

# Damascus Christian School Chalkmarks

A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR DCS  
FAMILY AND FRIENDS



Mrs.



is chosen!

## Mrs. Urbanowski Selected as the VFW Oregon History Teacher of the Year!!

It's official! **Mrs. Urbanowski**, DCS history teacher, has been chosen by the Veterans' of Foreign Wars as Oregon's *History Teacher of the Year!* After winning at the local and district levels, Mrs. Urbanowski's name was submitted for the State competition where she was compared with other private and public high school history teachers throughout the state. When the ballots were counted our own Mrs. Urbal came out on top! She now moves on to the National History Teacher of the Year pool where she will be measured up to all the other State winners.

Linda Urbanowski will be honored at a VFW banquet in Eugene, February 10<sup>th</sup>. For her history teaching prowess, Linda will have an all-expense paid eight-day trip to Washington, D.C. (where she doesn't have to organize the tour!) and receive \$1,000 for professional development! DCS also receives \$1,000.

Congratulations to an outstanding history teacher, our own Mrs. Linda Urbanowski!!

## "Happy New Year!"

That greeting will be said and heard for at least the first couple of weeks as a new year gets under way. But the day celebrated as New Year's Day in modern America was not always January 1.

The celebration of the new year is one of the oldest of all holidays. It was first observed in ancient Babylon about 4000 years ago. In the years around 2000 BC, the Babylonian New Year began with the first New Moon (actually the first visible crescent) after the first day of spring. The beginning of spring is a logical time to start a new year. After all, it is the season of rebirth, of planting new crops, and of blossoming. January 1, on the other hand, is purely arbitrary.

The Babylonian new year celebration lasted for eleven days. Each day had its own particular mode of celebration, but it is safe to say that modern New Year's Eve festivities pale in comparison.

One special tradition included the making of New Year's

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### Save Those Ink & Toner Cartridges & Cell Phones

Are you wondering what to do with those empty computer printer ink cartridges that are piling up at your home or office? Take them to the DCS office and hand them over to Pam Mattechek. We are collecting them for recycling with the profits going to help fund the students' Washington, D.C. trip. The more the merrier. Ask your co-workers and fellow church members to save their ink cartridges for us. We also take copy machine toner cartridges and old cell phones.



Thanks for your help. Our students (and parents!) appreciate it!

### Cheer Clinic is this Saturday!

It's not too late to sign up for this Saturday's Cheer Clinic, hosted by our DCS Varsity Cheerleaders. Elementary boys and girls will learn cheers, a fun dance, and make posters to decorate the gym. Junior High girls will learn a full half-time routine along with jump and stunting technique. All clinic participants have the option to perform during halftime with the Cheer Squad at the varsity games on Thursday, January 18<sup>th</sup>.



~Elementary (K-5), 8:30-Noon, \$20—includes a shirt, poms & a nutritious snack

~Jr. High Girls (6-8)—8:30-1:00, \$22—includes a shirt, hair ribbons & lunch.

You may register anytime! Just return registration forms & payment to your child's classroom or homeroom teacher or contact **Angela Davis** at 971.223.5268 or [anglahdavis@gmail.com](mailto:anglahdavis@gmail.com) and we will set your child up for a fantastic morning!

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resolutions. That tradition also dates back to the early Babylonians. Popular modern resolutions might include the promise to lose weight or read your Bible completely through from cover to cover, or drive the speed limit, but the early Babylonian's most popular resolution was to return borrowed farm equipment.

Now, researchers say, the ancient tradition of making resolutions may be going the way of the dodo bird, so to speak. Just six years ago, pollsters say almost 90 percent of Americans made a New Year resolution; just 9 percent actually stuck to them for the entire year.

**Speaking of resolutions, here are some "whacky resolutions":**

- Remember to brush teeth with bristly end of toothbrush.
- Don't eat medicine just because it looks like candy.
- Always replace the gas nozzle before driving away from the pump.
- I will try to drive closer to the speed limit.
- I will keep an extra safe distance when driving behind police cars.

Don't mess with perfection.



These silly resolutions make us laugh, but I want to challenge you to make a resolution that isn't "whacky" at all. Why

not RESOLVE to get involved in this year's **DCS Auction!!!** There are so many opportunities for you, both large and small. You could RESOLVE to help your child's class with their class project AND there is still time for you to DONATE items or PROCURE items for others to donate. You could also be a SPONSOR for this year's auction. (Call **Dorian Forrar** for more information on how to do this).

This week, let me suggest to you a small way to be involved in this year's auction. Here is a New Year's resolution you can actually keep!! Why not RESOLVE to get involved by putting some small items into the "**Drop Boxes**" which are available be-



ginning this week. January 12, 19, and 26<sup>th</sup> from 2:30 – 3:15 p.m.

there will be a box in the foyer available for you to drop off some small items. These items will be used to make up baskets to be sold at the auction. The items need to be new. Each week will have a different "focus". **This week we are focusing on chocolate,**



**coffee, and tea.** You can put, in the "**Drop Box**", any item which depicts

those things. You might wish to put in tea towels with pictures of coffee, tea, or chocolate on them, or you might wish to donate some coffee cups, or some cocoa, coffee beans, coffee grinder, tea strainers, tea pots, certificates for coffee places, etc. You get the idea. Beginning January 12<sup>th</sup>, the "topic" will be lotions and candles. January 26<sup>th</sup> the topics will be any variety of small



items you wish to put into that drop box. January 19<sup>th</sup>, which is a half day at DCS, the **drop boxes** will be available from 11:30 – 12:15. So, RESOLVE now, before it is too late to put YOUR special item into the drop box. This way you will be able to do your part for the DCS Auction 2007. Call **Gloria Goebel** for more information concerning the **drop boxes**.

## Bits and Pieces . . . . .

Re-Enrollment Packets Coming January 26th – Confirm Your Child's Spot For Next Year!

College Prep 101: How Students Can Survive Spiritually in College

On Wednesday, January 24th, Campus Crusade for Christ's Ben Burns will speak to our juniors and seniors about how to survive in college as a Christian. He will cover topics such as:



- What emotions will fuel temptations in college and destructive sins Christians will face on campus.
- What is the process of taking deeper ownership of your faith, why you should really follow Jesus, and why the Bible is historically reliable.
- How not to ignore your God-given needs that lead to temptation, the benefits of being involved in Christian community, principles on finding a Christian community that's right for you, and how to look for your new community before you get to college.

Hear from college students about college life and their transition, and more...

There will be a \$10 charge per student for their notebook and book, *More Than Just A Carpenter*.

## Homecoming This Friday

Friday will be a busy and exciting day at DCS! This will be the culmination of Spirit Week, a time to generate school spirit, unity, and enthusiasm. Throughout the week, various activities, contests, and projects take place including the selection of this year's Honor Court. On Friday, all the classes are mixed together as Buddy Classes (secondary with elementary) to make a spirit project to be used at the afternoon pep assembly at 12:40 PM in the gym. During that assembly, the class total-point winner will be announced and the Honor Court presented to the student body. Parents are invited to attend this special gathering.

Friday evening sees the annual Homecoming games, this year with Heritage Christian School. The girls' game begins at 5:30, followed by the boys' contest at 7. Between games, the Honor Court and their parents will be announced.