

## Secretary's Report

Jeremy Kamminga

Hello and welcome to another edition of the Beacon! The birds are coming back, the snow is almost gone (for now...), and the sun is feeling hotter every day. This is one of my favourite times of the year. Though our long cold winters have a certain beauty of their own, they can seem so lifeless at times. Now life returns. What a vivid and enduring testimony to the promise of life after death which we celebrated just a few weeks ago.

The biggest and most pressing item on our agenda at this time is staffing for next year. The board is happy to announce that **Anje Jager** from Hamilton, Ontario has accepted a contract for next year. Anje is currently finishing up her studies at the Teachers College. After interviewing her, the board was more than happy to offer her a contract and we are confident that she will be a welcome asset to our teaching staff. While this is great news, **we are still looking for two more teachers for**

**next year.** We have had a few others interested in coming to Carman, but so far they have decided not to. We ask for your continued prayers for this and we trust that God will provide us with all that we need. Also, if anyone knows of someone who is qualified and who may be interested in teaching at DCS, please let our Principal or one of the board members know.

Other than that there is not a lot new to report on. The Board continues to work on the tasks that are before us. We are very close to having a ***Nomination & Voting Procedure proposal*** put together for the society. This coming month we will begin looking into the Para-professional staffing requirements for next year. Another issue that we will be discussing is the **Sports Policy**. In particular, we will be looking into the possibility of some students participating in individual sports. If you have any thoughts on this or any other issue for that matter, please write us a letter to let us

know. The Board would much rather make decisions knowing that we have the support of the society, rather than finding out after that fact that we should have went a different direction.

You will also have an opportunity to share your ideas at the **semi-annual membership meeting planned for Thursday, June 11, 2009.** Please mark that date on your calendar as we need to have a quorum in order for the meeting to be productive.

**Our committees also continue to work on the task in front of them:**

The ***Building Committee*** works to keep on top of all the maintenance issues in and around the school building. As far as building plans go, at this point the committee is looking for input from the Society members as to which direction and how far we should go.

At this time the ***Education Committee*** is able to relax a little bit

since there are no major things like new curriculums or textbooks to go through. They are using this opportunity to put together Information Bulletins regarding various, pertinent political and scientific issues in the world today.

The Board would like to thank **Terri-Lynn Vandersluis** and Hilly Kooiker for the work on the **Promotion Committee** for the last three years. Among other things, this committee works behind the scenes to organize events involving the school. We would also like to thank **Betty**

**Breukelman** and **Angela Blok** for agreeing to help out on this committee for the next three years. Life can be so busy, so we really appreciate your willingness to give up some more of your time to help out at DCS.

On behalf of the students, staff, board, and committees I would urge you to continue to support DCS. Pray that the teachers would receive the energy and the wisdom to carry out their work in the classrooms. Pray that students would see the importance of learning the material before them and the importance of

using their talents and gifts to honor God and serve their neighbor. Pray also that the Board and committees would receive wisdom to make decisions in a God-honoring way. I also encourage you to be interested. Be interested in what your children or grandchildren are learning. Be interested in the successes and struggles the teachers are having in the classroom. Simply being interested will do a lot to support and encourage all involved.

May God be honoured by our rest and worship today.

## *Principal's Report*

*Andy Huisman*

*“Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God’s grace in its various forms.” 1 Peter 4:10*

Those are indeed beautiful words to live by. They go very well with the mission statement of DCS – “for living a life of Christian discipleship in contemporary society.” The scripture passage makes it very clear what our responsibility is and the purpose it serves – “so that in all things, God may be praised.” 1 Peter 4:11. A number of years ago the question was raised in the High School – “How can we assist the students to discover and nurture their talents so that they might use them to the service of God and their neighbour?” From that discussion eventually came what is known as the “Dufferin Christian High School Portfolio Project.” A portfolio of this nature is a physical collection of material that demonstrates a student’s exploration and reflection of God-given talents that can be used in service to God and neighbour. There are so

many connections that one can make on a daily basis that really causes the students to think about this. That is also partly why this year's school theme was chosen – *“In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:16.*

The portfolio project is to be worked on during the final four years at DCS (grade 9-12). It is designed to be a work in progress, completed at the end of grade 12. Although the portfolio will add some work to the student's current load, the main elements of this portfolio may use artefacts from other high school courses. The portfolio is currently being worked on by the grade 9/10 classes.

The portfolio is divided into five sections:

- Unit One – God's Calling for Me: God's Gifts to Me
- Unit Two – Exploring Opportunities: How can I fulfill my calling?
- Unit Three – Preparing for a changing world.
- Unit Four – Annual Summaries: Seeing who God made me to be.
- Unit Five – Graduation Summary: Who I am and how I have grown.

A fundamental component of this portfolio project is the “School and Community Service” component. It is one thing to talk about exploring gifts, thinking about ways in which to shine our light, but we fall short if that is where we stop and do not put our words into practice. It is through service that we may discover more about our gifts. The word ‘gift’ carries with it the inherent concepts of “Giver” (a gift has to be given by Someone) as well as responsibility (a receiver of a gift has the privilege and responsibility to make use of the gift given). To that end, over a period four years, the students are to accumulate a number of hours spent in service to the school and the community.

In- school service hours may include things such as, but not limited to:

- Coaching. refereeing sporting events
- Student Action Leadership Team
- Student Athletics
- Mentoring/tutoring younger students
- Yearbook
- Library

Community service hours may include things such as, but not limited to:

- Church related activities (VBS)
- Fall Clean/Spring Clean

- Community organizations ( Christmas Cheer Board, MCC, Prolife, Partners and Pals)
- Community Projects
- Community sports (i.e minor soccer coach)
- Hospital/Care Home
- Not-for-Profit Agencies (YFC)

The list is not an exhaustive nor restrictive list. The intent is to stimulate the children to consider their gifts and to use them for the glory of the Lord and the benefit of their neighbour. If you have opportunity to use students in this manner, simply call the school and we will make the necessary arrangements. As well, you may know of volunteer opportunities that exist that we may not be aware of. By truly being a community, we can share these ideas and opportunities with one another and thus provide our children new experiences. A number of you have already done so, and given our students an opportunity to do things that they may not normally have ever thought about doing. Thank you for those opportunities.

### **Other News**

#### **Staff Update**

It is now time for some sad news and some happy news. First, it is sad that Miss Jolene van Dijk will be leaving DCS at the end of this year. She has served the school, the students and the community faithfully in her teaching. The happy part is that she will be getting married this summer. We wish her all of the Lord's blessings in her future endeavours. Secondly, it is also sad that Miss Hannah Vanderveen will be leaving DCS at the end of this year as well. Hannah has taken on her position at DCS with much professionalism and dedication. The happy part for her is that she has been accepted into the Education Program at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay. We wish her well with her future studies and perhaps our paths will cross again one day in the future.

As you have read in the report of Jeremy Kamminga, the Board has hired Anje Jagr (happy news) to teach at DCS next year. In one of her recent emails she has asked if I would place the following announcement in an upcoming Beacon. *"I am looking for a one or two bedroom apartment to rent beginning August 1, 2009. Please contact me at the address below. Thank you. [anjejager09@gmail.com](mailto:anjejager09@gmail.com)"*. If anyone knows of a suitable place, please send Anje an email.

#### **Grandparent's Day**

Once again the DCS Elementary division is planning to hold its annual Grandparent's Day. This is an event that the students really look forward to, and from what I hear in the past, so do

many of the grandparents! This special day is set for Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. As the time gets closer, more details will be provided. In the meantime, mark it on your calendar of things to do.

### **Fine Arts Gala**

DCS would like to invite you to this year's "*Fine Arts Gala*". This event will take place on the evening of Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at the Carman West Church. This is the opportunity given to celebrate the many '*fine arts*' talents of our students at DCS. The evening will feature numerous displays of the outstanding artwork of all students from Kindergarten right through to the High School. Guests will have the opportunity to peruse the many displays, and to be entertained by the school Choirs. As well, this is also coordinated with the Senior and Junior Band programs. The Bands will be performing, both in individual performances and as one large mass band. There will also be a number of solos performed during the evening. God has truly blessed our students in many ways, and we invite you to this celebration.

### **DCS Awards**

It is coming close to that time of year – GRADUATION! There are many people that are looking forward to this event as the culmination of their years at DCS and as a transition on to the next step in the life that God has planned for them. In preparation for this event, DCS is inviting nominations for the "2009 Citizenship Award" to be presented at the Graduation Ceremony on June 23. This award is presented to a student to recognize his / her characteristics of Christian friendship, respect, and compassion for others in the school as well as in the community at large. He/ she shows a willingness to assist and support others without expecting reward or recognition and works well in partnership with fellow students. Nominations will be based on a student's

- Christian regard for others
- general attitude toward academic work
- extra-curricular activity involvement
- involvement in community activities

For further information, please contact Mr. Andy Huisman at 745-2278 or [dcsprincipal@mts.net](mailto:dcsprincipal@mts.net). Nominations can be submitted to the school office on or before Friday, June 12, 2009 – 4:00 PM. A copy of the nomination form can be found on the website [www.dufferinchristian.ca](http://www.dufferinchristian.ca). Once on the website go to 'Student Information' and find the 'Forms' page.

### **DCS Sports**

Dufferin Christian School and Stinger's Athletics is organizing their annual Banquet at the end of May. The theme of this year's banquet is "*Serving God through Athletics*." It is customary at

this banquet to hand out various awards for the various sports that our students participate in. As well, they will be handing out an award for the Male and Female Athlete of the Year. The coaches of their respective teams choose the awards for the most valuable player, most improved and Christian Character. The selection of the Athletes of the Year is done in part by interested observers/parents/coaches, and this is where we would like your help. The Athletics Department is asking you to help nominate deserving recipients for the male/female athletes of the year. Please provide reasons for your choice(s).

*Things to consider in your ranking may include:*

- Has shown the ability to balance faith life, school work and athletics
- Christian sportsmanship
- Skill level over several sports
- Effort and attitude
- Leadership

We know that you may not have seen every game of every sport, nor do we think that that is necessary. We also know that in some cases a family member might be included in your list. If he/she is worthy of inclusion, then please feel free to do so. We hope to have several responses, and we will meet as Athletics department to collate these responses and come up with the winner. If you could return your nominations to either Mike Raap ([bmraap@mts.net](mailto:bmraap@mts.net)) or Andy Huisman ([dcsprincipal@mts.net](mailto:dcsprincipal@mts.net)) by May 15<sup>th</sup>. We would appreciate it. You may respond by email or by a handwritten letter, at your convenience.

### **DCS Assembly**

The students and staff would like to invite everybody to the next assembly to be held on Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> starting shortly after 9:00 a.m. The theme is *"and praise their father who is in heaven"*.

I would like to end this report by sharing a portion of a letter that I recently received from Jack and Linda McKinnon, a local homeowner that lives close to DCS.

*"To the Administration, Staff and Students,*

*We would like to sincerely thank you for your quick and caring response to our emergency yesterday, when we realized our dike was not going to be high enough to keep Boyne River from flooding our driveway. Due to the efforts of the six students from DCS and our neighbours, the dike is still holding back the flood waters today.*

*Please pass on our appreciation particularly to the six students (Dana, Robin, Trevor, Garret, Tim, Janae) who volunteered and worked so steadily and cheerfully. They are wonderful and respectful young men and women.*

*Again, our heartfelt thanks*

*Jack and Linda Mckinnon*

I would like to add to that by sharing another story that I overheard. At a sporting event in which our team was playing in Rosenort, one of our parents was seated next to a gentleman from that area. After a short conversation, it was discovered that it was this gentleman's farm whom the high school students of DCS sandbagged back in 1997. He has never forgotten the fact that it was the students from Dufferin Christian School in Carman who saved his farm and for which he will always be grateful.

*"for living a life of Christian Discipleship in contemporary society"*

Have a blessed day of rest.

# ***Student Services***

*2008/09*

**By Marcy Vandebos**

In this report I'd like to give you a taste of what I do as the Student Services coordinator. At the beginning of the year, I went through every high school students' program to make sure they were taking the right amount of courses to keep them on track for graduation.

I then began visiting with all the grade 12 students to find out their plans after graduation from DCS. When they talked about post-secondary education, we then looked at their schooling options and as the time for application approached, I made sure that all who wished to, received a hard copy of the application form. However, today most of the schools would rather students used the online application forms.

Next, it was time to look at the scholarship/bursary opportunities. There are many opportunities for scholarships but most of them are looking for a great commitment to volunteering in the school/greater community in various leadership roles. I would like to give you a taste of the credentials they are looking for:

- recognizes the significant contribution of one who has served as an inspiration to others through example and accomplishments in the field of sports, physical fitness, recreation, or general fitness.
- Respected and admired for achievements and commitments to school, workplace, and/or community and is a positive influence on peers.
- Recognizes Grade 12 students who have engaged in meaningful leadership and citizenship volunteer activities during the past year that were targeted at promoting healthy living in their communities and schools.

All scholarship opportunities are date sensitive so students must make sure they get all the requirements done by the due date. Bursaries are also available from the various schools. Students must put in the time to look up their options, most are online.

At this time of year, I am now visiting with all the students from grades 9-11. Because it is course registration time, we discuss what career plans they might have for after DCS. Then we use Career Cruising to help us look at the various careers and find the education needed for that career. You can look this up at home as well by going to the following website: [www.careercruising.com](http://www.careercruising.com) and use the username: manitoba356 and password: careers. Follow the links to find more information. If students use this at home, I would also appreciate it if you save it to your portfolio, which you set up during PHE health classes. If you have forgotten your password etc., please let me know because I can find it for you again. After we discuss career plans we look at how many courses the student has already completed and which ones they will need to be on track for graduation and the post-secondary studies they wish to do. Hopefully, this is helpful for filling out the course registration forms.

Once I have received all the course registration forms I will go through them once again to make sure all the courses needed are marked off. I also look at the future grade 9 and 10s to see if they have any spares. This is not something we encourage at these grade levels so I try to find other options for them. Spares can also be used for volunteer hours, by helping in other grades or tutoring another student. Mostly, we do not want to see this time wasted.

Once all the forms are checked, they go to Mrs. Vandermeulen who types up the class lists and Mr. Huisman gets to work out the timetable for next year. I believe this is one of his most "enjoyable" jobs, trying to juggle the students, courses and teachers available to work out a timetable that is best for all involved.

I hope that you now have a better idea of what is involved in the career services area and if there are any questions you will feel free to ask. Call me at home or at school. I may not have the answers immediately but I will try to find them for you.

**From the Library Committee**

Just a note that after Tuesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, the DCS Library will no longer be open on Tuesday evening. (You can still come on the 28<sup>th</sup>!!)

# Volleyball Evening

Grade 9 & Up!

May 15, 2009 -- 7:30 pm. DCS Gym



Please bring clean non-scuffing shoes    Cost: 2 Toonies!    Make your own team or we can put you on a team.

**Fundraiser for Grad!**

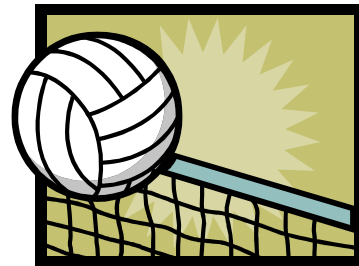
# DCS Athletic Banquet

Serving God Through Athletics.

Saturday, May 30, 2009

Time: 7:30 p.m.    Cost: \$5.00/ per person

At Carman West Church



We will be having an athletic banquet to end the school year and to celebrate the accomplishments of the Stinger's teams this year. We will be having a keynote speaker as well as team awards which will include Most Improved, Most Valuable, as well as Christian Character. We will also be awarding 2 new awards this year, that being both Male and Female Christian Athlete of the Year. We are asking for nominations from parents/coaches/spectators and anyone in general. The criteria will be listed on the nomination form which will be found at the back of next week's newsletter.

The keynote speaker has not finalized their topic, but will focus on Christian sportsmanship and being a Christian in competitive sports. **Dessert and refreshments will be provided and will only cost \$5.00** to help alleviate the costs of some of the trophies.

Please contact one of your sports committee members for tickets.

- Doug Termeer @745-6653 or [dougtermeer17@hotmail.com](mailto:dougtermeer17@hotmail.com)
- Michael Raap @745-3445 or [bmraap@mts.net](mailto:bmraap@mts.net)

Serving God Through Athletics.

# New Library Selections

## SPRING 2009

### Primary

Clifford's Birthday Party	<i>Bridewell, Norman</i>
Maple Syrup Season	<i>Purmell, Ann</i>
Jack's House	<i>Beil, Karen Magnuson</i>
The Kissing Hand	<i>Penn, Audrey</i>
Curious George's Dinosaur Discovery	<i>Hapka, Catherine</i>
The Quiltmaker's Gift	<i>Brumbeau, Jeff</i>
Knuffle Bunny Too	<i>Willems, Mo</i>
The Gnats of Knotty Pine	<i>Peet, Bill</i>
Five Little Monkeys Sitting in a Tree	<i>Christelow, Eileen</i>
Where's Waldo? #1	<i>Handford, Martin</i>
Where's Waldo Now? #2	<i>Handford, Martin</i>
Where's Waldo? The Fantastic Journey #3	<i>Handford, Martin</i>
Where's Waldo? In Hollywood #4	<i>Handford, Martin</i>
Where's Waldo? The Wonder Book #5	<i>Handford, Martin</i>
You are Special	<i>Lucado, Max</i>
Blueberries for the Queen	<i>Paterson, John &amp; Katherine</i>
Boxes for Katje	<i>Fleming, Candace</i>

### Junior Easy

Frog and Toad are Friends	<i>Lobel, Arnold</i>
Lost in the Snow	<i>Wishinsky, Frieda</i>
Canadian Flyer Adventures	<i>Wishinsky, Frieda</i>
#1 Beware, Pirates!	
#3 Crazy for Gold	
#4 Yikes, Vikings!	
#5 Flying High!	
#6 Pioneer Kids	
#8 A Whale Tale	
#9 All Aboard!	

### Fiction

Red Rock Mysteries #7 Double Fault	<i>Jenkins, Jerry B.</i>
Chestnut Ridge Acres #3	<i>Bender, Carrie</i>
Timber Lane Cove #6	<i>Bender, Carrie</i>

Jungle Doctor's Enemies	<i>White, Paul</i>
Jungle Doctor in Slippery Places	<i>White, Paul</i>
New Beginnings	<i>Brunstetter, Wanda</i>
Out of Control	<i>Brunstetter, Wanda</i>
Carrie's Courage	<i>Lutz, Norma Jean</i>
Get a Clue #1 The Treasure of Blackbird Rock	<i>Press, Julian</i>
Cold Midnight in Vieux Quebec #10	<i>Wilson, Eric</i>
The Case of the Golden Boy #3	<i>Wilson, Eric</i>
Graveyard of the Sea #4 Disaster Strikes	<i>Draper, Penny</i>
Call Me Aram	<i>Skrypuch, Marsha Forchuk</i>
Rachel Yoder – A Happy Heart #5	<i>Brunstetter, Wanda E.</i>
Rachel Yoder – Just Plain Foolishness #6	<i>Brunstetter, Wanda E.</i>
Sisters in Time – Maria Takes a Stand	<i>Lutz, Norma Jean</i>
The Roman Mysteries – The Thieves of Ostia #1	<i>Lawrence, Caroline</i>
Tunnels of Moose Jaw Adventures – Next Stop: Chicago	<i>Bishop, Mary Harelkin</i>
The Prairie Dog Conspiracy #12	<i>Wilson, Eric</i>
Jungle Doctor Spots a Leopard #3	<i>White, Paul</i>

## **Highschool Fiction**

Task Force Valor #1 Allah's Fire	<i>Holton, Chuck / Roper, Gayle</i>
Every Now & Then 9/11 Series	<i>Kingsbury, Karen</i>
Ever Present Danger #1	<i>Herman, Kathy</i>
Never Look Back #2	<i>Herman, Kathy</i>
The Grand Scheme #3	<i>Herman, Kathy</i>
First the Dead (A Bug Man Novel)	<i>Downs, Tim</i>
Shoo Fly Pie (A Bug Man Novel)	<i>Downs, Tim</i>
Chop Shop	<i>Downs, Tim</i>
Betrayed	<i>Windle, J.M.</i>
Hey Cop!	<i>Day, Bruce</i>
Laughing at the Law	<i>Day, Bruce</i>
Heroes of Quantico – Against All Odds #1	<i>Hannon, Irene</i>
Riven – A Novel	<i>Jenkins, Jerry B.</i>
Until We Reach Home	<i>Austin, Lynn</i>

## **Junior Resource**

John Deere	<i>Leffingwell, Randy</i>
Hockey Night 'By the Number From 00 to 99'	<i>Morrison, Scott</i>
Tiger's New Cowboy Boots	<i>Morck, Irene</i>
Camping	<i>Hundal, Nancy</i>
Two Bobbies	<i>Larson, Kirby / Nethery, Mary</i>
Manjiro	<i>McCully, Emily Arnold</i>
The Underground Railroad (Interactive History Adventure)	<i>Lassieur, Allison</i>
Who Runs This Country, Anyway? (A Guide to Canadian Government)	<i>Stanbridge, Joanne</i>

Space (Usborne Discovery)  
 Roman Army (Usborne Discovery)  
 The Usborne Healthy Cookbook  
 The Usborne Children's Book of Baking  
 The Usborne Book of Art Projects  
 China (Usborne)  
 Martin Luther: A Man Who Changed the World

Denne, Ben / O'Brien, Eileen  
 Brocklehurst, Ruth  
 Patchett, Fiona  
 Patchett, Fiona  
 Watt, Fiona  
 Pratt, Leonie  
 Maier, Paul L.

## **Highschool Resource**

And They Sing a New Song  
 The Dort Study Bible IV (1 Kings – 1 Chronicles)  
 The Peace Maker  
 Peace Making Women  
 Freedom of Belief  
 Encourage One Another  
 Cloning  
 Hepatitis  
 Anorexia  
 Organic Foods  
 Meningitis  
 Autism  
 Phobias  
 The Truth About Islam  
 Graphing Habitats  
 Graphing Water  
 Graphing Energy  
 The War at Home: Japan During World War II  
 Up From the Ashes: Rebuilding Japan After World War II  
 Samuri, Shoguns, and Soldiers: The Rise of the Japanese Military  
 King Arthur  
 Mummies  
 Oil  
 Water Resource Management

*Van der Waal, C.*

*Sande, Ken*  
*Barthel, Tara Klena / Dabler, Judy*  
*Hirst, Mike*  
*Vegter, Bram*  
*Kafka, Tina*  
*Marcovitz, Hal*  
*Parks, Peggy J.*  
*Miller, Debra A.*  
*Marcovitz, Hal*  
*Park, Peggy J.*  
*Marcovitz, Hal*  
*Zaka, Anees / Coleman, Diane*  
*Medina, Sarah*  
*Medina, Sarah*  
*Solway, Andrew*  
*Spencer, Linda*  
*Ohlenroth, Patricia*  
*Somervill, Barbara A.*  
*Lace, William W.*  
*Woog, Adam*  
*Friedman, Lauri / Stancke, Jennifer*  
*Sawvel, Patty Jo*

Genocide in Modern Times  
 -Genocide in Darfur  
 -Genocide and the Boxnian War  
 -Genocide in Rwanda

*Levy, Janey*  
*Ching, Jacqueline*  
*Spalding, Frank*

The Holocaust: Jews, Germans, and the National-Socialists      *Norton, James*

