

CEO's Corner  
Winter 2007 Newsletter

As I write this, 2007 is now behind us, and we are in the midst of a new year and freezing winter weather.

The last quarter of 2007 was quite busy. October brought the 5K Road Race and Move-a-thon that raised over \$9,000.00, while also providing fitness fun to many. It was the month for pumpkin decorating, hayrides and the Horribles Parade.

Work on the treehouse officially got underway on November 1st and is nearing completion. We look forward to its unveiling in the spring.

November 6th was the date that our Crystal Springs School program held its first class elections where students voted for top performers in a number of categories. Congratulations to all who were nominated and campaigned for these honors!

As the fall/winter holiday season began, its momentum was brought to a halt by the loss of the warmth and vitality of Aaron G. who had positively contributed to many of our lives over nearly 35 years with us. At his memorial service, Aaron's understanding and compassion were repeatedly acknowledged and celebrated. Although his loss is profoundly painful, he left us with the example of how to make the best of each day.

The Crystal Springs School holiday concert on December 12th did a great deal to lift our spirits. Then, once again, parents, board members and friends helped our staff to be renewed and refreshed as they skillfully and cheerfully served a true holiday feast at the December 14th Staff Appreciation Luncheon where we announced our "Deck the Halls" winners and presented our Employees of the Year Awards. Shelley Vayens and her talented crew prepared a scrumptious meal and were ably assisted by a volunteer brigade that included parents Kathleen Callahan, Margaret Curran, Nuala Grady, Lois Martin, Judy McKeen, Lorraine O'Rourke, Marilyn Satkiewicz, Burt Thompson and Mary Thompson; Board Chairman Tim Kelleher; Board member and parent Jackie Ashley; and friends Irene Chretien and Warren Dougan. Thank you to all our volunteers!

Looking ahead, winter will hold additional celebrations and the anticipation of spring, when the birds-eye view from the treehouse will become a singular pleasure enjoyed by otherwise earthbound individuals.