



MENLO-ATHERTON HIGH SCHOOL BEARNOTES

PUBLISHED BY M-A PTA
SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

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QUICK WEB LINKS

M-A PTA
M-A High School
SUHSD (District)
M-A Athletic Boosters
M-A Drama Boosters
M-A Band Boosters
M-A College & Career
Center
Foundation for the
Future
Comunicado
Trivocis
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Connection

**Not Getting
BearNotes?**

CALENDAR

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Monday, September 14 - tonight!** - Parent Education Night, 7 - 8:30 p.m. in M-A Library ([see article](#))
- **Tuesday, September 15** - Student Club Rush at lunch ([see article](#))
- **Wednesday and Thursday, September 16 & 17**, - Picture make-up day, Wrestling Room
- **Thursday, September 24** - Trivocis mailed
- **Friday, September 25** - Freshman Family Welcome, 6 - 7 p.m., Girls Soccer Field
- **Friday, September 25** - Welcome Back Dance, 7 - 10 p.m., outside on the Green
- **Wednesday, September 30** - 9th Grade Parent Night - Guidance Department Information Meeting 7-8:30 pm. English speakers in Library, Spanish speakers in Guidance Office

SAVE THE DATE

- **Thursday, October 1** - Senior Parent College Information Night with Alice Kleeman, 7 - 8:30 p.m. in Library
- **Friday, October 2** - Last day to drop a class - see Guidance Counselor

Join Our Mailing List!

- **Tuesday, October 6** - PTA General Meeting, 8:30-10:30 in Ayers Dance Studio
- **Thursday, October 8 - Saturday October 10** - M-A Performing Arts Center Opening Events!
- **Friday, October 16** - Trivocis submission deadline
- **Saturday, October 17** - PSAT test ([see article](#))

The 2009-2010 District Calendar is available [here](#).

CLUBS AND SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

NEW science club forming -- Cookies and Pi! Find opportunities for students to explore science in a fun atmosphere, even if you're not the "science type." Look for our table at club rush. First organizational meeting on Wednesday, September 16 at lunch in D-2; cookies and (pizza) Pi served. Contact Kristin Duriseti by email at kristin.kuntz.duriseti@gmail.com or by phone at 327-4340.

LOOK FOR OTHER CLUB ACTIVITIES TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15!!

PTA



**M-A PTA PARENT EDUCATION EVENT IS TONIGHT, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14!
WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF TWO MILLION MINUTES?**

That's about how long our children have from the end of 8th grade to

use high school resources to build an intellectual foundation for college, a career and a successful life. See the following two links for a fascinating preview peek.

<http://www.2mminutes.com/about.asp>
<http://www.youtube.com/user/2MillionMinutes>

In a very special event, the M-A Parent Education Series offers a showing of the highly-regarded documentary, "2 Million Minutes," and a presentation by Robert A. Compton, Executive Producer of 2MM. The presentation will be tonight from 7-8:30 p.m. in the M-A Library.

Space for this event is limited!! To RSVP, contact Charlene Margot, Parent Education Chair, at (650) 868-0590 or parenteducation@mabearspta.org.

For detailed information on Parent Education Events, see the website: <http://www.mabearspta.org/ParentEdEventhtml>.

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### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **CHALLENGE DAY - a very rewarding experience.**

Attention ALL PARENTS! We are so grateful to the many people who have already volunteered for Challenge Day!! You've filled more than half the open positions, including all the registration and lunch roles. Thank you. We STILL need 65 small group leaders. A small group leader works with 4-5 students (not his or her own child). The small group leader helps facilitate the students' experience through small group discussions and communication exercises led by the professional Challenge Day staff who come to M-A. Volunteer to help:

**Monday, November 2 - 7:15- 3 p.m.**

**or**

**Tuesday, November 3 - 7:15- 3 p.m.**

No previous experience is needed and it's a great way to get involved with our students. In response to feedback, small group leaders will have a chance to learn more about their roles in a one hour Training/Q&A session being offered Wednesday, October 21, at 7 p.m., Library.

To volunteer to be a small group leader, please email Barb Windham, Peggy Propp or Stasia Grose at [challengeday@mabearspta.org](mailto:challengeday@mabearspta.org). Please put "Challenge Day Volunteer" in the subject line, and include your choice of date in the e-mail. Don't pass up this opportunity to make a difference in the lives of our teens!

#### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEPARTMENT ("ELD") PROGRAM - Tutors Needed! (please note the department initials have changed - no longer "ESL")**

We need tutors for our non-native English speakers who are learning English grammar and vocabulary, and are making their way through the

M-A academic curriculum. If you have an hour or so a week, or know someone else you could share that commitment with, please consider joining the ELD tutors. These classes are available now, (although we also assign tutors to others):

**ELD 3 - Thursday 10 - 11:20 a.m. with Marei Kane**  
**ELD 1-2 - Wednesday 8 - 9:25 a.m. with JJ Lee Gilbert**  
**ELD 1-2 - Thursday 9:40 - 11:20 a.m with JJ Lee Gilbert**

You will be assigned to no more than two students, and will help them work on basic vocabulary, reading and writing skills. The classroom teacher will provide you with class assignments and be there to assist as needed. The students truly benefit from this kind of tutoring--for some, it is the only focused English-speaking practice they have in the day. And you are a wonderful role model for them. We can work with your schedule and help find a job sharing tutor, if needed.

Please contact us! Marla Stark at [marlastark@mac.com](mailto:marlastark@mac.com), Diane Jones at [dianejsj@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dianejsj@sbcglobal.net).

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## FOUNDATION FOR THE FUTURE



### **Tennis anyone? A Fun Foundation for the Future Event**

On Thursday, September 17, 10 - 1 p.m., at the Menlo Circus Club, 190 Park Lane, Atherton, there will be a Ladies Round Robin format tennis game that will ensure lots of tennis, laughs, and fun for everyone. Tennis will be followed by a lovely lunch at the club. The cost is \$100 (payable to the M-A Foundation). Please contact Di Gow at [dianegow@crimson-consulting.com](mailto:dianegow@crimson-consulting.com) if you would like to join us for this event. Your hosts are Di Gow, Rose Mein and the Woodside Tennis Shop. Come have fun and support our wonderful Foundation for the Future!

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## ADMINISTRATION

### **PSAT SIGN-UPS**

If you have not yet signed up for the Saturday, October 17 PSAT test, please do so NOW. You can sign up with your English teacher. The cost is \$25. Make checks payable to M-A PSAT. Please put the

student's first and last name in the memo line. Contact Nanci Meacham with questions at [nmeacham@seq.org](mailto:nmeacham@seq.org).



### LEARNING YOUR WAY AROUND M-A? M-A Parent

**Ambassadors are here to help!** The Ambassadors are a network of experienced, knowledgeable and friendly parent volunteers who know the "ins and outs" of our school. Whenever you need information or advice regarding school activities, resources or policies & procedures, please don't hesitate to contact any of us!

#### 2009-10 M-A Parent Ambassadors

|                             |                                                                      |       |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Trish Gump<br>854-3085      | <a href="mailto:gumpfamily@ymail.com">gumpfamily@ymail.com</a>       | (650) |
| Leslie Mayerson<br>324-0975 | <a href="mailto:lwmayerson@yahoo.com">lwmayerson@yahoo.com</a>       | (650) |
| Debbie Pinkston<br>556-1887 | <a href="mailto:debbie.pinkston@hds.com">debbie.pinkston@hds.com</a> | (650) |
| Timi Most<br>854-3074       | <a href="mailto:timibmost@gmail.com">timibmost@gmail.com</a>         | (650) |
| Carol Orton<br>321-4418     | <a href="mailto:carolorton@mac.com">carolorton@mac.com</a>           | (650) |

#### Community Ambassadors

|                                                       |                                                                |            |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Catherine McMillan (bilingual French)<br>321-8202     | <a href="mailto:gregandcat@gmail.com">gregandcat@gmail.com</a> | (650)      |
| Lilly Quinonez (bilingual Spanish)<br>430-3889        | <a href="mailto:lilly_qnz@yahoo.com">lilly_qnz@yahoo.com</a>   | (650)      |
| Steve & Sela Teu (bilingual Tongan)<br>799-7161 Steve | <a href="mailto:s4steu@gmail.com">s4steu@gmail.com</a>         | (650)      |
| 7176 Sela                                             |                                                                | (650) 630- |

#### Special Education Parent Ambassador (NEW!!)

|                           |                                                                |       |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------|
| Wendy Carmody<br>823-2550 | <a href="mailto:wendy.carmody@hp.com">wendy.carmody@hp.com</a> | (650) |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------|

**Student Ambassadors** - To reach student ambassadors, please contact Kelly Todd at (650) 322-5311 ext. 5250 or [ktodd@seq.org](mailto:ktodd@seq.org). Michael Culhane & Shivana Khatod (Juniors) and Chelsey Barnes, Ashley Roberts & Mackenzie Lanigan (Seniors).




#### NEW INFORMATION ON THE M-A WEBSITE REGARDING FLU PREVENTION

Please see the following site for three flyers which can help your family prepare for the impending flu season.


<http://mabears.seq.org//index.php?option=content&task=view&id=629>.

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**COMMUNITY NEWS**

 **EDUCATIONAL FORUM.** On Wednesday, September 23, attend a free educational forum to view John Merrow's latest documentary video, "California Schools: America's Future", an update to "First to Worst: the Roots of California's Education Crisis", to be followed by a panel discussion moderated by John Merrow.

The forum will be held from 7 - 9 p.m. at Bayside Theatre, 2025 Kehoe Ave., San Mateo. Questions? Please contact for kids! The San Mateo-Foster City Education Foundation, (650) 312-7235, [www.forkidsedfund.org](http://www.forkidsedfund.org). The web addresses link to flyers which provide more information - <http://www.forkidsedfund.org/Merrow.pdf> (english) and <http://www.forkidsedfund.org/MerrowSPANISH.pdf>.

 **Challenge Success Fall Conference at Stanford University**  
**"The Long View: Preparing our Children for 21st Century Success"**  
**Friday, September 25, 2009**  
**7:30-9:30 p.m. in Memorial Auditorium**

Challenge Success (formerly the SOS: Stressed-Out Students project) welcomes the community for an evening of discussion with Michael Thompson, Ph.D., consultant, author and psychologist specializing in children and families, and Chris Kelly, Chief Privacy Officer and Head of Global Public Policy at Facebook, with comments by Denise Pope, Ph.D., Co-founder, Challenge Success, Stanford University School of Education Senior Lecturer and author and Madeline Levine, Ph.D., Co-founder, Challenge Success, and clinical psychologist. FREE and open to the public. For more information and to RSVP go to [www.challengesuccess.org](http://www.challengesuccess.org).

 **DANCE EXPRESSIONS**, a new dance program in Menlo Park for all ages and levels, is currently taking new students. Go to [www.danceexpressions5678.com](http://www.danceexpressions5678.com) for more information.

 **GU15 SOCCER PLAYERS WANTED**  
Stanford Lightning, a girls U15 team (born after 7/1/94) of the Stanford Soccer Club is looking for a few solid soccer players to join our fun and competitive class 3 CYSA team. Practices are Mondays and Thursdays from 5:30 - 7 p.m. at Mayfield in Palo Alto . If interested, contact Coach Ed Cervantes at [prospero1960@yahoo.com](mailto:prospero1960@yahoo.com) or Manager Joe Rizza at [jerizza@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jerizza@sbcglobal.net) or (650) 888-2428 or check <http://www.stanfordsoccerclub.org>.

 **YOUTH RUGBY.** The Seahawks Youth Rugby program is dedicated to teaching boys and girls, ages 5 - 16 the sport of rugby. Freshman/Sophomore and Junior/Senior Teams are also available for high school teenagers. Season begins in the fall, pre-register to formulate teams and build new friendships. Practices begin in November, and games are typically played Sundays. All ages are coached by experienced rugby players and certified rugby coaches Our goal is to teach the fundamentals of rugby in a safe, fun and positive environment. All skill levels are welcome. For more information, please visit the team web page at [www.seahawkryouthrugby.com](http://www.seahawkryouthrugby.com).

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## ATHLETICS



[Check the Weekly Sports Activity Calendar Here](#)

**VARSITY FOOTBALL.** The Bears traveled to Wilcox High School on Friday night to play the Chargers under the lights. Although the team appreciated the many fans that made the trip to cheer them on, the Bears lost 45-0 to an experienced Wilcox team.

**FROSH/SOPH FOOTBALL.** The team almost pulled one out with a 12 to 16 loss in the final seconds of the game. The Bears are on the road again next week when they play Los Gatos. Frosh/Soph will play at 5 p.m., Varsity at 7:30 p.m.

**GIRLS VOLLEYBALL.** The Bears volleyball team took on Westmont Warriors of San Jose in their first official match of the season. The Frosh/Soph team led the way with a hard fought win in 3 games over the Warriors. The Varsity girls followed suit with a thrilling 3 game sweep of Westmont. Junior Diane Seely scored 12 kills while fellow junior Kate Reardon defended with 10 blocks, while senior setter Sophia Cornew led a strong offense with 31 assists. Come out and cheer on the Bears at their first home match of the season against Burlingame this Thursday. Frosh/Soph plays at 3:15 p.m. with Varsity starting at 4:30 p.m. Don't miss it!

### REPORTING SPORTS SCORES

Longtime BearNotes readers know that we publish announcements regarding M-A's athletic teams - scores, game results and other global information. To make sure that team scores are reported, please nominate ONE parent to provide a report to the BearNotes email box.

We'd like to receive and report both Varsity AND JV results. Please check the spelling of student names. To ensure timely publication, submit scores within 24 hours of games which happen on Friday and Saturday, with a deadline of noon on Sunday. Space constraints will limit the amount of information which can be published.

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## BEARNOTES QUOTE OF THE WEEK

Apparently there is nothing that cannot happen today ~ Mark Twain

## BEARNOTES SUBMISSION INFORMATION

- Email submissions to [your BearNotes Team](#) by Thursday midnight, spellcheck/proofread them first, and format them in Arial 10 pt.
- Please keep submissions **concise**, and include the organization name, event, date, time, location, and contact info, including web site URL.
- All submissions are subject to editing by the PTA.
- For the PTA policy on BearNotes publication, please go to the [M-A PTA web site](#).

Menlo-Atherton PTA does not endorse third-party events or submissions, nor take responsibility regarding the content of any third-party websites.

### **Go Bears. Grrrr!**

Your BearNotes Team,  
Julie Brody, Rosalie Cornew, Kris De Lisle  
M-A High School PTA BearNotes