



Director's Corner

A WONDERFUL opportunity to evaluate and set new goals occurs at the beginning of each new school year. Last year I had three goals. The first was to address the issue of staff salaries, which had fallen behind significantly. Board and community support on this issue resulted in salaries being improved. A second goal was to predict enrollment for the near future. The committee studying this concluded that growth was inevitable and developed a prediction table. The third goal was to update and refine our Written Expression curriculum. A staff committee will continue with this project, which should go into effect in September, 1987.

For this year, we have four goals, which the Board of Trustees accepted at the September meeting. I would like to share them with you.

Now we must anticipate growth. During this expansion, we must protect the personalized education at Springer while meeting the identified enrollment need in the community. This will require program and staff organization adjustments, as well as plans for use and maintenance of the building.

continued on page 4

FUND DRIVE UPDATE



Springer's Annual Fund drive is nearing its conclusion, as donations and pledges approach \$40,000. However, the campaign's chairmen, Richard E. Geier, vice president of Spectrum Securities, and Michael J. Aubrecht of Paine-Webber, Inc., are not winding down their efforts. With just a few weeks remaining, they and their fellow campaign workers are still hard at work to achieve their announced goal of \$63,500. This is being raised through the efforts of a 40-member team of board

Mayor Luken holding proclamation, Mike Keating (right), Norita Aplin, and Mike Aubrecht.

members and community leaders which included direct mailings, personal solicitation, and phonathons to involve alumni, parents, friends and corporate sponsors.

The drive was kicked off on October 2, at a breakfast at the Bankers' Club attended by Mayor Charles Luken who proclaimed it Springer Educational Foundation Day.

Springer Welcomes New Board Members

FIVE outstanding Cincinnatians have joined Springer's Board of Trustees, as the school enters its hundredth anniversary year. New trustees are Sandy Day, director of merchandising for Lazarus Department Stores and general chairwoman of the 1985 Charity Ball; Barbara Fitch, former president of Stepping Stones and of Children's Hospital board of trustees; Jeffrey Heinichen, Cincinnati attorney and part owner of General Polymers Corp.; Bruce I. Petrie, Jr., partner in the law firm of Gradon, Head & Ritchey, and Lawson Reed Wulsin, M.D., a psychiatrist at University Hospital.

Super Falcons

FOURTEEN Springer students earned the distinction of being named to the Falcon Club during all four quarters of the academic year in 1985-86. They are: primary students Janos Clark, Jim Damico, Bobby Endorf, Scott Harris, and Max Pastor; intermediate students Jamie Aultz, Christeen Mallette, Robert Robinson, Sharon Smith, and Izzy Wilson, and junior high students Bart Cosgrove, Elena Merz, Michelle Mockbee, and Jeff Sorg. The Falcon Club honor society recognizes academic achievement at Springer.

1887 — 1987

100 Years

Springer School

What is Dyslexia?

By NANCY IKE,
Liaison Educator

"I WATCHED a program on TV yesterday, and I think my son has this disease, dyslexia." Thus began a phone call, one of many I received recently from mothers, fathers, wives or friends of people suffering from an impaired ability to read or use our language. A national campaign to fight illiteracy (PLUS 9 Project Literacy U.S.), which is sponsored by the ABC television network and the Public Broadcasting Service, has generated a tremendous interest in the broad area of learning problems.

The inability to read or read efficiently can have many causes other than what we describe as "dyslexia." Poor or non-readers may have been affected by any of several factors: an early deprived environment; poor nutrition; less than average intelligence; emotional problems; erratic school attendance, or even poor teaching. If we eliminate these factors as causes of non-reading, we still are left with another segment of the population, some of whom can be described as dyslexic.

Dyslexia is not a single set of symptoms. The dyslexic is someone who is not learning language skills commensurate with his

**"Dyslexia is not
a disease. It is
a word."**

potential. His learning problems may involve the reversal of individual letters or even whole words. His visual memory for words may be erratic. He may have a word-finding problem, where he is able to describe an item but not come up with its name. His spelling is generally atrocious. His handwriting is usually poor, and his organizational skills are inadequate. He may have a poor sense of direction also.

Most often, dyslexia is an inherited familial trait. Other siblings, fathers, uncles or grandfathers (less often females) have had the same difficulties. It is

continued on page 3

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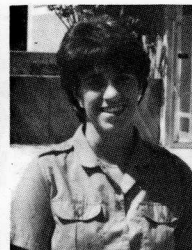
New Faces



Imbus



Rolfes



Colussi



Folkens

PATSY IMBUS comes to Springer as school secretary, replacing STEPHANIE GERRETY, who has been promoted to administrative assistant to Norita Aplin. Patsy's previous experience includes work as a medical assistant and secretary for a pediatrician.

JEANNE C. ROLFES joined Springer in July as director of Development. She brings 15 years' experience in non-profit organizations in public relations, fund raising, grantsmanship, and special events programming. Taking over from JOYCE MURRAY, who moved to Sacramento in June, Jeanne has been hard at work on the Annual Fund Drive. She also is editor of NEWS & VIEWS.

Staff Notes

JILL JOHNSON, Springer oral communications specialist, joined Tanis Bryan, speech pathologist from the University of Illinois at Chicago, on a panel that discussed Social Factors in Children with Learning Disabilities. The panel was part of a workshop sponsored by the Cincinnati Chapter of the Orton Dyslexia Society at the Mercy Center on October 25.

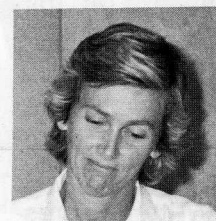
NANCY IKE, Springer liaison educator, took part in a panel on the Challenge of College for LD Students: an Interchange Between High School and College Professionals, on November 7 in Covington. The discussion was part of a Fall Symposium on the College-Bound Student with Specific Learning Disabilities sponsored by the Greater Cincinnati Consortium of College and Universities on November 7.

Opportunity

SPRINGER is updating its substitute teacher list. Anyone interested or knowing of someone who might be should call Corrinne Thaler, director of admissions, at 871-6080.

JANE COLUSSI is an oral communication specialist who hails from Madison, Indiana, and has an M.A. in speech pathology from Ball State University. Jane formerly worked in Valparaiso as speech pathologist for the public school system and a private rehabilitation center in Valparaiso.

BECKY FOLKENS, Springer's new music teacher, previously taught in Mt. Healthy Public Schools. She also plays French horn with the Dayton Philharmonic and Cincinnati Chamber Orchestras and spent two years in New York City as a freelance musician.



Sug Clauder

SPA News

AN EVENT-packed year got off to a strong start for the Springer Parents Association, under the leadership of Sug Clauder, president; Kathy Connelly, treasurer, and Nancy Heibert, secretary. During the first two months of the school year, two annual events, the Bike Hike and Oktoberfest Zinzinnati, raised more than \$8,500 for SPA programs. Jim and Norma Rieder and Richard and Brenda Harris organized this year's Bike Hike, while Tom and Carol McTernan and Ron Secrist were chairmen for Oktoberfest.

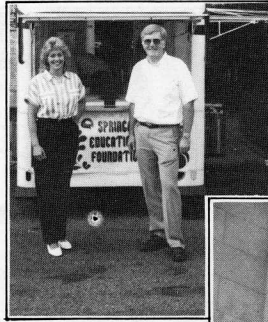
A wide variety of events and programs offers Springer parents many opportunities to be active. The following parents are also serving on the SPA Board this year: Beverly Olthaus and Glenna Mockbee (Flea Market), Debbie Blum (Santa's Secret Shop), Monica Rehling (Program), Pam Buck and Molly Fox (Hospitality), Susanne Reichard (Volunteer Luncheon), Pam Mackey (Book Fair), Debbie Cassinelli (Staff Luncheon), and Lynn Kramer (Pizza Days).

A Winning Start for SPA Year

SPA's successful participation in Oktoberfest Zinzinnati has come to be expected, and this year was no exception. Almost \$3,000 was raised for the scholarship fund. However, this year there was the added incentive of a booth decorating competition, and Springer took third place with an elaborate Bavarian schoolhouse.

Work on the project began with hammering and sawing in Keith Baldwin's garage, where the shell of the building took form. Then Maureen Alexander took over, painting flowers and *Lederhosen*-clad children on the structure. The result was impressive.

SUNDAY, October 5, saw an enthusiastic group of parents, students, teachers, and assorted kin gathered at Lunken Playfield on a brilliant autumn afternoon for the SPA annual Bike Hike. Students signed up sponsors for the 25-mile ride, raising \$5,600 for academic and athletic achievement awards and trophies given through the school year. Prizes for students who brought the most pledges and those who earned the most money went to Peter Cassinelli, Suzanne Lipps, John Coggins, and Matt VonHandorf. This was the second event of the SPA year and was cochaired by Jim and Norma Reider and Richard and Brenda Harris.

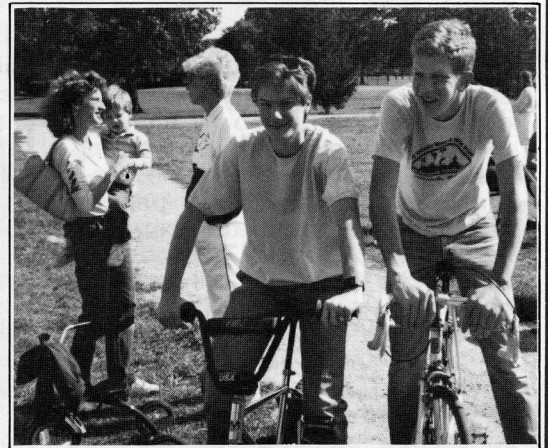


Maureen Alexander (left) and Keith Baldwin.

Tom McCternan applies finishing touches.



Students, parents, and alumni joined in.



What is dyslexia

continued from page 2

theorized that the left hemisphere of the dyslexic's brain operates differently than that of a non-dyslexic. Researchers are currently studying this theory.

Although dyslexia may have a neurological base, the recognized treatment is educational. There are no drugs, diets or eye exercises that cure dyslexia. The only effective treatment is intensive supportive academic instruction that is multi-sensory. There is no mystery in this approach, but it involves small group instruction where the student uses auditory, visual, and tactile-kinesthetic input to enhance learning. It is a common sense approach to good teaching.

We as adults know that if we attempt to master a difficult learning task, the most effective way is to combine visual and verbal instruction with actually performing and practicing the task.

At Springer, all children with learning difficulties, whether they be dyslexic or not, are taught within an educational philosophy that includes multi-sensory instruction. A combination of visual and auditory instruction is obvious. The tactile-kinesthetic instruction ranges from tracing letters and words on a textured surface to the hands-on approach in our SCIS science program. It is an approach that is working.

Although we do not know its precise causes, we do know that

dyslexia is not a disease. It is a word; one that describes a particular kind of learning problem. Furthermore, it is vital to remember that the problem is not the important thing. The important thing is the solution. ■

Looking Ahead

APRIL 11, 1987, will bring Magnolia Time, the dinner and auction spectacular. Co-chairmen for this annual fundraiser are Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Saul (Lynn), present parents, and Dr. and Mrs. Don Cosgrove (Jacquie), alumni parents. This year's goal is \$30,000.

Alumni News

STEVE MERCER '84 plays soccer at LaSalle High where he is a sophomore.

GREG REED '84 is a junior at Purcell Marion and a starter on the defensive line for the school's State Champion football team.

What are you doing? NEWS & VIEWS wants to share your news with former classmates and parents. We'd like to hear from you and learn what you are doing. Drop us a line or call Nancy Ike at 871-6080.

Director's Corner

continued from page 1

Secondly, we will complete our work on the Written Expression curriculum and put it in place in September, 1987.

Goal three is to work with the Board to plan for Springer's long-range financial needs.

The fourth goal is planning for our celebration of Springer's Centennial in 1987. We hope to use this opportunity not only to strengthen community awareness of Springer, but also to increase public understanding of learning disabilities.

The support of the parents and community and the expertise and hard work of the Trustees and staff make it possible to have such ambitious goals. Springer is a grand place to be.

—NORITA APLIN

Yes, I'll invest in the future of Springer School

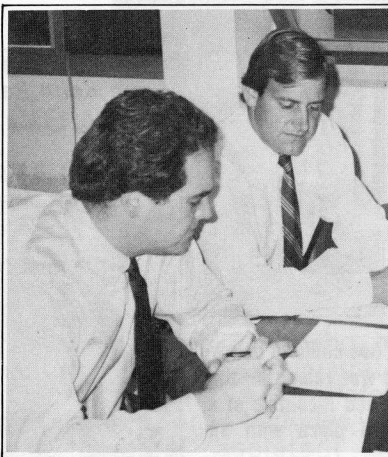
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Use this gift for:

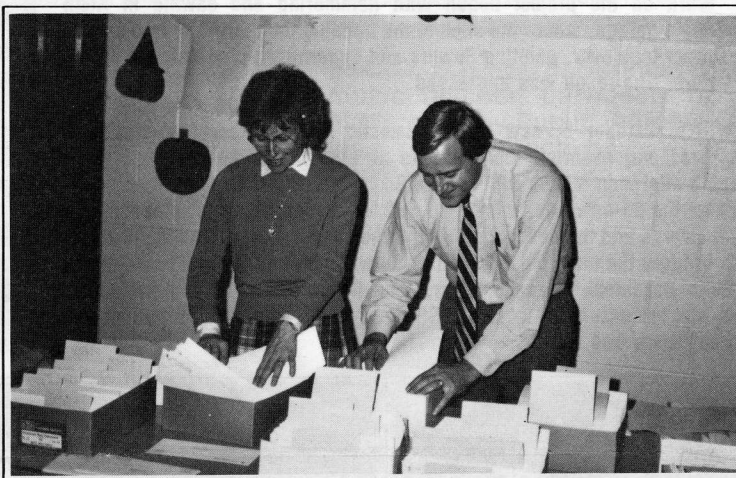
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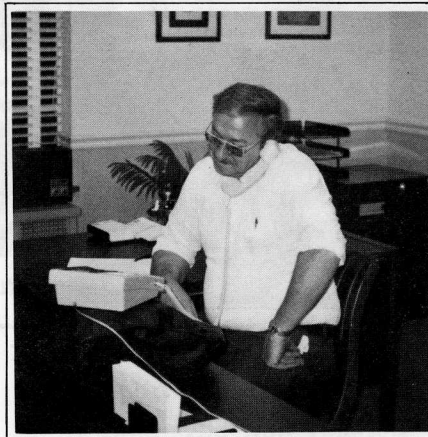
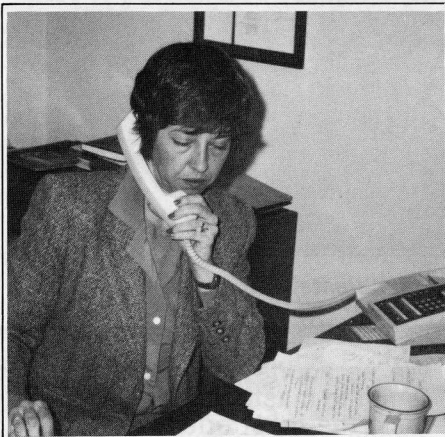
Fund drive chairmen Mike Aubrecht and Dick Geier.

Campaigning for Springer

Board members Georgia Kightlinger and Dick Geier work with personalized solicitation letters.



Jan Seymour and Virgil Hill during parents' phonathon.



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