



# News & Views

of The Springer  
School

Fall 1991



## Executive Director's Message

Norita Aplin, Ed.D

Accreditation is a quality assurance process. It is a structured, formal system to determine not that you meet minimum standards, but whether in fact, you do the quality job you aspire to do.

As a member of the Ohio Association of Independent Schools, Springer is eligible for such accreditation from ISACS, the Independent Schools Association of the Central States.

During 1990-91 the staff, trustees and some parents engaged in a self study, a process of examining what we do, how we do it and how satisfied we are with the process and quality. This self-study document was sent to the six member visiting team of educators who will evaluate whether in fact we are doing what the document says. The team, chaired by Eleanor Nicholson, Head of Forest Ridge Academy, Indiana, is made up of educators from The Kalamazoo Academy, Old Trail School in Toledo, the Meredith Dunn School in Louisville, Marburn Academy in Columbus, and The Churchill School in St. Louis. Patti Guethlein, Principal of Doherty School here in Cincinnati is also a member of the team.

They arrived on November 12 for a dinner with the trustees and staff followed by three days of reading about, observing, interviewing and studying us. We know we have been recommended for accreditation, but we now wait the full written report complete with commendations and detailed suggestions/comments for improvement.

It was an intense and valuable experience, and, because of the experience and wisdom of the six outstanding educators commenting and advising us, we feel certain it will lead us to the best program possible for Springer.

## 1991 Annual Fund Drive Goal: \$150,000 for Scholarships

The school's 1991 Annual Fund Drive was launched in October at a breakfast hosted by The Bankers Club. Almost 40 volunteers serving as solicitors and team captains were greeted by Board President Michael S. McGraw who emphasized the importance of the Drive — that is, to raise funds for direct financial aid for those families who aren't able to afford full tuition. "Changing Children's Lives" is the theme the volunteers were asked to incorporate into their solicitations this year. With Springer's model of early intervention, children with learning disabilities "learn how to learn" and indeed, change their lives. While learning disabilities cannot be cured, they can be conquered. Almost 90% of Springer's grads complete high school and 51% of those go on to post secondary education. Nationally, only 64% of students with learning disabilities graduate from high school.

General chairman Anthony W. Hobson announced a goal that he said is ambitious, but very achievable based on past fundraising successes. The \$150,000 represents the amount needed to meet the requests received. Mr. Hobson also introduced the Drive's leadership. Mary W. (Sug) Clauder is heading up the Individuals Division. Her team captains are Gregory Frtiz of AGT Ltd.; Dett Hunter, Arthur Andersen; and Robert Portman of Graydon, Head & Ritchey. Jerome Randolph of Keating, Muething & Klekamp, is co-chair of the Business Division. Assisting him are captains Michael K. Keating, Fifth Third Bank; Richard Findlay, Cincinnati Bell Telephone; and Donald Neyer, Al Neyer, Inc. Robert Conway of T.G.I. Friday's is chairing the Pacesetter Campaign. Charles and Laurie Maguire are coordinating the Present Parent campaign. Alumni parents J. Alan and Gail Lips are coordinating that effort. Phyllis Breen is chair of the Friends of the Board campaign and Dr. Alan and Georgia Kightlinger are heading a campaign focused on the local medical community.



Tony Hobson (center) Drive general chairman, discusses plans with fellow trustees and co-chairs, Mary (Sug) Clauder and Jerry Randolph.

## The Springer School Welcomes New Faces

The Springer School welcomes our latest staff additions.

**Sandy Ader's** background is very strong. She received her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education, and has two Masters degrees, one in Reading Specialization from Xavier University, and the other in Learning Disabilities from the University of Cincinnati. Sandy has taught for eight years in Mariemont as a first grade teacher. She is familiar with Springer students, since she has tutored several graduates.

**Terri Baker** has taught the primary grades in private schools — LaValle here in Cincinnati and a school in the Philippines. She has also taught in the Princeton and Lockland School systems in the Cincinnati area. In her leisure time she enjoys running and aerobics.

**Janet Meyer** is a Primary classroom assistant. For the last two years she has been an aide at St. Cecilia School in their Kindergarten. She and her husband, Chuck, have two sons, Charlie and Michael. She enjoys walking, playing bridge and doing needlepoint.

**Patricia Hericks**, a Mount St. Joseph graduate, comes to teach science in the Junior High Department. Patty had completed her practicum at Springer. Prior to coming here, she worked with the Kenton County Schools as an LD Resource Room teacher.

**Laurie Herman** joins us as Terri Baker's assistant. Not a newcomer to Springer, Laurie is a mother of six including Springer student, Rosie. Working at the YMCA Preschool Program, United Cerebral Palsy and Kinder Care, Laurie has made the most out of her knowledge of learning disabilities.

See "New Staff" page 5

## Taking a Look at Four New Trustees . . .

Last May, four new members were elected to the school's Board of Trustees. Each brings excellent experience, knowledge, and enthusiasm.

**Mr. Joseph W. Hagin II**, an Indian Hill resident, is Vice President of Corporate Affairs at Chiquita Brands International, Inc. Mr. Hagin's experience includes being on the White House staff as Appointments Secretary to the President of the United States. In the corporate world, Mr. Hagin has also been equally successful. He has served as Assistant Vice President of Public Affairs at Chiquita, and was the Public Affairs Director for Federated Department Stores, Inc. Mr. Hagin will be serving on the Finance and Nominating committees.

**Barbara G. Lewis** is no stranger to serving on boards. Her hard work and experience have led her to such organizations as Jobs for Ohio Graduates, The Wyoming Board of Education, Pikeville College, The Recreational Task Force for Over-the-Rhine, as well as The Contemporary Arts Center, and Planned Parenthood Association of Cincinnati. Mrs. Lewis is a Mt. Lookout resident. She will be on the Personnel and Financial Aid committees.

**Mr. Robert J. Portman** is presently an attorney at Graydon, Head and Ritchey, where he specializes in International Law and Legislative matters. He has also spent time working in Washington D.C. with the Government. By appointment, Mr. Portman served as Associate Counsel to the President. He was later promoted to Deputy Assistant to the President and Director of the White House Office of Legislative Affairs. He too, has been active with several Cincinnati non-profit organizations. He will be working on the Development and Nominating committees. He and his wife, Jane reside in Hyde Park with their sons Jed and newborn, William. Congratulations on the birth of William!



From Left: Norita Aplin, Executive Director, new trustees Barbara Lewis, Joseph W. Hagin, II, Carol Sanger, Robert Portman, and Board President Michael S. McGraw.

**Carol Sanger** is a true professional in the field of communications and journalism. Currently, she is employed as Vice President for Federated Department Stores, Inc. and Allied Stores Corporation. Prior to joining Federated, she was Business Editor of The Cincinnati Enquirer. Earlier in her career, she was a reporter for The Cincinnati Post. She has served on the boards of

L.A.D.D. (Living Arrangements for the Developmentally Disabled), the Bethesda Hospital Foundation Board, and Workshops for Retarded Citizens. Ms. Sanger will be serving on the Development committee.

Springer welcomes all four of our new additions to the Board. Their professionalism will greatly enhance our already outstanding leadership.

NATIONAL  
PHILANTHROPY  
DAY NOV. 19, 1991  
**PHI·LAN·THRO·PY®**  
**n. THE LOVE/OF  
HUMANKIND**

## **Philanthropy: America's Tradition of Caring**

Philanthropy.

The word comes from phil, meaning love, and anthropos, meaning human. Philanthropy is love of humankind.

It happens when people help others — through contributions of time and money to worthy causes.

The American heritage is filled with stories of people — like you and me — who have voluntarily helped others. Through acts of caring and compassion, countless individuals have helped others and contributed to the common good. We have helped raise barns, put out fires, create schools and hospitals, and support churches, theaters, and museums.

We generous Americans are from all walks of life — from the wealthy to those of modest means.

When people join together in voluntary action for the public good, they form a bond around a cause. Community is created. Personal interests merge with common interests. Each person's desire to make a difference resonates with a sense of belonging, and of ownership.

Philanthropy creates an endless circle of caring in which people are inspired to pass on to others the kind of goodnesses they have received: compassion and care for others, beauty in nature and the arts, the health and happiness of children, faith and learning, the quality of all life.

American philanthropy gives voice and vision to moral purpose. It offers opportunities for all of us to be nourished in the value and values of public good. It provides a way for people to exercise their commitments in behalf of others. It guards tolerance, diversity and social justice.

### **THE 1991 NSFRE PHILANTHROPY AWARD FOR INDIVIDUALS CHARLES F. YEISER**

This year, the award has special significance for The Springer School. Mr. Yeiser, a former trustee, continues to be a generous and active leader of the school.

This honor is given to an individual that has inspired and motivated the community in the philosophy and practice of philanthropy. By commitment and effort this recipient has helped substantially improve the quality of life in Greater Cincinnati.

## New Staff (continued)

**Kassia Oberton**, previously a substitute teacher for Springer, is Patricia Herick's assistant. Kassia graduated from the University of Cincinnati. Currently, she is earning a degree in Art Education and Economics.

**Dawn Peters** is teaching in the Intermediate Department. A graduate of Bowling Green University, Dawn earned her degree in Elementary Education and Learning Disabilities. She has taught in an LD Resource Room for grades 4-6 in the Buckeye Local School District, and as a transitional first grade teacher in Richfield, Ohio.

**Anne Wendell** is also in the Intermediate Department as Dawn Peter's assistant. She attended the University of Arizona and the University of Cincinnati. During the spring time, Anne conducts guided tours of Cincinnati for local corporate recruiters. She and her husband, Steve, enjoy spending time with their five children.

**Jane Williams**, who was the Physical Education teacher for Springer several years ago, has returned to Springer in the Motor Coordination Department. Her other teaching experiences include working for the Shawnee Local School System as a Physical Education teacher, and as an eighth grade science teacher for the Oak Hills School.

The Springer School welcomes our new staff members. We are sure that the school year will be a success.

## Gentlemen's Committee Ball Benefits Springer



Michael S. McGraw, chairman of the Gentlemen's Committee, was please to present Springer director Norita Aplin a check for \$12,500 as fellow Committee trustee Rob Taylor looks on.

## Parents Group Off to a Great Start!!

The Springer Parents Association (SPA) has been extremely busy already this year. Becky Adam, President and mother of Josh, a Springer Jr. High student, has planned many programs which will benefit the school, the students, and the Springer families. These programs are designed to achieve the goals of SPA, which include fund raising events, educational programs, and extra programs to support the Springer community.

Already this year, there have been two successful fund raising programs. The Zinzinnati Oktoberfest Pepsi Booth, chaired by Alumni parents Carol and Tom McTernan was very profitable. The Springer School raised close to \$6,000 and won first prize for booth decoration. In mid-October the school had its First Annual Walkathon. Students and families had a wonderful time walking throughout Hyde Park. After the walk, they enjoyed an early evening picnic. Joyce Rich and Sally McLane chaired this new event and did a wonderful job.!



Becky Adam, SPA president for this school year, has planned activities that will benefit the school and promote opportunities for the school's 185 families to get better acquainted.

The Springer School believes that all students can develop educationally, socially and personally through the SPA programs. The Picture Person program helps the children appreciate what artists and art forms communicate in today's society. It allows the children hands-on participation to bring out their individual creativity and imagination. Lisa Long is coordinating this fun program this year.

The Everybody Counts program will be held later on this year. This program educates the children about other types of handicaps and raises the awareness of other people's needs.

Pizza Days are the highlight of the children's lunch period every other week. Maggie O'Gorman and Candy Perkins coordinate this event with the appreciated help of Snappy Tomato Pizza. Family Fun Night will be an exciting night of square dancing for the whole family. Andrea Rogers is planning the event for mid-January.

Becky and all of the SPA members are excited about the terrific turnout for the past events and are looking forward to all of the upcoming ones as well.



## **From the Principals . . .**

### **New Family Life and Human Development Curriculum By Mary Schroder - Lower School Principal**

Throughout last year and over the summer, two parents of Springer students along with the Health teachers have worked at designing a Family Life and Human Development curriculum for our students. The philosophy of our program stresses the awareness and importance of family, religious, and moral values in making personal decisions. We also feel it is important that students understand the need for consideration, love, respect and responsibility in family life. Emphasis on good decision making, teaching our students to know the difference between safe and unsafe risks, along with having students recognize their responsibilities to their school, their family and their community is highlighted.

Springer School believes that parents have the major responsibility for the formation of desirable attitudes toward Family Life and Human Development. The curriculum is designed to complement the efforts of the parents, not to circumvent those efforts. We have outlined parent involvement in the program through presentations in the classroom by sharing their area of expertise, participating in discussions on life-styles, curfews, role reversals, etc., or bringing in a new baby and discussing how changes affect family life. Parents are also asked to assist with homework activities. This may include helping to build a family picture mobile, discussing and celebrating family traditions and special events or building a family tree. Close communication with the parents allows this program, through letters, questionnaires, interviews and evaluations, to develop a solid foundation with the students.

The curriculum has a three year cycle for each department. Topics such as Self Awareness/Self Esteem, Family Life, Decision Making, Body Parts and Reproduction, Personal Hygiene, Alternative Life-styles (Int. and Jr. High only) and Personal Safety are presented each year.

We feel we have created a comprehensive, sequential, and up-to-date program which is flexible enough to adapt to individual characteristics.

Hopefully, our students are establishing a strong framework in self concept, responsible decision making skills, health knowledge attitudes and practices which will help them to have an independent, meaningful and rewarding life.

### **No Person Is An Island By Melody Goodwin - Upper Level Principal**

During the months of October and November, the Junior High Department participated in the "ROPES" program at

Emerson North Hospital. "ROPES" is an innovative program designed to help schools, businesses and community groups build more effective, productive teams. Each homeroom spent five days participating in this program.

Students are engaged in a variety of activities such as the "Nitro Crossing", "Mohawk Walk", "Magic Shoes", and "Pamper Pole" which are designed to extend the imagination of the group as they develop unique and creative ways to solve and complete assigned tasks. Students began the program working on tasks which are close to the ground, but as they gained confidence and team partnership, they were challenged with high element tasks which required safety equipment similar to the equipment used in rock climbing.

This program has been proven to be an effective vehicle for teaching our students the value of cooperative learning. Two years ago our Junior High students completed this program and their growth in predetermined area was evaluated. The staff and students were extremely pleased with the growth shown by students in team building, increased personal confidence, understanding of others and increased trust and mutual support.

With thanks to an anonymous benefactor, our students once again had this wonderful experience.

## **Will the "Real" Mozart Please Stand Up?**



Music teacher Judy McMahon has a new approach to introducing classical music to her students. From left, motor coordination instructor Jane Williams, upper level principal Melody Goodwin and Marcia Goldsmith, also a motor coordination instructor, try to convince the class they are the real composer.

## Alumni Update

Our recent phonathon for the Annual Fund Drive produced more than good pledges. Alumni parents making the calls learned a lot about what our grads are doing. Here's a sampling:

- ★ Terry Works, Class of 1971, is a Licensed Master Plumber and is opening a new business.
- ★ Julie Girten, Class of 1972, is an LD teacher in the Oak Hills School District.
- ★ John Jennewein, Class of 1978, graduated from Xavier University and is in the Internal Revenue Service training program.
- ★ Tom Schiffer, Class of 1978, was in the Army and served in Saudi Arabia during the "Desert Storm". Now he is attending Northern Kentucky University.
- ★ Shawn Fucito, Class of 1985, is attending Cincinnati Technical College, majoring in Computer Science and working at Procter and Gamble.

## Consider A Bequest To The Springer School

YOUR ATTORNEY can advise you as to how to do this, but you may find useful the following form which our attorney suggests:

"I give, devise, and bequeath to The Springer School, a charitable, non-profit organization located in Cincinnati, Ohio, 45208, \_\_\_\_\_ dollars (\$\_\_\_\_\_) or \_\_\_\_\_% of my estate to be used by its Board of Trustees in carrying out its objectives and purposes."

Who can say now how many young lives your generosity may help? Contributions are, of course, tax deductible.



**Hyde Park Art Show.** Daniel Burkhardt (left) and Colin Watson proudly display their winning work. Both boys won blue ribbons and \$50 cash. In addition, their art was displayed for a month in the Hyde Park Library.

The Springer School  
2121 Madison Road  
Cincinnati, Ohio 45208

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
Permit No. 1670

NEWS & VIEWS is published by  
The Springer School, 2121 Madison  
Road, Cincinnati, Ohio 45208.  
Jeanne Rolfes, editor.  
Telephone 513/871-6080.



Address correction requested