



## Rocky River Early Childhood PTA

### Message from the President

December 2018

Jen Rieker [rockyriverecpta@gmail.com](mailto:rockyriverecpta@gmail.com)

Happy Holidays! As the year draws to a close, I like to take a few minutes and look back. What an amazing year we have had! Our PTA could not enjoy its success without all the hard work of all the committee members and chairs.

There are so many people who have made the first half of the year great, but I'll just name a few from the past month. Jessica Massari and her auction team organized such an amazing and successful auction. If you attended, you know how many amazing baskets she put together and it raised the MOST amount of money for the PTA to date!!!! Truly an amazing night, that was enjoyed by all!

We enjoyed a magical trip on the Polar Express thanks to Alicia Nevin and Kim Steffan. Jennifer Barnes and Kelly Frindt were absolute rock stars with All Aglow and the Tree Lighting. Brooke Galluci and Melissa Mayer helped us get our homes ready with centerpiece and wreath classes. And, the holidays cannot pass me by without thanks to Kelci Cotter and Krystal Massey for organizing the Santa Visits. Years from now, when our children are celebrating holidays with their children, I bet that they will remember these events as the highlights of their childhood. It is amazing to think that we are creating lifetime memories!

I am truly thankful for all of your support and dedication to the ECPTA. I am thankful for the friendships I have made within this group, and I am humbled by your involvement and enthusiasm. Thank you for all that you do and all that you are.

Wishing you and your families a very Happy Holiday Season!

Jen Rieker

**smile.amazon.com**

Maggie Male [recptanewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:recptanewsletter@gmail.com)

This holiday season, purchase with purpose. Shop at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and Amazon donates to PTA Ohio Congress Rocky River Early Childhood.

Make the RRECPTA (PTA Ohio Congress Rocky River Early Childhood) your organization to support and Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the RRECPTA every time.

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# DECEMBER 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 <a href="#">6P: FT Over the Moon Studio</a>	6	7 <a href="#">945A: FT Children's Museum</a> <a href="#">2P: HRR Anti-Inflam Talk</a>	8
9 <a href="#">** Last day for Twice-Blessed Free Store Donation Drop-Off</a>	10 <a href="#">1230P: FT Playground World</a>	11	12	13 <a href="#">230P: FT Little Gym</a> <a href="#">7P: Mom's Holiday Party</a>	14 <a href="#">10A: CIYC LENS</a>	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 <a href="#">630P: RR Rec New Year's Eve Skate</a>					

# JANUARY 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			2	3	4	5
6		8 <a href="#">Bring Cleve APL Items!</a> <a href="#">6P: Board</a> <a href="#">7P: Sign-ups</a> <a href="#">7:30P: General</a>	9	10	11 <a href="#">Bring Cleve APL Items!</a> <a href="#">5P: Pool Party</a>	12
13 <a href="#">1P: FT to Disney on Ice</a>	14	15 <a href="#">6P: AW Trivia Night at Sibling Revelry</a>	16	17 <a href="#">7P: HRR Intro to Intuitive Eating</a>	18	19 <a href="#">6P: AW Supper Club at Gathering's Kitchen</a>
20	21 <a href="#">930A: FT to Peace, Love, &amp; Little Donuts</a>	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 <a href="#">530P: FT to Young Chef's Academy</a>		

## VP of Programs

Emily Richmond

[rrecptavpprogramsgmail.com](mailto:rrecptavpprogramsgmail.com)

There will be no general meeting in December. We will instead be getting together for a holiday party on **December 13th**. You should have received an invite with all the information! It's always a fun night for members so we hope to see you there.

Our 2019 meetings are scheduled for **January 8th, February 12th, March 12th, and April 9th**. Make sure you mark them in your calendars! Remember, you need to have attended at least 4 meetings to be included in the scholarship drawing. Even if you haven't been able to make a meeting, there is still time! We have some great speakers lined up for the winter/spring meetings.

## Winter Wiggles Party

Coleen Fisher

[coleen.vossler@gmail.com](mailto:coleen.vossler@gmail.com)

Brandy Chittester

[bnsmith79@gmail.com](mailto:bnsmith79@gmail.com)

The original venue has decided that they are unable to host us this year. We are actively searching for alternate venues and are optimistic that we will be able to still accommodate the original party date of **February 22nd**.

Please stay tuned for more information!



## VP of Parties

Cathleen Grossman

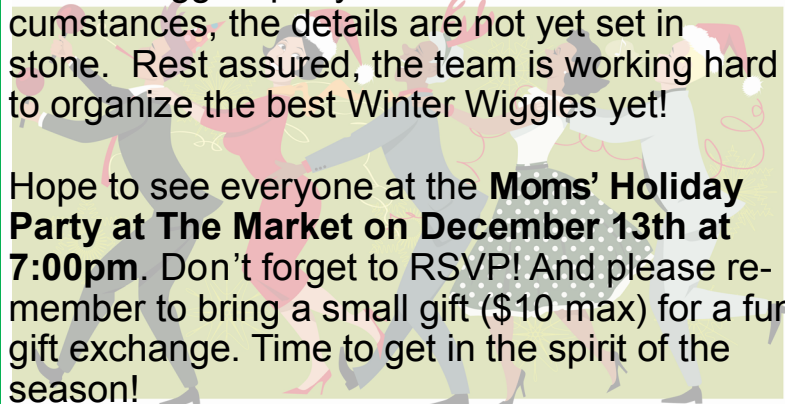
[rrecptavpparties@gmail.com](mailto:rrecptavpparties@gmail.com)

Get ready for a warm up in January! The annual **Pool Party is January 11th at the Rec Center**, and it promises to be a great break from the cold.

Please watch for updates about the annual Winter Wiggles party. Due to unforeseeable circumstances, the details are not yet set in stone. Rest assured, the team is working hard to organize the best Winter Wiggles yet!

Hope to see everyone at the **Moms' Holiday Party at The Market on December 13th at 7:00pm**. Don't forget to RSVP! And please remember to bring a small gift (\$10 max) for a fun gift exchange. Time to get in the spirit of the season!

Happy holidays to you and yours!



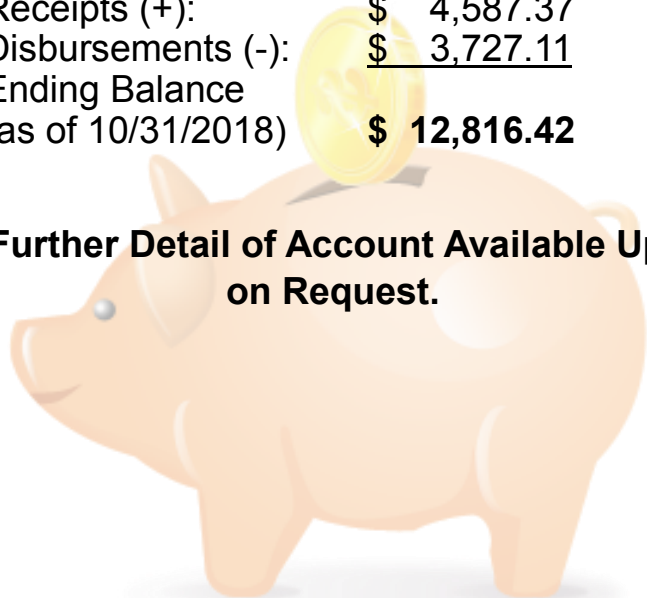
## Treasurer

Liz Kasnekaw

[rrecptatreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:rrecptatreasurer@gmail.com)

Balance on Hand (as of 10/01/2018)	\$ 11,956.16
Receipts (+):	\$ 4,587.37
Disbursements (-):	\$ 3,727.11
Ending Balance (as of 10/31/2018)	\$ 12,816.42

**Further Detail of Account Available Upon Request.**



# Community Service

Maggie Male & Daina Grimaldi  
[rrecptacommunityservice@gmail.com](mailto:rrecptacommunityservice@gmail.com)

Throughout the month of January, we will be collecting items for the Cleveland APL. Do you have any towels that your kids have outgrown (or that you are looking to replace)? The APL can give these towels a second life. Also, please feel free to bring any other APL Wish List Items to donate (they do accept used items too):

Hand Sanitizer	Small Animal Food	Bleach
Cat Carriers	Pet Nail Trimmers	Automatic Dish Washing Liquid
Dog Treats	Dog Grooming Tools	Laundry Detergent for HE Washers
Plastic or Wire Dog Crates	Towels	Clean Newspaper or Butcher Paper
Non-Dust Cat Litter	Cat/Dog Toys	

Please bring any used towels and wish list items to the **January 8th meeting** or to the **January 11th Pool Party**. Donation drop-offs also welcome at **21484 Kenwood Avenue, Rocky River**. Leave donations in the brown bin on the patio! Thank you for your donations!

## Winter Pool Party

Ginenne Clark [ginennel@yahoo.com](mailto:ginennel@yahoo.com) & Mary Lakarosky [mayer.mary1@gmail.com](mailto:mayer.mary1@gmail.com)

Dig out your swimsuits for the RRECPTA indoor Pool Party at the Rocky River Rec Center. Join us for free pizza and water fun on **Friday, January 11th from 5:00 to 8:00pm**.

**A suggested donation to the Cleveland APL is appreciated.** Please feel free to bring any gently used towels you no longer need or any other APL Wish List Items (*in the community service section above*) to donate (they do accept used items too). Thank you for your support!

## Happy Birthday!

CC Zerbey	12/2	Katie Kuhn	12/15	Jessica Wilson	12/28
Megan Rin	12/2	Erin Clark	12/17	Courtney Hanzal	1/??
Carolyn Castovince	12/3	Noel Allender	12/19	Heather Englander	1/2
Katy Serrienne	12/5	Brooke Gallucci	12/19	Kristen Haning	1/2
Michelle Fritz	12/8	Katie Edwards	12/24	Laura Hood	1/5
Melissa Mayer	12/10	Suzanne Sylvester	12/25	Ann Butler	1/9
Laura Hummer	12/13	Kate Cieply	12/25	Carla Thompson	1/10



The Twice Blessed Free Store of Rocky River United Methodist Church serves, on average, about 90 families from Greater Cleveland nearly every Saturday of the year. Almost 10 of those families are new to TBFS each week! During the holiday season, TBFS collects new unwrapped toys for area families. Please consider donating items from the new toy list.

**Get your children involved and have them pick toys out at the store and give the toy to Santa! Share the spirit of giving with your kids!**

If you are participating in the toy donation for Twice Blessed Free Store, you may:

- Bring your donation to All Aglow on Friday, November 30th
- Take your donation to Maggie Male at 21484 Kenwood Ave, Rocky River by Sunday, December 9th
- Give your donation to Santa during your visit anytime this holiday season

**Preferred New Toy List for  
Christmas Toy Drives  
Benefiting the Children (ages 0-12) of  
Twice Blessed Free Store Families**

- Baby Dolls (multiethnic)
- Barbie Dolls (multiethnic)
  - Basketballs
  - Cars & Trucks
- Children's Board Games
- Craft Kits for 8-12 year old Girls
  - Footballs
- Lego Sets for 8-12 year old Boys
  - Marvel/DC Toys
- Matchbox/Hot Wheels Cars
- Shower Gel/Body Lotion (older Girls & Boys)
  - Soccer balls
  - Star Wars Toys
  - Toddler Toys
- Toddler Wooden Puzzles

All Toys should be unwrapped. You may provide Gift Bags, Tissue, and/or Wrapping Paper separately. No stuffed animals, please.

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE FAMILIES OF  
TWICE BLESSED FREE STORE!**

## Healthy Rocky River

Erin Arra [erin.arra@gmail.com](mailto:erin.arra@gmail.com)

We will share upcoming events in the monthly newsletter to make sure everyone is informed of local healthy activities and talks. If you know of any upcoming events, please let me know!

### **The Anti-Inflammatory Lifestyle Prescription Friday, December 7th from 2-3pm**

Fairview Hospital Wellness Center – Free  
Fairview Hospital Wellness Center

Inflammation is an integral part of a healthy immune system in times of trauma but constant, chronic inflammation is harmful to human health. Join registered dietitian Lindsay Malone as she reviews the role of diet and lifestyle in reducing and preventing chronic inflammation. Advance registration is required.

### **Introduction to Intuitive Eating Thursday, January 17th from 7-8pm**

Rocky River Public Library – Auditorium – Free

Join Kristen Murray, Registered Dietitian, to learn how Intuitive Eating can help you create a positive relationship with food and body. She will give an overview of the Intuitive Eating principles and how to apply them to your life. Learn to eat in a way that is satisfying while being present to your body's needs without guilt.

## Come If You Can (CIYC) Playdates

Jacke Wiedemer

[jacke.wiedemer@hortonww.com](mailto:jacke.wiedemer@hortonww.com)

Meryl Baskin

[Merylbaskin@gmail.com](mailto:Merylbaskin@gmail.com)

All CIYC Playdates are fun, relaxed meet-ups. There is no need to RSVP; just Come If You Can! CIYC playdates will primarily be advertised and updated on Facebook. Most dates/times are weather permitting.

All Playdates are at 10AM. Local

December 14th - Lake Erie Nature & Science Center	January 18th - Kids Play (Pin Oak Pkwy Avon Lake)
February 15th - Little Explorers, Great Northern Mall	March 15th - Rocky River Li- brary
April 19th - Elmwood Park	May 17th - Rocky River Park

## Sunshine Committee

Rachael Stafford & Kacie Baon [rrecptasunshine@gmail.com](mailto:rrecptasunshine@gmail.com)

- ◇ *Kristin Ferguson had a baby boy, Francis (Frankie) Wade, who was born on October 11th.*
- ◇ *Christine Knific had a baby boy, Ben, who was born on October 26th.*
- ◇ *Erin Clark had a baby girl, Clara Evelyn, who was born on October 26th.*
- ◇ *Katy Serrienne had a baby boy, Luc, who was born on November 4th.*
- ◇ *Liesl Glover had a baby boy, Anders Maxwell, who was born on November 6th.*
- ◇ *Danielle Stuhr had a baby boy, Sam Richard, who was born on November 14th.*

If you are someone expecting a baby and would like a meal delivered to you and your family OR if you are someone who would like to deliver a meal to a family with a new baby in their home, please let us know using our form: <https://www.rrecpta.org/sunshine-committee/>

# December & January Field Trips

[rrecpta.fieldtrips@gmail.com](mailto:rrecpta.fieldtrips@gmail.com)

Get ready to mark your calendars! Listed below are field trips planned for the month. Sign-ups start at the PTA general meetings and can be paid for with cash or check. The trips with limited space are available on a first come, first serve basis. After the meeting, you can sign-up and pay at <http://rrecptaevents.bigcartel.com/>.

## **Little Gym of Rocky River @19885 Center Ridge Road, Rocky River Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2:30-3:30pm**

Join us for some play time at The Little Gym! The staff will lead us through some dance, movement, and tumbling activities and then free play!

-Cost is \$5/child

**RSVP by December 3rd**

## **Disney on Ice**

**Sunday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 1pm**

Quicken Loans Arena

Your favorite Disney characters and stories brought to life with the artistry of ice skating to create an unforgettable family experience.

-Cost is \$38/ticket

**RSVP by Dec. 2, 2018**

## **Peace Love & Little Donuts**

**Monday January 21st (MLK Day - kids off school), 9:30-10:30am**

3786 Rocky River Dr, Cleveland, OH 44111

We'll visit this groovy donut shop and learn how they're made! Each child will get to hand dip and decorate their own donuts!

-Cost is \$8/child (includes 2 little donuts and a drink) - limit 20 children

**RSVP by January 7th**

## **Young Chef's Academy**

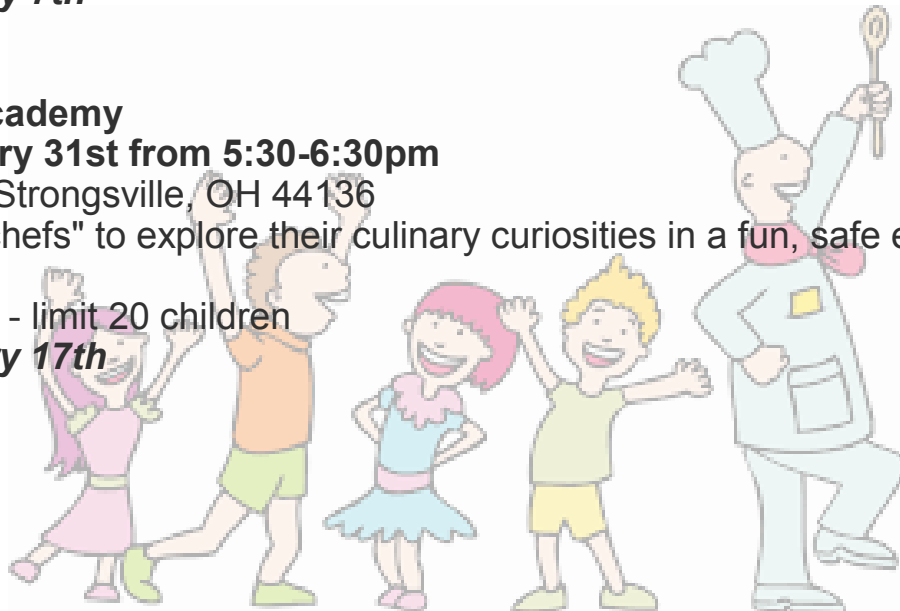
**Thursday January 31st from 5:30-6:30pm**

14759 Pearl Rd, Strongsville, OH 44136

Bring your "little chefs" to explore their culinary curiosities in a fun, safe environment. We will be making pizza!

-Cost is \$10/child - limit 20 children

**RSVP by January 17th**





## Adult Wellness

Melissa Mayer [mel-rowe@hotmail.com](mailto:mel-rowe@hotmail.com) & Brooke Gallucci [brooke.gallucci@gmail.com](mailto:brooke.gallucci@gmail.com)

We have a couple of January events lined up to kick those winter, post-holiday blues.

Trivia Night at Sibling Revelry

**Tuesday, January 15th from 6-8pm**

Come show off all the useless information you store in your brains while bonding with your fellow RRECPTA ladies!

Then, back by popular demand, one of January's Adult Wellness events will be Supper Club at Gathering's Kitchen. If you're not familiar, Supper Club is an intimate and unique dining experience. You'll participate in two-hours of hands-on cooking and then enjoy the fruits of your labor during a sit-down, full-service, 4-course dinner... the very one you just made! With a dash of cooking and a pinch of connecting, our Supper Club is the perfect recipe for picking up some new cooking techniques and enjoying a Friday night with friends. Class is limited to 16 guests. Sign up will be at the next meeting so bring your pocketbook as this event is hot, hot, hot!! We are offering two dates as this is a popular event

Date: **January 19th and/ or February 2nd at 6pm**

Gathering's Kitchen, 17004 Madison Ave, Lakewood, OH 44107

Cost \$85/person

Menus for each night to be determined via Facebook Event soon...stay tuned.

## Rocky River Recreation Center

NEW YEAR'S EVE FAMILY SKATE!

Come and skate your way into the New Year!

Bring your friends and family to the Hamilton Ice Arena (21016 Hilliard Boulevard, Rocky River) on December 31st from 6:30-9:00 pm for our New Year's Family Skate!

Admission:  
\$5 per person  
\$25 family maximum

Free skate rental while supplies last!

Click [here](#) for additional information.