

Xtra-curricular

NEWSLETTER OF THE SOUTH COUNTRY EDUCATION FOUNDATION



From the Helm



Once again, I am pleased to report on our activities over the last few months. They have been very busy months as we continue to seek to enrich the education of our children by supporting programs which we feel will enhance their learning experience.

Two initiatives with which we have been involved have been very successful. The 5th grade swim program at Frank P. Long School has been made a part of the Physical Education department at the school. We are very happy to see that happen. Two years ago, our board became interested in improving our scores on the state tests. We investigated an innovative mathematics program at Bay Shore Middle School and recommended it to the district. It was examined, adapted and adopted by the district and the 8th grade scores in Math showed significant improvements.

We again supported teachers and community organizations with educational grants, this year they were tied to mathematics instruction. We have been receiving good news from the grant recipients about their efforts.

The Clipper Classic is a highlight of the summer in our community. The race allows us to support graduating senior student athletes with scholarships.

With the Becker/Gambles Music Fund we are able to continue enriching the community with wonderful concerts as well as to use the proceeds to support and enrich our music program. Some of the proceeds pro-

vide scholarships for summer lessons and music camp tuition for our music students.

However, our major fund-raising effort has always been in our annual Cocktail Party/Auction—held in July of each year. This year's party was great. We had a record attendance and the most beautiful weather. Our thanks go to our hosts Phyllis and Edwin Masback, to the members of our hard-working committees, to those who provided wonderful items for the auction and to all the people who either attended or supported the event.

The above-mentioned efforts require a great deal of work by loyal, dedicated, volunteers and we rely on the generous giving of their time. Many community members have also supported us over the years and have thus enabled the foundation to be the success it is. We thank you all.

The education of our youth is one of the most important, yet difficult activities that a community must accomplish. The demands of today's world require that students know more and perform better than at any time in our history. The schools face financial challenges that make supporting programs that show promise very difficult. Truly, it takes all of us to educate our children, now more than ever.

Our focus continues to be on improving the educational opportunities for the students in the district by working with teachers and administrators, community organizations, community residents and by supporting efforts that are promising.

A donation form is on the back page of this newsletter. We now accept credit cards for your convenience. Please consider making a donation and/or volunteering to help out at one of our events.

Sixth Annual SCEF Cocktail Party and Auction

On July 10th, Phyllis and Edwin Masback kindly opened their home for the sixth annual South Country Educational Foundation Cocktail Party and Auction. With your support, we were able to raise over \$26,000 for the Foundation!

A cool summer breeze from The Great South Bay kept all cool as we enjoyed the fine *hors d'oeuvres* which were graciously donated by local restaurants, caterers, and our own chefs! Thanks to the Bellport High School Leadership Team for serving up the delicacies.

We also extend our deepest and heartfelt thanks to all who donated their time and talents for the live and silent auctions, as well as those who lent their muscle for the set up and break down. We sincerely thank you all. As this is our largest fundraising event, it is only a success because of your generosity.

Please take a look at our donor list to see all those who support us throughout the year.

Next year's auction is scheduled for Saturday July 9th at the home of Chantal and Richard Berman. If you have an item of interest, or can donate a service, craft, vacation spot or tickets, we are always grateful for donations! Thanks again for your continued support and a special thanks again to the Masbacks for hosting us.

—ELENA BRODIE-KUSA

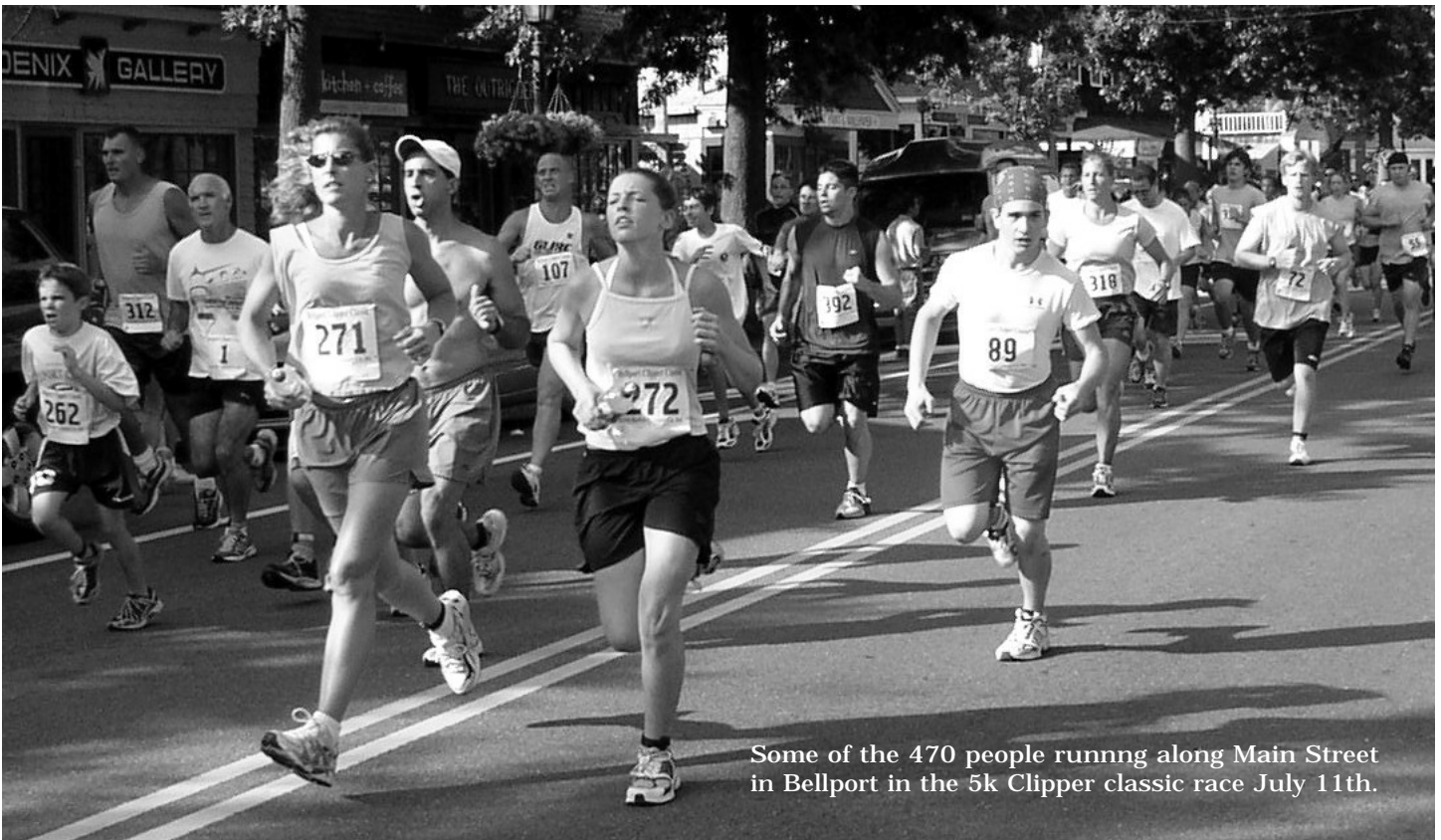


On this sunny day at the Masback's home by the bay, friends gathered to chat, snack and imbibe before the excitement of the auction which followed. The beautifully prepared baskets were also on view, waiting for the highest bidder to take them away to enjoy elsewhere...



...and as at all auctions, Mindy Munson-Smith is always on board, one way or another, to demonstrate a bicycle or kayak or—whatever.





Some of the 470 people running along Main Street in Bellport in the 5k Clipper classic race July 11th.

Bellport Clipper Classic 2004

The annual Bellport Clipper Classic was held on Sunday, July 11, 2004. Over 470 people ran in the 5k race and 80 people walked in the 1500m fun walk.

This year Start to Finish, Inc., a professional computerized road race timing company, assisted us in conducting our race. Their technology improved the accuracy of the final results. It was the first time for many of our runners to run with the assets of this microchip technology. They seemed impressed and pleased to have such quick feedback on their achievements. We look forward to possibly expanding this technology in the walkers' race. Full results can be found on our website, www.scefonline.org or www.start2finish.com.

The Top 3 Male Finishers in the 5k Run:

1ST	Luis German, Southampton	0:16:05.7
2ND	Edward Burns, Patchogue	0:16:23.2
3RD	Andy Corral, Bellport	0:16:30.2

The Top 3 Female Finishers in the 5k Run:

1ST	Susann Cuccia, St James	0:18:53.2
2ND	Una Broderick, Wantagh	0:19:06.2
3RD	Diane Kenna, New York City	0:19:09.7

The Top 3 Finishers in the 1.5M Walk:

1ST	Jamieson Merrill, East Patchogue	0:11:02.0
2ND	Kathleen Mazzella, Hampton Bays	0:11:10.8
3RD	Timothy Edwards, Hampton Bays	0:11:11.2

The Bellport Clipper Classic Scholarship Race raises money for Bellport High School graduating seniors. The following 2004 graduates received awards to help them further their education:

John Armenia	Ashley DeAcetis
Axel Ayala	William Hughes
Evan Bernstein	Elyse Quirk
Kristen Brown	Jennafer Steigerwald
Jessica Colosa	Brelen Stewart
Andrew Corral	Teresa Strano



SCEF hosted the grant recipients for this school year at the home of Barbara Knowles. From left to right, they are John D. Norris, Jr., Executive Director of the Boys and Girls Club; Constance Havens, Peter K. Cisek, and Christine Daniels—all of Frank B. Long Intermediate School; Sonia Orfin of Brookhaven Elementary School; and Ralph Maust and President Mike Garlin of the Carmans River Maritime Center

We thank Brookhaven Eye Surgery, Eileen A. Green Realty, King Kullen Grocery Co., *The Long Island Advance*, Painters' Restaurant, Palermo Paving, Searles Graphics, Sil-Kraft Custom Screen Printing, and Swezey Fuel Co., Inc. for their support .

In addition, we could not have done without the efforts and services of the Bellport Fire Department, Bellport Methodist Church, Brookhaven Fire Department, Brookhaven Town Dept. of Public Works, Hagerman Fire Department, South Country Ambulance Co., South Country School District, and the Village of Bellport.

And a special thank you to the many volunteers throughout the South Country Community who make this fine 21-year tradition a success! —LORI KLAMUT

Brassworks Magic

On a rainy October 15th, magic came to the Bellport High School auditorium under the guise of five very

talented musicians who make up the brass quintet Long Island Brassworks. They played for a very appreciative audience.

The group performed music that ranged from the Renaissance to Broadway, with just about all the stops in between. The quintet is composed of five outstanding musicians and is the faculty brass quintet at the C. W. Post campus of Long Island University in Brookville.

Prior to the evening's concert, students in the middle and high school were entertained and educated by the group. These master classes are one of the South Country Education Foundation's efforts to enrich the lives of our students.

The evening's performance was truly magical as the group entertained the crowd and educated them at the same time. The highlight of the evening was a medley of at least twenty songs, arranged beautifully and played superbly. It was capped by a reception generously hosted by the Tri-M Music Honor Society of the high school.

The Becker/Gambles Music Fund will sponsor two additional concerts at the high school. The concerts, by the SUNY Story Brook Camerata Singers on December 10th and by the Daedalus Quartet on April 13th, will both start at 7:30 PM and tickets will be available at the door. (See the Calendar of Events on page 6.)

The two groups have ties to the school district. Several community members perform with the Camerata Singers and three members of the Daedalus Quartet are alumni of our schools.

Please help to support music education by attending these concerts. —GENE WESTHOFF

Win This Car!

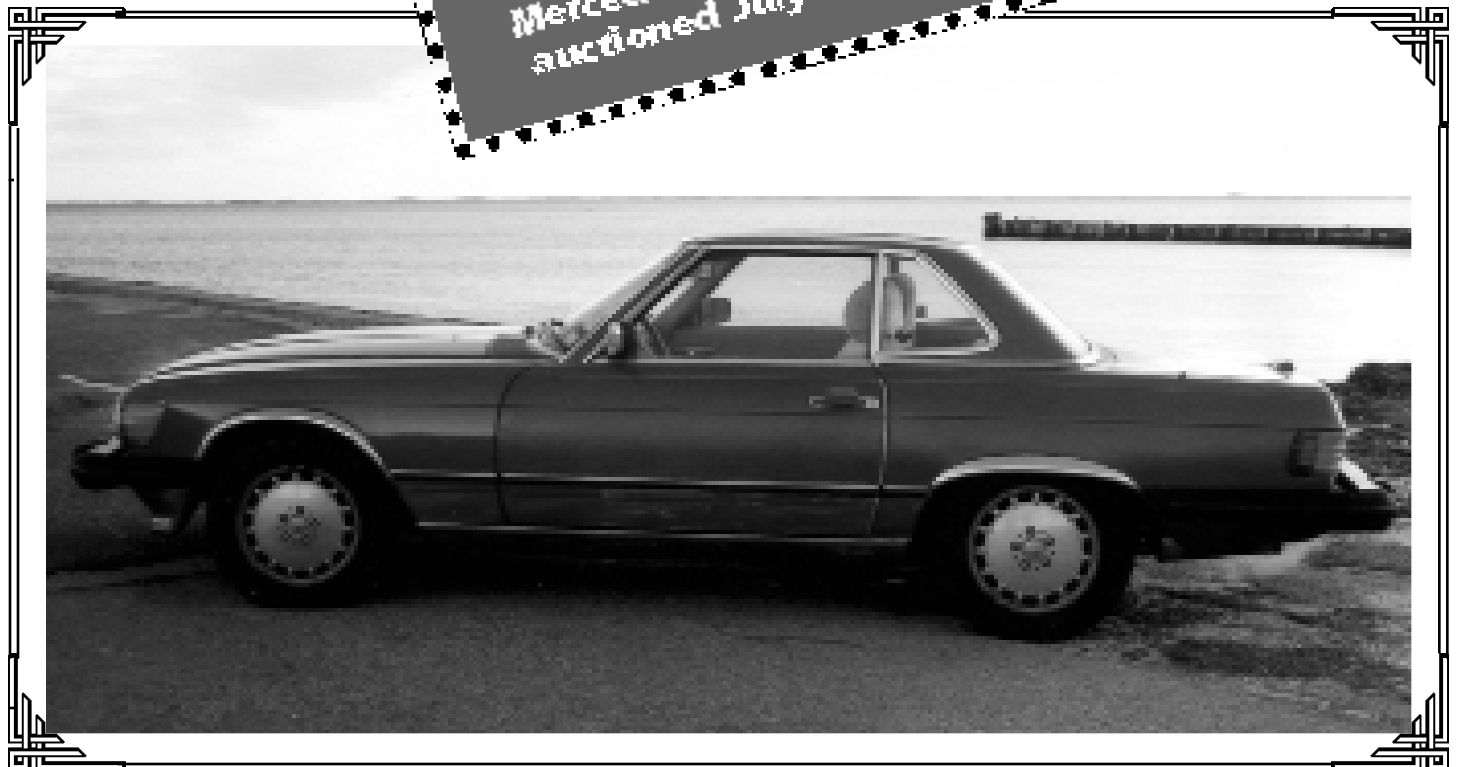
Imagine yourself zipping around the South Country area next summer in this gorgeous 1988 Mercedes Benz 560 SL Signal Red hard top convertible. It could be yours! Our hearty thanks to Harold Snedcof of

Bellport who has generously donated this classic sports car to next year's fundraising event.

The seventh annual auction and cocktail party will be held Saturday, July 9, 2005 at the Bellport bayfront home of Chantal and Richard Berman. In addition to the car, there will be a multitude of other items for auction. Please check for full details next spring on our website at <<http://www.scefonline.org>.

The annual auction is our major fundraising event of the year and continues to delight all who come. All members of the community are welcome to attend. If you are not currently on the mailing list and would like to receive an invitation, do not hesitate to call 286-3760. We'll see that you are added to the list and get a chance to make a bid to win your very own Mercedes! —DAVA STRAVINSKY

You can be the owner of this classic Mercedes Benz hardtop convertible to be auctioned July 9th at our annual event!



2004/2005 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Look for earlier grant dates for 2005—late January for application availability with late March for submissions. Dates to be announced.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10 / 7:30 PM / The Camerata Singers from Stony Brook University

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13 / 7:30 pm / Daedalus Quartet Concert

(Both concerts to be performed at BHS, Ebersole Auditorium, Tickets sold at the door)

SATURDAY, JULY 9 / Annual Cocktail Party and Auction

SUNDAY, JULY 10 / Clipper Classic 5K Road Race & 1.5M Walk

For details on events and updates on activities, see our website <www.scefonline.org>

The New Program KEEP

There is a new educational program in town thanks to the hard work of a few parents, the staff at the South Country Family Support Center, and with funding from SCEF. The Kids Early Enrichment Program (KEEP) is a tuition-based after-school enrichment program open to all K-3 students in the South Country School district.

This eight-week program, housed in the South Country Family Support Center at the high school, opened for business this October and is already currently serving about ninety elementary school students. Courses offered include Science, Drama, Creative Writing, Astronomy, Music, Art, and Spanish language.

Most of the teachers come from the school district classrooms or are alumni. Classes are limited to fifteen students each, with afterschool transportation provided directly from the elementary schools. Though KEEP charges tuition for each class, scholarships, reduced rates and tuition payment plans are available.

The KEEP Advisory Board is actively planning a fundraiser event so that tuition rates can be kept as low as possible. This is a wonderful program for our community, and SCEF encourages you to contact Dorene Faulkner, Director of the Family Support Center, at 730-1612 to find out how these programs can meet the needs of your elementary school age children.

—MARGARET MONTEMAGNO

Thanks to our Donors

On the facing page, the South Country Education Foundation would like to express its gratitude to all those individuals, couples, alumni, and organizations for their generous donations. We are especially pleased to see the widespread support for our effort to fund innovative programs to enrich the education of our South Country students. The following list reflects contributors from September 1, 2003 to August 31, 2004. We have made every effort to include everyone, and we regret if anyone or group has been omitted.

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 Post Office Box 512, Bellport, New York 11713

SCEF Mission Statement

The South Country Education Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit organization committed to improving educational opportunities for all students in the South Country School District. Its mission is to promote and enhance educational initiatives by providing supplemental financial support for projects and programs that are outside of the South Country School District budget.

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