



The Courier

The Geneva
School
newsletter
MARCH 2005

Rich in Resources

by Headmaster Robert Ingram

Geneva is becoming a resource-rich institution, and those resources are being converted into a more substantial education for our children.

Perhaps the first definition of resources that comes to mind involves finances, and certainly in the last two months alone an unprecedented pattern of giving has been established. The December year-end Challenge Match was achieved, resulting in \$750,000 being gifted to the school. Just two weeks ago the Spring Auction was a resounding success, raising over \$450,000 in one grand evening. As recently as two years ago the idea that such resources would be gifted to Geneva was a completely foreign thought.

As phenomenal as those financial resources are, people are rich resources, too. An exciting aspect of leading Geneva is seeing the difference that people make on a day-to-day basis. A growing number of people find ways to assist the school through their talents, time, and energy. In each instance, our students reap the benefits.

One of the newest resources Geneva has enjoyed this past year is the friendship of Andrew Kern and his CiRCE Institute. Andrew is one of a handful of leaders in the Christian Classical movement who has the unique capability of theoretical thought and practical implementation. We have come to trust Andrew's understanding of classicism. Through him we have been introduced to new ideas, books, speakers and teaching resources. Through his institute (www.circeinstitute.org) Andrew is committed to cultivating wisdom and virtue in the lives of students, and to that end travels across the country hosting conferences, seminars, teacher-training, and on-site consultation.

Because resources can so enhance the education of our children I am committed to bringing as many as possible into The Geneva School community. This summer Geneva will be hosting the national CiRCE Conference (July 28-30 at Stetson University) in order that each one of our faculty

and staff members has the opportunity to fully engage the three days of presentations. Because there is no possibility of our entire staff (70+) ever attending a national conference somewhere else in the country, we decided to host the conference in Orlando. Nine leading educators and speakers, in addition to Andrew Kern, will be featured throughout the three day conference.

Now, not only will our entire staff be able to attend, but the six other Christian Classical schools in central Florida will also have an unprecedented opportunity to use the resources of Andrew Kern and CiRCE. Beyond central Florida we will also have the chance to meet board members, administrators and faculty from other Christian Classical schools who will come to the conference from around the country. Each attendee becomes yet another friend/resource that could help make a difference at The Geneva School.

While you are invited to this summer's conference, it is more likely that you might choose to attend the CiRCE mini-conference

that is being held on Saturday, April 2, at Geneva. Andrew Kern is going to be teaming up with Michael Eatmon to present three messages and a Q&A session. Again, the six other Christian Classical schools from central Florida will be invited to experience a resource that otherwise would be unavailable to them. This particular Saturday conference is going to be well-suited for current and prospective parents who seek to understand the distinctiveness of the education their children receive at Geneva.

While resources are currently making a world of difference at Geneva, not all resources are always accessible. I cannot overstate how important it is that you attempt to attend one or both of these conferences with Andrew Kern and other prominent national leaders of the movement. You are investing considerable resources of your own into your children's education, and I trust you want to be as educated and intelligent as you might become regarding their cultivation of wisdom and virtue.

Uniform Announcement

For many years the administration has been trying to address concerns about the purchasing of uniforms in an effort to make it easier for parents to purchase them and determine the proper fit for their children. We are pleased to announce that we have discovered a new, local company who will be able to meet all of our uniform needs.

Educational Outfitters, a national uniform company, recently opened a local store on Colonial Drive near the Fashion Square Mall. The core belief at Educational Outfitters is to have a local owner in every store with a vested interest in satisfying every customer, along with the knowledge and backing of a national company supporting their every move. We are very hopeful that Larry James, the local owner, will bring a personal touch to purchasing uniforms and make the experience less stressful for everyone.

Our aim in changing suppliers was to keep the look of Geneva's uniform the same but to make the purchasing process easier for parents. Educational Outfitters will supply ALL the uniform needs for ALL of Geneva's students. There are a few very minor changes to the uniform requirements but nothing that will stop students from wearing their present uniforms next year, handing down uniforms to siblings and friends, or purchasing used uniforms from the School.

The new uniform requirements for next year will be available on the school web site shortly. Should you need to replace khaki shorts or pants now, Educational Outfitters has them in stock and you may begin to purchase them locally rather than place a mail order through Flynn & O'Hara. Educational Outfitter's address and phone number is on the Geneva web site.

Parent Survey

The staff, faculty and Board of The Geneva School are very desirous of having your input on how they might better serve you in the education of your children. Your survey will be completely confidential if you so choose. Please return your completed survey in a sealed envelope to the school office by Monday, March 14.

The purpose of this survey is to gain insight on your opinions of the direction and practices of the school. To the extent that some questions ask for feedback on specific individuals of the faculty and staff, we encourage you to make sure that your comments are constructive (Eph 4:29). This is not to say that we don't want to hear (and even need to hear) your criticisms. We only ask that your comments reflect the reality that we all fall short of God's standards and need the merciful and gracious guidance and encouragement of our brothers and sisters. Thank you for taking the time to offer your insights on how we can improve TGS and ultimately bring greater glory to our King

SIXTH ANNUAL MEN & WOMEN FACULTY vs. BOYS' & GIRLS' VARSITY BASKETBALL GAMES

FRIDAY, MARCH 4, 2005

5:00 p.m - Girls' Varsity vs. Women Faculty

6:00 p.m - Dinner

7:00 p.m - Boys' Varsity vs. Men Faculty

Game Admission: \$5/person or \$20/family
Dinner: Free

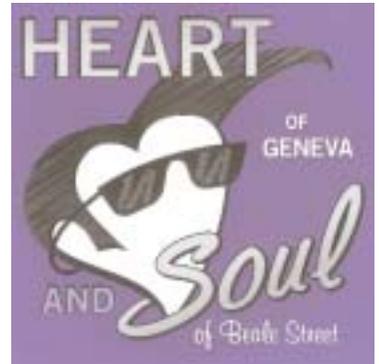
Raffle: \$1/ticket, two prizes will be awarded
- free Geneva athletic camp this summer

WITH GRATEFUL HEARTS AND SOULS

As we faced the daunting challenge of beginning our "Auction 2005" planning amidst hurricane season 2004, we prayed. We prayed that God would provide volunteers to plan, organize, and create a special event. We prayed for generous sponsors, donors, and bidders. We prayed for the venue, the theme, and even the table sales. We prayed God would bless The Geneva School, this event, and all those associated with them and that we would raise an amount everyone in our community would recognize was only because of God's grace and his blessing for the ministry and mission of our school!

Jehovah Jirah is indeed our provider. He provided the volunteers; He provided very generous sponsors and donors; after Church Street Station changed owners and was no longer a viable option as a venue, He provided a great

alternative - for free; He orchestrated the timing of the refurbishment of Eight Seconds just in time for the auction; and on that day He provided very generous bidders. Bidding on live auction and silent auction items raised \$220,000 and sponsorships more than doubled that amount. After expenses, the 2005 Geneva Auction netted \$450,000 to the school which will help fund scholarships for the 2004/05 school year.



The Geneva School is a special place. Our hearts are sincerely overwhelmed with gratitude for our Geneva families and friends. We thank all those who helped to make the auction a success; each of you made a difference! Most of all, we thank our Lord whom we love and serve with all of our hearts, our souls, our minds and our strength (Mark 12:30).



Leigh Kennedy and Lisa Schultz:
Co-chairs of the Auction Committee



March 2005

March 4: Student vs. Faculty Basketball Games
(see page 2)

March 10: Choral Concert - 7 PM at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church. (See the web site for more details)

March 15: Grammar School Science Fair

March 17: Orchestral Concert - 3:45 PM in the TGS Music Room. (See the web site for more details)

March 18: End of 3rd Marking Period

March 21 - 25: Spring Break

The Geneva Parents Association

Monday, April 11

7:00 - 8:30 PM

TGS Music Room

More Details in April's Courier

Moms in Touch

A group of dedicated moms meets every Tuesday at 8:15 AM for approximately one hour to pray for The Geneva School students, parents, teachers, staff and Board. Come as you are to the Grammar School library after you drop off your children.

Congratulations Mrs. Lewis!



The Board of Governors recently made the decision to promote Mrs. Michele Lewis to the position of full-time Grammar School Principal. Michele has been a teacher at Geneva for a number of years and has served us very capably this past year as Interim Grammar School Administrator. Because of the Board's confidence in Michele they have suspended the search for other candidates and she has accepted the position for next year.

The Geneva School

2025 State Road 436

Winter Park, FL 32792

www.genevaschool.org