

The Beacon is Back

Welcome to *The Beacon*, Mt. Greylock's new weekly newsletter for and about the middle school. Produced by parents and distributed by teachers to middle school students, *The Beacon* allows coaches, faculty, students, administrators, and parents to share scheduling info (about sports, clubs, arts, etc), wish lists, achievements, projects, any item of a more immediate interest than *The Forum* can provide.

We hope *The Beacon* will reinforce the identity and community of the middle school as having a unique and separate life from the high school.

Our name refers to the monument atop Mt. Greylock. It was originally a lighthouse slated for Boston Harbor, but somehow it wound up here commemorating veterans of the World Wars.

The Beacon needs your help. Volunteer to be a journalist for a month and share the news & events at the middle school, meet teachers, coaches, staff; or a graphic designer and jazz up the look of *The Beacon*; or help with copying & distribution. Contact us and we'll find a small task just right for your interest and time.

-Deb Dane & Beth Stomberg

debbydane@aol.com or bstomberg@williams.edu

TEAMS RETURN TO MIDDLE SCHOOL

Hello! We are looking forward to a great year in the middle school. Teachers are excited to be back working as teams. We have just two teams this year: seventh grade and eighth grade. Each team of teachers shares common students, common planning time, and a common schedule. The team structure encourages collaborative teaching, a feeling of community, and allows teachers to get to know their students better. We will routinely hold teacher team meetings to discuss curriculum and individual student needs. The entire middle school will begin each week with a morning meeting in the auditorium. The purpose of morning meeting is to share important information and recognize accomplishments. In addition, each grade level will hold meetings whenever necessary. We have already begun planning fun activities for the coming year. We welcome any input from students or parents. Let's all work together to make it a wonderful year.

-Amy Moore-Powers and Liza Barrett

AMoore-Powers@mgrhs.org ; LBarrett@mgrhs.org

Who's Who?

7th Grade Team:

Amy Moore-Powers, Science (Team Leader)

Marion Cariddi, Social Studies

Courtenay Gibson, Math

Sharyn Dupee, English

8th Grade Team:

Liza Barrett, English (Team Leader)

Patrick Blackman, Social Studies

Karl Belouin, Math

Peggy Talbot, Science

Ellen Kaiser is the Assistant Principal for students in grades 7th-9th. She is the administrator middle school parents and students should contact with questions or concerns regarding school. Mrs. Kaiser can be reached at **EKaiser@mgrhs.org or 458-9582 x 102.**

MGRHS Students Invited to see

Yo-Yo Ma

As part of our ongoing collaboration with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, Mt. Greylock students have been invited to participate in events related to cellist Yo-Yo Ma's Silk Road Project.

Yo-Yo Ma will be rehearsing with 30 young musicians and three composers from around the world at Tanglewood in preparation for Carnegie Hall performances later this month. **Mt. Greylock students have been invited to attend a rehearsal closed to the**

general public on Friday, Sept. 10 from 3:30 to 4:30 at Ozawa Hall. We have also been invited to attend a free public concert of these works on Tuesday evening, Sept. 14 at 7:30 PM.

Students must bring a permission slip with them in order to attend the rehearsal. We will leave Mt. Greylock at the end of the school day and return by 5:30. Since we are taking private vehicles, I am also making a list of adult drivers who would be available to drive some students and attend this rehearsal. The Tuesday concert is free, but it requires a reservation directly with the BSO office at 617-638-9300.

Please contact me at school if you have any questions. Thank you,

Lyndon Moors, Music Department

LMoors@mgrhs.org; 458-9582 x 167

Mt. Greylock PTO

The newly formed PTO at Mt. Greylock is off to a great start! All parents and guardians of Mt. Greylock students, as well as all members of the school staff, are automatically members of the PTO. Interim officers are Co-Presidents: Lisa Hiley & Anne Hogeland

Secretary: Alison Kolesar

Treasurer: Sue Hogan

Directors: parents Paula Machado & Paul Rosenthal, teachers Deryle Capozzi, Lyndon Moors, Sue Strizzi.

Our first meeting of the school year took place Wed, Sept 8. The agenda included nominations of New Officers and Directors, Workday, Open Houses, and fundraising events. If you could not attend but are interested in anything on the agenda, please contact the co-presidents. The **next PTO is Mon, Oct 4, 7pm in the School Library** when we will elect officers/directors.

Please note that the **Service Auction** originally scheduled for Sept. 13 **has been postponed to Sat. Oct. 30**. It will now be combined with a Harvest Dance. Help is needed ASAP, please contact:

cpayne@adelphia.net,

Beth Goodman: ecg@waregoodmanlaw.com or

Denise Spencer: dspencer@eziba.com

We need volunteers for the **Annual Fall Workday, Sat, Oct. 2, 7:30am-5:30.** Come work a 2.5 hour shift inside or outside the school. We have an ambitious projects list (lots of painting) that will improve the school's appearance immensely. Last year some 300 people did their part!

-Lisa Hiley 458-3077 lisahiley@adelphia.net &

Anne Hogeland 458-5966 hogeland@adelphia.net

Shop On-line & Earn \$\$ for Mt. Greylock

Shopping on-line can be prosperous for Mt.

Greylock. If you are an on-line shopper (even occasionally), go to the website **schoolpop.com** first. This website donates a percentage of your on-line purchases to Mt. Greylock's PTO. Over 200 companies participate, including Target, Old Navy, Eddie Bauer, J. Crew, Barnes & Noble, Staples, Orvis, LLBeans, Lands End. Some donate as much as 10% of your purchase!

Here's how it works: the next time you plan to shop on-line, go to **schoolpop.com** first, register your name and the organization you would like to benefit (Mt. Greylock Regional High School), then pick the merchant you want to shop with and begin shopping. By using **schoolpop.com** you'll be earning money for Mt. Greylock. Questions? Contact Melissa Brink

onthebrink89@yahoo.com

SPORTS

Cross Country:

Tue, Sept 14, 4:30 vs Wahconah+Mon. Mt., away

Girls Volleyball:

Mon, Sept 13, 4:00 vs Berlin, away

Wed, Sept 15, 5:30 vs. Lee — HOME

U-14 Girls Soccer:

Sun, Sept 12, 1:00 — HOME

U-14 Boys Soccer: WSC White

U-14 Boys Soccer: WSC Purple

Sat, Sept 11, 11:30 at S. B'shire Mt Everett HS

Sun, Sept 12, 2:30 at Lenox HS

Goings On

School Pictures: TODAY and Friday, Sept 10. Bring your \$\$ and filled-out forms found in this summer's mailed packet.

7th Grade Family Picnic: TONIGHT, 5 - 7pm, Thursday, Sept 9 at Mt. Greylock. Bring a sidedish!

Middle School Parent Night: 7pm, Tues, Sept 21. Meet teachers, walk through your student's schedule, hear about the PTO and this year's events.

The Forum - submissions for October issue are due Fri, Sept. 17 send to **pakmach@adelphia.net**

Please send items for the next issue of *The Beacon* by **noon, Tues, 9/14/04** to **debbydane@ aol.com** (or call 458-0168)