



News & Views

of The Springer
School

Spring 1994

Magnolia Time Celebrates Old Time River Life

Riverboat magic brought cotton bails, a paddle wheel boat and 350 festive guests to Springer's gym for "Magnolia Time...on the River". The annual dinner auction took over the school with a wave of elaborate decorations, creative food and interesting gifts to net close to \$76,000 this year.

Co-chairs, Lynda and Ray Schilderink and Georgia and Alan Kightlinger, donated their fundraising and party planning expertise to plan this challenging event. The two couples are friends and have a common interest as the Schilderink's son, Teddy, attends Springer and the Kightlinger's son, Neil, graduated from Springer and now attends college.

They worked together with several parent and alumni volunteers to coordinate a fun-filled and profitable evening. Guests were taken back to old time river life through a gym transformed into the top deck of a riverboat called "The Belle of Springer." Special lighting created the illusion of passing scenes from the river and every corner was decorated to theme. The Kightlingers and alumni parents Bill and Carol Schmidter masterminded this plan along with parent volunteers Nick Green and Leslie Gfroerer.

Gifts this year for the live auction featured two airfare packages, Keeneland getaways, and vacation stays at Isle of Palms and Boca Grande Florida. Springer parent Dean Trindle acquired a framed painting through local artist Tom Bacher and the Cincinnati Art Gallery. The work, titled "The Zipper" and made from phosphorescent inks, was bought by Springer trustee Jerry Randolph. Also featured in the live auction was a WEBN Fireworks package for six compliments of WEBN and Kate and Bob Lawrence.

Silent auction selections were at their finest and raised an all-

Janet Hunke is a very happy auction patron after winning the bid on this adorable lab puppy. Reports say that "Molly" is doing well with her new family.



time high this year. Parent were the chief gift gatherers and Suellen Mason and Peggy Wilhide were relentless in pursuing leads! The evening's highlights also included a creative dinner designed by Jeff Thomas Catering followed by the donated services of auctioneer Steve Early.

For gamblers there was the Grand Raffle and Treasure Chest key sales. One ticket was all it took for Robert and Beverly Wolfzorn to win the \$10,000 Grand Raffle prize. The couple attended Magnolia Time and watched their ticket being drawn at the end of the event. Their son Jason, an Intermediate Gold student at Springer, was the winner of the \$1,000 seller prize. Congratulations!



Celebrating success in front of the paddle wheel are (left to right) ch-chairs Ray and Lynda Schilderink and Alan and Georgia Kightlinger. The foursome allocated this year's proceeds to the financial aid fund to help make Springer a more affordable option.

Reaching Out . . .

Springer Students on Speakers' Circuit

"Everybody Counts" is a city wide program which helps elementary school students learn about different illnesses and handicaps and how other people deal with them. The program, which has served Greater Cincinnati schools for over 10 years provides materials and first-hand experiences for the young people in a classroom setting.

"Learning Disabilities" is one of the topics covered and Springer is regularly asked to send students to discuss what it means to have an LD problem.

This spring, Springer students spoke at Terrace Park School and at St. Columban's in Loveland.

Our students really enjoy the experience. It not only helps them to develop poise and public speaking skills, but they have also found that it is very helpful for them personally to verbalize their problems and how they handle them.



Jonah Weiss and Marie Rice discuss their presentations for "Everybody Counts" program with Mrs. Kathy Besecker, Springer's Program Facilitator.

Student Council Members Work at Soup Kitchen

Each year, the members of Student Council choose a community service project which will help them reach out to others in need and give of themselves. This year, the soup kitchen run by Henry Hosea House in Newport, Kentucky was the selected project. The Council officers and classroom representatives each worked one three hour shift after school during March and April. Jobs included serving food, doing dishes and sweeping the floor.

The children's reactions to this experience were very positive. They felt good about being able to help others and very fortunate about their own safe and comfortable lives.

Artist in Residence Educates, Inspires

For the second year, the Maureen Wenker Memorial Artist in Residence Program has provided a diverse art experience for Springer's students. Twenty-one Upper school students had the opportunity to work with Atlanta artist, Kevin Cole, for 2 weeks during his residency. Mrs. Wenker was a parent of 3 Springer grads who enjoyed a passion for the visual arts. She died in an auto accident in 1991 and her husband, Paul, asked that all memorial gifts be used for the art program.

Mr. Cole has been praised by art critics for his use of non-traditional mediums in abstract compositions. He believes that everyday objects best reflect the human spirit so he encouraged

the students to use life and their surroundings as their inspiration. He also taught them that art is just as methodical a process as any other discipline.

"Art is life," Cole said. "There are so many people who think there isn't a process, that you just "do it". With good art that isn't so. Good art, just like the rest of life, involves decision making. It's a process, and it isn't easy. But by going through that process....sketching, drawing, making mistakes, you achieve."

It was important for Cole to show the students how the arts can help develop self esteem. "We tend to label kids, and I want to show the ones who say 'I can't' that yes, they can."

While he was at the school, Cole created a multimedia piece that he donated to the school. "The Color of Music - Tough Decisions" hangs in the school's entry way. It's a three dimensional piece that is based on ties because "the people that make decisions in our lives always seem to be wearing a tie." The piece incorporates the names of students, teachers, African designs, jazz, rap, colors he saw people wear....all in a direction that can go up or down.

"It's about making decisions. The ups and downs...faith, confidence, hope - it's all there."

The connections the students made with Cole will last a long time. "It seemed like you were working with someone who knew what you were going through," said Curtis Hudson, a seventh grader.

Cole's work has also attracted national attention. He's been commissioned by Coca Cola to design a mural for the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, and Michael Jordan's wife asked him to design a piece for their new home.



The Color of Music — Tough Decisions
by Kevin Cole, Springer '1994 Artist in Residence



Kevin Cole hands Stephanie Gfroerer her certificate of Achievement at the end of his art residency at Springer.

Feelings

Springer has a Social Skills curriculum that is incorporated into all elements of the regular academic program. The topic for the spring trimester was "Feelings" and one of the activities was a poetry contest. Here are the winning entries.

Ecstatic

By Elizabeth Looney

Ecstatic is like a burst of fireworks
Setting off at the same time.

It is more than happy, happy, happy, or just a rhyme.

Ecstatic is like winning a presidential election or
being the best at making chinese stew.

I will feel ecstatic if this poem is published and you
would too!

Feelings

By John Leland Altekruise

Feelings, have ya ever thought about them, Ha?
What comes to mind
When you think of blue,
Is it scared, like you want to hide?
When you see red?
Is it mad?
Well it never really was a fad,
But hey it's o.k.!

Sad

By Julio Heitkamp

What is sad? Purple is sad
When I get laughed at
I feel sad
And I get purpler and purpler and purpler!

Feelings

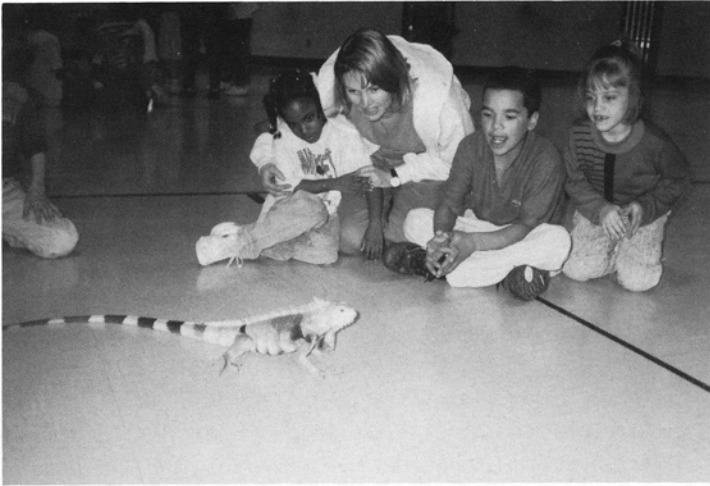
By Jonah Weiss

Feeling last only in mind
Feelings should be recognized
Feelings are cruel and sometimes cool
Feeling born slowly in the mind
Never to be extinguished until your time

Embarrassed

By Katie McInnis

- E Everyone is staring at me
- M My face hides behind my hands
- B Baby - Everyone is calling me a baby because
I am crying
- A Afraid to look up
- R Ravioli spilled on my shirt
- R Red face
- A Accused of something I didn't do
- S Scared that people will make fun of me
- S Slipping down the step
- E Eager to leave
- D Disappointed in myself



Dr. Jeffrey Werwa, a local veterinarian and a Springer parent, provided a wonderful opportunity for the Primary students this spring to see "up close and personal" a variety of rather exotic animals. In addition to observing this iguana from a "safe" distance, the students also saw a hedgehog, ferret, cockatoo, and two very speedy snakes.

Paula Comisar (center) outgoing president of the Springer Parent Association, is thanked at the school's Annual Meeting by Jeanne Rolfes, development director (left) and executive director, Norita Aplin. The group raised more than \$10,000 through various fundraising activities. The funds are used to support special school programs, e.g., the library, special assemblies, the athletic program for the students as well as adult education programs for the parents.



Did You Know???

Once children are grown or a mortgage is paid off, life insurance policies can provide an excellent way to make a tax deductible gift to The Springer School without incurring any out-of-pocket expenses. If the policy is paid up, you can take a charitable deduction for the replacement cost. But even if it's not, you will still be able to deduct its cash surrender value. All that's required is a change in the ownership of the policy and the beneficiary designation. For more information, please call the Development Office, 871-6080.

Tax information courtesy of Rudler & Associates, Inc., Certified Public Accountants.

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