

# SANT BANI School Notes

November 1, 2002

Sant Bani School  
19 Ashram Road  
Sanbornton, NH 03269

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*Sant Bani School Notes* are published from time to time to share news of the school community. The School Notes are edited by Emily Bacall Vinton with contributions from staff and friends, and with help from the Parent Committee. The Parent Committee supports the school through fund raising and by serving as a sounding board for parent concerns. Meetings are held monthly during the school year; all are welcome to attend.



## Dates to Remember

November 1	End of First Quarter
November 5	Parent Committee Meeting, 7 pm
November 9	Board of Directors meet
November 11	Veterans Day – no school
November 14	Parent Conferences – School out at noon (5-9 pm for Grades 5 – 12: from noon on by appointment for Grades K- 4)
November 16	Adult Education Day
November 20	College Financial Aid Night, 7 pm
November 27	Thanksgiving Break Begins – school out at noon
November 28 & 29	no school

## The Visiting Committee Visits!

By Kent Bicknell

On Sunday afternoon, October 6<sup>th</sup>, the school welcomed the nine person visiting committee to the campus for a student-hosted tour and reception. Committee members were very busy from Monday morning through Wednesday, as they looked at all aspects of the school. The next step is to complete a report and send it along to the Commission for Independent Schools for final review and action by the NEASC in December.

In an “exit interview” with the administration, the head of the committee, Susan Haberlandt, and the assistant head, Peter Smick, assured us that they will be recommending to the Commission that we continue being an approved school for the next decade. They let us know how much they enjoyed the visit and how impressed they were with the school, particularly with how well the mission “informed” all aspects of the school. The committee also had much praise for the hardworking staff that worked to create a school where “no child fell through the cracks.” When they looked around they saw happy students who were engaged in the learning process. We expect to share more about the visit when we hear from the Commission.

All-in-all, it was a very positive experience - and the visiting committee was grateful for both the opportunity to come to Sant Bani and the graciousness of our community as host to them.

## FOOD, FRIENDS, DANCIN’ FEET

By Ann Littlefield

The school’s annual potluck dinner and contra dance was held on Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Franklin. It was a great success for appetites and dancers alike!

The evening began with a wonderful variety of savory foods; everyone loves a potluck! As plates were emptied, the band began to tune. Libby Danahy, Richard Danahy, Chris Gilb, Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki, Daimon Meeh, Guinness Harley, and Maggie Phippard provided excellent musical accompaniment to the enthusiastic calling of Dave Harvey. Young and old, meek and bold were put through their contra dance paces. Smiles, laughter, and visiting were in great supply, all adding up to a successful school fund-raising event for fall. Thanks are extended to everyone who assisted during the evening.

# The Citrus Sale Approacheth....

On Monday, Nov. 4, your child will bring home citrus sale materials! The sale will last for only 3 weeks -- orders and payments need to be turned in by 4 pm on November 22. We expect the fruit to be delivered sometime between December 9 and 13 -- just in time for the holidays. It must be picked up by Thursday, December 19, before school vacation begins.

In past years, this has been one of our most lucrative fundraisers. This year, we hope to make over \$5,000 in profit; but, we will reach this goal only if we all help by selling this nutritious, delicious and competitively priced fruit to our friends, neighbors and family. Nine individuals have already committed to selling 20 or more boxes this year. In the past, some families have sold over \$500 worth of citrus during the sale! Not everyone can do this much, but if we each sell \$80 to \$100 worth (about 5 large boxes) we could make \$8,000!

Please collect your money for the fruit up front, or be prepared to pay the school your total and collect from your customers later, as we cannot accept orders without payment. Please contact Mitch Taranow at 1-800-639-3131 or at [www.Lifestylenetwork.com](http://www.Lifestylenetwork.com) with questions.

We will travel to Gunstock Ski Area for 6 weeks this year: January 10, 17, 24, 31; February 7, 14. Four of the weeks will include a one-hour lesson and one-hour free ski. Two of the weeks will be for free skiing.

The school provides transportation for students in grades 2-12. Students in grades K-1 must be transported to and from the mountain by a parent who will assume responsibility for the child for the day.



## Family Service Opportunity

By Hillary Woodward

When your family is doing its grocery shopping this month, think about buying a little extra for those families in need over the Holiday season. We will have collection boxes available in each building throughout the months of November and December. We will then deliver the non-perishable, vegetarian food items to local food shelters, churches and other organizations helping provide meals for those in need. Please read labels carefully to be sure they are vegetarian. If you have any questions you can call me, Hillary Woodward at Sant Bani at 934-4240 or email me at [hillary@santbani.k12.nh.us](mailto:hillary@santbani.k12.nh.us) Thank you for your help and Happy Holidays!



**Oh, my  
goodness!  
Time to  
think of  
skiing?!**

### *Ski / Snowboard Club 2002-03*

Sant Bani School offers students and their families an opportunity to enjoy a weekly ski/snowboard lesson and free skiing again this year. Don't miss the notice sent home and the registration forms in the mail. **The absolute deadline for return of the registration form is Monday, November 4th.** Return of the registration earlier would be appreciated!



The clean-up crew. Photo by Barry Draper

## Service on the Merrimack River

By Robert Schongalla

On September 15<sup>th</sup> a Sant Bani School group canoed down the Merrimack River and spent the day doing a service project picking up debris and garbage in and along the Merrimack River. The group canoed from the County Home to Hannah's Paddles in Concord. Students who went were Owen Carey-Hatch, Carl Anderson, Max Hardcastle, Kristina Curebanas and her friend, Andrew, plus parent, Ken Hardcastle, and teachers, Jen Frost, Barry Draper, Todd Schongalla and Robert Schongalla. We spent seven hours on the river and filled five canoes to over-flowing with an unimaginable assortment of junk dredged up from the bottom or retrieved from the riverbank.

This included: a bicycle, sled, two car seats, pieces of a car top, two fishing rods, 18 car and truck tires, working fire extinguisher, a set of stairs, catfish stuck in a can (now spending the school year in Barry's local habitat aquarium), a motorcycle, plus the expected bottles, cans, plastic material and general garbage. We are grateful to Aaron Constant, owner of Hannah's Paddles, for disposing of the garbage at his town's transfer station.

The group, the task, the weather (warm enough to make swimming and diving for debris

fun), running down some steep 'sand cliffs' ending in a plunge into the river, plus seeing wildlife (turtles and uncommon birds), and the unexpected haul of debris all combined to make for a perfect service day! You can see photos of the trip on the service bulletin board opposite the service office in the Middle Building, and we will post a few pictures on the SBS website.



Dear Parents,

Once again, because these items are hard to find locally, beeswax crayons and modeling beeswax are offered for sale to you through us.

**Please note that this is not a fundraiser but a service to you and your families.**

Please return the order form and payment, (checks should be made out to Dana Mark), to school by Friday, November 8.

Thank You,

Maya Hardcastle and Dana Mark

Name

Grade and name of child the order should be sent home with :

\*\*\*Please make checks payable to Dana Mark.

LARGE BEESWAX CRAYONS		x \$11.35 =	
SMALL MODELLING BEESWAX		x \$7.10 =	
LARGE MODELLING BEESWAX		x \$11.00 =	
<b>Write your total number of items here.</b>		<b>Write your total cost of items here.</b>	



**Presentation by Frances Moore  
Lappe, the celebrated author of Diet for a Small  
Planet**

Sponsored by Concord Co-op  
Friday, November 8, 2002  
6:00 – 10:00 pm

Unitarian Universalist Church  
Fellowship Hall  
274 Pleasant Street, Concord

Concord Co-op invites you to eat and meet with other Co-op owners at their annual meeting. A soup supper will be provided before the meeting, and afterwards, there will be an inspirational presentation by Frances Moore Lappe on the power of food and cooperative action. Dessert and reception to follow. Dessert is potluck, so bring your favorite to share. Dinner begins at 6. There is a \$5.00 fee for non-members, free to members.

## ≈ Teacher Fantasies ≈

Some members of the staff were searching for a few good pens the other day, when they began to ponder the possible fate of the many, many pens that leave the office supply closet. Most teachers present agreed that they had not remembered the last time they “used up” a ballpoint pen.

“I’ve got it!” said someone, “They are conspiring with the all the lost socks somewhere behind our washers and dryers.”\*\*

This inspired thought was followed by a heated debate. In the end, they all accepted the truth that, indeed, we each have collections of pens and pencils at home in one place or another. They agreed to bring their unused stashes in and wondered if students and parents had similar reserves of pens, pencils, and other treasured school supplies.

If you do have extras, perhaps you would consider bringing them in to the front office? We will put them to immediate use!

\*\* n.b. teachers aren’t really this silly!



Photo of a llama by Barry Draper

## ON THE ROAD AGAIN A HUGE SUCCESS

BY HILLARY WOODWARD

The “Blue Packs” dinner and slide show fundraiser was a huge success. About 45 people came to the studio for soup and salad on the evening of Oct. 15th. After dinner and visiting, Barry and Gretchen Draper showed wonderful slides from their trip to Peru. The people, the animals, the terrain, the history, and the stories inspired and educated everyone in the room. In the process, we raised over \$300 which will be sent to the Academy for Educational Development. They will make sure our money goes to provide backpacks filled with educational supplies for children in Afghanistan. We would like to thank everyone who attended the dinner, as well as those who made donations.

An easy way to help the scholarship fund...  
Begin all your online shopping at  
[www.schoolpop.com](http://www.schoolpop.com)



Photo by Don Turnage taken during bike club on October 25

# Holiday Catalog Up-Date

By Laurie Webster

As summer takes its final gasp and fall settles in for a brief rendition of cold gusty air and falling leaves, our thoughts flicker towards the coming of change. While the frost is on the pumpkin, Halloween and chilly nights become real in our minds, and we know the holidays are just a heartbeat away. I don't know about you, but I find it hard to contemplate holiday shopping before Halloween has happened. However, the thought of getting a jump on shopping before the throngs of crowds descend is most appealing. Even more appealing is the notion of shopping for high quality, personal and aesthetically pleasing gifts without going from store to store and without having to listen to one more musically arranged version of "I saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus." Well, help is here as the Sant Bani Holiday Catalog website is up and running, and you can listen to any music you'd like while perusing the eclectic blend of items that grace its pages.

Thanks to the efforts of Ken Hardcastle (Dad to Lianna and Max, and husband to Maya), you can view the catalog in living color. The address is [www.sanbani.k12.nh.us](http://www.sanbani.k12.nh.us). Many items this year have been produced by an array of current and former Sant Bani parents and friends. And this year we have many items that have been donated to the catalog, for which we are most grateful. You will see handmade elf homes by Tina Busch, finely crafted jewelry by Tom Kuhner, and an annual comeback of those great, all purpose bags that were originally crafted by the late Mildred Meeh and who live on in her mane. They are always a great seller. You may choose to purchase a relaxing therapeutic massage by Linda Rooks as an experiential gift for a hard working friend, or buy some handmade blocks, a Robin Hood style hat, or a fleece boa scarf for a special child in your life. There are beautiful handmade wooden bowls and birch plates, cloth gift bags and shortbread all made by Sant Bani parents and friends. This is only a sampling of the many items you'll find in the catalog.

If the passivity of perusing on line isn't enough for you, you can call Sara Rosenbloom or David Bogacz and offer to help in the shipping shack which will get going in November. This is a great way to get to know other parents and it really is a lot of fun. Orders for the catalog cannot be

made on line, but you can print an order form and send or bring it to the school. You will be receiving your catalog in the mail in the near future.

The shipping shack is in need of clean packing materials and boxes of varying sizes that can be used for shipping catalog items. Boxes should be in good condition with a minimum of writing, bar codes, etc.. The boxes should be completely closeable. If you have such items, please drop them off at the shipping shack. The shack is the small building on the left before you get to the school. It is the 2<sup>nd</sup> to last building on the left before you get to the lower building.

Again, thanks to Ken Hardcastle for his first rate job with the web site, and to all of you who donated product, and/or helped with production of the many hand made items.

## Big Win for Men's X-C !!

Sant Bani's men's Cross-Country Team competed in a State Cross-Country meet on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> and WON the M and S Championship!! This particular championship is for schools with an enrollment of 500 or less. Sant Bani will go on to the State Finals to be held in Manchester on Saturday November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Good luck men and congratulations on a job well done!!! For more information about the upcoming event, please contact Todd Schongalla or Scott Clark at school.



Saturday,  
November  
16<sup>th</sup> .. a Day  
of Erudition

Adult Education Day at Sant Bani is open to the public and provides an opportunity for learning a new skill in a peaceful and rejuvenating setting. Our talented instructors present a wide array of fun and creative workshops. Course fees are \$15 at the door.

A delicious vegetarian lunch will be served at 12:00 pm featuring the culinary talents of Deb Hanrahan. The cost for lunch is \$6.00. If you decide to bring your own lunch, please be sure that it is eggless and vegetarian. See you there!

**REMEMBER: The absolute deadline for  
return of the Ski/Snowboard Club  
registration form is Monday, November 4.**

## Sant Bani's Crisis and Safety Committee Hard at Work

By Priscilla Fay

The Crisis and Safety Committee at Sant Bani School is working hard to evaluate current policies and to explore new safety plans in our community. Our primary goal is the health and safety of everyone. To this end, we are committed to ongoing evaluation, training of staff and faculty, and practice of these procedures as a community.

In recent years, many unsettling incidents have occurred in our world. We must consider how our particular community, in all its uniqueness, should react. Recently, on Staff Development Day, we invited members of the Sanbornton Police Department to conduct a "Critical Incident Seminar". This was an informal, but detailed presentation and discussion of how to best handle emergency procedures. The staff was very appreciative and felt the discussion was helpful.

At this juncture, the committee is still fine-tuning certain plans. Our first order of business is to develop a plan to convene as a whole school in the event of an incident. Once this process nears implementation, additional drills, similar to our well-known fire drills, will take place. In the meantime, the committee is taking time to carefully consider all aspects of the emotional and physical needs of our K-12 community.