



What's New at Chi Chi's



September & October 2008



Donor Spotlight: Lt. General John Conaway is Saving One Kid At A Time

Lt. General (retired) John Conaway is the current Chairman of the Board for the National Guard Youth Foundation. His involvement with Chi Chi's kids began over 20 years ago because of a passion for helping under-achieving kids. He believes that adding value to America by saving one kid at a time will be his legacy and this will make a difference for generations to come. Since 1993 friends and colleagues have joined Chi Chi for the annual November Charity Classic. Traveling from all over the country guests have included the Secretary of The Air Force and distinguished veterans of our armed forces.

For more information about the National Guard Youth Challenge Program, go to www.ngycp.org.

Welcome back students and teachers: On August 20th our Academy staff greeted returning students plus a brand new 8th grade class. Thanks to the support of the Pinellas County School District our school has increased to 88 students with room for more.

Welcome New Teachers Robert Hecker, Dan Jacobs, Susan McLean, and Josh Meurer!

ACADEMY STAFF

- Principal: John Burwell
- Director & Counselor: Jayme Pecci
- Office Assistant: Linda Foderaro
- Teachers: Ginger Francisco, Susan McLean, Kelly Mercier, Josh Meurer, and Lori VanderKlok
- Teacher Assistants: Lou Ann Brown, Doris Dabbs, Robert Hecker, and Debbie Moss
- Specialty Teachers: Derek Chaisson, Music
Dan Jacobs, Art
- Physical Education: Randy Cohen, Tim Dublino, Michael Mancini, and Brandon Walker



Chi Chi Academy's teaching staff

Academy Students in full Golf attire: Upper and lower class members are looking like the professional students that they are in new Academy golf attire. Thanks to Fred and Carol Whaley who helped plan the new look and to Frank Chivas and the 505 Club in Clearwater that paid for the student clothing.



6th grader Michael and 7th grader Ashley in their golf attire



Robin Zander at Rockin 2007

Calling all Beatles Fans! Mark your calendar for Friday, November 21 and Saturday, November 22. The Beatles Sgt. Peppers Anniversary Celebration will be held at Ruth Eckerd Hall starring The First Tee of Clearwater's favorite band Cheap Trick. Called the "hottest ticket in town" by the St Pete Times newspaper, this concert is also one of our most high energy fundraisers that will include a VIP back stage after party with silent and live auctions as well as a celebrity golf tournament featuring culinary superstar, Johnny Ciao and the Mini Chefs of The First Tee of Clearwater. Most tickets are gone but a few sponsor opportunities are still available. Check out the website or call Frankie Ingo at (727) 726-8829 x 246.



Chi Chi Academy receives Drop Out Prevention “Improving Grade”: The Academy has earned an “Improving” School Improvement Rating by the Florida Department of Education for the 2007-2008 school year. We were one of the two Pinellas County’s 18 Dropout Prevention programs to have achieved this rating from the state.

61% of Academy students made at least one year’s worth of progress in Reading and Math



In comparison:

- 45% of all Dropout Prevention students made one year’s worth of progress in Reading
- 53% of all Dropout prevention students made one year’s worth of progress in Math
- 65% of Pinellas County students (non-drop out prevention) made one year’s worth of progress in Reading
- 68% of Pinellas County students (non-drop out prevention) made one year’s worth of progress in Math

Congratulations Don Russell: Don received a Gold Pin from IBM and President Bush for doing over 500 volunteer hours in 2007. During the winter months you can find Don working in the Pro Shop and helping out whenever he and wife Carol are called upon by our team members. Congratulations Don! We are so proud of you and all the hard work that both you and Carol have given on behalf of our children. In 2006, Don also received our Volunteer of year award.



Clayton Wright, Pro Shop Manager, Chi Chi Rodriguez and Don Russell



Thank You Tampa Bay Uncorked: Tampa Bay Uncorked held it’s 3rd annual WineRave last August and brought in over 60 wines from New Zealand, Australia, Chile, Argentina, South Africa and Oregon for tasting. The net proceeds of this event are split between Hillsborough Education Foundation and the Chi Chi Academy. Thanks to Premier Beverage’s Caroline Van der Pol, Regional Public Relations & Events Manager and Chris Nicholas, General Manager the Academy was presented with a \$1,940.32 contribution. Thank you Tampa Bay Uncorked for allowing us to benefit from this festive event. To find out more information about this wine educating non-profit organization visit www.tampabayuncorked.org.



After School Volunteer Ms. Vic Hambsh helps 4th grader, Lazaro with his math homework

Thank you to all of our hard working volunteers! From July 2007 to June 2008, our working volunteers have put in 13,528 hours of hard work to keep our campus a source of pride for all who work and play here. They help with student activities, in the school and our after school program. They also help with many important needs of the Foundation which supports all of the Academy’s programs. This is 1,521 more hours than our previous fiscal year. On average, we have 43 volunteers put in close to 1,100 hours per month. Thank you to all who put in their time to help make a difference in the lives of Chi Chi’s Kids.

Thank You local Rotary Clubs: Countryside & Safety Harbor Rotary Clubs hosted their 2nd April golf event at East Lake Country Club to raise funds for the Academy’s student programming. Tournament Co-Chairs Ted Williamson of the Safety Harbor Rotary (left) and Tom Daniels (right) of the Countryside Rotary presented the \$4,000 check. Thank you to both clubs for their longtime support and hard work on behalf of our kids.



Co-Chair Ted Williamson of Safety Harbor Rotary; Cary Stiff, Senior VP of the Chi Chi Academy; Co-Chair Tom Daniels of Countryside Rotary



Check out Chi Chi's visit to the Charity Classic this November at www.chichi.org

