

SANTA CATALINA UPPER SCHOOL

Volume 5, Issue 2 • October 2009

DATES TO REMEMBER

■ US Students

- **SAT Exams**
Saturday, October 3
- **Senior Service Day**
Wednesday, October 14
- **PSAT/NMSQT**
All Sophmores and Juniors
Wednesday, October 14
- **Halloween Dinner**
Thursday, October 29
Hosted by the Freshmen



2009 ANNUAL BENEFIT CELEBRATION

Saturday, October 10 • 5:30 p.m.
Santa Catalina School
\$80 per person

All proceeds benefit the financial aid program.
Please see Page 3 for more information.

■ US Parents

- **Benefit Celebration**
Saturday, October 10
- **Mid-Term Grades and Comments**
Mailed Friday, October 16
- **Parents' Weekend**
Friday, Saturday and Sunday
October 23, 24, 25

■ Performing Arts

- **Disney's Beauty and the Beast**
Friday, October 16 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, October 17 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, October 18 2:00 p.m.
Friday, October 23 12:15 p.m.

Please visit the Web calendar
for the latest detailed information:

santacatalina.org/calendar

Greetings from Dr. Murphy

Dear Parents:

The new school year is off to a very productive start, filled with enthusiasm and support for our school's RENEW efforts. Our enhanced advisory program, along with our weekly chapel services and shared lunch hour, have made a difference in the sense of community we all experience. There is a terrific spirit and real vibrancy on campus, and students are involved in a great many activities. School clubs have started to meet. Our student-led cappella group *ecco!* held its auditions and made its selections for the year. The same is true for *Accents* and *Lady Rhythmics* (a dance and a percussion group). And our Peace and Justice Club had over 70 students attend the first meeting. Students are also involved in playing on one of our many fall sports teams or participating in horseback riding or dance after school. And some have auditioned for our fall musical and have won roles. Indeed, rehearsals for our production of *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* are in full swing. We are only a month into the school year, but we all feel great excitement about what is happening at Santa Catalina and we are optimistic about the upcoming year.

Please make note of two very important dates this month. On Saturday, October 10th, we will celebrate Santa Catalina's 28th annual Benefit Celebration. At the end of the month, we will host our annual Parents' Weekend on October 23rd through the 25th. Santa Catalina's annual Benefit Celebration supports our financial aid program. This year we are staging a full-scale Fiesta! The event promises to be great fun and includes a silent auction and of course the traditional wine tasting. All of this will be followed by a live auction and a sumptuous Mexican buffet along with live entertainment. Co-chairs Lisa Knight and Joan Yu, along with a group of dedicated volunteers, have worked very hard for the past year on the event. The local business community has also been most

generous in their support, and Lisa and Joan would like to ask the same from you, our parents. We hope that you will attend our Benefit Celebration. If that is not possible, we hope that you will participate in some manner, perhaps by proxy bidding on silent auction items or through the Benefit drawing. We look forward to a delightful evening and to seeing many of you at the Fiesta!

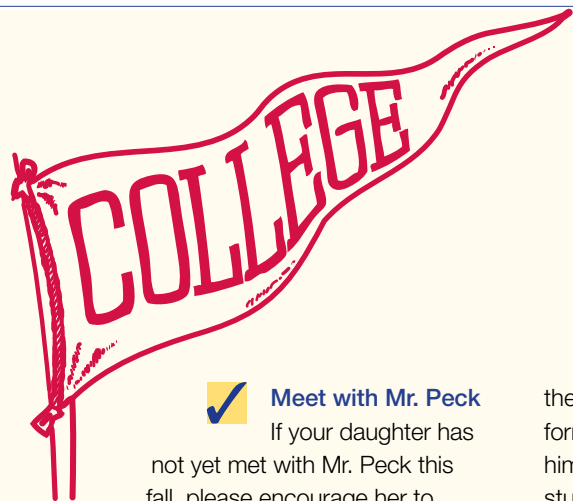
Santa Catalina's Parents' Weekend is a very special occasion as well. The weekend provides a wonderful opportunity for parents to meet with their daughter's teachers, to ask questions, and to learn more about school. Soon, we will be sending home a Parents' Weekend envelope. Please review this information carefully and reply in the manner requested. Your cooperation in terms of meeting reply deadlines will be very much appreciated and allows us to proceed with the various elements of the weekend including the scheduling of parent conferences.

We encourage you to visit our web site calendar, which is particularly helpful for those of you who may be traveling a distance to attend a sporting event where we have changes on occasion. If there is anything we can do for you, please let us know. As always, we work in concert with you to provide the very best education for your daughter. Thank you and we look forward to seeing you this month of October.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John J. Murphy".

John J. Murphy, Ph.D.
Head of Upper School



COLLEGE COUNSELING

October College Checklist for Seniors

✓ **Meet with Mr. Peck**

If your daughter has not yet met with Mr. Peck this fall, please encourage her to make an appointment to see him as soon as possible (but no later than Parents' Weekend) so he may know where she is in the application process. She may, of course, meet with him as many times as she wishes beyond that.

✓ **Contact Colleges**

Seniors should write, phone or go online to contact colleges for information if they have not already done so.

✓ **UC and Cal State Applications**

Work on UC and Cal State applications will start this month so that they can be submitted before the deadline. A primary rule for filling out any application is to read all the instructions first before actually beginning to do it. Another rule with any paper application is to make a copy before mailing the original. Things do occasionally go astray.

✓ **Non-Common Applications**

If your daughter is applying anywhere the Santa Catalina School Report form is not applicable (mostly non-Common App places), she should bring Mr. Peck their college counselor/school report/transcript request forms no later than Oct 14 for Nov 1 ED/EA applications and Oct 21 for Nov 15 ED/EA so he has plenty of time to fill them out, order the transcript, mail them on time, etc. If she has any questions about these or any other forms, she should see Mr. Peck (with the form). Where students are using the school form, Mr. Peck needs an official request from the student to send the materials. They do not need to provide envelopes or stamps. Also for ED/EA please encourage

them to get the senior brag sheet update forms back to Mr. Peck right away. Giving him an ED/ EA form doesn't commit the student; she can always change her mind at the last minute. It helps Mr. Peck get a head start in case the student decides to use the ED/EA.

✓ **Teacher Recommendations**

Students need to give a list, with stamped addressed envelopes, well ahead of the deadlines to teachers who have agreed to write recommendations. If your daughter is applying to colleges that require recs (UC's do not) and has not yet asked any teachers if they would be willing to write for her, she needs to get going. She should have the same 1 or 2 teachers write the recommendations for all the schools to which she is applying, unless special circumstances (an alum of a particular college, for example) dictate otherwise. Students should notify teachers if they decide not to apply to a college for which they have previously requested a recommendation.

✓ **SAT and/or ACT Scores**

Your daughter's SAT and/or ACT scores will need to be sent officially to the colleges to which she applies. She can send them to four colleges at no additional cost each time she takes a test. Once she has taken her last standardized test (December, for example), she needs to make sure all her colleges get a score report. An SAT score report is cumulative (all her previous scores will go with the last one unless she has used "score choice"); ACT is not, each test being on a separate report. For those applying to UCs and Cal States, it's very important to have scores reported officially and in a timely manner, otherwise it could delay or jeopardize processing the application.

✓ **Financial Aid**

Filling out and submitting the federal financial aid form (FAFSA) is now entirely online. Paper forms are no longer sent to schools. The FAFSA cannot be filed before January 1. Most regular deadlines are Feb 1 or Feb 15, but it is your responsibility to know the financial aid deadline for each of your college choices. If you know you will be applying to at least one college that requires the CSS PROFILE form, you should begin to familiarize yourself with the requirements. Information may be found at www.collegeboard.com. If you are applying somewhere Early Decision, you need to know what type of early financial aid form they require.

Questions? Please see Mr. Peck.

✓ **List of College Visitors**

A current list of college visitors is available on the school website www.santacatalina.org under college counseling or on the college counseling bulletin board. Currently scheduled October visitors include Colorado, George Washington University, Goucher, Middlebury, Pitzer, Sarah Lawrence, Scripps, USC, SMU, Vassar, Washington University, Whitman and others.



ANNUAL SENIOR RAFTING TRIP

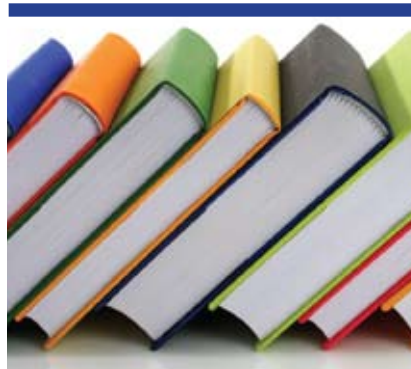
The class of 2010 enjoyed the annual Rafting Trip during the weekend of September 4th - 6th. The trip combines two nights of camping with two exciting days of white-water rafting down Class III (intermediate) rapids on the South Fork of the American River. The fun-filled weekend helps to bring the class closer together, while allowing students to develop a greater trust in their own capabilities.

Santa Catalina School Theatre Arts
Presents

**Disney's
BEAUTY
AND THE
BEAST**

Friday, October 16 • 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, October 17 • 7:30 p.m.
Sunday, October 18 • 2:00 p.m.
Friday, October 23 • 12:15 p.m.

Santa Catalina School • Performing Arts Center



**BOOKSTORE
HOURS
MONDAY - FRIDAY
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM**

From the Santa Catalina Parent Association

THANK YOU to our Volunteers!

September is always an exciting and busy month at School, so I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the volunteers who quietly make things happen:

- Our new parent association board members
- All the volunteers who are hard at work on the Annual Benefit Celebration
- Gloria Dougherty and Terry Riordan for their invaluable help with the Santa Catalina Tennis Tournament.
- Paula Scanlon and Terry Riordan for providing the wonderful refreshments for the September faculty meeting.

In lieu of a Parent Association meeting this month, I'll look forward to seeing you all at Parents Weekend!

—Debbie Etienne '82
President, SCPA



2009 ANNUAL BENEFIT CELEBRATION

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Santa Catalina School
\$80 per person

All proceeds benefit the financial aid program.

■ Come to the Fiesta and Celebrate Our Santa Catalina Family!

Join us for margaritas, sangria and a Mexican feast while you mingle and celebrate with your Catalina Family. Send in your RSVP today to reserve your spot!

■ Need a New Computer?

Purchase a Benefit Drawing ticket for a chance to win an Apple Computer package including, a 500GB MacBook Pro, four hours of technical assistance, a 32GB iPod Touch, and Canon Printer. Purchase your ticket for \$30 on your RSVP card or from Lisa Knight or Joan Yu, for your chance to win this package valued at over \$5,000!

■ Item to Donate?

Too much wine in your wine cellar? To donate it, or any other new item for our Silent Auction, contact Lisa John at 831.375.8839 or email ljocean@sbcglobal.net.

■ Come Join the Fun!

Why wait until the Fiesta? Come join the fun by volunteering on any of the following dates:

- Monday, October 5
8:00–11:00 a.m., Dining Hall
- Friday, October 9
1:00–6:00 p.m., Dining Hall
- Saturday, October 10
9:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m.

Contact Mary Nikssarian at 831.596.4593 or email maryn@nikins.com to join in.



WELCOME CLASS OF 2013!

To greet incoming freshmen, the parents of Elizabeth Clark '11 and Madeline Clark '13 hosted a Mexican dinner at their home in Carmel Valley on September 5, 2009. Nearly the entire freshman class attended, along with Dr. Cassandra Brenot, Freshman Class Head Advisor, and Anne O'Dowd, Thompson Dormitory Head Resident. Heartfelt thanks to the Clark family for celebrating our students' first year at Santa Catalina!

BULLETIN CORRECTION

Santa Catalina



Please note our corrections of error and omission in the Summer *Bulletin*:

Error—We give thanks for the fact that Christian Reilly did not lose his father as was indicated on page 75 of the Santa Catalina School Summer *Bulletin*. This inclusion is in error.

Omission—We express our condolences to Claire Lerner who did lose her mother on August 24, 2009. We apologize for this omission in the Summer *Bulletin*.

FALL SPORTS UPDATE

TENNIS

It's been an exciting season so far with many possibilities ahead of us. In just three short weeks we've formed a committed team with a great work ethic and mental toughness. Currently 4-1 overall and 1-0 in the MTAL. The annual SCS Tennis Invitational was once again a great success.

CROSS COUNTRY

The team is training hard for the the season coming up, and took 5th place in the small school division in the Stevenson Invitational—the first race of the season.

The Stevenson Invitational is a five person relay with every racer running 1.6 miles, then passing a baton to the next runner.

WATER POLO

Both teams are off to a strong start. Varsity is 0-5 overall and 0-2 in the league and the JV are 1-1. With new players and strong Cougar spirit, we are happy to have a JV team again.

VOLLEYBALL

Both JV and Varsity are gearing up for the new season. With the MTAL league now upon us, the Cougar varsity is prepared to defend the conference title. Varsity played a difficult pre-season schedule with solid performances in straight game wins against MBL foes, Seaside and Monterey. Currently the Cougars are 3-7 and looking forward to the conference schedule. JV are looking for their first win, but have battled to the final game in three out of five matches played.

GOLF

The golf team is off to a strong start—the team has power and depth, combined with a high golf IQ. Currently the team is 2-1 with a school record performance at the difficult Del Monte golf course of 158 total team score. Our team continues to improve their skills in practice and looks forward to the competitive challenge of each match.

FIELD HOCKEY

Varsity field hockey is off to a roaring start with a strong group of seniors taking the reins. The first two games of the season the team lead their opponents by six goals each and only allowed one goal against them. This is a dedicated and impressive group of players!



ANNUAL TENNIS TOURNAMENT

The 53rd annual Santa Catalina Tennis Invitational took place on September 11-12, 2009. The Santa Catalina tennis team hosted 160 players from all over California.

Congratulations to everyone who participated!

Sign Up: Drive Carmel

Below are the driver's training classroom times for Drive Carmel. All classes meet from 11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

Session 2 • Santa Catalina
Oct. 10, 11, 17, 18

To register, or if you have questions, please contact Mary Gifford at 831.625. 3994 or visit their website at drivemcarnelschool.com.