality Co-Chair, said that the open house will be advertised the same as the Fall Open Houses and that she should plan on 100 attending. At each of the Fall Open Houses, 115 attended.

#### CLASS REPS:

Nothing to report.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

Sondra Stanley was in charge of gifts for Catholic Schools Week. Kathy Loy was in charge of Friday's lunch from Tuccio's for the faculty. Due to a snowstorm, school was canceled and Kathy had to cancel with the restaurant. Since the food was already paid for, they had it donated to the Police and Fire Departments in Mt. Prospect.

For Catholic Schools Week, the Parent's Club provides 135 breakfasts for teachers on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, tickets for a pancake breakfast on Wednesday and lunch on Friday. Teachers receive gifts in their mailboxes on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

The March meeting will be held in the conference rooms on the 3rd floor to accommodate Incoming Freshman Registration being held in the library.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Bordes  
Recording Co-Secretary