

### BUILDING COMMITTEE APPRECIATION

The Building Committee had one last gathering recently to celebrate the people who worked so hard on our beautiful new school building.

The question of the night came from Jack Silverio, who asked Gregg Haining of Vision Builders, "How did you do it!?" Indeed, how did they build a building so large and beautiful in such a short window of time? The answer lies with a committed group of people who lived and breathed the Ashwood school building project. A few individuals stand out:

Eric Beckstrom. As architect and designer of the building, Eric displayed an incredible level of commitment over the past year and a half. It is evident to all of us that this building lived in his thoughts 24 hours a day. His gift to our school community will benefit many children and families for years to come. Thank you, Eric.

Gregg Haining. Possibly the most organized and unflappable builder in New England, Gregg and his crew, led by David Miller, outmaneuvered an entire month of rain in the heart of their building schedule. Vision Builders worked seamlessly through challenges without a hint of excuses or apologies to deliver our building in time for the school year. Spectacular work. Thank you, Gregg.

Matthew and John Silverio. The blessing of having these two gentlemen in our school and greater community deserves acknowledgment. Their talent, experience, wisdom, and advice were vital to the work of the Building Committee and to the realization of our school building and beyond. Thank you, Matthew and John.

We would also like to thank Richard Ailes, the original co-chair of the Building Committee and president of our Board of Trustees, for his great enthusiasm and commitment to Ashwood.

Thank you Steve Frampton, Jacob Eichenlaub, Donna Wenckus, David Lyman, Lisa Morgan, Chris Osgood, Mark Ferrero, John McBride, Brooks Crane, Michele Beckstrom, and to all those who participated on the Building Committee.

With gratitude,

*Doug Mott, Building Committee Chair & Jody Spanglet, School Director*



### FROM THE DIRECTOR

Have you noticed that the campus seems awfully quiet this week, and that the average student height has suddenly dropped precipitously? That's because our entire middle school, grades six through eight, are off on the annual Middle School Trip. This year the middle school is attending a five-day residential program at Kieve-Wavus in Nobleboro, Maine.

**Kieve** (kee-ave') is a Celtic verb which means *to strive in emulation of* – to work hard to acquire skills, knowledge, and attitudes from others so as to improve yourself. **Wavus** (wah-vus) was a revered legendary chief, who with his people, inhabited the point long ago.

According to their literature,

"Kieve-Wavus educates and empowers young people and adults to contribute positively to society. We foster spiritual, intellectual, social, and physical growth in order to increase self-confidence, raise personal aspirations, and generate enthusiasm for life-long learning. Working at our spectacular camps on Damariscotta Lake, in the wilderness, in schools, and in communities, we promote the values of teamwork, kindness, respect, and environmental stewardship...The Leadership School at Kieve combines rigorous and relevant group work,

individual reflection, and a host of fun, interactive and adventure-based initiatives to address many of the issues youth face daily, both in and out of the school setting.”

This year, Ashwood will be one of over 50 schools, with more than 7,000 students, participating in programs at Kieve this fall. The residential program focuses on building relationship skills. The goal of the program is to empower students by encouraging and teaching responsible decision-making, focusing on how to build and maintain healthy relationships, broadening and raising student aspirations, and improving social competencies.

Ashwood students will be broken into several different multi-age groups for different activities and for their sleeping cabins. Our teachers will maintain consistent support to our students but it will be the Kieve-Wavus staff who lead the activities. On Wednesday night, parents are invited to visit their middle schoolers and attend a workshop just for parents.

The middle school students boarded the buses on Monday to depart for this fun and exciting adventure and learning opportunity. They will return to campus for an early dismissal on Friday afternoon. The campus is already eerily quiet without them and I look forward to hearing their voices and seeing their bright smiles at the end of the week.

—Jody Spanglet, School Director



### **CALL FOR SINGERS FOR CHRISTMAS-BY-THE-SEA**

As you may have read in the past two newsletters, Ashwood is participating in the Christmas by the Sea celebration at the Camden Library on December 5<sup>th</sup> from 11–11:30 a.m. We will be singing carols and Christmas songs. The first rehearsal was Wednesday, Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>, and we only had five children, mostly from the early grades and Early Childhood.

I would like you to encourage your child to participate in this event. The ideal is to have the whole school singing, so as to show Ashwood as the vibrant school that it is. The administration and I don't think we should be there with less than 10 children and if that should happen our participation will be cancelled. Parents are encouraged to participate, especially with the little ones, but participation is not required.

The next rehearsals, all in the Buttercup Room, are on Friday, Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> from 3:30–4:15; Wednesdays, Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> and Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> from 3:30–4:15 p.m.; and Saturday, Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> from 9:45–10:30 a.m. before we go to the event starting at 11 a.m.

Third grade parent Elisa Olds has offered to help with carpooling for children that wish to join but whose parents can't come.

Please encourage your child to participate in the chorus, if possible. Thank you!

—Luigi Irlandini, Music Teacher

### **PERSPECTIVE DRAWING**

In the Seventh Grade we spent two weeks in a perspective drawing block. We got a T-square and a triangle so we could be more precise. We did five drawings, each of a different scene. The first was of telephone poles slowly vanishing into the distance. Then we did a railing going farther and farther away. The third drawing was a tile floor pattern that was fun to draw. Then we constructed two-point perspective boxes. Two-point perspective is when you see the top or bottom and two sides of an object. The last drawing we did was a cityscape. It was the hardest because we had to make all the buildings different heights and they were viewed at different angles.

—Jeremiah K., Seventh Grader

### **FOOD DRIVE**

Ashwood will again be collecting food for the Area Interfaith Outreach (AIO) Food Pantry. Starting Monday, November 16<sup>th</sup> boxes will be available in each classroom to collect non-perishable food. Please consider sending your child to school with a donation to ensure that local families in need are fed this winter. For more information, please contact Enrollment & Marketing Director Maria Northcott at 236-8021 or by e-mail at [enrollment@ashwoodwaldorf.org](mailto:enrollment@ashwoodwaldorf.org).

### **NEXT NEWSLETTER**

Due to the Thanksgiving vacation, there will be no newsletter on Wednesday, Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>. The next *Ashwood Leaflet* will be published on Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>. The deadline for submissions is Monday, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m.

## CLOTHING HANGERS NEEDED

Do you have extra hangers hanging around? Bring them to Ashwood! We are looking for wood or plastic hangers (no wires ones, please) to finish organizing our costume collection. Hangers may be dropped off in the office. Please contact Lauren, 236-8021, with any questions.

## ALL HALLOWS' RECOGNITION

An event like All Hallows' Eve can only happen with the enthusiasm, dedication, and plain old hard work of many people.

The Community Life Committee would like to thank the following people:

- The kind folks at Merryspring Nature Center: Meg Barclay, Rachel Potter, and Gail Sutton, for once again allowing Ashwood to take over the Center.
- The entire Ashwood Faculty who gave up another Saturday to captivate and delight their students and the community.
- The PCC, and especially Tina Mott, for providing delicious cookies and cider to our visitors.
- All of the students in the seventh grade and volunteer students from the sixth and eighth grades who donned costumes to create a magical woodland walk.
- Jay, Harper, Fiona, Devin, and Tessa from Watershed School, who volunteered to be characters...and what wonderful characters they were!
- Becky Farley, Kathryn Oliver, and Jan Gorton, who also volunteered to be delightful characters along the trail.
- Susan Silverio and Gordon Darling, two wonderful storytellers who kept the visitors entertained.
- Richard Ailes and Hugo Heriz-Smith for seamlessly tucking 500 cars into parking spots.
- Kim Sampson and her brother, Tree Sampson, for the beguiling tree faces.
- Marcia Kimpton, Mary Riley, and Maggie Churchill for tending the trail and keeping the event running on time.
- Sue Conover, who helped staff the Ashwood outreach table.

And all of you for coming to the event. We hope you enjoyed the walk!

–Community Life Committee



## WINTERFEST 2010

Have you ever carved an ice sculpture? Do you want to? Now is your chance! Ashwood is looking for one or more adults who would be willing to help lead the Ashwood Ice Carving Team at Winterfest 2010. We have many middle school students who are interested in being on the team and they just need a responsible adult to lead them.

Your responsibilities would include:

- Meeting with the team now to decide on the design of sculpture
- Soliciting one or two (depending on number of students participating) other adults to help at the event
- Attending a two hour ice-carving demo one week before event
- Attending Winterfest 2010 on Saturday, January 30<sup>th</sup> from 12-4 p.m. to help with carving and monitor safety (rain date is Sun., Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>)

If you are interested, please contact me right away. An application for a block of ice needs to be submitted as soon as possible. Thanks!

–Maria Northcott, Enrollment & Marketing Director

## NUTS FOR SALE

The Seventh Grade is selling nuts to raise money for our class field trips. We are selling 1 lb. bags of:

- Natural Mammoth Pecan Halves
- Natural Almonds
- Whole Giant Cashews Roasted/Salted
- Mammoth Pecan Halves Roasted/Salted
- Pistachios in the Shell Roasted/Salted
- Deluxe Mixed Nuts Roasted/Salted (no peanuts)

Each bag costs \$10. Just ask a seventh grader or me if you would like to purchase a bag or two. Look for us at dismissal time next week to buy or pick up orders. Thank you!

–Jeremy Clough, Seventh Grade Teacher

## HAPPY THANKSGIVING

On behalf of the entire Faculty, best wishes for a warm and restful Thanksgiving!

## NEWS FROM THE PARENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL (PCC)

### WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP

On Saturday, November 21<sup>st</sup>, the PCC will be offering a watercolor workshop with Margrethe Ulvik. Ms. Ulvik is an art therapist and Waldorf high school art teacher from Quebec who has worked with Waldorf schools in Canada and Norway. The workshop will focus on what Ms. Ulvik calls "the color circle without borders" to explore the essence of color in surprising and unique ways. No previous art experience is necessary. The workshop will be from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Ashwood. The cost is \$50 including materials. Spaces are limited so contact Sarah Smith with questions or to reserve your spot as soon as possible by calling 338-0730 or SarahWilliamsSmith@gmail.com.

### ALL HALLOWS' EVE

What a merry and magical evening! A big thanks to Mother Nature for cooperating and to all the parents who made delicious cookies and brought cider for the event. A special thank you to our volunteers, many of whom so enjoyed seeing the happy faces of the children as they exited the walk in the woods and received a cookie from them: Amy Carpenter, Emily Markowitz, Kristen Eckmann, Lisa Newcomb, and Sarah Baldwin. Thanks to Sarah Smith for the unloading and loading of the goodies. And finally, thanks to Sue Conover and Pauline Wilder for helping with the cider table!

### LECTURE SERIES TO BEGIN AT NEXT PCC MEETING

Ashwood's PCC and Faculty have made arrangements to offer short lectures by various faculty members at the beginning of every PCC meeting. Everyone is invited to attend these lectures and to stay for the remainder of the meetings if they so choose. Our first lecture will be given by Eighth Grade teacher Jacob Eichenlaub on November 18<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. in the Buttercup Room of the Rosewood Early Childhood Center. Mr. Eichenlaub will look at the themes of history and stories taught at each grade level and how they relate to stages in child development.



### CLASSIFIEDS

**Full-size violin for sale.** Excellent quality and condition. Has served an Ashwood alumni well and she is now ready to upgrade. \$1,500 or best offer. Call 354-8551 and ask for Ashwood parents Kit or Brian.

**Found:** Cell phone charger hanging in the big pine tree by the Green Building. Contact the office, 236-8021, to claim it.

**Holistic and affordable wellness:** Susan Morrison, former AWS faculty, has a new homeopathic practice in the Wellness Center at 71 Elm Street in Camden. Like Waldorf education, homeopathy looks at the whole person. It has been proven effective for everything from first aid to behavioral disorders. For more information visit [www.susanmorrison.wordpress.com](http://www.susanmorrison.wordpress.com) or to schedule an appointment call 207-236-3226.

**For sale:** Child's wooden easel with a chalkboard on one side and a white board on the other. It is in a child-used condition. \$20. If interested, call Ashwood parent Lisbeth Whitney at 273-3364 or e-mail [lisbethwhitney@tds.net](mailto:lisbethwhitney@tds.net).

#### Administrative Staff

**Jody Spanglet** – Director – ext. 103

**Mark Ferrero** – Facilities Manager – ext. 102

**Jana Herbener** – Business Office Manager – ext. 109

**Lauren Lynch** – Administrative Assistant – ext. 101

**Maria Northcott** – Enrollment & Marketing Director – ext. 105

#### E-mail Contacts

**Board of Trustees:** [boardoftrustees@ashwoodwaldorf.org](mailto:boardoftrustees@ashwoodwaldorf.org)

**Alumni Committee:** [alumni@ashwoodwaldorf.org](mailto:alumni@ashwoodwaldorf.org)

**Parent Community Council:** [pcc@ashwoodwaldorf.org](mailto:pcc@ashwoodwaldorf.org)

**Newsletter:** [newsletter@ashwoodwaldorf.org](mailto:newsletter@ashwoodwaldorf.org)

School Office hours are 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. (8 a.m. – 1:15 p.m. on Thursdays)

Thank you to Toki Oshima for artwork used in *The Ashwood Leaflet* and Parent Handbooks.

We encourage your contributions to this school newsletter. Please give submissions, paper or e-mail, to the Administrative Asst. in the office or e-mail [newsletter@ashwoodwaldorf.org](mailto:newsletter@ashwoodwaldorf.org). Deadline for submissions to *The Ashwood Leaflet* is **Monday** at 9 a.m. the week of publication.



October 2009

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A Newsletter for Waldorf School Communities  
from the Association of Waldorf Schools of North America

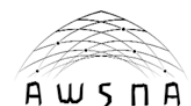
**Creative solutions to challenging times...** Although some of our independent Waldorf schools opened with a 7% to 13% dip in enrollment, they continue to creatively cope with the situation. Some schools are taking up the “accessible to all” model of tuition; some schools have allowed families to keep their children in their school taking the unpaid tuition as a loan from the school to be paid later; some schools have found individual child sponsors to carry the tuition costs of a child not their own; some faculties and staffs have drawn together taking an across the board salary cut to make lower tuition or no increase in tuition possible; some have suspended programs for one year to examine strengths and weaknesses in their school for future action. All of these actions, all in order to protect the education and the children, demonstrate the strength of our schools that comes from working together in a community and sharing in the solutions to challenges we face – this is our Strength through Collaboration!

**Striving for peace...** As U.S. President Obama is recognized with the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to strive towards peace in the world, let us hope that our Waldorf communities celebrate this recognition as we continue to celebrate our own schools for the positive work we do to bring real possibility of peace in to the world. The U.S. president knows personally the value of an independent education, as he himself attended and his children attend independent schools. And it is our hope that his peace efforts extend to education and provide leadership to the world for increased opportunity for educational choice here in America and everywhere


**AWSNA regional meetings and conferences...** There were several successful regional meetings and conferences this fall around the continent: An Early Childhood Conference in Viroqua, WI discussed the topic of “The Child in the Care of the Authentic Adult.” The topic of “Adolescence for High School & Upper Grades Teachers: The Awakening Self: Sleeping and Breathing in Adolescence” took place at the Great Barrington Rudolf Steiner School, Great Barrington, MA. The Ashwood Waldorf School in Rockport, ME, celebrated the Grand Opening Ceremony for its new grade school. The Northwest Regional Conference was on "Accountability and Freedom - Navigating Change in Waldorf Governance." After this conference, the Puget Sound Collaborative Group invited all participants to celebrate 90 Years of Waldorf Education at a festive gala dinner. This wonderful celebration was hosted by the Bright Water School, Seattle, WA.

**AWSNA's budget restructuring...** is in keeping with the mirror situation in our schools and features the dedicated work of AWSNA's Board of Trustees and Executive Team. These core people recognized that budget management could be taken to new heights this year and have worked to balance the budget and to begin a stability fund for future bearing self-sufficiency. After months of work in the administrative office, a newly-styled budget was approved and stands to support AWSNA in these more contracted fiscal times.

**“Reclaiming the Link Between Independence and the Essence of American Education,”**... an article by Patrice Maynard, has just been published in *Independent Schools Magazine*. In it she writes: “If we can identify for our culture the unique opportunity available in America, a national treasure of freedom in education, with rigorous debate between independent schools and government-provided schools, we can protect the variegated landscape of ideas and methods available to us into the future. If we can build a platform for discussion about education that transcends special interests (industries, unions, politics, ideologies) and squarely debates the needs of our nation’s youth, we can lead the world in forging true excellence in education.” Read the complete article on [www.waldorfworks.org](http://www.waldorfworks.org).



# NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				12	13 8:45 a.m. Friday Assembly- Second Grade  1:30 p.m. Middle School Returns	14
15	16	17 8:30-9:30 a.m. MASG Study Group	18 8:30-10:30 a.m. PCC Meeting  7-8:30 p.m. MASG Study Group	19 5:30-7 p.m. Fifth Grade Parent Evening	20 8:45 a.m. Friday Assembly- Fourth Grade	21 10 a.m.-4 p.m. PCC Painting Workshop
22 1-3:30 p.m. Winter Parent/ Child Parent Tea	23	24 8:30-9:30 a.m. MASG Study Group	25 Thanksgiving Vacation NO SCHOOL	26 Thanksgiving Vacation NO SCHOOL	27 Thanksgiving Vacation NO SCHOOL	28
29	30	December 1 8:30-9:30 a.m. MASG Study Group	2 6:30-8:30 p.m. Seventh Grade Parent Evening  7-8:30 p.m. MASG Study Group	3 9-11:30 a.m. Winter Parent/ Child Begins (Thursday Class)	4 8:45 a.m. Friday Assembly- Fifth Grade  9-11:30 a.m. Winter Parent/ Child Begins (Friday Class)	5 11-11:30 a.m. Christmas by the Sea Music Performance

We encourage you to post this calendar in a visible place in your home. Thank you!