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South Carolina Parent Teacher Bulletin

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December 2011

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM OUR HOUSE TO YOURS!



*Wishing you a Joyous Holiday and a Prosperous New Year
as we work together for Children.*

South Carolina PTA

WWW.SCPTA.ORG

SCPTA Legislative Conference Information

The SCPTA Legislative Conference will be held at the Clarion Hotel Downtown, Columbia, SC on Wednesday, February 8, 2012, from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Time will be set aside for PTA members to visit the legislators at the SC State House. Transportation to and from the State House will be provided. PTA members who attend the SCPTA Legislative Conference should make an appointment with the legislator representing their schools' area on the day of the conference, Wednesday, February 8, after 2:00 pm.

The cost for the conference will be \$20.00 which includes your lunch, materials, and transportation to the State House.

There is a registration form included in this bulletin on page 7. This event is open to all PTA members.

Save the date and see you at the Clarion!



Helen Stokes Scholarship Information

The Helen Stokes Memorial Scholarship Fund started in 1956 was a means to encourage SC high school seniors to enter post-secondary education. If you know of a 2012 graduating senior entering the teaching profession who meets the scholarship criteria, here is an opportunity to award that student with scholarship funds. The [application form](#) can be found on the SCPTA website at www.scpta.org.



Reflections Program 2011-12 Information

The Reflections Program 2011-12 is underway in local units. The theme this year is Diversity Means. Local units need to be sure to meet the requirements set forth by National PTA standards as well as the SC requirements.

At state level, units participating in this program must have current bylaws, paid state and national dues and met their district requirements, i.e., dues and reflection dues.

The drop-off date for Reflection entries is Wednesday, February 8, at the Clarion Hotel Downtown from 8:00 to 9:30 am in the Camellia Room.

If you have any questions, please refer to www.ptareflections.org link or contact Kima Schmidt-Garten at 843-324-5294 or 843-821-9337.

Historic House Preservation Update

The coming year will be another challenge for your Preservation Committee. We have taken the initial steps in renewing the heating and air conditioning system. There are two factors for us to consider:

1. Our original report almost totally condemned the entire system; and
2. We made temporary repairs to the heating system last year.

We initiated further exploration of the existing system, and at our September meeting, we considered a report from a consultant who painted a somewhat different picture. The complete duct work does not need replacing-part of it is redeemable. We have a proposal which will be considered along with other estimates at our next meeting. The solution to our problems will be inexpensive and that is why we are still seeking your support. We hope our budget commitments will materialize.

It is not too early to remind you of our Open House on Sunday, February 26, 2012. Come see the house and drop off your award entries.

As this year draws to a close and we look forward with anticipation and hope to a new year, may each and everyone of you experience fulfillment of your hopes and desires. May you and your children have a peaceful and blessed season.

Nigel Lee, Chairman, Historic House Preservation Committee



Phoebe Apperson Hearst Innovation in Family Engagement Award

Applicants for the Hearst Award must be a PTA in good standing and have a valid 501c3 status. Applicants must also partner with local education agencies (i.e., school district or school) to apply. Applications are due by

5:00 pm., EST, Friday, December 16, 2011.

Apply online at www.pta.org/hearst.

2012 PTA Advocacy Awards

Awards will be presented during a luncheon on Capitol Hill during the Legislative Conference.

All award nominations are due via the online submission process (using the below links) by **5:00 p.m. PST, Tuesday, January 10, 2012**. Winners will be notified the following week.

To learn more about each award and complete the application for each award, please visit the links below.

[2012 Shirley Igo Advocate of the Year Award Nomination](#)

[2012 Local PTA Outstanding Advocacy Award Nomination](#)

[2012 State PTA Outstanding Advocacy Award Nomination](#)

Please contact jchevalier@pta.org with additional questions concerning the 2012 PTA Advocacy Awards nomination process.



What's Happening in Your School?

District 13

Alice Drive Elementary School- *School garden educational for all*

The gardening continues at Alice Drive Elementary with some help from University of South Carolina Upstate at USC Sumter students. "This partnership gives us the opportunity to be able to do more," said Harriett Jackson, kindergarten teacher. "We are able to do more special projects without teachers having to wear themselves out. It's a really good partnership, and we'll continue to be able to work together occasionally

Chestnut Oaks Middle School- *High Rollers partners with school to bring Thanksgiving to 6 families*

The faculty, staff and students realized the families they were helping to have a good Thanksgiving may not have a place to cook the turkeys donated by High Rollers Motorcycle Club. The canned food drive at one school this year was a little more personal. Chestnut Oaks Middle School's annual food drive normally benefits a local food pantry. This year, the staff and student council still donated some of the 442 cans to a local charity, but they are also stocking a pantry for some of their own students.



You don't have to be a parent with a child in school to be an advocate for children! Join the Advocates for South Carolina's Children PTA TODAY!

Visit www.scpta.org and joining is a click away! Or contact the State Office to receive a registration flyer.



What does it mean for a PTA unit to be in good standing?"?

To be in good standing a PTA unit must have the following items submitted to the SCPTA office:

- ◆ up-to-date bylaws;
- ◆ paid dues to National and State PTA;
- ◆ the local unit's approved budget with minutes by the general membership;
- ◆ the local unit's financial review;
- ◆ the local unit's completed Local Unit Officer Report form;
- ◆ the list of members either electronically or hard copy; and
- ◆ a copy of the local unit's federal tax return.

SAVE THE DATE!

**2012 Annual Convention
In Myrtle Beach.**

**April 21,
2012**





Happy Holidays!



While you're out shopping for gifts, the South Carolina PTA has ways to honor and gift those special people in your life!

- 1. Advocate for Children**-\$10 annual membership
- 2. SCPTA Honorary Life Membership Award**-\$50 life membership (includes pin and certificate)
- 3. Gerry Pfaehler Endowment Fund**-To honor or remember a loved one. This fund provides grants to local PTAs in the state.
- 4. Helen Stokes Memorial Scholarship Fund**-To honor or remember a loved one. This fund provides several \$500 scholarships each year.
- 5. Historic House Preservation Fund**-To honor or remember a loved one. This fund enables the SCPTA to continue ongoing restoration efforts to the SCPTA headquarters (listed in the National Register of Historic Places in the section of Columbia District II).

Please tear off the order form and return with your check. A holiday card will be mailed to your loved one acknowledging your donation.

Mailing information for card acknowledgement

Name _____

Street Address _____

City, ST, Zip _____

Donor's name _____

Designate number from the list above for donation: 1 2 3 4 5

(If gift is in memory of a loved one, please provide a family name and mailing address for acknowledgement).

Checks payable to: SCPTA and mailed to: 1826 Henderson Street, Columbia, SC 29201. For faxed and emailed orders, send payment by mail.

Thank you for your continued support of the SCPTA philosophy and mission through a membership or fund donation this holiday season.

2011 SCPTA Legislative Conference**Wednesday, February 8, 2012***Clarion Hotel Downtown Columbia**1615 Gervais Street**Columbia, SC 29201**803-771-8711***Registration Form**

Attendee Name (please print)	First Timer Y/N	Registration \$20 (materials & lunch)
<i>(add second page for more names if needed)</i>	TOTAL	

PTA/PTSA Unit Name and PTA District:	
Contact Email:	Contact Phone:

Make your check payable to South Carolina PTA and mail to: SCPTA, 1826 Henderson Street, Columbia, SC 29201. Register on-line at www.scpta.org from January 1, 2012 to February 3, 2012.

On-site registration at the conference after February 3, 2012.

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.

CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB! www.scpta.org



Important Dates

February 8, 2012—Legislative Conference, Clarion Hotel, Columbia, SC and Reflections Turn-In

February 26, 2012—Open House at SCPTA Office

March 1, 2012—Final Membership & Dues Report Date

April 20, 2012—SCPTA Vendor Fair, Myrtle Beach, SC— Sea Mist Oceanfront Resort. Open to Public.

April 21, 2012—89th Annual Convention, Myrtle Beach, SC— Sea Mist Oceanfront Resort

SCPTA Executive Committee

President: Martha C. Knight, mknight3294@yahoo.com

President Elect: vacant

Vice President for Legislation: Clifford Fulmore, Clifford_fulmore@hotmail.com

Secretary: Jerry Boozer, jerryboozer3@hotmail.com

Vice President for Membership Field Services: Tanya Robinson, krobins20@sc.rr.com

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District President Representatives: Shawn Rearden, reardenshawn@yahoo.com and Susan Strohm, susanuga83@aol.com