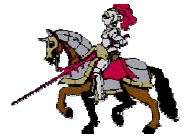


May / June

# Charging Times

A Newsletter for the Mabry Middle School Chargers  
Sponsored by the Mabry Middle School PTSA



2007

## A Message from our PTSA Co-Presidents

### Mabry PTSA is the BEST!!!!

**Another successful year here at Mabry for your PTSA!** It has truly been an honor working with all of the outstanding volunteers and committee chairs. You all have made Mabry Middle School PTSA stronger and better. Without your time, dedication and enthusiasm, PTSA would not be successful. Thank you to all of the outgoing committee chairs for a job well done and welcome to those of you joining as committee chairs for the 2007-08 school year. We would also like to extend a special thank you to the Executive Board for all of your time and dedication. What a pleasure it has been working with such wonderful people.

The Executive Board is proud to announce that your PTSA was again recognized at the county and state levels receiving the following awards: **At the State level, we received the Centennial Platinum Membership Award for our Membership program and a 2nd place Certificate of Excellence for our Community Outreach program. At the county level we received recognition for our outstanding Reflections program, an Award of Distinction for fulfillment of established requirements, and the Gold Award in recognition of our accomplishments for the 2006-07.** Congratulations to the committee chairs for all of their hard work and to all of you who participated in any of these PTSA programs this year.

For those of you wanting to be a part of this winning team, opportunities are still available! We still need people in the following committees: Youth Services (Red Ribbon Week), Directory, Hospitality, Grounds (Interior and Exterior), Welcome Desk Volunteers, Web Master, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Dance, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade BBQ, and 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Activities. If you are interested please contact Kay Watkins (outgoing secretary) at 770-516-0298 [twkwjw@bellsouth.net](mailto:twkwjw@bellsouth.net) or Kitty Fortanbary (incoming secretary) at 678-560-4456.

As we wrap up the 2006-07 school year, **we would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Tim Tyson for all of his years of dedication, support, and encouragement here at Mabry.** It has been a pleasure working with him. We wish him the best of luck in his new career. **We would also like to welcome Mabry's incoming principal Mrs. Merrilee Heflin.** We look forward to working with her in the upcoming school year.

**We hope everyone has a very safe, relaxing, and enjoyable summer.** Please look for a newsletter coming your way in late summer. This newsletter will contain information regarding Charger Day 2007, events occurring at the start of school, and volunteer information. Remember you can always get up to date information on [www.mabryonline.org](http://www.mabryonline.org).

*Becky Johnson and Belinda Heitmeyer, Mabry PTSA Co-Presidents*

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## Reflections

**The 2007-2008 Reflections theme is: "I Can Make a Difference by ..."**

Please start thinking about your upcoming Reflections entries in the categories of Literature, Visual Arts, Photography, Film/Video Production, Music Composition, and Dance Choreography.

**Congratulations to former Mabry student Matthew Gorbachov** for being selected as a Georgia Winner at the National Level for Outstanding Interpretation - Film/Video Production. Matthew is currently a student at Lassiter High School.

*Wendy Sullivan, Reflections Chair*



## Box Tops for Education Update

Thank you for another successful year of collecting Box Tops for Education. Mabry students and teachers turned in over 7000 box tops throughout the school year. This translated into **\$709.90 – a new record at Mabry!** Congratulations and thanks again to all the winners of our contest in February.

Please continue to save your box tops over the summer. Thanks again for supporting this program.

## Cartridges for Kids Update

Thank you to everyone who continues to bring your used inkjet, laser, fax, and copier cartridges as well as your old cell phones and PDAs for the Cartridges for Kids program. These items translate into funds for PTA sponsored programs at Mabry. Please save your cartridges over the summer so that we can continue this great program.

*Karen Lind,*  
Box Tops for Education and Cartridges for Kids Chair

## Thank You

*to all of the Mabry PTSA officers and committee chairs, Mabry administrators, teachers, parents, and students who have contributed articles and information for this year's Charging Times newsletters!*



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## From the Welcome Desk

I would like to thank all of the dedicated individuals who supported the Welcome Desk this year. This year has been more challenging for all with the increase in school security. As a result, our front desk workers have taken on an increased amount of responsibility. Thanks to all of you for stepping up and staying the course.

*Ava Simmons, Welcome Desk Chair*

## Attention Rising 9th Grade Parents

**Lassiter PTSA wants to help you stay involved with your child as he/she moves to high school.** We have several important PTSA positions left to fill for the 2007-2008 school year:

- Academic Recognition
- Alumni Events
- Youth Services
- Honoring our Heroes
- Legislative
- LHS Volunteers (someone who can use our new database software)
- Newsletter
- PPO Volunteers
- Reflections
- Renaissance

If you want to stay connected with what's going on at Lassiter, and are interested in serving as one of these chairs, please contact Renee Plumley, Lassiter PTSA Co-President 2007-2008, at [reneeplumley@comcast.net](mailto:reneeplumley@comcast.net).

## Science Spectrum Summer Camp

The Center for Advanced Studies' **Science Spectrum Summer Camp** is designed for rising 7th, 8th, and 9th grade students who have an interest in science and engineering. This five day camp will offer students the opportunity to explore an array of science and engineering fields including robotics, engineering, biology, forensics, chemistry, physics, and electronics.

Camp will be held the week of June 11-15, 8:00-3:00 daily, for rising 7th, 8th, & 9th graders. Visit <http://www.wheelermagnet.com> for more information.

# Summertime -- For Many Teens it's "Prime Drinking Time"

*Written by Loren Eischeid, Georgia PTA Youth Services Chair*

This time of year evokes thoughts of freedom, fun and "partying" for many teens while their parents find themselves anxious and fearful for their teen's safety. To help ease these feelings, parents need to be sure they are communicating with their teens regarding increased drinking dangers during this time of year.

According to the antidrug.com web site, every weekend during prom and graduation season, nearly 50 teens are killed in car crashes. Further, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, approximately six 15 to 20 year olds die in alcohol-related crashes each day. And, nearly 11 million 12 to 20 year olds admit to drinking alcohol in the past month.

Many parents believe that if they haven't talked to their children about the dangers of drinking and drug use by the time they reach high school, it is too late. They wrongly believe that teens are mostly influenced by their peers and anything they may try to say on these topics goes in one ear and out the other. Your teen may appear to be turning a deaf ear, but in reality, they are most likely listening to every word. Not talking about drinking and drug use equates to "giving permission" in your teens' eyes.

Be aware that not all parents in your community share the same values and expectations for young people as you do. One in 12 parents of teens said they allowed the friends of their own teens to drink in their home under their supervision. (Teen Research Unlimited & Harris Interactive, 2005) There are a number of parents who believe that no matter what we say or do, teens are "going to do it anyway" so why not serve alcohol to them in the safety of their own home? There is an easy answer for that! In Georgia, the law states that it is illegal for adults to provide alcohol to youth under the age of 21. (O.C.G.A., Section 3-3-23) Violation of this law can result in fines, penalties and/or imprisonment.

Clearly, parents are the most powerful influence when it comes to keeping teens away from alcohol and illicit drugs. Teens that are monitored closely by their parents are less likely to use drugs and engage in other risky behaviors. ([www.theantidrug.com](http://www.theantidrug.com))

For more information or tips for talking to your teens about drinking and drug use, please visit these informative web sites:

[www.theantidrug.com](http://www.theantidrug.com) (Click on resources- "Conversations: What to say")

[www.MediaCampaign.org](http://www.MediaCampaign.org) The White House Office of National Drug Control Policy's National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign.

[www.niaaa.nih.gov](http://www.niaaa.nih.gov) National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Addiction, "Make a Difference: Talk to Your Child about Alcohol")

[www.livedrugfree.org](http://www.livedrugfree.org) The Council on Alcohol and Drugs

[www.cudtf.org](http://www.cudtf.org) Cobb Underage Drinking Task Force

## **TOP 10 Ways to Raise a Safe and Healthy Teen** ([www.theantidrug.com](http://www.theantidrug.com))

1. Show love, warmth and interest in your teen
2. Spend time together regularly
3. Share your expectations about risk-taking and other behaviors
4. Set clear rules for safety and guidance
5. Consistently enforce rules with clear consequences
6. Keep track of your teen
7. Ask questions about your teen's activities and whereabouts
8. Praise your teen as often as possible
9. Show respect to earn respect
10. Set a good example, especially when it comes to substance use



\*To report retail outlets that sell alcoholic beverages to individuals under the age of 21, please call 1-877-CHECK-ID.

**MABRY PTSA OFFICERS  
2006 – 2007**

**Co-Presidents:**

Belinda Heitmeyer      770-973-1382  
bheimeyer@bellsouth.net  
Becky Johnson      770-565-9256  
rhjonson@bellsouth.net

**Vice President of Membership:**

Chrissy Miletto      770- 649-0460

**Vice President of Volunteers:**

Diana Young      770-518-8501

**Secretary:**

Kay Watkins      770-516-0298

**Treasurer:**

Renee Plumley      770-645-3797

**Parliamentarian:**

Kelly Dunlap      678-560-2605

**MABRY PTSA COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN  
Spring 2007**

<b>Academic Achievement</b>	Kim Cross	(770) 552-2650
<b>Book Fair</b>	Mary Ciesielski	(770) 977-3165
	Jean Kahn	(770) 509-0307
	Vicki Gunnels	(770) 509-7181
<b>Box Tops/Cartridges</b>	Karen Lind	(770) 594-7369
<b>Community Outreach</b>	Teresa Shank	(770) 672-0363
<b>Copy Volunteers</b>	Jodi Smith	(770) 321-4909
<b>Cultural Arts</b>	Jackie Weyrick	(770) 587-3656
<b>Dances / Block Parties</b>	Joann Maloney	(770) 592-2235
	Frances Weissert	(770) 643-0814
<b>Directory</b>	Patty Allen	(678) 560-5708
<b>Family Development/ Youth Services</b>	Marty Slone	(770) 998-5668
<b>Grounds - Interior</b>	Susan Sargent	(678) 795-9956
<b>Hearing and Vision</b>	Teresa Hauser	(678) 461-5950
<b>Hospitality</b>	Donna Regeski	(678) 851-7170
<b>Legislative</b>	Donnell Willequer	(770) 552-4184
<b>Marquee</b>	Beth Gijlstra	(770) 993-4805
<b>Media Center</b>	Lynn Garris	(770) 971-4377
<b>Newsletter</b>	Patty Allen	(678) 560-5708
<b>Office Volunteers</b>	Ava Simmons	(770) 640-1811
<b>Reflections</b>	Wendy Sullivan	(770) 321-5375
<b>School Store (Supplies)</b>	Debbie Baker	(770) 578-0811
<b>School Store (Volunteers)</b>	Sandi Malloy	(770) 578-6460
<b>Sports-A-Rama</b>	Denise Ankerholz	(770) 321-0530
<b>Sunshine</b>	Ashley Alderman	(770) 641-0357
<b>Webmaster</b>	Chris/ Cindy Hugh Sam	(770) 643-0794
<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Activities</b>	Theresa Hauser	(678) 461-5950
	Nadine Johnson	(770) 926-3450
<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade BBQ</b>	Nadine Johnson	(770) 926-3450
<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade Activities</b>	Kitty Fortanbary	(678)560-4456
	Kelly Putman	(770) 993-5214

**MABRY PTSA OFFICERS  
2007 – 2008**

**Co-Presidents:**

Teresa Haverly      770-565-3232  
Sandi Malloy      770-578-6460

**Vice President of Membership:**

Sharon Stenczel      770-591-9385

**Vice President of Volunteers:**

Chrissy Miletto      770-649-0460

**Secretary:**

Kitty Fortanbary      678-560-4456

**Treasurer:**

Dee Shipp      678-494-8512

**Parliamentarian:**

Maxine Harlemon      770-643-0149



***Have a wonderful summer!***