

Toms' Moms Meeting and Brunch  
Saturday, Jan. 17, 2009  
Minutes

President Margaret Labbe called the meeting to order at 11 a.m.

### **Reports**

#### **Secretary's**

Minutes from the Oct. meeting are posted on the STH website on the Toms' Moms page.

#### **Treasurer's**

Sharyn Sporar gave the Treasurer's Report. Our Current Balance is \$3389.00. Our expenses have greatly decreased this year since we are using email for invitations and meeting reminders.

Esther Kana spoke about the Chastity speaker the school heard last year and asked if Toms' Moms would be willing to help defray the cost of the speaker this year. Father Schwenzer said she should first check with Jenny McConnell, dean of the Theology Department, to see if the speaker would be scheduled this year.

#### **Principal's**

Father Huber was not able to attend the meeting thus his report is in the Minutes in full.

#### **\* Current Enrollment:**

9<sup>th</sup> – 203  
10<sup>th</sup> – 181  
11<sup>th</sup> – 170  
12<sup>th</sup> – 149  
TOTAL = 703

\*Annual Men of St. Thomas father-son retreat at Camp Allen in Navasota was held the weekend of Jan. 9-11.

\*Monday's assemblies: Freshmen and sophomores: FBI Agent Randall Clark spoke about Internet Safety. Juniors and seniors: Mike Monks and Sean Teare '98 spoke about the legal & moral consequences of drinking & driving.

Father Wahl noted that Drug Testing at STH will be coming in the next 18 months. He said Strake was already testing and SPX would begin in the fall.

\*A mass at the Co-Cathedral for all the Catholic high schools was held on Jan 13; 60 students from each school were in attendance; mass was celebrated by Bishop Rizzotto will.

Upcoming events:

\*Annual Scholarship Breakfast – January 21: donors responsible for various endowed scholarships are invited to have breakfast with the recipients of financial aid here at school.

\*Open House – January 25 (Mass at 11 a.m. in the Chapel)

\*CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK January 25-31; Feast of St. Thomas January 28; Bishop Rizzotto will celebrate an all-school mass.

**\*ROUNDUP is on its way!**

\*Pink Ribbon RUGBY Game: Friday February 13.

**President's**

Father Schwenzer was in attendance and gave the President's Report as follows:

The Auction made \$508,000 and the net profit was \$382,000.

**\*Fundraising:** The Auction in November was very successful. Revenue was \$508,000 and after expenses we netted \$382,000 or \$5,000 more than last year. We are gearing up for the Student Round-Up Raffle which begins in a week. The goal is to beat last year's record of \$317,000. Our goal for the Annual Fund this year is \$750,000. As to today we have \$605,000.

**\*Capital Campaign:** During December and January I have been working with Jim Michalek, Director of Advancement on organizing the leadership for the capital campaign. As a result of the feasibility study it was evident that we could not complete our comprehensive campus master plan all at one time. As a result of the recommendation by the Steier Group, the Board of Directors approved a \$25M campaign that will cover Phase I. That means a 300 car parking garage, a field house, a maintenance building, renovate the gym, enhance the baseball field, create two new labs/classrooms in the science department and add to our endowment. We will be in the silent phase of the campaign for the remainder of 2009 to raise 70-80% of our goal. Next year at this time, if everything works out, we will publicly announce the campaign and have the alumni, parents of current students and parents of alumni portion of the campaign with the hopes of winding up the capital campaign called "The St. Thomas Experience - Building on Excellence" in mid 2010.

**\*Recruitment:** Since a number of teachers and coaches left St. Thomas this past June, we re-did portions of our recruitment video that we show to 8<sup>th</sup> graders and their parents. It is very good. Mike Netzel, our Athletic Director, Donald Hollas, Football Coach, Craig Biggio and Alexandra Maya, new Spanish teacher were part of the update.

## **New Business**

### **Wine Tasting**

Susan Protz reported that Toms Moms will enjoy a wine tasting and lunch at Messina Hof Winery in Brenham, TX, on Saturday, Feb. 7. The wine tasting begins at 11 a.m. and lunch will follow. Those interested in attending were asked to sign up. Car pooling will be arranged.

Susan also presented another idea of a cooking class at the Red Onion Restaurant. Interested Toms Moms were asked to sign up. The cost is \$55 and the class is held on a Tuesday once a month. More details will be sent out about this at a later date.

### **Round Up**

Toms' Moms are responsible for the Dessert Table at Round Up on March 1, 2009. Members were asked to sign up to work between 12:00 and 6:30 p.m. The Sophomore class will provide cookies for the booth. Members were asked to bring HOMEMADE pies and cakes when they came to work on Round Up Sunday. Those who just want to bring baked items will get more details on how to turn in.

### **Camp for All**

Jano Nixon told about the upcoming giant slumber party at Camp For All on April 2. Ladies spend the night in cabins (\$1200 per cabin of 12 and includes wine reception, dinner and s'mores) and then shop till they drop the next day in Round Top. Last year several Toms' Moms enjoyed this event. Proceeds help fund activities at Camp for All. All interested were asked to sign up.

### **Guest Speaker**

#### **Charity Guild of Catholic Women**

Sandy Poye, STH wife, mother and grandmother and Membership Chair of Charity Guild of Catholic Women, along with Charity Guild member Linda Williams, made a very interesting presentation on Charity Guild and, in particular, the Guild Shop.

Sandy said Charity Guild has been in existence 86 years and has over 500 members today. It gives \$100,000 annually to San Jose Clinic, which serves the under insured and non insured children. The resale shop is located on Lovett and is open daily. It sells a variety of items including clothing and household items. Guild members staff the shop and help with receiving, sorting, pricing and selling. Sandy said Guild members come together and share love and a commitment to the children they serve. She invited all Toms' Moms to come and shop and also to bring items to the shop for consignment. Robin McConnell and Dottie Scheffler are Guild Members and Ann-Carroll Morin is a provisional member. They all said it is a lot of fun, very rewarding also a great way to meet new friends.

### **Other Business:**

Mary Monks had St. Basil's coffee for sale. The coffee is \$13 per pound and one half of the proceeds goes to the Basilian Columbian Missions.

Mary Francisco has the last 12 available Mothers' Club Cookbooks for sale. She reported they had sold 300 cookbooks for \$25 each.

Mary Seiter reminded everyone about the Bible Study which is held on Mondays from 7 to 8:30 p.m. in Room 2116.

Toms' Moms will have at least one table at the Mothers' Club Style Show on April 30.

The Spring Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 16, 2009, with Mass at 4:30 p.m. and dinner and meeting to follow.

Toms Moms were asked to pray for Brennan Harmeier, son of Trina Harmeier, who was severely injured in an automobile accident in December. Brennan is home and slowly recovering. Prayers were also asked for Beverly Cones who is battling cancer.

The meeting was adjourned at 12 Noon.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Alice Arbour  
Secretary