

In Memory Of



Russ Marineau

Letter From the President

As I approach this newsletter, I am reminded that it has been a year since we lost our Chairman Emeritus, Russ Marineau. I'm sure many of you have fond memories of Russ, probably for many more years than me. He was an inspiration to all and left behind a legacy that many young people will benefit from for many years to come. Russ epitomized the saying: "Ask not what others can do for you; ask what you can do for others."

Why HURRAH Matters

The most consistent finding from a recent Harvard study is that high-intensity tutoring is the best way to raise academic standards.

Most of us have come from a work environment that was filled with activity. Then we retire and we have to find other means to fill our time. We quickly conclude that we want to accomplish things with our new career. We want to remain in the community and give back. Busy work is not enough; neither is a hobby. There are only so many golf swings left! Only so much travel! It is safe to say that HURRAH can go a long way toward fulfilling these objectives. HURRAH members tell us repeatedly about their satisfaction in helping a student who is struggling. The student also feels that someone cares about them. I would say this sums up the mission of HURRAH.

Naperville Education Update

Let's take a look at how some things have changed since the founding of HURRAH. According to an article by Larry Summers, former Harvard University president, "A recent study found that the average affluent child now receives 6,000 hours more enrichment, such as being read to, taken to a museum, coached in a sport or other kind of stimulation provided by adults, than the average underprivileged child, and this gap has greatly increased since the 1970s." We have an obligation to help all students, especially those who may not be as fortunate. HURRAH has certainly helped to narrow that gap over the years by providing assistance to students who might not otherwise receive enrichment at home. Consider the fact that more than 16% of Naperville 203 students come from low income homes, up from 1% in 2000.

Programs for HURRAH members

The HURRAH organization also provides some interesting programs for their members. HURRAH membership provides an opportunity to learn from the younger generations with programs like the *Naperville North High School Mobile Device Tutoring Program* and the *Benedictine University Wellness Program*. Organizations like these are very eager to help, and satisfaction is supplied to both parties.

HURRAH Future Direction

HURRAH members are a very talented group, with a wide range of skillsets. This year we will establish a skills inventory of all HURRAH members with the results from our summer survey that will be the basis of a data bank that can be used to fulfill teacher requests. HURRAH volunteers include those who speak Spanish or have backgrounds in STEM, Business and Marketing, Government, Military, and Law. HURRAH volunteers often have interest and expertise to support club activities as well as teachers and students. The survey will help us match up a teacher that may want some assistance with their growing club. - See results on page 2.

In conclusion, I can't help thinking that Russ is with each of us when we are at our activities saying "Keep up the good work"...Listen for him when you are volunteering.

Sincerely,

Pat Harrison

If interested in becoming a volunteer, contact the District 203 Office of Community Relations at 630-420-6475.

203 West Hillside Road
Naperville, IL
60540-6589
630-420-6475
Fax 630-420-1066

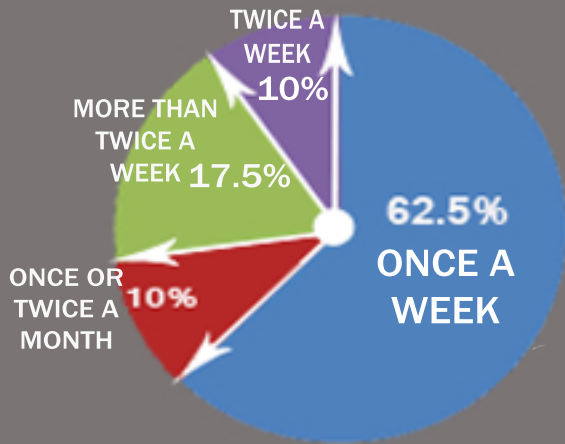
www.naperville203.org

HURRAH Newsletter
produced by Julie Park
& Kevin Dalton, student
interns.

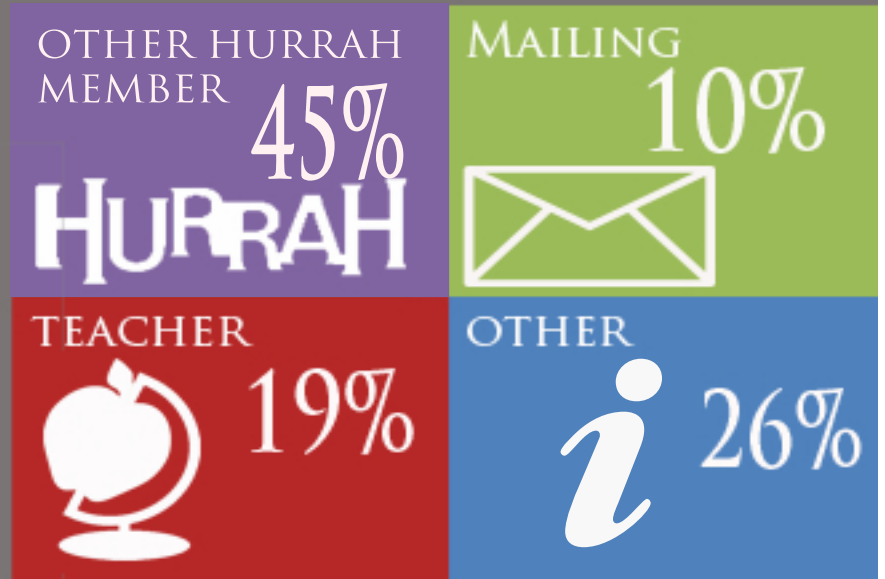
SURVEY RESULTS

HURRAH

VOLUNTEER FREQUENCY

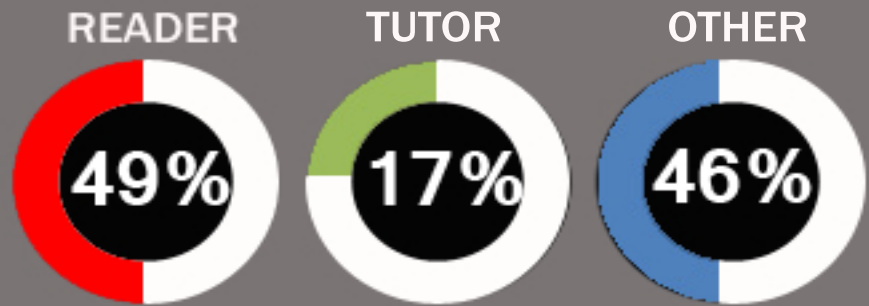


HOW MEMBERS HEARD OF THE PROGRAM

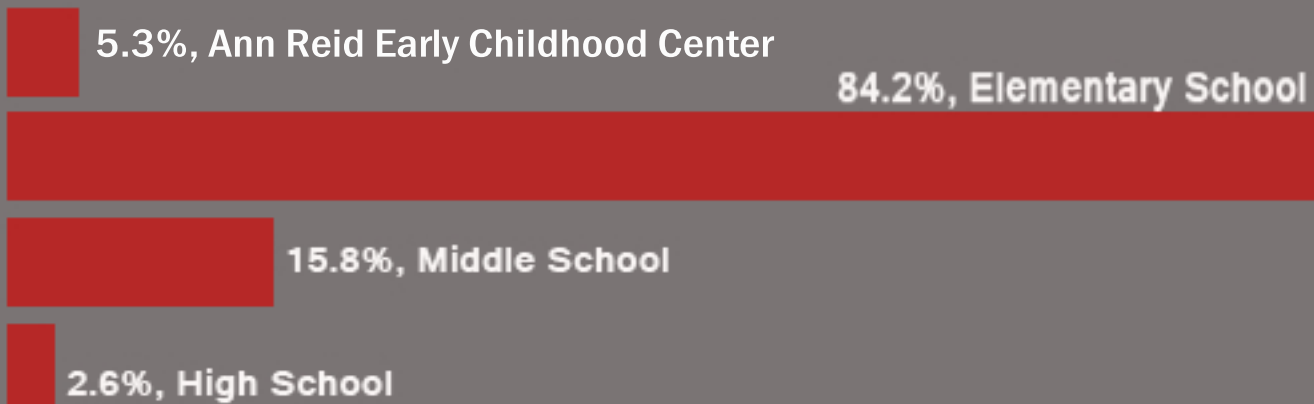


NEARLY **1/2**
OF ALL VOLUNTEERS
HAVE HAD PRIOR
TEACHING
EXPERIENCE

ROLES



VOLUNTEER LOCATIONS



THE GIFT OF VOLUNTEERING

Since her days as a school secretary at Lincoln Jr. High School from 1962-1995, HURRAH Executive Board member and active volunteer Carol Price has always had a passion for children and education.

After retiring, she returned to Lincoln as a volunteer, and later transferred to Mill Street Elementary School near her home.

"I had just moved here, and I knew that they took volunteers to read with the kids; so I just checked to see if they needed anything at Mill Street, and that's how I got in," she explained.

From that moment on, Carol cherished her moments spending time with the young students of all ages.

After volunteering with younger grades over the past six or seven years, this past year Carol worked with a class of fourth-grade Spanish-speaking students for the first time.

Though she chuckled at the fact that she was not required to speak the language herself, she was happy to listen to a couple of the students read to her in Spanish.

"I've enjoyed the kids so much. They're so sweet, so darling, and it's just something that pulls me back every year," she said.

Carol also mentions that multiple people of the Naperville community come and work with the kids, not just HURRAH members, including "a lot of fathers of the kids come, known as the Watch D.O.G.S. (Dads of Great Students), as well as a lot of policemen come in and read with the kids." Volunteers are expanding!

Naperville Community Unit School District 203 believes an exemplary school district is the result of a collective partnership of students, staff, parents and community.

As she experienced different classrooms each year, she was amazed by the differing personalities and, particularly, how the teachers managed the differences so well.



"I'm so impressed by what the teachers do, so many different children that are in different stages along the line. I have readers who are trying to point to every word and then I have those who are reading *Harry Potter* and bigger stories."

Carol simply enjoys being available to help wherever she is needed, which was mostly reading with the kids one-on-one, for an hour twice a week during the school year.

"It's just an enjoyable thing for people to do... I think the teachers enjoy having somebody come in just to have the kids get a break and look at things differently."

With three daughters of her own, ten grandchildren, and 12 great grandchildren, Carol is well aware of her enthusiasm for helping children learn, describing how she "loves to see how they think and how they react to different people".

"The kids are just very well behaved, I've been in this world of education for quite a while, and it's just fun, I think anybody who volunteers would enjoy it."

Price recalls the end of the past year when she received thank you letters from the students.

"One girl even wrote, 'You're so nice, and your reading would help us,' and it was sweet little things that just surprised me."

Price encourages others to come and offer a helping hand since volunteering is a enjoyable experience.

PROFILES

Paul and Linda Bergin



Beebe Elementary School

Paul and Linda became involved because of HURRAH newsletters that were sent home. After a follow up phone call by Russ Marineau, the founder of HURRAH, the incentive for volunteering at Beebe was set!

For the past three years, Linda has volunteered reading with selected students from the bilingual Kindergarten, first, and second grades. Paul just finished his first year reading with third graders, spending about 15 minutes with each student.

Volunteering has been an enjoyable experience for both Linda and Paul. They shared that it is always a great feeling being back at Beebe, walking through the hallways, visiting with the principal, teachers and staff, reminiscing, and reading with the students.

“Beebe is A Great Place To Be” and they love giving back to the school where their two adult sons attended.

Washington Junior High School

After retiring, Barb was looking to give back. Since she had two grandsons, she wanted to be able to help out at their school.

However when she went to an open meeting, there was no one from their school present, so she was quickly recruited by a wonderful teacher from Washington Junior High, where she has spent ten years enjoying every moment with the kids.

The first few weeks of each school year, the kids are always unsure who the new volunteer is in the room, but then once she begins reading one-on-one, and runs Friday game day, the students love seeing her come into the classroom. Barb loves to have fun and see them all improve as the year goes on, especially when they become more comfortable reading out loud and enjoying the process of reading.

Barb has also expanded her reading list to include the latest in YA reading, including all the *Harry Potter*, *The Hunger Games*, and the *Twilight* series, keeping her current in the literary circles.

Barb encourages more people to become HURRAH volunteers because she loves knowing that she is making a difference here in Naperville. She appreciates being able to share her enthusiasm about being in the schools with young people with others in the community. Barb is so grateful for HURRAH.



Barb Zigterman

PROFILES

Ruth Allison



Ann Reid Early Childhood Center

As the descendant of one of the first teachers in DuPage County back in 1835, Ruth Allison proudly keeps the teaching career alive in the family.

When her friends Bob and Donna Plummer from Grace United Methodist Church mentioned they volunteered with Naperville 203, Ruth was immediately interested in the opportunity.

“It was a really easy way to segway into retirement. We took a tour of ARECC, and I was so impressed with the school,” she said.

She recalls walking into the classroom every Wednesday, typically reading to children during story hour which is what she loves most.

“Each week is totally different, and I never knew what I was going to walk into. Sometimes it would be getting the books organized or helping them do some laminating; I did a little bit of everything,” she said.

She also showed appreciation towards Mr. Wilson, retired Computer Support Associate, who helped her get accustomed to her surroundings, especially with any equipment that she was unfamiliar with using.

After four years of experience as a volunteer, Ruth hopes to come back to Ann Reid next year to offer her assistance once again.



Kathy Henricks

River Woods Elementary School

Kathy believes she can bring much to the table as she was born and raised in Mexico City, Mexico where she finished high school and then came to the United States for college.

After earning a degree in Early Childhood Education and teaching preschool for many years, Kathy decided to reach out to River Woods where her two grandchildren went to school to offer her skillset. There she started helping in reading support with Mrs. Saucedo’s Dual Language first grade class.

This soon turned into volunteering once or twice a week for the next two years.

Kathy’s life in Mexico has proved handy as she understands the Mexican culture and its people. She can relate to the Hispanic students, as well as where they are coming from, especially since she can speak and write both English and Spanish.

Kathy has truly loved volunteering with the younger children as they are so anxious to learn and read together every time they see her. She looks forward to volunteering at Mill Street Elementary School next year as well!

WELLNESS PROGRAM

Building Safety



Nothing is more important to Naperville District 203 than the safety and security of our students and staff.

The District has made a number of improvements in recent years to bolster this effort. One example is the addition of the Raptor System.

The Raptor System allows administration to produce an identification sticker for visitors to wear while in the building. Visitors are asked to produce a driver's license or other identification card, which are run through a security check system that compares names against a database to cross reference the names of people who should not be allowed in schools.

However, the District also eagerly welcomes visitors, particularly volunteers. "We hope that our visitors will understand this necessary step as one of many things that the District does to ensure student and staff safety. The Raptor System is in place at all of our schools," said Chief Operating Officer Bob Ross.

The District will continue to ensure a safe environment for our students, staff and volunteers!



Benedictine University undergraduate Exercise & Sports Studies students are **looking for volunteers** so they can practice their senior-specific assessment and exercise skills. All sessions will be conducted in the fitness center located at Villa St. Benedict, 5450 Subiaco Drive, Lisle (same intersection as the university).

This is a four week program so if you are interested, please try to make sure you are available all four weeks to maximize the students' learning.

These sessions will begin the week of October 18th and run through the week of November 8th. There are four groups of students so the days/times are as follows:

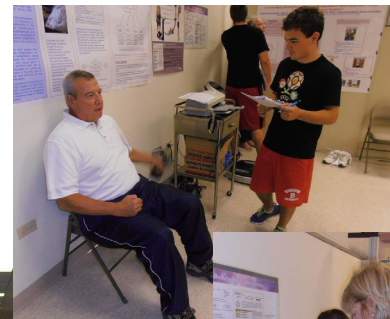
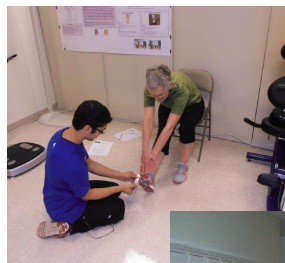
Group 1: Tuesdays (10/18, 10/25, 11/1, 11/8) from 1:30pm-2:40pm

Group 2: Tuesdays (10/18, 10/25, 11/1, 11/8) from 3:00pm-4:10pm

Group 3: Thursdays (10/20, 10/27, 11/3, 11/10) from 12:20pm-1:30pm

Group 4: Thursdays (10/20, 10/27, 11/3, 11/10) from 1:30pm-2:40pm

If you are interested, or would like more information, please contact Regina Schurman via email rschurman@ben.edu or cell phone 630-764-7768.



MOBILE DEVICE TRAINING

As technology changes year after year, **our younger generations teaches our retirees** how to keep up with the latest digital devices and app trends.

HURRAH volunteer Sue Kranz has been a part of the Mobile Device Training Program designed for young students to train retirees on how to use their technology.

“The students get to train a real-life person and see their attitude,” Kranz said.

The Mobile Device Training Program is not only designed to help with training retirees, but also to help build connections between the younger and older generations.

Training will occur at Naperville North High School during high school lunch periods on Tuesdays in October. Watch your email for dates and sign-up opportunities.



Where do Hurrah Volunteers come from???

- Alumni Parents
- Churches
- Civic organizations
- Friends recruiting Friends
- Grandparents
- Home & School Association
- Newly Retired
- Prior volunteers
- Retirement organizations
- Senior Centers

Naperville Community
Unit School District 203
HURRAH
203 West Hillside Road
Naperville, IL 60540-6589

DISTRICT 203 RESIDENTS 60+! FREE ADMISSION ACTIVITY PASS

Valid for any school activity, game, play, or program regularly scheduled by any school, grade, group or organization or class within Naperville Community Unit School District 203 during the school year. (Please note: exception of Illinois High School Association playoff or tournament athletic events). Visit the Administrative Center at 203 W. Hillside to receive your Activity Pass.

Please be advised that a limited number of tickets will be held at Will Call for pass holders. Unclaimed tickets will be relased 15 minutes prior to the start of shows. To guarantee a seat for the production, please call the student activities office (NNHS 630-420-6812/ NCHS 630-420-6649) to reserve your ticket or purchase additional tickets.

Naperville Central HS

FALL PLAY: November 3, 4, 5

THEATRE CENTRAL HOLIDAY SHOW: December 8, 9, 10

SPRING PLAY: March 9, 10, 11

MULTICULTURAL SHOW: March 24

DRUM SHOW: April 7

SPRING MUSICAL: April 21, 22, 23

ONE ACTS: May 4, 5, 6

Naperville North HS

FALL PLAY: August 26, 27, 28

CHILDREN'S SHOW: December 2, 3, 4

ONE ACTS: January 27, 28

SPRING PLAY: March 3, 4, 5

MULTICULTURAL SHOW: March 23

MUSICAL: April 26, 27, 28, 29, 30

STAY CONNECTED WITH NAPERVILLE 203!

To receive emails from Naperville 203 about events, volunteer opportunities, and honors and awards earned by our students and staff, sign up for Community Talk203 through our website!

Simply go to
<http://www.naperville203.org/domain/80> and click on the Community Talk203 graphic and fill out the short form.

