



THE COURIER

THE GENEVA
SCHOOL
NEWSLETTER
MAY 18, 2007



The Geneva School Rhetoric Choir, together with The Orlando Deanery Choirs and orchestra, performing Antonio Vivaldi's choral masterpiece, *Gloria*.

We are the Music Makers

by Michael Miller

Mrs. Miller and I are completing our third year of teaching at The Geneva School. Slowly, we are beginning to understand what we are doing here. We teach children to sing and then let them sing. We teach children to play instruments and then let them play. This

may sound rather elementary, but I would submit to you that a school in which the majority of students are comfortable and adept at making music is radically counter-cultural.

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Watch your mail for the graduation issue of *The Courier*, which will highlight the Baccalaureate service and Commencement ceremony and will feature the college plans of our graduating students. This year our senior class has already been awarded over a million dollars of academic scholarships and grants, the largest amount in Geneva's history.

May/June/July/August

May 20: Baccalaureate service; 4pm; First United Methodist Church of Winter Park

May 24: Semester exams and early dismissal for D/R

May 25: Last day of school! Semester exams for D/R; early dismissal for all students.

Commencement ceremony; 2pm; First United Methodist Church of Winter Park

June 21: Ice Cream Social; 6:30 - 8:30pm at school

July 4: School office closed

August 8: Grammar School Parent Orientation; 7pm

August 9: Dialectic & Rhetoric Parent Orientation; 7pm

August 10: Meet the Teacher; 10am - 12pm; Picnic in the Park at Maitland Park; 11:30am - 1:30pm

August 12: Convocation Service; 4pm; Willow Creek Presbyterian Church, Winter Springs

August 13: First day of school

August 14 - 16: Rhetoric Retreat

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Somewhere along the way, music in our society became less about making music and more about consuming music. We hung our fiddles on the wall, picked up our iPods, stuck the ear buds in our ears, and felt that we had progressed. (I compressed several decades of history in that last sentence, but you get the idea.) As a society, we rarely make our own music any more. We buy it. We download it. We burn it. But we do not make it ourselves.

At The Geneva School, we believe that part of being human, part of being creatures made in the image of God, is being musical. We may not all be called to be soloists, but we can certainly all sing. We may not all be capable of playing concertos, but we can all be in the orchestra. Here are a few examples of how this belief has been manifested this spring.

Students in kindergarten, first, and second grade continue in their study of the violin. Many of these students also study privately and participate in our Consortium orchestras. The kindergarten students played at the Mother's Day Tea on May 10, and the first- and second-grade classes have enjoyed various class recitals.

The Grammar School Choirs in grades 3-6 receive weekly instruction in music theory and singing techniques. On May 1, we combined all 150 of the students at the spring concert and delighted in the sounds of their God-given voices.

The Consort Philharmonia Orchestra, though young in age, is becoming a fine young orchestra, capable of great expression. How pleasant it is to kick up a fiddle tune or wax melancholy on a phrase from an old English ballad, which we did at our May 1 concert. These students have also served us by playing in our weekly chapel services throughout the year.

The Rhetoric Choir, in just three short years, has become a mature ensemble known for expressive interpretation. On May 8, the choir participated in a performance of Antonio Vivaldi's *Gloria*, partnering with The Orlando Deanery Choirs and a professional orchestra. Bravo to them for their disciplined work in preparing this masterpiece of the choral repertory and delivering such a vibrant performance.

The Consort Repertory Orchestra will perform a concert for our student body on Friday, May 18. Student and faculty soloists will be featured as we bring to life works by Henry Purcell, George Frideric Handel, and George Philip Telemann.

The beauty of these musical achievements is not merely their artistic excellence, though that is impressive and appropriate to acknowledge. The greater beauty is that these students have learned to create this music themselves. They are exercising their God-given musical talents and rekindling an understanding of music as something to make and enjoy.

Thanks be to God!

Eighth-Grade Class "U-Knights" to Fight Cystic Fibrosis



The eighth-grade Life Management class thanks the Geneva community for their generous support in helping them raise funds to fight the battle against cystic fibrosis on behalf of their classmate, Alex Boyd. These students enjoyed taking "Great Strides" together at Sanford Riverwalk on April 28, and were proud to present over \$3,100 to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation!

THREE CHEERS FOR PARENT



VOLUNTEERS!

It's no secret that schools love to have parents and grandparents who volunteer! As you plan for the 2007-2008 year, we want you to know the benefits of getting involved and how to get started. If you've ever thought about volunteering, Maria Francis is here to help you translate that interest into reality. Her job is to make it both simple and enjoyable to volunteer at Geneva.

Maybe you're one of those parents who hasn't yet discovered the delights of lending a hand at Geneva. The benefits of volunteering are many:

Maximize your Investment: As a parent, you're making sacrifices to have your child at The Geneva School. Both you and your child will get more from your investment if you're involved.

Build Relationships: Volunteering is a great way to get to know other parents, faculty, and staff and to enjoy the benefits of them getting to know you!

Get a Backstage Pass: Experience first-hand what makes Geneva tick, whether in day-to-day operations or special events.

Have a Chance to Give Back to Geneva: Many of our families receive tuition assistance and are glad for a chance to do something for the school in return.

Make a Lasting Difference: By contributing your time and talents, you will help Geneva to realize its stated vision: "The Geneva School seeks to become an educational institution of scholastic and cultural gravitas, of extraordinary and exemplary virtuous scholars, a formidable force in the expansion and enrichment of Christ's Kingdom, in the life of both the individual and of the world."

What Needs to be Done?

At The Geneva School, there are one-time as well as ongoing opportunities to volunteer, such as faculty appreciation lunches, Sunshine Math, fundraisers, office work, helping with the annual spring auction, assisting in the science labs, coordinating special events, coaching athletic teams, and welcoming new families into the life of the school.

Sign Me Up!

There are four ways to express your interest in volunteering:

- o A form is included in this edition of *The Courier* for you to complete and return to school. This form is intended to facilitate volunteering for school-wide needs.
- o If you wish to assist in your child's classroom, you may contact the teacher directly or indicate your interest on the form and we will help you get connected.
- o You may also communicate with Maria by email (msfrancis@genevaschool.org).
- o We also plan to have a parent volunteer page on our website very soon.

Thank You!

Thank you, parents and grandparents, for all you do to make Geneva a great place for all of our students. Be encouraged that your service, whether seen or unseen, is an answer to prayer and part of God's provision for Geneva, for the advancement of His Kingdom, and for each one of our children.

Spring Season Round-Up

Softball: The youngest and least experienced varsity softball team in school history somehow managed to shock the world (or at least the district) this season! After two lack-luster regular season games against district rival Faith Christian, the Lady Knights were able to beat them in the tournament semi-finals with a trip to the championship game on the line. This amazing victory set

the stage for not one, but two firsts for the Lady Knights' fast-pitch team. They earned the right to play in the district championship and were one of only 32 teams in the state to receive an automatic bid to the state's regional quarterfinals. The team was thrilled to have the opportunity to extend their season. However, they were given the unenviable task of playing the state's top-ranked team in the district championship, as well as another top-ten team in the regionals. This was a tall order for any team, let alone such an inexperienced team (only 6 of 13 girls had ever played the game before this season). Needless to say, we were over-matched and beaten (11-1 and 10-0).

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Back Row: Coach MacKay, Abbie Beates, Anya Philips, Cayla Clinkscale, Hannah Marshall, Tiffany Santiago, Janzen Harding, Sarah Grogan, Sarah MacKay, Kristen Fronczek, Fran Cloke, Coach Harger
Front Row: Jen Scholz, Lily Cloke, Erin Schaefer

Disappointing losses, certainly, but very valuable games from an experience standpoint. With every girl returning next season, it's safe to say that we could be right there again in '08...and this time we will all have been there before.

Baseball: In October, an encouraging group of 23 students attended a tryout to determine if the time was right to introduce baseball to the line-up of varsity sports offered at Geneva. The decision to proceed was followed by scheduling games, renting a field, hiring a coach, and buying uniforms, balls, and equipment. Of the 23 to express interest, 13 made the team and completed Geneva's inaugural baseball campaign. Under a coach that believes wholeheartedly in focusing on the fundamentals of the game, the guys not only got better, but had success.

Most of the players had not played organized baseball since "T-ball," but the team finished the season with a commendable 5 wins - 6 losses record.

Team leaders were:
Batting Average: Chris Randazzo
RBI Leader: Damian Campbell
Runs Scored: Will Muether

Pitcher: Josh Turner
Defense: Ryan Delk
Versatility: Andrew Schaffer



Back Row: Coach Moreau, Coach Zimmerman, Coach Stivers
Middle Row: Chris Roberts, Ryan Delk, Will Muether, Chris Randazzo, Damian Campbell, Steve Candeto
Front Row: Josh Turner, Andrew Allen, Michael Dumas, Andrew Schaffer, Taylor Heinsch

Other squad members: Andrew Allen, Steve Candeto, Zion Dignon, Michael Dumas, Ben Elliott, Taylor Heinsch and Chris Roberts. Thanks to the right coach and a determined and dedicated team of 13, the baseball program at Geneva is off and running.

Girls' Tennis: The Lady Knights' varsity tennis team enjoyed a great season this year. They didn't win as many matches as we would

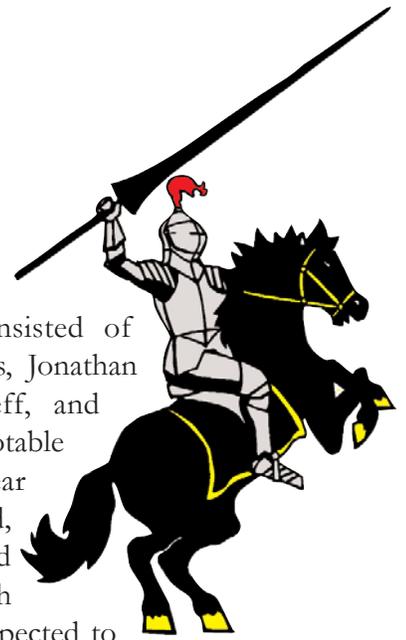


GIRLS' TENNIS TEAM

Back Row: Coach Storrs, Mandy Rowdon, Sophie Meyer, Hannah Scholz, Ashley Grogan, Veronika Nyberg, Julia Talley, Lexi Fulmer, Devon Fulmer
Front Row: Caylee Stallings, Rachel Lopdrup, Claire Morgan, Allison Okamoto, Claire McMullen, Rebecca Wise

have liked, ending up with a 4 - 11 overall record, but their season finale was very exciting, posting a convincing 5-2 victory over Windermere Prep. Graduating seniors Mandy Rowdon, Devon and Lexi Fulmer, and Ashley Grogan will be missed, but we discovered some new talent for next year, and several girls made distinct improvements in their game over the course of the season. If they continue to practice with discipline and focus over the summer, they could be playing on the varsity team next year.

Boys' Tennis: The boys' team started slowly, but by the second half of the season their results improved, and the team won the last four of six matches. The district competition was very tough this year, with no easy teams. Despite the stiff competition, the players displayed excellent attitudes and worked hard to improve.



The varsity team consisted of three returning starters, Jonathan Fronczek, Jono Seneff, and Zach Schutz, with notable support from first-year players Kyle Shepherd, Jonathan Spilman, and Adam Johnson. With most of the players expected to return for the 2008 season, our goal is to compile a winning record next year and make a dent in the District Tournament.



BOYS' TENNIS TEAM

Back Row: Zach Schutz, Jono Seneff, Jonathan Fronczek, Jonathan Spilman, Adam Johnson, Josiah Nethery, Coach Oswald
Front Row: Kyle Shepherd, John Youderian, Sean Stillson

Sports Banquet

Geneva's Middle School, Junior Varsity, and Varsity athletes were honored at the 2007 Sports Banquet on Thursday, May 3.

Special honor was given to four athletes who have displayed great sportsmanship and leadership.



**2007 Male and Female Excelsior Award:
Corban Clinkscale and Devon Fulmer**



**2007 Male and Female Athlete of the Year:
Jonathan Fronczek and Mandy Rowdon**





New Faculty and Staff for 2007-2008

Robbie Andreasen: Robbie earned a BS in Marine Science/Biology from the University of Miami and an MA in Christian Thought (specializing in Bioethics) from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. He comes to Geneva with ten years of teaching experience and a passion to show students their Creator through the study of His creation. Robbie will be teaching Earth Science, Biology, and Anatomy and Physiology. Robbie and his wife Janet have two children: three-year-old Zachary and two-year-old Sarah.



Jeremy Brown: Jeremy (husband of Spanish teacher Megan Brown) attended the University of Alabama, where he earned a BS in Physics and Mathematics (double major). He has an MA in Optics from the University of Central Florida and is completing his PhD in Optics this year. Jeremy will teach upper-level math.



Vicki Dooling: Vicki has a BS in Elementary Education from the University of Kansas and an MA in Teaching (specializing in reading) from Jacksonville University. Before the birth of her first child, Vicki taught third- and fourth-graders for five years. She will join the kindergarten team, working alongside the teachers as a teacher's aide. Vicki and her husband Randy have two children: Allison (rising third grade) and Caroline, who will begin in kindergarten next year.



Ellen Geer: Ellen earned a degree in Family and Child Development from Virginia Tech, and comes to Geneva with 13 years of experience teaching pre-K



students. With the decision to extend the day for our youngest students from three hours to five came the necessity to hire a second pre-K teacher. Ellen has two children: Tyler (19) and Jamie (16). Ellen has taught some of the children who are now at Geneva, and we welcome

her to our faculty.

Candy Houk: Candy began at Geneva at the end of March and trained with Sara Cain for two weeks before Sara's departure. She is working as our Admissions Coordinator and will work alongside Patti Rader in the admissions office. Candy attended the University of Central Florida, where she earned a BS in Business. Before the birth of her first child she worked for four years as an underwriter for an insurance company, and more recently has worked in administrative support for a financial company. Candy and her husband Colin have two children: Jason (rising fourth grade) and Amy (rising second grade).



Jill Kong: Prior to having her first child, Jill worked for 12 years in the car rental business in sales, marketing, and management. She recently earned an AA degree in General Studies from Seminole Community College and hopes to complete her

BA in the not-too-distant future. Jill will be working in the office as an assistant to the Dean of Students. Jill and her husband Dave have two children: Jordan, a rising senior, who was homeschooled through eighth grade before coming to TGS three years ago, and Jade, who has been homeschooled through fifth grade and will begin at TGS next year.

Richard Marsh: Richard earned his degree in Physics and Secondary Education (with a minor in Mathematics) from Wichita State University. He comes to Geneva with eight years of teaching experience, including three at a Classical Christian School in Cincinnati. He will join Ravi Jain and Christine Miller on the Math/Physics team. Richard and his wife Sara have three children: Rebekah (10), Rachel (8), and Jonathan (6), who will all attend Geneva next year.



Heather Shiflet: Heather attended Auburn University, where she earned a degree in Human Development and Family Studies. Heather and her husband Scot have been very supportive of Geneva over the years, and Heather has had many opportunities to volunteer her time in the pre-K and kindergarten classrooms. Their son Isaac is currently in Mrs. Heinsch's class. She is excited to have the chance to work alongside Ellen Geer in the second pre-K classroom as her teacher's aide.



Patti Rader: We welcomed Patti to our administrative team at the end of March when she became Geneva's Director of Admissions. She attended Auburn University, where she earned her degree in Communications (with a minor in Psychology). Prior to the birth of her children



she worked for four years managing two offices of a staffing company. For the past six years she has worked alongside Todd, her husband, as co-owner of an IT consulting firm. Patti and Todd have three children: Hannah (rising sixth grade), Austin (rising fifth grade), and Ben (rising third grade).



William "Bill" Wood: Bill comes to us with a wealth of educational experience, and we welcome him to our administrative team as Dean of Faculty. He earned a BS in Social Studies Education and an MA in Education/School Administration, both from Mississippi State University.

After working in Georgia public schools for 30 years (as a teacher and as a principal), he retired from education in 1995. His retirement only lasted for two years! For the past six years Bill has taught 7th - 12th grade students at a Classical Christian School on St. Simon's Island, Georgia. Bill and his wife Nancy have two grown boys.

National Honor Society

The purposes of the National Honor Society at The Geneva School are to create enthusiasm for scholarship, to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote worthy leadership, and to encourage the development of character in our students.



Each spring the National Honor Society inducts new members. These students must be members of the sophomore, junior, or senior class and have a cumulative, weighted grade point average of at least 3.5. A faculty council then determines whether the eligible students have demonstrated service, leadership, and character. The students who were chosen this year to be inducted into The National Honor Society were: Mary Claire Burguet, Ryan Delk, Adam Johnson, Jessica Johnson, Becky Lopdrup, Daniel Ludwig, Caroline Mitchell, Veronika Nyberg, Katie O'Driscoll, Zach Schutz, Lindsey Warner, Drew West, Nick Wise, and Angela White. We congratulate them on their accomplishments.

The Geneva School

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Winter Park, FL 32792

www.genevaschool.org

*Please join us for the
2007 Graduation Ceremonies*



Baccalaureate

Sunday, May 20

4:00 p.m.

Commencement

Friday, May 25

2:00 p.m.

at the First United Methodist Church of Winter Park

(located on the corner of Morse and Interlachen in Winter Park)

All are welcome to attend