

Special points of interest:

- Legislative Conference Information
- SCPTA District 9
- E-Learning Courses
- Honorary Life Membership
- Board Nomination form

## SCPTA Legislative Conference

### Action Call!

SCPTA invites presidents, legislative chairs, and other individuals who would like to lead discussions on key public issues concerning our children's education, health, and wellness to our public forum.

**Event:** SC State PTA 2011 Legislative Conference—Public Forum

**Date:** Saturday, February 5, 2011

**Place:** Lower Richland High School, Columbia, SC

SCPTA needs to hear your ideas, concerns, and perceptions. Please look for further details on the SCPTA website at [www.scpta.org](http://www.scpta.org).

### Our children need your voice!

Clifford L. Fulmore  
SCPTA Vice President of Legislation



Inside this issue:

National PTA President's Message	2
Membership	4
Honorary Awards	5
Grant Writing Workshop Recap	5
SCPTA Board Nomination form	6
Legislative Conference Registration form	7
Important Dates	8



**PTA REFLECTIONS**

## Reflections: 2010-2011 Theme—Together We Can

The 2010-2011 Reflections program is well underway. Students are working and submitting wonderful entries throughout our state. As you work to promote the Reflections program in your schools and districts, please keep in mind deadlines and dates of upcoming events

The state Reflections turn-in event and the Legislative Conference will be held on

Saturday, February 5, 2011 at Lower Richland High School in Columbia. All entries must be turned in between 8:00 AM and 9:30 AM. All entries must have a student entry form. Please check to ensure that the artist statement is completed for each entry. This is a requirement from National PTA. Visual arts and photography entries will be judged on site on this date and winners for these categories will be announced at the end of the day.

All state winners will be recognized at the Reflections awards ceremony and reception at Sumter High School on Saturday, April 9, 2010. Further information will be sent to all winners and their families.

Thank you to everyone involved in making Reflections such a successful program. We look forward to all the entries for this year.

Rosa Fulmore  
SCPTA Reflections Chair



**“How can parents or any interested adult help? Start talking today about how these cuts will hurt our schools and our students.”**

## A Special Message for South Carolina PTA from the National PTA President

As we start another new year we see another year of opportunities and challenges for South Carolina.

Parents and families have countless opportunities to show their children the value of community engagement, that's how I started. When I was in school both of my parents were volunteers in the schools I attended. I could see the positive work my Mom and Dad provided and how it helped my school, so when my wife, Teresa and I were parents we both believed that volunteering in the school was the thing to do for our children; teaching by example. My point, being an engaged parent has a long-term, positive effect. Live It!

Challenges? Well, that list is much longer; so for today

let's discuss the most important. Our elected officials and the upcoming budget conversation.

For the last five plus years schools in South Carolina have faced budget cut after budget cut with little help in sight. Well, 2011 doesn't look any better. Projections are already looking like an \$800 billion (or higher) shortfall. This means that protective services, health care and yes, education will get cut again! How can parents or any interested adult help? Start talking today about how these cuts will hurt our schools and our students. This is not about “we don't have the money” it is about making critical choices. This is also a conversation about economic development. For

example, if a business wants to locate a new plant in your community what do they look for? Quality schools and good roads. If these two items are not good, they will build in another community. Wherever receives this new plant also receives a more stable and valuable tax base—a better value. So why not support adequate funding for our schools?

In the end, your voice must be heard. You cannot afford to sit at home and complain. You must get involved. Our schools are seen as weak by many, now is the time to prove those folks wrong!

**Charles J. “Chuck” Saylor**  
National PTA President  
[www.PTA.org/chucksaylor](http://www.PTA.org/chucksaylor)

**National  
PTA<sup>®</sup>**  
*everychild.one voice.<sup>®</sup>*

## Flu Busters Ceases Operation

Please be advised that we (National PTA) have unofficially received word that Flu Busters has ceased operation as of November 30, 2010.

Here are a few answers to questions we anticipate you may have as we address this concern.

### FAQ's

I'm interested in getting an influenza vaccination for myself or my family. Where can I go?

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) created a Flu Shot Locator tool to help you identify the closest clinic in your area. By entering in your zip code, you will get a map of the closest flu shot clinics in your area. Go to [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov)

Where can I find additional information about how to host a flu shot clinic at my school?

The “Preparing for the Flu – Communication Toolkit for

Schools” offers in-depth information about how to plan and host a flu shot clinic, including identifying health professionals, timing, logistics, and recruiting volunteers, among other topics. The toolkit also provides a number of sample documents (consent forms, letters to parents) for your use as well. This toolkit is geared towards clinics in grades K-12. Go to <http://pandemicflu.gov/>

(See FluBusters on page 3)



Clifford and Rosa Fulmore, SCPTA District IX vice president and treasurer, respectively.

## SCPTA District IX—Charleston County: We're Back!

Charleston County PTA officers and members are working diligently throughout Charleston County to promote literacy. The latest event was Reading on the Circle which was sponsored by the Low country Literacy Roundtable. Hundreds of children and their families came to enjoy a day filled with storytelling, face painting, and other activities in Park Circle in North

Charleston. Many children received free books and were able to sign up for a public library card.

Another Charleston County PTA initiative is increasing parental involvement. The Charleston County School District, Charleston County PTA, SCPTA, and other parent organizations in the state have partnered to host a parent leadership conference in February

2011. The Parents Leading the Way Conference will be held on February 25—26, 2011 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Columbia. There will be parent workshops and exhibitors, as well as opportunities for networking with other parents. Registration begins on January 1, 2011 and ends on February 11, 2011. Please join us.

Rosa Fulmore  
Treasurer  
SCPTA District IX—



## Congratulations

Congratulations to Tanya Robinson on her recent election to the school board of Dorchester 2 School District.

Tanya currently serves as Vice President for Membership and Field Services for

SCPTA and is doing a great job, too.

Her interest in children and their welfare has encompassed all levels of education for children and she has served in many capacities at the state level.

Please join me in wishing her well in her new opportunity to serve children!

Martha C. Knight  
SCPTA President Elect

(FluBusters from page 2)

[professional/school/vaccinschools.html](http://professional/school/vaccinschools.html)

If your school has a school nurse or other health professional, you should reach out to that person and other school administrators to discuss the possibility of hosting a clinic at your school before executing your plans.

Are there resources available that I can use to raise awareness about influenza and vaccinations with my PTA or in my community?

Yes. Please visit

[www.cdc.gov/flu](http://www.cdc.gov/flu) to download free resources, including posters, e-cards, brochures, fact sheets, articles, posters, stickers, videos, and more that were created by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, a part of the US Department of Health and Human Services.

As a parent, what do I need to know about influenza or signs of the flu?

The CDC has developed resources and information for parents, which can be accessed online at: <http://www.flu.gov/>

[individualfamily/parents/index.html](http://individualfamily/parents/index.html).

What if I have scheduled a clinic in December or beyond?

Please contact Terri Robinson at [trobinson@pta.org](mailto:trobinson@pta.org) and make her aware of your scheduled event. We will make every effort to assist you accordingly.

What if Flu Busters owes funds to our PTA?

Please contact Terri Robinson at [trobinson@pta.org](mailto:trobinson@pta.org) and provide a report of the amount you are owed by Flu Busters.

## E-Learning Courses

National PTA is offering E-Learning Courses. All you need is your username and password from the back of your membership card! All courses take between 30-60 minutes to complete:

Visit  
[www.pta.org/e\\_learning.asp](http://www.pta.org/e_learning.asp) and learn about the many courses offered through National PTA.

## PTA Membership: We Need Your Help!

While looking at the National PTA membership numbers, it astounded the state board that not only are our numbers lower than many states our size, but are actually down from last year.

I firmly believe we are as active as before, but our count may be off due to not correctly entering our local

unit numbers with the Just Between Friends program that National PTA incorporated this year.

Please do not stress over this. Send us your numbers by a spreadsheet or even by pen and paper. Let your membership committee know this is perfectly acceptable this year. We will

continue our efforts on the state level to train the local units at our leadership meetings or if needed, a visit to your school with training.

SOUTH CAROLINA PTAs are the best! Let's increase our numbers to prove it!

Warmest Regards,

Tanya Robinson  
Vice President for Membership and Field Services

## Just Between Friends—Communications Made Easy

Communicate with your entire school!

With Just Between Friends, you can easily communicate with your entire school. And, here's some great news...you have the ability to attach files of the most popular formats to your emails.

To effectively manage all of your communications, you can create sub-groups within your school and select which sub-groups should receive your emails.

One of the features that PTA leaders rave about is the system's automatic reminder feature. It allows you to select how often and when reminders should be sent.

When you use Just Between Friends for communications, you're helping parents to manage their busy life because deadlines and events

are automatically posted on their calendars. Plus, parents will see all current notices and calendar events on their personal start page. And, this all takes place on a secure, private system!

Not using Just Between Friends, yet?

Don't delay. Get started by visiting [www.JustBetweenFriends.com/PTAquickstart](http://www.JustBetweenFriends.com/PTAquickstart)

and entering your unit.

Learn Just Between Friends

Visit [www.LearnJBF.com](http://www.LearnJBF.com) for lots of "How-to" information, step-by-step directions in printable PDFs, instructional videos and a schedule of training sessions.

Have questions?

Visit [www.JustBetweenFriends.com](http://www.JustBetweenFriends.com) and click on the "Contact Us" button. One of Just Between Friends' friendly

and knowledgeable Customer Service Representatives are there to answer your questions and help you easily use the system.

Important Instruction Changes to Printing PTA Card

**Please take note** that changes have been made to the printing card functionality. Old instructions (prior to 12-1-2010) do not apply. Revisit [www.learnjbf.com](http://www.learnjbf.com) and scroll down on the welcome page to access the new instructions and video.

Summarized changes to the instructions:

- Vertical offset may work best at .35 (experiment on plain paper for correct setting)
- Printer dialog box: Page scaling should be set to: Fit to Printable Area



## SCPTA Honorary Life Membership

An Honorary Life Membership in the South Carolina PTA is the highest honor that can be bestowed on an individual by the South Carolina PTA. Local units should consider bestowing this honor on individuals who have supported the purposes of the PTA through their efforts to promote the welfare of children and youth in South Carolina. Some of the individuals who may deserve this recognition might be the out-going president, teacher of the year, principal, a community leader, or volunteer of the year.

All the funds generated from this award are designated to the SCPTA Scholarship Fund named in memory of Helen Stokes; therefore the name

of the SCPTA Scholarship is the Helen Stokes Memorial Scholarship. This fund awards scholarships to deserving South Carolina high school seniors who pursue post-high school education in South Carolina. The number of scholarships awarded each year depends on the amount of money generated from this award and contributions to the Helen Stokes Memorial Scholarship Fund. Last year SCPTA awarded seven scholarships!

The cost of the Life Membership Award is \$50. The honoree receives a sterling silver Life Membership pin, wallet size Life Membership card, and a certificate signed by the SCPTA President.

Many schools have students that volunteer at their schools and a nice way to recognize them would be to present those volunteers with a SCPTA Spirit of PTA Award. For a donation of \$10, the recipient would receive a special certificate and his/her name listed in the SCPTA Convention Program.

The South Carolina PTA Honorary Life Membership Award Form and the SCPTA Spirit of PTA Award Form are found on the website: [www.scpta.org](http://www.scpta.org) or calling the SCPTA Office at (800) 743-3782.

Karen Kurimcak  
SCPTA Helen Stokes  
Scholarship Chair

**“...consider bestowing this honor on individuals who have supported the purposes of the PTA through their efforts to promote the welfare of children and youth in South Carolina...”**

## Grant Writing Workshop Recap

SCPTA hosted a grant writing workshop on Saturday, November 6 in Rock Hill, South Carolina. This workshop was a great success! Deborah Maynard, Assistant Principal at Rock Hill High School and professional grant writer, conducted the workshop. Deborah shared many current education grants

available with all the attendees and included a step by step process for parents and teachers to write their own grants. This process alone eliminated countless hours of research our attendees would have had to do to find the grants available. Our attendees were empowered to apply for several grants with

knowledge, ease and confidence. We are very excited to see how many grants will be awarded to South Carolina schools from the work done by this group. We will be sure to share the awards with you all as they are received. Thank you to all that attended!

Lee Ann Harris  
SCPTA District 7 President



## SCPTA BOARD NOMINATION FORM

It's that time again to send in your nominations for the SCPTA Board of Directors. Open positions are: President-Elect, Vice President of Programs and Vice President of Legislation.

**NOMINATIONS DEADLINE: JANUARY 19, 2011**

Nomination for (Office or Committee) \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_, SC Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Please provide details for the following items on a separate sheet:**

1. Positions held in local, council, district, and/or South Carolina PTAs.
2. Qualifications for leadership and achievements as they apply to this position.
3. Other qualifications (experience with civic groups, church, clubs, scouting etc.)
4. What are your goals in regards to SCPTA?
5. Where do you see SCPTA a year from now?
6. In your opinion, what is the most pressing issue facing SCPTA right now?
7. Where would you like to see SCPTA five years from now?

I agree with National PTA's mission and purposes and am currently a member of \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ PTA/PTSA in South Carolina. If elected I agree to attend the Board of Directors  
 and/or Committee Meetings related to that particular office or committee, to travel on speaking and service assignments  
 to units if requested of that particular office or committee, and to attend and participate in the SCPTA Leadership and  
 Legislative Conferences and SCPTA Convention to the best of my ability.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Person Nominated

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Person Submitting Form (if different)

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Print Name of Person Nominated

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Print Name of Person Submitting Form (if different)

**Return to SCPTA office by one of the following methods:**

E-mail attachment (subject: SCPTA nominations): [lwelch@scpta.org](mailto:lwelch@scpta.org)

Fax: 803-765-0399

Mail: 1826 Henderson Street, Columbia, SC 29201

For more information, please contact the SCPTA office at 800-743-3782 or email at [lwelch@scpta.org](mailto:lwelch@scpta.org)



South Carolina Congress of  
Parents and Teachers

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**Have a question about PTA? Don't know who to ask?**

Then contact the SCPTA office at 800-743-3782 and Lorene Welch will be happy to help you! The SCPTA Office is here to make your PTA life easier! The office hours are 9am - 5pm Monday through Friday.

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**We're on the web! [www.SCPTA.org](http://www.SCPTA.org)**

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**Important Dates**

**2011**

**February 5**

SCPTA Legislative Conference:  
Lower Richland High School

**March 1**

Third dues payment (mandatory)  
Award applications

**March 31**

Final dues payment (if needed)

**February 27**

SCPTA Open House, 2–5 PM

**April 9**

SCPTA Convention: Sumter High  
School, Sumter, SC

**June 9–12**

National PTA Convention: Disney  
Coronado Resort and Convention  
Center in Orlando, Florida

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**SCPTA Executive Committee**

**President:** Sharyl Richardson, President@scpta.org

**President Elect:** Martha Knight, mknight3294@yahoo.com

**Vice President for Legislation:** Clifford Fulmore, clifford\_fulmore@ccsdsschools.com

**Secretary:** Jerry Boozer, jerryboozer3@hotmail.com

**Vice President for Membership Field Services:** Tanya Robinson, krobinsn20@sc.rr.com

**Vice President for Programs:** Connie Bush, conniebush@marykay.com

**Treasurer:** Jodie Keener, mjkeener1@att.net

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