

AUCTION NEWS

Your Guide to the Panther Pride Auction & Benefit



Volume 4, Issue 3

August 2011



We have been working all summer long to bring exciting donations to our event this year. Mark your calendar for Saturday, November 12th and join us for this year's event, **Sailing into the Future**. This newsletter is full of stories of great experiences from winning bidders at the 2010 auction. Talk to anyone who has attended our auctions and find out how fun and exciting this event is.

Last year we were able to raise over \$100,000! Included in this was a donation by the Wold family for a state-of-the-art resource room. This room has brand new computers, tables, chairs, a custom built cabinet, and technology that our school has never seen! The remaining auction proceeds went towards fulfilling teacher wish lists, cots for our preschool, chairs, computers, and starting stage III of our safety initiative which will include outfitting every classroom with a telephone and computer wiring. We couldn't have done all this without you!

Thanks to all of the volunteers, many of whom are already working hard to make this year's event successful. The acquisitions team has been working all summer long to bring new and exciting donations to our event again this year. Look on the "How You Can Help" insert or visit our web site www.presentationsschoolauction.com to see how many businesses donated last year. If you happen to visit one of them, please let them know how much we appreciate their donations.

Consider getting together with other families or your own family (alumni siblings) and create a great auction package or sponsor one of our raffle prizes. If everyone pools together, we can make great things happen! Perhaps you might want to consider a cash sponsorship. The \$500 level includes two dinner tickets and an advertising package and you can take the entire \$500 as a donation. Better yet, have your place of employment match that cash donation!

We look forward to seeing you at this year's auction!

We Need Your Help Now!

- ✓ Create or donate a silent or live auction item
- ✓ Donate first class stamps
- ✓ Solicit advertising or donations from businesses
- ✓ Contact NikkiGiel@hotmail.com to volunteer
- ✓ Spread the word about our auction
- ✓ Donate bottles of wine for our wine raffle
- ✓ Plan to attend or help at the event

A Letter from An Auction Attendee

I just wanted to let you know that we were totally blown away by this event and were so happy to have the opportunity to be a part of it. To see it all come together and the funds that were raised for the school was truly amazing and very humbling that so many others were willing to lend a helping hand and contribute funds to the school and PCLC.

I know I said it before, but all of your efforts along with the efforts of the PCLC teachers and assistants were noticed and appreciated by the Franco family. Although this is only our second year with PCLC, we couldn't be more pleased with the staff, the curriculum, and the measures taken to keep our children safe. I honestly brag about PCLC to all of my friends and family and am truly thankful that we chose this program for our children's early education. You guys are amazing and anything further we can do to help out in any way, please just let us know.

We are excited to hear the final tally of funds raised at this event and will open a new bank account to start saving for next year's auction!

-Rebecca Franco, PCLC Parent

Auction Administrator: Meghan Bothwell
Volunteer Coordinator: Nikki Giel
Event Team Leader: Jeanne Bidwell
Classroom Projects: Michelle Ott

**Please contact us NOW
to let us know how you can help!**
Contact: NikkiGiel@hotmail.com

Acquisitions: Mike and Ann Thomas
Games and Raffles: Danielle Dick
Advertising: Kay Mottaz
Communications Team Leader: Anne Steckler
Finance Chair: Joyce McCabe

Surly Brewery Tour *by Patti Spector*

It's always fun for me to review the numerous live and silent auction items that come into the office each year - so many fun trips and great ideas! Last Fall one in particular caught my eye. The Surly Brewery Tour. You see my husband, Robert, and his best buddy, Jeff, are what I call beer connoisseurs. You won't find any Coors, Bud, or MGD in their refrigerators. No, they have developed more refined tastes when it comes to beer, and when they found Surly Furious, they loved it! I don't really get it because I'm not a beer drinker, but they will travel to the only liquor store in Woodbury that sells Surly for their favorite libation when our families get together.



So it was clear to me that I must bid on the Surly Brewery Tour so we could learn more about how this great beer is made. Little did I know that Omar Ansary, the brewery's owner, would be so charismatic and tell such a fascinating story of how the brewery came to be. In his 20s, Omar was a beer enthusiast and explored the country seeking out the best microbrewery in each region he visited. Like many entrepreneurs, he started brewing in his garage. Eventually Omar moved his brewing equipment into a building owned and occupied by the first generation family business. He educated himself and met an experienced master brewer from the Minneapolis Rock Bottom Brewery who eventually became the Surly Master Chief Brewer.

We shared this fun tour experience with our friends the Tupper's, the Steckler's, the Rydel's, and the Cave's. Omar brought his vision of great beer to those with a thirst for something finer, those beer connoisseurs like my husband. The personal touch we received on our tour was one of a kind, and I am grateful to Omar for sharing his story with us. Now there are plans to build a new Surly "destination brewery" where visitors can gather and socialize over a Minnesota beer right where it is being brewed. There are great things ahead for Omar and his Surly beer. Cheers to you!



Lifestyles of the Rich & Famous Pool Party

by Jeanne Bidwell, school parent

Eat, Drink, Lounge...Bump, Putt, Splash! Live auction item "Lifestyles of the Rich & Famous Pool Party" was thoroughly enjoyed by a group of Presentation parishioners and school parents on what turned out to be a sweltering Saturday in July.

Guests were greeted by the Hansen hospitality clan, lavished with SWAG bags, and treated to a full day of summertime activities at Jim Hansen's beautiful estate in Dellwood. A wide variety of beverages were in abundance, and delicious food was catered by Cravings – all you had to do was whistle.

Willing participants competed in a putting contest and volleyball and bocce ball tournaments, and some even braved the belly flop contest. C'mon, it was a pool party, after all! Kudos went out to the dive team for recovering the lost diamond earring of one lucky "belly flopper." Unexpected treats of the day were an art tour of the estate given by Hansen, Presentation alumnus '69, and the generous gift cards which were given to the winners of each competition.

Snow Blower Raffle Winners

by Gary Underwood (husband of 1st grade teacher Sue)

Sue and I have been thanking the Lord ever since she won the raffle for the Ariens Snow blower at the Presentation School Auction last November. We had never owned a snow blower before. Then we got hit with one of our heaviest snowfalls this winter, including 3 blizzards. My hurting knees were saved! The Ariens snow blower started up every time and did a wonderful job blowing the snow away. I was even able to assist my neighbors with the ends of their driveways. It truly has been a blessing to us, making this winter more bearable and allowing us to help our neighbors.

Thanks to the auction, the donation of the Ariens snow blower by North Heights Hardware Hank, for Sue taking her 3 chances, and God's gift, we were able to survive the winter of 2010-2011!





Principal for a Day

by *The Bennett Family*

This spring, Isabel Bennett had the opportunity to be "Principal for a day". Her Uncle "Doc" Franey (parent of an 8th grader) had bid on it for her last fall at the Presentation Auction. What an exciting surprise! At Isabel's initial meeting with Principal Ragatz, some important educational concerns were addressed. These topics included extended recess, no homework, and of course, the lunch menu for the day - italian dunkers. The big day started over breakfast with Mr. Ragatz in his office.

This was followed by a game of kickball, reading to the kindergarten class, and a business trip to the parish office. Strolling the halls and observing the classrooms, boy did Isabel feel important! After playing more games of Connect Four than any adult should have to, Mr. Ragatz was still in good form by the end of the school day. Isabel's black suit however, was covered in powdered sugar and chocolate. A sure sign of a job well done!

Dessert A Month

by *Matt McCabe (parent of Presentation alum)*



I've really enjoyed volunteering for the Panther Pride Benefit Auction since it's very beginning, but sometimes it has its drawbacks. Two years ago the dinner staff cleared our table and accidentally took my dessert while I was entertaining auction guests. Last year, I had an opportunity to make sure I didn't miss another dessert! One of the silent auction items was a "Dessert a Month" item put together by 2 talented parishioners of Presentation. It was money well spent!!! Cakes, cookies, pies...it was all lip smackin' good!!! Thank you Mary Jo and Tracey (parents of last year's 1st graders) - you could start your own business!

Desserts aren't the only treats you'll find at the Auction. Submit your reservation soon and save the date - 11/12/11.

I Won the iPad!

by *Shauna Reilly, school parent*

As a first time attendee of the Panther Pride Auction, I was thrilled to be the winner of the Apple iPad raffle. Such a great prize could have easily been the highlight of the evening, but there were bigger things in store.



I was absolutely astonished to witness the amazing generosity and support for our children and our school. It was such a great feeling to be surrounded by so many people who truly love Presentation. What a fabulous evening! I can't wait for this year's auction.

North High Honorary Boys Basketball Coach Experience

by *Anne (McCauley) Steckler, school parent*



Thanks to the Presentation School Auction, Josh Steckler, a Presentation 7th grader, was able to become North High's honorary boys varsity basketball coach for a game. The evening started off with the announcer announcing the team and Josh as honorary coach. He was able to go out on the floor with the whole North High Varsity Basketball Team. He had an up close and personal seat on the floor sitting with the team and heard all of the coaches' comments during the timeouts.

During half time Josh was even able to go into the locker room with the team. The North High coaches and players really made Josh feel like part of the team. They all even signed a basketball for him. Thanks to Coach Coury for donating this event and making it a memorable experience. Josh is ready to play for North High Boys Basketball Team!

