

## Spring is here....almost!

Although many think Spring as the time to do “spring cleaning,” I like to think of Spring as the time to start “new beginnings.”

Begin to make your reservations for the 2012 SCPTA Convention. Get your reservations in by April 6th. The Sea Mist Oceanfront Resort has family fun activities for all family members. There is a special workshop for middle and high school students to learn about the conservation of the beach. Three National PTA representatives will be present for members to learn about all aspects of PTA. Be sure to check out the PTA store...we have new flip flips designed just for this convention.

Begin to have your elections at the local unit so that the new and/or returning officers will have time to plan for next year. Be sure to make the final membership report by March 31, to complete the 2012-13 Local Unit Officer Report so that your local unit will continue to get NPTA and SCPTA mailings. Schedule the local unit’s Financial Review to be submitted to SCPTA as soon as possible after the end of the school year.

Begin to plan for 2012-2013 by scheduling all of the new and/or returning board members for attendance at the SCPTA Leadership Training on July 21, 2012, at Lexington Elementary School, Lexington, SC. Try to have the key committee chairman appointed by the Leadership Training so that they will have a head start on their work: Membership, Legislation, Family Engagement (formerly know as Parent Involvement), Health and Safety, Reflections, and Diversity.

Begin to celebrate the benefits that your local unit has brought to the children and parents during this school year....after all, that’s what we work so diligently to accomplish!

Here’s to new beginnings!



Martha C. Knight, President

## Welcome New Units!

*D9-Burke Middle PTSA*

*D9-Northwoods Middle PTA*

*D10-Whale Branch Early College  
HS PTSA*



### Why is it important to register early for an event?

**It’s important to register as early as possible for an event because the planners of the event are preparing event materials, event handouts, as well as providing meal guarantees.**

**When registrations are received in a timely manner, the preparation for the event will go smoother for the planner and all those involved.**



## SCPTA 89th Annual Convention

*Hello Everyone,*

*Our 89th Annual Convention in Myrtle Beach is drawing near, and I couldn't be more happier about seeing each and everyone of you there.*

*So pack your bags and plan on attending. Hotel registration information is listed below.*

*Conference registration is now available at [www.scpta.org](http://www.scpta.org), so register today!*

*There will be so much going on beginning with the Vendor Fair that is open to the public on Friday. Conference check-in begins at 4 pm on Friday in the Conference Center, as well as a health screening from 4 - 6pm in Willow Hall. I'm also very excited about our Family Ice Cream Social at 7:30 pm on Friday night also!*

*On Saturday morning, you should start your day out with a good breakfast because your going to be busy with the workshops we have planned. You will be able to finish visiting our vendors on that day also. Remember to fill out your passport cards for the fabulous door prizes to be given away.*

*Being in Myrtle Beach, there is lots to do and see.*

*So, I want to see all of you there for a fun-filled family weekend! Your State PTA Board and the National PTA Speakers are looking forward to meeting with you and having a great time.*

*Oh, and don't forget your towel and sunscreen. See you there!!!*

*Greta Hayes  
Conference Chair*



### HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION

A block of sleeping rooms have been reserved for SCPTA members. The rate is \$84.75 (includes tax) for a single room per night. Two nights is \$169.50 (includes tax) and three nights is \$254.25 (includes tax). These rates are for rooms only.

Family package rates for two nights is \$241.69 (includes tax) and three nights is \$362.55 (includes tax). The family package rates include hotel room, Family Kingdom Oceanfront Waterpark, Lazy River and Miniature Golf on the Sea Mist Resort grounds.

Reservations can be made by calling 800-732-6478 (7am—11pm daily) or online at [www.seamist.com](http://www.seamist.com). The group number is 540903. Visit [www.myrtlebeachseamist.com](http://www.myrtlebeachseamist.com) to see more! And join us in the fun at Sea Mist Oceanfront Resort!!!

**\* Hotel Registration at 1200 South Ocean Boulevard at Hotel Office**

**\* Hotel Room Block: Tides & Driftwood Buildings on Atlantic Ocean**



## Tennis—the Sport of Opportunity

If your school is looking for a fun way to keep kids fit and active, try School Tennis from USTA! The United States Tennis Association (USTA) has a variety of programs and resources for junior players of all ages and abilities. With the new 10 & Under Tennis format ([www.10andundertennis.com](http://www.10andundertennis.com)), it's easier than ever for children to pick up the game with racquets, courts, and balls that are appropriately sized.

This month, your school can “March into Tennis” by registering for a Kids’ Tennis Club and receive special benefits. Kids Tennis Clubs are non-instructional, supervised groups for recreational tennis. All you need is an improvised or pop-up net, a few racquets and balls, and a flat playing surface for instant fun! Matching equipment grants are available for elementary schools while funds last—apply soon!

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## Palmetto Green Schools

Palmetto Green Schools recently launched a website [www.palmettogreenschools.com](http://www.palmettogreenschools.com) loaded with tools, resources, ideas, links, commentaries, live media feeds on energy and environment, and “rooms” for students, educators, school facility managers, community, and elected officials to visit.

You might see someone, or some place, you know as we work hard to encourage and support our statewide K-16 schools that are implementing sustainable, quality, and result-oriented projects, programs, and training on energy and natural resource conservation measures.

Currently 11 Green Steps schools have PTA’s. Green Steps in our main student-powered program that emphasizes the “learn, do, and teach others” strategy. Green teams are formed; projects and programs identified, and then the **steps** begin as they focus on conservation, preservation, and restoration—meeting content standards while nurturing real-world learning, citizenship, and stewardship.

We know, and appreciate, that PTA’s are foundational building blocks to support quality initiatives and ideas that turn into long-term successes.

For more information: contact Ed Falco, Program Manager, Conservation Voters of SC, at [ed@cvsc.org](mailto:ed@cvsc.org) or 803-700-0716.

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](http://www.scpta.org)**



## **Important Dates**

**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

**June 21-24, 2012**—National PTA Convention, San Jose,  
CA

**July 21, 2012**—Summer Leadership Training, Lexington  
Elementary School, Lexington, SC

## **SCPTA Executive Committee**

**President:** Martha C. Knight, [mknight3294@yahoo.com](mailto:mknight3294@yahoo.com)

**President Elect:** vacant

**Vice President for Legislation:** Clifford Fulmore, [Clifford\\_fulmore@hotmail.com](mailto:Clifford_fulmore@hotmail.com)

**Secretary:** Jerry Boozer, [jerryboozer3@hotmail.com](mailto:jerryboozer3@hotmail.com)

**Vice President for Membership Field Services:** Tanya Robinson, [krobinson20@sc.rr.com](mailto:krobinson20@sc.rr.com)

**Vice President for Programs:** Connie Bush, [conniebush@marykay.com](mailto:conniebush@marykay.com)

**Treasurer:** Jodie Keener, [jkeener@pinnaclebanksc.com](mailto:jkeener@pinnaclebanksc.com) or [mjkeener1@att.net](mailto:mjkeener1@att.net)

**District President Representatives:** Shawn Rearden, [reardenshawn@yahoo.com](mailto:reardenshawn@yahoo.com) and  
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