



Hello parents!

I am so excited to introduce to you our first electronic newsletter. Thanks to the incredible efforts of Jackie Pracher and Sabrina Horn, our Winter Edition of the Shelter Rock newsletter is amazing.

I'd like to take a moment to thank all of our SCA Committee Chairs and many volunteers who are all doing such a wonderful job for our children and school.

Thank you to all who submitted an article to help us continue to keep the connection between home and school open and informative.

Enjoy your read!

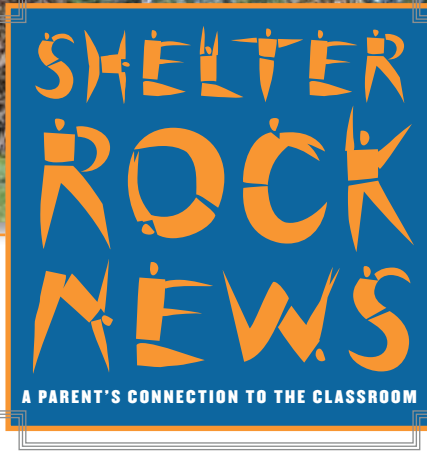
Yours,

*Jennifer Villano*

Shelter Rock SCA President



THINK BEFORE PRINTING



YOU COULD SAVE A TREE!

*A Letter from*  
LAUREN BARANELLO,  
SHELTER ROCK SCA VICE-PRESIDENT

WINTER 2008



**H**ello to all the Shelter Rock families and welcome to our first electronic newsletter. I cannot believe that we are half way through another school year at Shelter Rock. It was a very busy first half of the year as I began my two-year term as Vice-President. We have had so many wonderful programs for our children, and I am so excited to say that there are many more ahead in the remainder of this school year that I look forward to. I would like to thank all the parents that have dedicated and continue to dedicate their time willingly to help all the children.

**F**irst, the 5th & 6th grade Halloween Dance party was a hit! Linda Kane & Ann Marie Moschitta did an outstanding job. The evening was a success due to the organization, wonderful decorations, entertainment and, of course, the infamous “spook walk”. Great job, ladies!

This year’s SCA Luncheon was run by Shelter Rock’s own trio: Eileen Koufakis, Maureen Lavin, and Diana Stefan. Thanks to you and your committee for the hard work and dedication that was put into this day to make it a memorable event. The afternoon was filled with friends, great shopping, and entertainment, provided by the talented high school theater students. A job well done!

This year, our Lunchroom/Recess program, started off with some bumps in the road, but thanks to Debbie Bowman, Carmen Cohen, and Marirose Merola, they were ironed out immediately. There have been some positive improvements added to the recess program and these ladies have done a wonderful job pulling it all together, along with the help and support of Mrs. Williams. Thanks go out to Claire Sheehan for providing Hospitality for all the SCA meetings and various other events throughout the year.

Terry MacGown has really kicked off our new program, Planet Manhasset, with hard work and dedication. The new concept has taken off and it is all in the best interest of our children. Go green!

**O**ur Yearbook Committee, consisting of Nina Kiess, Terry MacGown, and Rebecca Scaramucci, have been meeting weekly and working tirelessly to complete this Yearbook and to making it memorable for our sixth graders. I know what is involved in doing this project and appreciate all your hard work, so thank you, ladies! I also want to mention how another Photo Day ran smoothly thanks to Latha Desikan and Semira Geiger.

And, we would like to thank Ellen Albrechtsen and Reena Gilja for running the Box Tops Committee. They are coming in like wildfire! Keep sending them in to find out who gets the party at the end of the year.

**W**e also want to send a special thank you out to Adrienne Grande-Halio and Lisa Belinsky who have been working with our Student Council on their community-minded projects. Guess Who’s Coming To Read, for the K-3rd graders, ran by Maria Brunetti, Susan Powers, and Carol Thorpe, was very exciting for the children. A wide variety of special guests took the time out of their day to read and share special stories with them in their classrooms. Remember, if you have any pictures of events that took place at Shelter Rock, please submit them to Katie Lane and Dawn McCormick, our Publicity chairs or to Donna Benabou, our Website Coordinator, who would be more than happy to post them on the website.

Keep your eyes and ears open to the upcoming activities that are going to take place at Shelter Rock. We look forward to Library Week, run by Corina Gerontis, Claire Sheehan, and Melinda Smotkin and also the well-known Book Fair, run by Carol Conner and Cris-Ann Frisone. We also have the ever-popular kid’s event, The SCA Fair, in May. Don’t forget to check out the new SCA Fair logo, designed by our very own, Linda Kane. It looks great! Lastly, I cannot forget to thank Jackie Pracher and Sabrina Horn who put this entire newsletter together. It is a great source of information that takes time to organize. Hats off to you both!

I would like to conclude by saying thank you to all the parents out there who help make Shelter Rock a wonderful place for our children to grow and learn. As taking on the role of Vice-President, I cannot express to you what a privilege and surreal thrill it is to have this experience here at “my alma mater” !!

# TOWER FOUNDATION SMARTBOARDS

## FOR A MODERN LEARNING ENVIRONMENT



THE TOWER FOUNDATION OF MANHASSET IS EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE IT'S 2007-08 INITIATIVE.

**T**ower is devoting its entire fund-raising efforts to providing and installing SMARTboards in the Secondary School and both elementary schools. Our goal is to create a 21st century learning environment so that students have the knowledge they need to succeed.

Our success is due directly to our donor's generosity. They value, as we do, the quality

"The SMARTboard is the greatest tool I have ever used in the classroom. It's like going from a black and white world to technicolor. My students are more engaged in each lesson because they are able to interact with the information. The SMARTboard has opened the walls of the classroom allowing students to see the endless possibilities in learning."

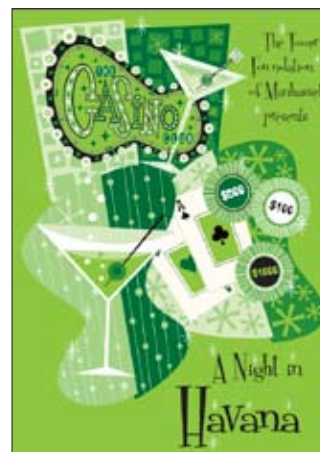
**Holly Weinstein**  
2nd Grade Teacher  
Shelter Rock Elementary

of education we provide to our children. In order for us to continue to succeed we need your help. Last year, Tower received donations from 409 alumni and community members but there are over 1,900 families whose children attend the public schools.

Our hope is that more of the community will realize the importance

Tower's role to Manhasset's public education system and will choose to participate in making a direct impact.

Our annual **Dinner Dance is taking place at Plandome Country Club on March 15th.** The theme is Havana



Nights and is going to feature Cuban Cuisine and dancing, a Casino and a Cigar Roller. If you cannot make it on the 15th, there is still time to contribute. Please visit our website for

additional information on Tower and our new initiative. You can also make a tax-deductible donation at [www.towerfoundation.com](http://www.towerfoundation.com).

We invite you to join us in working to ensure that Manhasset's public schools remain top tier—for our students and our community.

You can view the SMARTboards at <http://education.smarttech.com/st/en-US/Community/Videos.htm>



## FROM YOUR STUDENT COUNCIL:

Our Shelter Rock 5th and 6th grade Student Council members have had a very productive school year thus far! They held a fun and spooky Halloween Costume Drive to benefit the Manhasset-Great Neck EOC/Adventures in Learning Program. So please hold on to any costumes that you may have grown out of...we'll need them for next year's drive! Student Council also sponsored the Thanksgiving Food Drive and Winter Holiday Raffle and Toy Drive. Both were a tremendous success that brought smiles and merriment to its recipients. In the new year, our ambitious students oversaw "Valentine's for Veterans", a program that acknowledges our service veterans by sending them letters of appreciation and needed sundries for Valentine's Day.

Currently, the Student Council members are working diligently on our "Pennies for Patients" drive to benefit the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. This event will run from February 27-March 19. Our motto is "A dollar a day brings good health their way!", so please remember to donate to this very important and special cause. Please mark your calendars for Diversity Day on April 9th! Student Council will be involved in making this an exciting and fun-filled multi-faceted day!

Without the generous support of the Shelter Rock Community, these fund-raising efforts and community service projects could not come to fruition. We truly appreciate your continued generosity! We would also like to thank Mr. Steven Sirof and Mrs. Joyce Rappaport for their guidance and dedication to instilling community service values in our children.

Adrienne Grande-Halio  
Lisa Belinsky

## Shelter Rock's Second Annual Pennies for Patients Drive

**What:** Student Council is raising money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society

**When:** February 27- March 28

**Where:** Shelter Rock School

**Why:** To help children battling blood cancer

**How:** There will be collection bins in all lower grade wings and students in the upper grades will be receiving collection envelopes



During the week Student Council will be doing many exciting activities. Listen to the daily announcements and get involved

- Look for our \$1 bracelet sale (Sorry, only one per person)
- RED Wednesday- Don't forget to wear red to school

**There will be plenty more in store!!!**

# A dollar a day brings health their way!!

## SATURDAY SERIES

This winter session began on January 12th with excellent enrollment levels.

Along with the return of many favorite and popular classes, new and exciting classes like cheer leading, build-a-doll, and crocheting were added.

On March 15th, the musical theater class will present their production of *Little Mermaid*. The show is free of charge and is performed in the Shelter Rock Auditorium.

The Saturday Series committee is looking to fill a Co-Chair position. If you are interested, please e-mail us at [satseries@aol.com](mailto:satseries@aol.com) or see us at the registration desk for more information.

This program is parent-run so your assistance helps to make it a success!

## SHELTER ROCK NEWSLETTER GOES GREEN!

We are very proud to announce our very first "green" issue of the Shelter Rock Newsletter. In an effort to go paperless, observe our environment, and just be more efficient, we are henceforth, going to send you this newsletter via e-mail. We hope you enjoy this issue and can read it in its proper format. As with all things new, please give us your feedback and let us know your thoughts. All comments are welcome.

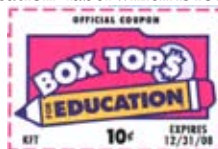
Thanks,  
[jackiepracher@aol.com](mailto:jackiepracher@aol.com)  
[shorn@hornsgroup.com](mailto:shorn@hornsgroup.com)

## BOX TOPS

FOR EDUCATION PROGRAM.  
KEEP 'EM COMING!!

This year's box tops drive has gotten off to a fantastic start! We have collected well over 3,000 box tops for the first half of the year and we're sure that we'll have that amount and more to submit in June.

Many thanks to all you students and parents for remembering to snip off the pink "Box Top for Education" label which is found on



## SIGN UP FOR SCA E-MAIL ALERTS

Visit [www.manhassetzca.org](http://www.manhassetzca.org) and click on the last orange button in the left column.

[Join Our E-mail List](#)

General Mills, Pillsbury, Kleenex, Ziploc, and many other products. Don't forget Shelter Rock earns \$.10 for each box top and the grade that submits the most box tops will have an ice pop party in June.

Keep up the Great Work,  
*The Box Top for Education Committee*

## CEC REMINDS YOU TO VOTE!

The Community Education Committee (CEC) of the SCA strives to ensure that families and community members are informed about the proposed school budget. The CEC starts by encouraging all those eligible to register to vote. CEC will be sending out notices so that the community is aware of voter registration deadlines and deadlines for requesting an absentee ballot. **Are YOU registered and available to vote on May 20th this year on the school budget?** If you need a voter registration form, or an absentee ballot, please contact me as indicated below.

The CEC also looks for parents to host meetings in their homes to provide an opportunity for school families, friends and neighbors to hear directly from school officials like Superintendent Charlie Cardillo. **If you would be interested in hosting a coffee hour at your home or club in March or April**, please contact me.

The most intensive work of the CEC takes place around the day of the vote. This year that is May 20th. It also coincides with Spirit Day at the Elementary schools. Volunteers are needed to help with Spirit Day. Other volunteers are needed to make reminder phone calls, arrange transportation for those who can't get to the school to vote, and even provide baby-sitting to allow everyone the opportunity to get out and have a voice in the school budget vote. **Please contact me if you will be available to help out** with one of these tasks.

There are certainly some notable and historic votes taking place this year. The school budget vote, however, is the one that will have the most immediate impact on you and your children. **Please be sure to vote May 20th.**

If you would like to volunteer for any of the above with the CEC, please contact Margaret Minichini by e-mail [mminichini@earthlink.net](mailto:mminichini@earthlink.net) or by phone (516) 708-1775.



## GOT PICTURES?

Please continue to send us your photos!

Send us any pictures you take with a quick description of the event, name of the teacher and grade. We will be making submissions to the *Manhasset Press* as well as posting pictures on one of the school's bulletin boards.

### YOU JUST MIGHT MAKE THE NEWS!

Katie Lane: [rickenroo@optonline.net](mailto:rickenroo@optonline.net)  
Dawn McCormick: [mcc4@optonline.net](mailto:mcc4@optonline.net)



MRS. DLUGOKENCKY'S 2ND GRADE CLASS performed their dinosaur and weather presentation to their impressed parents.



## THE SHELTER ROCK HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE

### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE WINTER MONTHS

**If you drop your children off to school you must drop them at the designated drop off location, not at the corner. For safety reasons, you must then go around the entire parking lot and not make a quick U-turn**

If you are in a time crunch (especially for those parents who are dropping off children for early morning band/orchestra practice), consider finding another parent to carpool with.

There has been considerable improvement in obeying the flashing bus signals so **THANK YOU!**

If your child has an absence for anything more than the common cold (out more than 2 days), a doctor's note is required upon his/her return.

Though it can be quite warm in the classrooms, when children have outdoor recess they may need an extra layer of clothing. Please consider having your children dress in layers so that they are properly dressed for the outdoors. Children who do not have proper clothes for the outdoors will stay inside for recess. If you are leaving a sweater or sweatshirt in school, please label it.

**We are collecting donations of new games for indoor recess.** Please consider donating games that can be played in 10-15 minutes (for example, Trouble, Headache or Twister but not Monopoly). Donations can be left for Mrs. Williams.

In the interest of keeping our children physically active, we are **looking for parent volunteers to lead movement activities** on days when there is indoor recess. Parents of children in K-3rd grade that are interested should contact Mrs. Williams with possible days and times. If you volunteer, please understand that this is a flexible commitment because if the weather is appropriate the children will be sent outside to play.

## SAVE THE DATE FOR THE BOOK FAIR

Could you please put in a Save the Date for the Book Fair? It will take place the week of **March 31st until April 4th**. This year's theme is "Blast into Books... A Journey Through Space!" Family Night will be on Monday, March 31st, 3-9 PM. Breakfast on Mars will be on Friday, April 4th, 7:30-8:20 AM (parental supervision required).

Also, Book Fair gift certificates will be available for pre-purchase during the week of March 3rd until March 7th. They are much easier for the children to handle than cash. Please note that they will not be sold during Book Fair Week.

Thanks!

Carol Conner and Cris Frisone  
Book Fair Chairs

## WANT TO STAY INFORMED?

We welcome all parents to attend the  
SCA Parent Council Meetings

May 7th, Wednesday  
June 5th, Thursday

9:30am Munsey Park, Joint mtg.  
9:15am SR Auditorium

**Mark your calendars!**

We look forward to seeing everyone there! Refreshments served!



Mark your calendars for  
the 2008 SCA Fair that is  
coming up on  
**Saturday, May 3rd!**

Don't miss out on  
the fun, food, rides,  
entertainment, prizes  
and treasures!

Buy your raffle tickets  
for the Grand Raffle  
and your entrance bands  
early!

Look for the mailing that  
will be  
coming home soon!

For more information please contact:  
Lisa Chieco [lachieco@optonline.net](mailto:lachieco@optonline.net) or  
Linda Gurino [lbuoni999@aol.com](mailto:lbuoni999@aol.com)

# GUESS WHO CAME TO READ?!!

Grades K-3 experienced one of Shelter Rock's most special days on Tuesday, February 5, 2008. The school hosted the annual "Guess Who's Coming to Read" event and welcomed many of our community's professionals to visit and read with our children.

This year, the Co-Chairs Maria Brunetti, Susan Powers and Carroll Thorpe, worked together to confirm and schedule the 21 varied guests. Many readers have happily participated in the past and were eager to return again and share their knowledge and a book with our young children. Those readers who have just joined in reading this year have already marked their calendars for next year's event. Each speaker either brought their own personal favorite book to read, or, with the help of Mrs. Kerin in the Library Media Center, a suitable book was selected for them.

This event was a fun success due to the efforts of the K-3 teachers who welcomed this program and undoubtedly due to the many parent volunteers and the SCA Committee members who gave their time and talent to help run the program smoothly.

## THIS YEAR'S SURPRISE GUEST READERS WERE:

Dr. Robert Hendrickson—Veterinarian  
Pat Galway—School Nurse  
Charles Cardillo—Superintendent  
Pat Grace—Newspaper Editor  
Joseph Capodicasa—Music/Band Teacher  
Sean Adcroft—Technology Director, Manhasset Schools  
Anne Dorogoff—Bank Accountant  
David Paterson—Movie Writer/Producer  
Robert Reilly—Attorney  
John Kiggins—Manhasset Sport Store Owner/CYO Director  
Rita Syracuse—Therapist for Animals  
Pasquale Veneziano—PW Yacht Club General Manager  
Gail Grossman—Owner, Om Sweet Om Yoga  
Steve Panzik—Owner, Kidfit and Powerten  
Melissa Kipp—Leeds Pond Science Museum  
Armand Markarian—Facilities Director, Manhasset Schools  
Geri Kushner—Owner, Music Institute of Long Island  
Angela Iannuci—Supreme Court Judge  
Judy Bosworth—County Legislator  
Don Benvenuto—Owner, Villa Milano Pizzeria  
Sean Landeta—Former NFL Pro Football Player