

The Teapot Club



The McKim Center Teapot Club is an etiquette and life-skills program—with a spiritual component—for girls from 6-10 years of age. The club's emphasis is on pleasing behavior and accountability to God and to parents.

Club outings have included trips to the theater, visits to private businesses, and tea parties. Our speakers include professional women, entrepreneurs and business owners.

Special thanks to Apostle Felecia Bell of Lively Stone Ministries, for speaking to the girls on being a female in the clergy and having a Godly image about themselves at all times. Thanks, also, to Ms. Robyn Blackwell for the "Seeds and Weeds" series. "We are seeds, not weeds!"

Ms. Cash Hester, presenter of Kiddie Kats Theater at Morgan State University; Ms. Cheryl Williams and Ms. Shirley Basterfield, directors and overseers of Theater Morgan at Morgan State were able to share information about their fields of study with our girls.

Ms. Donna Jacobs, Executive Director and proprietor of Morton Street Dance Center invited the Teapot Club members to their Christmas Dance celebration. There, the girls watched both students and professional dancers performing holiday classics in ballet, jazz, tap, and lyrical genres. There were also discussions about self esteem and positive self image that gave the girls much to think about.

Lisa Ann, of Lisa Ann's Decadent Gifts and Tea Room on North Charles Street gave us a welcome fit for princesses as we entered the pink tea room, where the scent of raspberry tea and fresh scones filled the air. That was our last event of the season, and we look forward to moving ahead with the program. To inquire, or to enroll a young lady from 6-10, please call Ms. Tee at 410.276.5510 or 443.562.8959.

... **AND NOW, here's what**

Important Reminder: Gift Giving is Always in Season

Remember McKim through payroll deductions at your workplace. McKim can benefit from your donations! We are asking all City, State, & Federal employees to support McKim Community Association, Inc. by making a tax-deductible contribution through your payroll deduction plan.

This is a convenient way to support our programs. Please encourage your friends and family members by sharing this newsletter with them. And look for McKim in your charity booklet; if we are not listed, please ask about writing us in as your charity and setting up regular deductions.

Combined Federal Campaign	#7496
Combined Charity Campaign	#1967
Maryland Charity Employees	#582

You can also donate stocks/bonds and remember McKim Center with a bequest in your will.

An Overview of our Programs

McKim offers opportunities for youth: Homework and remedial assistance; clubs of all kinds for boys and girls; a safe, after school gathering place with professional staff members; summer camp; Saturday Camp; tutoring and mentoring; sports of every variety for boys and girls, including track, wrestling, baseball, and lacrosse. Community services include a State-sponsored Eating Together Program and a Narcotics Anonymous program.

If you would like to know more about McKim Center and its programs, please: visit our website at www.mckimcenter.org, call 410-276-5519, fax 410-276-1747, e-mail McKimCtr@AOL.com, or visit the McKim Community Center at 1120 East Baltimore Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202.

McKim Community Association, Inc.
Dwight S. Warren, Executive Director

we've been up to.

RAPPIN'

**A Newsletter to the Community
from McKim Community
Center**

Fall - Winter 2008-2009

Hello Neighbor. Will you help us this Holiday Season?

The Staff and I send you good wishes for the coming **Holiday Season**. Along with the news of past and future events at McKim, we are making our annual request for help for some of the most deserving kids in town. These McKim Kids are youngsters who may be short on the material things but who are filled with determination and the desire to make better lives for themselves. They come to McKim to take part in our many enriching and educational activities.

Because lots of these children would have a pretty meager Christmas without our help, we sponsor an annual party. This year it will be held on Tuesday, December 23, 2008. We need about 300 new gifts for boys and girls from elementary through middle-school age. Our volunteers will be happy to pick up the gifts—and wrap them, too. (**If presents are wrapped, please label them to indicate for what age and sex child they are suitable.**) Of course—even in these difficult times— financial contributions are also welcome. Please call Debbie at 410.276.5519 to let us know if you can help.

We need your support—and your prayers—more than ever—to maintain McKim's mission of providing **structure, discipline, and love to our kids!** We hope you can find it in your hearts to help us help our kids!

Summer Camp Reflections



Summers are always hot here! And this year was no different, but we managed to keep the days so full of activities that the kids hardly noticed. Then, after a day of running, jogging, hopping and skipping, playing dodge ball, basketball, football, and soccer, croquet, badminton and volleyball, swinging, sliding, swimming, and eating, we finally cooled off in the air-conditioned meeting house with quiet board games, McKim Sez (like Simon Says) reading, writing, art with Ms. Insoon, dancing, and Karaoke. Two out-of-state youth groups visited and assisted our youth workers with exciting projects. As for trips, we visited Gunpowder State Park in addition to Greenbrier. And no summer would be complete without Woodberry Crossing Farm, Druid Hill Park, and the Shake 'n' Bake Family Fun Center. The Broadway branch of Enoch Pratt assisted us with our theme, "Everything is in a Book" by providing the younger children with a weekly experience. We closed with our cookout, while the kids sang "Be What You Want to Be" and the newly revised version of the McKim song.

Saturday Camp News

This year our camp, starting in October and held twice a month, will also include parents & guardians, with open forums and community events such as specific health fairs, a job fair, and community remediation, to name a few. The season will start with an open house.

McKim Youth Place

GSG is what? Great Science for Girls (and boys). The McKim Afterschool Program was selected as one of twelve pilot sites for this new program that will help students learn about scientific exploration and investigation. We hope to learn about modern day explorers, inventors, and scientists.

And two other innovative activities will start this

year: "Spit the Lit," a journal and pen pal writing program and "Kickin' Kitchen," a cooking with math program. We have three new staff members, **Rebecca Zarudsky, Kishon Wood, and Phillip Smith**. In keeping with our tradition, McKim will team up with neighboring facilities to share our rich heritage.

McKim Wrestling

We are inviting boys 5-15 to join us for the first practice of the season on October 20th at Mergenthaler Vocational-Technical High School (Mervo) 3500 Hillen Road, Baltimore, MD 21218. High School, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

The McKim Knights finished third in both the dual meet championship and our league tournament.

We finished eighth in the State tournament, with two champions: **Tyshawn** and **Anthony Williams**; one runner-up: **Darius Coleman**, and strong efforts from the rest of our team. Last year, we were able to enter a second team, coached by **Kenneth Ward**, giving us many future prospects.

For the second year in a row, we received a donation from "Jerome's Gift," with which we were able to help two brothers enjoy a truly merry Christmas. Again, we send our gratitude to the anonymous donor from Boys' Latin School.

Note: McKim Alumni wrestlers will have a reunion at Mervo from Noon until 4:00 p.m. on January 25, 2009. Rsvp to Debbie at 410.276.5519. Come see all the old guys from back in the day!

Wrestling Schedule - A Team

12/06/08 Boys Latin & Manchester
12/14/08 Owings Mills & Hereford
12/21/08 Perry Hall Tournament
01/10/09 Manchester Tournament (2 days)
01/17/09 Woodlawn & Middle River
01/25/09 Parkville & Dundalk
01/31/09 McDonogh Duals
02/01/09 Hawks Tournament
02/07/09 Warriors (L) & Warriors (N)
02/15/09 Dual Meet Championship
02/21/09 All-Star Quad
03/07/09 Navy-Lehigh Tournament (2 days)
03/14/09 MD/VA States Championship (2 days)

B-Team schedule is also available; for information and for sites and times of all meets, call the McKim office or check our website, www.mckimcenter.org.

McKim Youth Track Club

This summer, our club had ten youth athletes, ages 9-18, competing in the AAU Junior Olympic Games in Detroit, MI. They represented Baltimore City through the parks and recreation program. Among the competitors were Mervo's own **Aaron Moon** (10th in the 2000 M steeplechase), **Anthony Rogers** (9th in the same race), **Eddie Brown and Kenneth McCuin** (members of the 9th place 4x800 meter relay). Mervo grad, **Isaac Richardson**, now competing for Morgan State, took the highest individual honors among our qualifiers by becoming an AAU All-American with his second- place finish in the 1500 meter run. **Jade George** of Parkville High was our only National Champion, as a member of the winning 4x800 meter relay. Other representatives at the Nationals were **Annieve Waithe** and **Uju Ofune**, both of Parkville, and **Daise Alayuze** of Roland Park.