

**Shelter Rock School SCA  
Parent Council Meeting – November 18, 2010**

**Mary Jane Reilly began the meeting with information about the SCA:**

- 1. Red Ribbon Week** was held last month. The two parent programs were well attended and greatly received, giving us much to think about in our parenting and values as they pertain to this issue, and for those of us with young children some insight into what we are going to encounter in the not so distant future. Many thanks to the Shelter Rock chairs, **Erica Kinloch and Patrice Leone, and to Cathy Samuels and Lisbeth Shibley** from CASA for raising awareness of alcohol and drug issues in our community.
- 2. Halloween** was an exciting time all over Manhasset, and at Shelter Rock it is a particularly interesting place as Mr. Geczik and Mrs. Williams hold a contest each year to let the children decide what the two of them will wear that day. A fourth grade student came up with this year's theme: *Peace and Quiet*. Mrs. Williams dressed as Peace, in a hippie outfit, and Mr. Geczik dressed as Quiet, as a mime. It was great fun to see Mr. Geczik quiet for the day (or at least some of the day) . They both looked terrific! The fifth and sixth grade **Halloween Party** was great fun thanks to co-chairs **Melinda Smotkin and Ruth Brown** and their many volunteers who decorated and ran the many components to this evening. Thank you to all.
- 3. Extended Extras** - There are three classes running for grades 4 and 6, one in French and two in Italian. Classes were formed based on teacher availability and student registration. Registration will begin shortly for grades 3 and 4, to take place beginning in January. Thank you to **Kim Delaney and Laura Zaffiro** for chairing this committee.
- Many times people ask where the SCA spends its money. A big ticket item is the Enrichment program, which brings in 3 programs for each grade level each year. Two examples of programs are the reading and writing project in sixth grade, with author Marcia Byalick, and the writing program with Brian Heinz in 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Mrs. Williams also mentioned the wonderful program the day before with Heather Forest singing folktales for the first grade. Thank you to **Annie Vetrone**, the Shelter Rock co-chair, and her committee for their commitment to this program.
- Project Share is collecting new and gently used coats right now, and will be collecting concert clothing (black pants/white shirts/ties for the boys; black skirts and white shirts for the girls) beginning on Monday and ending December 3. Thank you to **Joanne Giardinelli** for chairing this committee for Shelter Rock.
- Photo Re-take day is today (November 18, 2010.)

7. Champions for Charity takes place at the *Americana* December 2, 3, and 4. Parents are encouraged to get a card and name Manhasset SCA as their charity.
8. Shelter Rock is hosting its first **Kidz Holiday Gift Bazaar** from Monday, November 29<sup>th</sup> thru Wednesday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. This is an opportunity for children to shop with their class for inexpensive gifts (ranging in price from \$1 to \$5) for the special people in their lives. The bazaar will be held in the Recess Room and will be run by parent volunteers. This is not a fundraiser. It is a service for our students. On Monday families will receive a budget envelope that will allow the parent and child to decide together how much can be spent on each gift. Thanks to **Valerie Carillo**, who came up with the idea to hold this program, **Nancy Schlaefer**, **Maria Brunetti** and **Sari Kulka**, who are the co-chairs of this committee.

Mary Jane introduced **Regina Rule**, a member of the Manhasset Board of Education, who made the following points:

1. The SCA has made a generous contribution to the school district to help refurbish the Auditorium in the Secondary School. That room will be rededicated tonight at 7:30, before the play *Into the Woods*.
2. The school buses will be moving off of the Secondary School campus to a location near Bar Beach within the next few weeks. At that point there will be a committee who will begin discussions on the best use for that location.

Mary Jane then introduced **Ms. Rowland, Library Media Specialist** and **Mrs. Merolisi, Computer Teacher**, who spoke about internet safety. They used the smartboard to present **Netsmartz.org** to the parents, an internet safety website that the district uses to teach students about using technology safely. There are parent links on that website that we can access at home to help us to keep our children safe while using the technology that is all around us. A question and answer period followed the presentation, and we all agreed that this is an important topic for all of us to stay on top of and continue to learn about.