



Four Tellings

*A weekly bulletin for family
and friends of Four Winds
Waldorf School*



January 18, 2012

Office (630) 836-9400
www.fourwindswaldorf.org
30W160 Calumet Avenue W
Warrenville, IL 60555



Bowling was a Blast!

Last Friday's Bowling Party was a huge success. 63 adults and children traded in their snow boots for bowling shoes and hit the lanes at *Fox Bowl* in Wheaton. Children and parents from every class participated, and everyone departed for the long weekend with a smile.

Highlights included:

- Our high scoring bowler was Will Villafuerte, father to Diego in the Rainbow Garden Preschool class, who bowled a 185!
- The "girl power" adult bowling team consisting of Marianne Fieber, Karen Friede, Linda Rourke & Jody Bilstrom each scored over 100 points in their final game together!!!

Stay tuned for more news on upcoming social events.

—Parent Council & Jody Bilstrom

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Sled-A-Thon Date Change

The Sled-A-Thon fundraiser has been pushed back a week to Friday, January 27th. The schedule of sledding will remain as planned. We'll just be a week later with hopefully a little more snow. There is now one more week to get more pledges! We look forward to a terrific event.

Four Winds Mission Statement

Four Winds Waldorf School is committed to awakening the intellect, imagination and determination of every child, leading to a life-long love of learning. Within a protective and nurturing environment, teachers and parents work together to build a community where each student's confidence, sense of responsibility and self-reliance unfolds.



From the Desk of Marianne Fieber

Snow! We finally had snow! How exciting for everyone—we can now get the hill in shape for our Sled-A-Thon. The date has been pushed back a week in the hopes that it will snow a bit more and also give folks a bit more time to get pledges. Coupled with the Sled-A-Thon we are going to host a Gold Party. Please see the additional information regarding that but the basic idea is: Bring in your gold, get paid 100% for its value and 15% of the total take will be given to Four Winds for hosting the event. We'll get \$100 for every 10 sellers. We could all dress up like pirates – that could be fun. It will be an overall exciting weekend since we will also have the Town Hall meeting Saturday followed by a Community Conversation hosted by the Finance Committee. Four Winds Waldorf School continues to strengthen its financial position and as we begin to imagine the 2012-13 school year we hope to gather some input on prioritizing new budgetary line items. Next week there will be an overview of the items that we've been working with along with a request for some creative input and suggestions.

I want to publicly thank the Board of Trustees for supporting my professional development through a leadership program offered by Training Plus and Professional Development Services in partnership with the Western DuPage Chamber of Commerce. It is a monthly course which began on January 11th and will complete June 13th. The title of the series is Building Strong Leadership Skills for Continuous Improvement. Some of the first session was a review but even so it offered some very useful tips that I intend to build into the work I do in service to the students, faculty and parents.

On a completely different note, I happened to read through the RSF Quarterly* Winter '12 issue and came upon a lovely guest essay entitled Morality in the Sphere of Education submitted by Joan Calderera a Waldorf HS humanities teacher in San Francisco. It is a wonderful article which explores the challenge of our times regarding our increasing individuality in relationship to a community or society in general. She goes on to speak about how Waldorf education, with its basis in values such as reverence, love and freedom supports children (and adults) in fostering social forces within them to counteract the ever increasing anti-social forces. I hope you take a few moments to read this essay (scroll to pages 4-5 and 10) or the whole issue and recognize the gift you are giving to the world through your children. Thank you.

*RSF Quarterly is a publication of RSF Social Finance. A Guarantor Community of past and current parents and faculty are investing with RSF Social Finance in support of the loan which made our purchase of our current home possible.



This Week's Calendar

January 18, 2012 (Wednesday)

8:45AM School Tour
1:30–3PM Leadership Council
3–4PM Executive Steering Committee

January 19, 2012 (Thursday)

SCRIP Orders Due / Pick-up
8:00AM Groman Cafe
10:30–11:30AM Social Inclusion Coordinating Group (SICG)
1:30PM Website Committee
3:15–5:30PM Faculty Meeting
6:30PM Board Meeting

January 20, 2012 (Friday)

Newsletter Submission Deadline
8–9:30AM Finance Committee

January 23, 2012 (Monday)

10:30AM Professional Development Committee
1:15AM Grades Faculty Meeting

January 24, 2012 (Tuesday)

3–4PM Student Service Committee Meeting

January 25, 2012 (Wednesday)

1:30–3PM Leadership Council
3–4PM Executive Steering Committee





Classified & Newsletter Submissions

Please submit classifieds and newsletter content by Friday afternoon before school ends to be published the following Wednesday.

Classifieds should to be submitted to the front office. Ads cost \$5 for a 50 word ad that will run for two weeks. All classifieds are subject to editing.

Newsletter content can be emailed to Kassia Shaw at kassia.shaw@me.com.

Pictures This Week

Thank you to the following for your beautiful pictures this week:

Jody Bilstrom
Carlene Mogavero

Please send your pictures to Kassia Shaw (kassia.shaw@me.com) by Friday, for a Wednesday publication date. Thank you!!!

Annual Fund 2011

As of Monday we have reached \$29,230 with 74% among the Faculty, 100% among the Board of Trustees and 62% among the parent body.

Contributions made since January 1, 2012 will be available as a tax deduction on your 2012 taxes.

Please check to see if your company has a gift matching program to give your donation an extra boost. Supporting documentation as to our 501(c)3 status can be requested through Marianne Fieber. She will be happy to assist you.

You may also have supportive grandparents, aunts, uncles or siblings that are recognizing the benefit of a Waldorf education for your children. Please suggest they offer a tax deductible contribution.

Start the New Year Off Right!

Get money for your holiday bills and help Four Winds Waldorf School at the same time! Sonia Caldwell, alumni parent is part of Gold Rush Girls and they are hosting a gold party—you will be paid a nice tidy sum for your old, unwanted jewelry and the school will receive a percentage that the company kicks in. You will receive the full amount for your items and Gold Rush Girls pays better than Cash for Gold and other such storefronts because they have no overhead. This allows the company to gift Four Winds with 15% of the total amount bought. We are making this easy—just drop your gold off in the morning and we will have a check ready for you when you come to pick your children up! This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity—a fundraiser for the school that pays you!

— Sonia Caldwell

Calendar of the Soul

Each morning faculty members gather in Sunrise Garden to read from the *Calendar of the Soul*. This is a set of weekly verses from Rudolf Steiner tracking the journey of the human soul through the course of the year as it relates to the natural world. Following the *Calendar of the Soul* we speak together a second verse geared more to our practical activities of working in a school and the pedagogy offered at Waldorf Schools. It is a way of strengthening our circle of colleagues as we actively strive to deliver on the promise of a Waldorf education for our students. We have recently taken up the following verse which was given by Rudolf Steiner on December 16th 1921 as a foundation stone for the first additional building on the grounds of the first Waldorf School in Stuttgart, Germany. I thought it worth sharing as it is a beautiful picture of our intention every day.

May there reign here spirit-strength in love;
May there work here spirit-light in goodness;
Born from certainty of heart,
And from steadfastness of soul,
So that we may bring to young human beings
Bodily strength for work,
Inwardness of soul
Clarity of spirit.

May this place be consecrated to such a task;
 May young minds and hearts here find
 Servers of the light, endowed with strength,
 Who will guard and cherish them.
 Those who here lay the stone as a sign
 Will think in their hearts of the spirit
 That should reign in this place,
 So that the foundation may be firm
 Upon which there shall live and weave and work:
 Wisdom that bestows freedom,
 Strengthening spirit-power,
 All-revealing spirit-life.

—Marianne Fieber

Whole Childhood: The Prime Sustainability Issue of Our Time

Parents and community members may enjoy this article from a past issue of *Vision Magazine*. Even though it was written in 2008, it seems quite appropriate and worth a read.

[Vision Magazine Freedom of Choice Our Green Energy Alternatives](#)

Save the Date

Four Winds Parent Performance: *The Tin Fiddle Band*

Saturday, January 21st

Show starts at 9PM

The Lodge on the Fox, 35 North Water Street, Batavia

Come out and support Four Winds Waldorf School parent, Jeremy Sauer, and his band, *The Tin Fiddle Band*, at their upcoming show in Batavia. The band plays Country, Folk and Southern Rock music inspired by artists such as Merle Haggard and Willie Nelson.

Town Hall Meeting

Saturday, January 28th

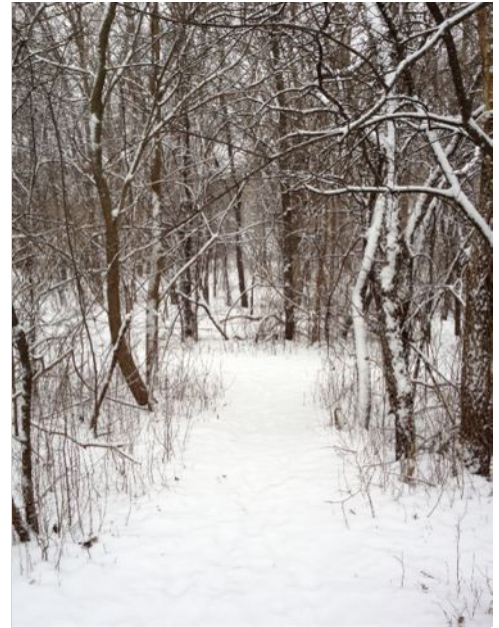
10:00AM–12PM Town Hall Meeting

12:00PM–1:15PM Potluck

1:30PM–3:00PM Community Conversation

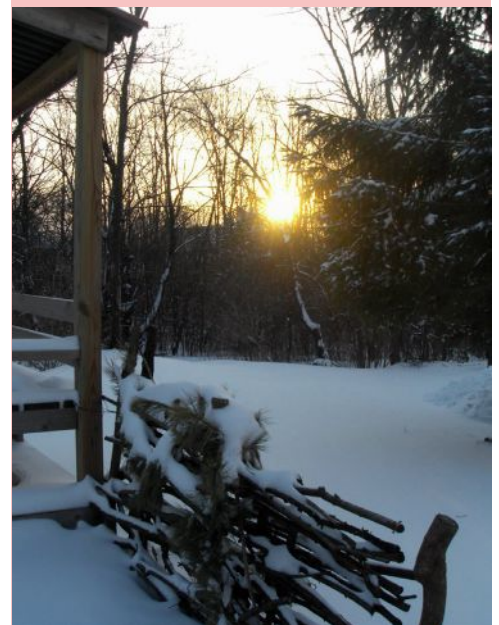
Come one, come all! Four Winds' Annual Town Hall meeting will be held Saturday, January 28th from 10AM–12PM. Childcare may be available—contact the office so that they can gauge interest. This is a wonderful opportunity to get our entire parent body together at the same time, and we would like to see every family represented this year.

Afterwards, Parent Council invites everyone to a community potluck and conversation at school. We look forward to seeing you there!



*Live in each season as it passes;
 breathe the air, drink the drink, taste
 the fruit, and resign yourself to the
 influences of each. Let them be your
 only diet drink and botanical medicines
 [...] Be blown on by all the winds. Open
 all your pores and bathe in all the
 tides of Nature, in all her streams and
 oceans, at all seasons.*

—Henry David Thoreau



Four Tellings



2012 SCRIP Challenge!

Who:

Everyone in our community

What:

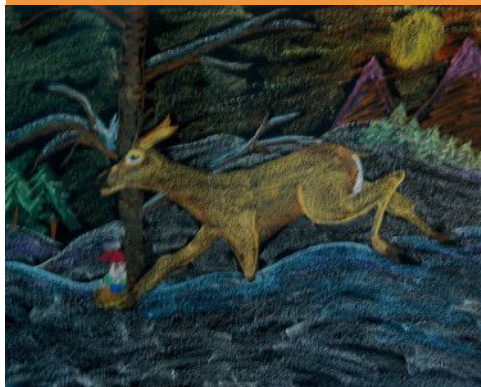
1. Register for PrestoPay this month by going through the shopwithscrip.com website.
2. Order at least 1 SCRIP card a month by going to shopwithscrip.com and enter the code: L99B27DD227L2. Pay with Presto Pay, OR bring your check to the office.

To What End:

Every SCRIP order equals money for our school—sometimes small, sometimes large percentages—that add up fast!

Fine Print:

* Orders are due by 8:30^{AM} every Thursday for the following Thursday pick-up (PrestoPay orders are due at 10^{AM}).



Valentine's Day Needle Felting Workshop

Saturday, February 11th

11:00^{AM}-1:00^{PM}

Cost: \$14/participant (\$10/participant if you bring your own mat and felting needles) due no later than 2/8.

After some interest from the Elves' Market, Kassia Shaw has volunteered to host a series of crafting workshops throughout the rest of the school year. The first in the series will be a needle felting workshop to create rosey wrist corsages for Valentine's Day. Please do not bring young children as the needles are very sharp. The workshop is open to parents and children, ages 7 and up (children must be accompanied by an adult). Bring your own lunch. Kassia needs a minimum of 5 participants to run the workshop. Payment is due in the front office no later than Wednesday, February 8th.

Remember SCRIP This Week!

We're excited to report that this year more families than ever have participated in Scrip, with 55 Four Winds families, faculty, or Friends of Four Winds having purchased one or more Scrip cards this year!!

Despite the record level of participation, the success of the program continues to be driven primarily by a very small core group of families who are integrating the Scrip program into their regular buying habits. Please consider increasing your commitment to this unique fundraising program that allows us all to contribute money to Four Winds at no cost to us. If there is something that is preventing you from participating more fully in the program, please contact Corrie Goldberg at corrie23@sbcglobal.net and she will work with you to problem solve around the roadblock.

As a reminder, orders for Scrip cards must be placed and paid for by cash or check in the office by 8:30^{AM} on Thursday to be included in the school order (orders paid with PrestoPay can be received as late as 10^{AM}). Unpaid orders remaining in the system will be cancelled after 2 weeks of nonpayment. If you are not already registered, go to shopwithscrip.com and enter enrollment code L99B27DD227L2 to place your order from over 600 vendors. Your cards will be available for pickup in the office the following Thursday. If you forget to place your order on time or an unforeseen need arises, a limited selection of cards is also available for purchase from the office at any time.

Scrip Tip of the Week: Creative problem solving is not just the work of our beautiful children. We too can come up with creative ways of maximizing our Scrip participation to solve the challenge of easy fundraising for our school. For instance, you don't need to gas up the car at a dedicated gas station, consider fueling up at a grocery store pump like Meijer or Jewel at a higher percent back to the school than many participating gas stations (4% vs. 1.5%-2.5% at many gas stations). Likewise, many grocery stores sell stamps as well as community garbage stickers at the register or customer service desk. Buying these items at places where you can use your Scrip cards adds up too. If you have any creative Scrip Tips to share or any questions about the Scrip program, please contact Corrie Goldberg.

—Corrie Goldberg