

# Damascus Christian School

## ChalkMarks

Volume 12, Issue 12

Dec. 3-9, 2008

Home of the Eagles



CARPE AETERNITAS ~ Seize Eternity

### *I voted for McCain – a commentary from a DCS grad*

**Erin Huggins**, daughter of **Steve** and **Terri Huggins**, 2006 DCHS grad, and currently news editor for the *Western Oregon University Journal*, wrote the following for the November 12<sup>th</sup> *Journal* edition:

"It's a quarter to ten on Tuesday, November 4, 2008, and I'm sitting in the library, trying to process the enormous change our country just underwent with the election of 47-year old Barak Obama as the 44<sup>th</sup> President of the United States. Most of my friends from the conservative Republican side of the political fence are freaking out right now – telling me that America is doomed, or that only God can save us now.

I'm not quite that cynical, but I'll admit I have my doubts. With right-wing views on everything from Iraq to abortion to socialized health care, I have a somewhat bleak picture of the next four years.

Will I be praying for the country in light of the election results? Absolutely. But I would have done the same even if McCain had won. Because even though I'm not excited Obama won the election, I'm not surprised by his victory. It wasn't hard to see it coming; in fact, the change in the nation's political drift proved pretty obvious.

Just because I don't agree with where the current is heading, though, does not mean I should jump off the ship. Despite the economic difficulties, despite the rifts in social and moral ideals, despite

my political party's loss, I am still proud to be an American. And as an American, I'm committed to helping make my country a better place to work, to live, and to support – in the good times and the bad.

So where do we go from here, as a campus and a country? I would suggest we move forward – learn from the past and try to apply the wisdom we gained to our future. If Senator (and future President) Obama were sitting next to me in Hamersly right now, I would shake his hand, smile and congratulate him for winning the trust of the American people. Because that's the gracious response he deserves.

On the other hand, President Bush also deserves the same respect for the eight years he has spent serving our country in office. I am so thankful for his wisdom in guiding our country during the aftermath of 9/11 and for his continued dedication to winning the War on Terror. The lives lost in this war are precious and deeply

mourned, but I am sincerely grateful for their sacrifice. Because of our troops' willingness to serve, democracy has had the opportunity to shed light in a dark and oppressed regime, and American soil has been protected from terrorist attacks.

Even though he did not receive my vote, Senator Obama has earned my cautious respect. Most likely, over the next four years he will make changes with which I will strongly disagree, but I am hoping that he will choose to continue to develop the legacy of the land of the free and fight for the American people. I am hoping he will fulfill his promise to listen to my voice, in addition to those of his supporters.

In facing this season of change, I'm choosing to look beyond the red and blue lines coloring the national map; instead, I'm trusting in the God upon Whom our nation was founded, and I'm focusing on the nation's name: the United States of America."

Not only well written, but also well reasoned. Good job, Erin.

### *ChalkMarks moving exclusively to DCS website*

As a cost and time-cutting measure, we are seriously considering, effective January 7, 2009, sending out *Chalkmarks* to our website only ([www.damascuschristianschool.org](http://www.damascuschristianschool.org)). The paper on which we run the newsletter is very expensive. It is time-consuming to print



them out each week, creates a lot of wear and tear on our copier, and we are never sure how many actually reach home. By sending it via our website, we save the expense of the paper and printing

and we know it will get to each school family. By placing *Chalkmarks* on our website, you will be sure to receive it each week, even if you change your email address (be sure to notify Pam at the school office (503) 658-4100 and give her that information). Just think - you won't have to nag your kids about where your copy of *ChalkMarks* is or try to uncrumple it from the bottom of their backpack! Simply check out our website. We think you will like this change.



#### Inside this issue:

Holiday open house	2
Manners still matter at DCS	2
Bookfair & Spring dessert	2
Great entertainment	2



## Holiday open house

Looking for unique, handmade Christmas gifts for those special people on your list created by some DCS folks? What about jewelry and paper crafts by **Lori Jackson**? Jewelry by **Lori Schneider**? Handbags, totes, and accessories by **Michelle Lohr**? These gals are having a Holiday Open House this Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, from 10 AM until 4 PM. Great variety. Affordable prices. And you don't have to go to the mall! Check the directory for Michelle Lohr address just east of Alice's Market off Hwy 224.

## Manners still matter at DCS

The following first through sixth graders received the *Manners Matter* Award for demonstrating good manners and civility in November: **1<sup>st</sup> Grade – Aisha H. & Megan R.**; **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade – Jason B. & Shane A.**; **3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – Courtney C. & Micah G.**; **4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Michael J. & Beau M.**; **5<sup>th</sup> Grade – Grace M. & Monty P.**, & **6<sup>th</sup> Grade – Nathan S.**  
**Congratulations!**



## Barnes & Noble Bookfair



Thanks for your diligence and support in creating such a fun Bookfair at Barnes & Noble, Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>. In answering many prayers, God granted us even more than we asked for. The initial estimate shows us earning over \$550 for the day! But the money earned feels like a footnote to the day's events. The true worth of the day was the opportunity we had to showcase the talents of our students and to show Christian love to the public. Page Jordan, the Community Relations Manager at Barnes & Noble, had this to say, "Your school's students, educators, principal, parents and other supporters are awesome! It was a delight to work with you and everyone at your school." What a thrill for DCS to have that privilege!

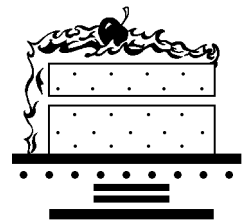
Early spring is a great time to be chirped up. The weather is starting to turn warmish.

Flowers are cautiously poking their heads above ground. Seed catalogs have been carefully gone over and seeds ordered. The days are thinking of extending their time. Wives begin to think about spring cleaning. Dads start frequenting the driving range to get tuned up for the summer golf season. And everyone's thoughts turn to humor! If not, they should be. And we have a perfect fix for those

long, humorless winter days! Our spring dessert!

Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, we will be hosting our dessert (no official title yet) in the gym. This is the scaled-down version of our auction replacement dinner at Per-simmon. As a cost-cutting measure, we have moved it to our gym (a nice homey atmosphere...), have gone from a prepared full-course dinner to a delightful dessert with decorate-your-own-table fun. But ait, that's not all! We are combining this dessert with local talent (our students ☺) and national talent, Christian

comedian Tim Hawkins (get a sneak preview of his stuff at [www.timhawkins.net](http://www.timhawkins.net)). We will be combining our annual Fine Arts Fair featuring our students (drawings, paintings, drama vignettes, band and choir). The evening will conclude with Tim and his side-splitting comedy. More information later, but be sure to reserve the date – Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 7 PM.



**Remember  
the Spring  
dessert!**

## "Fools" great entertainment

This year's fall DCS drama presentation *Fools*, was a romantic comedy about a Ukrainian village cursed with stupidity. A young, idealistic, enthusiastic teacher (**Luke D.**) arrives at the village, ready to impart his knowledge, unaware of the curse. As he begins to meet the various village people (**Michelle D., Emily E., Brittany**



**H., Madeline R., and James and Kayleigh W.**), he senses something is terribly amiss. But alas, he is smitten by the village "doctor's" daughter (**Emily S.**) and vows to somehow defeat the cursed curse. Rounding out the cast were Dr. Zubritsky and his wife (**Michael D. and Jessica R.**), the village "intelligentsia".

The three-night run was absolutely

delightful. Each character played their parts well; expressions and timing were right on the mark. The dialogue was hilarious and moved along in an engaging manner. Intern director **Krista Weirson** did a brilliant job on her debut. To cast, crew, and director, our hats are on to you (*Fools*-type humor...).