



# Parents Plus Monthly



A joint publication of The Stony Brook School and *SBS PARENTS*

*April 2010*

## A Thank You to our Parent Volunteers!

As the school year draws rapidly toward a close, April is the time when we recognize each and every parent, guardian, and grandparent who has volunteered in ANY way during the academic year. Your participation in the independent school tradition of giving and volunteering is a tremendous asset to our School. To each of you, we extend a sincere THANK YOU.

Here are just a few examples of the seen and unseen ways that parents have enriched our School this year:

- Members of the *SBS PARENTS* Executive Committee, which coordinates parent volunteerism: **Kim Haas P'12**; facilitator; **Lou De Frisco P'11**, treasurer; **Jeanne De Frisco P'11**, secretary; **Cris Cunningham P'11,'14**, Class Parent liaison; **Brooke Crowley P'09,'10**, Parent Fund chair; **Debbie Abrahamsen P'10,'13,'15**, Prayer Team liaison; **Helayne Damianos P'12,'13** and **John Haas P'12**, The Main Event chairs; and **Maureen Acker P'09,'13**, facilitator emerita.
- Class Parents, dedicated to class unity and assisting with class activities, phone calls, car washes, and endless other behind-the-scene details;
- Bakers and table greeters for Class Bake Sales;
- Class helpers for Weekend Challenges;
- Assemblers of Valentine's Day treats for the entire student body;
- Cast-party organizers for the TAS production of *The Winter's Tale*;
- Parent Fund Class Liaisons, encouraging philanthropic support of the School;
- Spaghetti dinner organizers and servers;
- Faculty/Staff Appreciation organizers, decorators, and chefs;
- Basket assembly and solicitation of sponsorships, donated items, and services for The Main Event;
- Prayer Team members, faithfully keeping our School community and individual students, faculty/staff, and Board members in prayer.

Thank you to each of you!

*-Assistant Headmaster for Institutional Relations Jane Taylor*

**Spring Concerts**  
*Sunday, April 18, String Ensemble,  
Piano, & Chamber Singers*

*Sunday, April 25, Choir, Chamber  
Singers, Jazz Band, & Wind Ensemble*

*Concerts begin at 7:30 p.m.  
in Carson Auditorium*

## Parent Perspective

It started as an answer to prayers when The Stony Brook School accepted **Julia '12** as a freshman two years ago. Julia had been in different school systems in Asia since kindergarten and we thought it best for her to settle down in a high school in the United States until graduation. We wanted a Christian boarding school for three reasons: she can assimilate quicker into the American education system; she can better prepare for college life away from home; and we can have the help of a Christian community in guiding our daughter through her teenage years. At the same time, we were not ready to just let her go. With our decision to relocate from China to New York, we all made ourselves feel comfortable with the arrangement.

It has been almost two years and SBS has been both a struggle and a blessing for Julia. We are all blessed by the genuine Christian school environment and the warmth and love extended to Julia and us by the faculty and staff. She established good friendships with classmates as well as fellow dorm-mates from the first day she arrived on campus. However, the School's structure and discipline (a major factor in our choosing SBS) appeared to be challenging for Julia. We are thankful that her dorm parents and teachers are very supportive of her. As parents, we wish to be more involved in the school community in the years to come. We understand growing up is a process, often with struggles, and we trust SBS is a safe place for our daughter to grow academically and emotionally as well as spiritually.

When God answers our prayers, He doesn't always promise a smooth journey. Instead, He promises strength through the journey if we put our faith in Him. One thing we know: God doesn't make mistakes. This is the confidence we have in Him.

## Ratna Widjaja P'12

### *Tribute to the Big Bands of the 30's and 40's*

Please join us on **April 16** at 7:30 p.m. in Carson Auditorium as The Black Tie Affair Orchestra, under the direction of SBS Director of Jazz Studies Tom Manuel, performs a tribute to the great bands of the 1930's and 1940's. Tickets are available online at [www.stonybrookschool.org](http://www.stonybrookschool.org)

## College Counseling: The Common Application

One of the best innovations in the college application process began with a 1975 pilot program for a single application that would be accepted by multiple colleges and universities. This 'Common Application' has grown in popularity over the years with 414 schools (from Harvard to University of Michigan) now accepting this program. Students complete one set of forms online which can then be sent to individual institutions. Additional information may be required in the form of a supplement, but the overall process is significantly easier than separate applications to multiple schools. To learn more, go to [www.commonapp.org](http://www.commonapp.org). The College Counseling Office will offer workshops this spring for the Class of 2011 students to prepare for the Common Application, which will be available July 1, 2010.

*-Director of College Counseling Kathy Griffin ext. 541*

## World International Magazine

Copies of the Spring and Fall 2009 *World International Magazines* are available in the Admissions Office. This beautifully produced student publication features essays, poems, and artwork by members of the SBS community about international experiences and perspectives of all kinds. Enjoy!

## Students Attend Model United Nations Conference

On March 17-20, SBS students **Alex Angove '10**, **Tiffany Arnold '10**, **Claire Cook '10**, **Tadiwa Madenga '11**, **Cristina Suazo '10** (captain), and SBS faculty member Leslie Paige joined 2700 students from 20 nations to attend the 36th Annual National High School Model United Nations Conference in New York City. The SBS delegation represented their assigned country of Libya Arab Jamahiriya. The conference gave students an opportunity to learn and gain experience in the realm of parliamentary procedures in negotiations between nations. Prior to the conference, students researched and submitted position papers outlining their assigned country's policies on topics to be discussed and debated over the four-day period, citing domestic and international documents when necessary. SBS students were privileged to meet with Mr. Abraham Dabbashi, deputy permanent representative to Libya, to learn more about Libya so they could integrate indigenous national factors into their responses. Former student **Nara Shin '09** (a freshman at Brown University, RI) was one of three college students chosen to oversee the Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Committee (SOCHUM). The SBS team debated on three of the five General Assembly Main Committees: Disarmament and International Security, SOCHUM, and Legal. Well done!

*-SBS Faculty Member Leslie Paige P'11*

## Haiti Relief Benefit Concert

On March 13, SBS hosted a Haiti Relief Benefit Concert in Carson Auditorium. The music ranged from rock, folk, and pop, to classical. The evening was a true community event with SBS students **Phil Gape '11**, **Ray Maccio '13**, **Charlie Kwak '10**, and **Luke Paige '11** performing as well as groups and individuals from local high schools. Overviews of the earthquake and donation opportunities were offered by **Tiffany Arnold '10** and **Cristina Suazo '10**. A Henna station was provided by **Kriupa Samson '11** and **Christine Boss '11**. The concert raised over \$1,000 for Partners in Development, a non-profit organization which provides medical and practical assistance in the Port-au-Prince area, of which **Hanna Powlison '04** is an affiliate. A special thank you to the following individuals: **Luke Paige** (event organizer); **Devin De Frisco '11** (concert technology coordinator), **Joe Oak '10** (promotional materials), and concession stand organizers **Cris Cunningham P'11,'14**, **Jeanne De Frisco P'11**, **Margarita Gonzalez P'12**, and **Kim Haas P'12**. To date the Stony Brook students and community have raised over \$2,700 for the Haiti Relief effort.

*-Student Chaplain Amy Helm*

## Houghton Professor visits Visual Arts Classes

On March 21 in Carson Auditorium, the annual Helen Figge Moss Memorial Exhibition Opening Reception welcomed guest artist and Houghton College (NY) Professor Theodore Murphy. The following day, Mr. Murphy presented an overview of his influences in watercolor to the visual arts classes, demonstrated techniques, and instructed students as they created their own watercolor pieces. The students' enthusiasm made for a productive and inquisitive time of working and discussion.

*-Visual Arts Chair Melissa Gunzburg*

## Three New Beautiful Girls on Campus...

Congratulations to the following SBS faculty families on the new additions to their families!

- Tom and Jennifer Manuel on their birth of their daughter Sydney Vera on January 3.
- Erik and Melinda Johnson on the birth of their daughter Kiersten Annika Lovdahl on January 27.
- Sean and Emily Riley on the birth of Honora Genevieve on March 10.



## **Bahamas Expedition - an Exciting Marine Learning Adventure!**

On February 20, ten students and five faculty members traveled to Grand Bahamas Island to board the MORNING STAR, a 65-foot sailing and scuba vessel that was their home and transport to underwater adventure around Bimini Island during the next seven days. Under the leadership of Director of Marine & Environmental Programs Capt. George Linzee and Faculty member and Keelboat Sailing coach Capt. Jean Linzee, the group set out to accomplish a variety of goals. Except for George, Jean, and master diver **Lauren Gilbert '10**, all the students and three chaperones, Virginia Linzee and sail team coaches Capt. Allison Edelstein and **Jeremy Linzee '93**, earned their PADI Scuba diving certification. **Eleanor An '11**, **Ben Cotten '11**, **Si Yi Li '11**, **Tadiwa Madenga '11**, and **PK Thorstenn '11** used the trip as part of their coral reef and mangrove ecology travel course and accomplished a reef restoration project involving sea urchins. Joining them for diving, sailing, and a post-cruise kayaking expedition through a mangrove ecosystem were **Esther Luoh '10**, **Terry Huang '13**, **Sidney Braat '14**, and **Orrin Piazza '15**. All agreed that this total immersion into the tropical sea was a challenging and fun learning experience!

- SBS faculty member Captain George Linzee

## **Ocean Sciences Team makes top eight in New York!**

On March 6, Stony Brook's Ocean Sciences Bowl Team entered the regional Bay Scallop Bowl hosted by the Stony Brook University's School of Marine and Atmospheric Studies and competed against the top 16 New York schools. Coached by Marine Science Instructor Capt. George Linzee, this team of first year competitors from Capt. Linzee's Marine Science Honors and AP Environmental Science classes were captained by senior **Lauren Gilbert** and included juniors **Eleanore An**, **Ben Cotten**, **Si Yi Li**, and **Tadiwa Madenga**. The Brookers defeated Elwood, John Glenn, and Ossining high schools before going up against Mt Sinai, a three-year-veteran team (2009 and 2010 champions). In an exciting match, Gilbert and her team were leading over the Mt. Sinai champions up to the last series of questions. In the elimination round, the Brookers defeated Sachem East. In double elimination, the team lost by close margins to the second and third place teams. SBS earned a top eight ranking and an invitation to next year's competition. The four returning juniors are excited about next year's prospects. Exclaimed **Si Yi** as she watched the finals, "We can do this!"

-SBS faculty member Captain George Linzee

### *Upcoming Admissions Events*

*April 6 - Look at The Brook - An opportunity to meet with current parents and receive a guided campus tour.*

*April 12 - Class Visit Day - Attend classes with a student; parents receive a guided campus tour, visit classes, have lunch and interact with faculty and administrators.*

*Please register with the Admissions Office at (631)751-1800 ext. 1 or [admissions@stonybrookschoo.org](mailto:admissions@stonybrookschoo.org) if you are planning to attend an event.*

## **Parent Fund Update**

We have raised \$61,510.00 to date! The implementation of the Wireless Internet Project has started. To keep us on track we need to reach our \$100,000 goal. Recently, you may have received a letter asking for your support for the Parent Fund. With the start of the spring season and graduation right around the corner, please take a moment, before life gets too busy, to complete the donation card or go online and make your gift today.

Thank you to the many parents who have already made a contribution to the Parent Fund. We are truly grateful for your support.

-Annual Giving Coordinator **Krista C. Miller P'12**

## **2010 Final Exam Care Packages**

To encourage your child(ren) through the May final exams, the Class of 2011 is selling exam care packages! Each package includes delicious "high energy" snacks and exam preparation materials in beautifully wrapped packages to be delivered prior to the start of exams. Ordering deadline is May 1. Look for more information via email in April. Thank you!

-The Class of 2011

## **Prayer Team**

*Be joyful always; pray continually: give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.* I Thessalonians 4:16-18  
Please join the SBS Prayer Team on the second and fourth Thursday of each month from 10:00-11:00 a.m. in the room across from the conference room in Swanson Gymnasium as we lift our students, faculty, and staff in prayer as they persevere through this busy season. Come and be a blessing.

-Prayer Team Coordinator **Debbie Abrahamsen P'10,'13,'15** (631)751-1800 ext. 542

### **Spring Class Challenge Thank You!**

Students had a great time with the blessings of warm weather and sunny skies and a wonderful spread of cakes, cookies, ice cream, fruits, and drinks supplied by parents. Thanks to the many parents who served and sent in donations. A special thank you to the following parent volunteers who assisted at the Class Challenges: **Scott and Lisa Augustine P'12,'13, Jackie Aurigema P'10,'13, Caroline Barker P'09,'11,'14, Jeanmarie Braat P'14, Dawn Clancy P'14, Cris Cunningham P'11,'14, Diana DeLucia P'13, Lisa Fernandez P'14, Carol Garone P'13, Margarita Gonzalez P'12, John and Kim Haas P'12, Debra Hulse P'13,'15, Sandy Lee P'09,'11, Marcia Montoya P'13, Diane and Gary Palmer P'14, Lisa Pius P'14,'15, Thomas and Karen Poulos P'15, Jackie and Lou Rubino P'15, Kathryn Squillaro P'15, and Tammy Sutton P'13.**

Heartfelt thanks to the SAGE Food Service Director Mark Sabella and his dining crew for making the pizzas on campus. And of course, much appreciation and gratitude to the faculty and staff for all their hard work in planning this event.

### **Spring has Sprung!**

In October, a group of eight gardeners (comprised of SBS students and families) planted daffodil bulbs throughout the School grounds. What a welcome sight to see the fruits of their labor with glorious yellow bloom all over campus. Thank you to bulb planting coordinators **Caroline Barker P'09,'11,'14** and **Brooke Crowley P'09,'10** and their ambitious volunteers.

### **Essay Contest Due Date April 15!**

A final reminder that all entries for the *SBS PARENTS* annual essay contest must be submitted to the Admission Office no later than **April 15, 2010**. One winner from each grade will receive a scholarship award.

## ***TOP 10 REASONS TO ATTEND THE MAIN EVENT ON THURSDAY, APRIL 29, 2010:***

- 10) *It's a FUN day and evening*
- 9) *Meet new SBS Friends*
- 8) *Get together with old SBS friends, faculty and alumni*
- 7) *Fabulous and FAMOUS SBS PARENTS Silent Auction*
- 6) *LOTS of great items with Raffle "Chance Auction"*
- 5) *St. George's Golf and Country Club*
- 4) *Like to Golf??*
- 3) *Delicious Buffet Dinner*
- 2) *Stony Brooks ONLY Fundraiser*

### ***And the number 1 reason to attend The Main Event:***

- 1) ***We need your support....Please join us!!!!***

*Please join the SBS PARENTS for The Main Event and support The Stony Brook School. Make a reservation online at [www.stonybrookschool.org](http://www.stonybrookschool.org) or send in your response card now.*

*-The Main Event Committee 2010*

## Bear Paws Update

It is amazing to be in April and just be catching our breath from the winter, yet here we are. Congratulations again to our wrestling program, which is young and continuing to develop, and the historic combination of our Long Island Champion Basketball programs. 2010 continues to be a great year in athletics, and there is no reason why the spring season can't continue that trend.

Player of the Month: **Carlo Masakayan '10** enters the track season as captain of the team and with a number of strong returning sprinters and middle distance runners, this might be the year to make a run at the league championship. Carlo is healthy again after a disappointing end to his cross country season with an injury in the fall. Rival Port Jefferson awaits these athletes on April 7.

Team of the Month: The softball team has a new coach and a new attitude. Coming off a superb 13-5 season last year that was marked by a number of very close victories, the team is hoping to continue to build on that success. **Linda Devine '12** and **Emily Stone '12** will take the ball as pitchers, while **Danielle Pappas '11** and **Christine Boss '11** anchor the infield. We're expecting great things from the far side of the fields!

Coach of the Month: **Frank Macchia** has been coaching at SBS since before he was a teacher here, and this spring he takes the helm of the baseball program. With a talented core of young players and leadership from **Tony Chen '10**, **Chris Davis '12**, and **Ryan Haas '12**, Frank is looking to build a team that can compete now and grow into greater challenges in the future.

I have been thinking a lot about sailing lately, though I am not particularly one for the water. There is a beauty to its movement and navigation, particularly the history of being guided by the stars, just tiny specks of light, and by faith. John 3:20 says *"But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."* May our coaches and student-athletes, whether on land or sea this spring, be points of light by which those around them see and know the glory of God's creation.

*-Director of Athletics* **Kevin M. Kunst '89**

## Sail Teams hit the Water Early

With the dinghies on the docks and four keelboats on their moorings in Port Jefferson Harbor, the spring sailing season is in full swing for 23 dinghy and 29 keelboat sailors. In a new development in high school sailing that is growing in our region, The Stony Brook School's sailing facility on Port Jefferson Harbor has become the home site for the new SE New York Interscholastic League directed by Capt. George Linzee. On March 20, the varsity dinghy team coached by Wayne Hulse and Allison Edelstein hosted a league fleet qualifier to determine which teams will attend the Mid-Atlantic district and national events. Sailing against eleven top teams (including two of the top under-17 sailors in the country) from nine regional schools, the Varsity I team of **Austin Hulse '13**, **Ben Cotten '11**, **Anthony Garone '13**, and **Ray Maccio '13** placed fourth and are on the edge to go to districts in April. The Varsity II team of **Kyu Ree Kim '11**, **Amy Pennock '11**, **Cem Hayirli '13**, and **Julia Acker '13** took ninth place.

The keelboat team, coached by **Mike Crandall**, **Doug Durfee**, **George Linzee**, **Jean Linzee**, **Jeremy Linzee '93**, and **Rob Taylor '67** and led by seniors **Rachel Murphy**, **Naomi Gallimore**, **Lauren Gilbert**, and **Richard Hong**, and sophomore **Taylor Torgerson**, is training a group of new sailors now taking the NY State Safe boating course in preparation for the upcoming spring regatta series.

*-Captain George Linzee*



*Parents Plus Monthly*

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