

September 25, 2009

Dear Parents and Swimmers,

As we look forward to another successful swim season, I want to take a moment to introduce you to the idea of a fundraiser called "Orcas' Basket Affair" that is being planned for our Orca team.

As you no doubt realize by now, fundraising is a fact of life for many swim teams. The "Basket Affair" is a large fundraiser and was very successful last year. With help from all our Orca family members, we can have great success again this year.

Below is the information about the "Orcas' Basket Affair". Hopefully this will give you a pretty good overview of the event and answer any questions you may have. I also hope it will stir up some curiosity and excitement within each family. One fact remains the same, regardless of the event: YOUR PARTICIPATION IS ESSENTIAL FOR ITS SUCCESS!!!!

The Foggy Fields Bazaar will be held in the GK NATO hanger on November 20, 21, and 22. Each Orca family donates a filled basket with a theme of their choice. People attending the Bazaar have the opportunity to purchase raffle tickets to win the beautifully decorated baskets. Each basket will then be raffled off on the last afternoon of the Bazaar. The raffle tickets are available for purchase only during the Bazaar.

Basically, "Orcas' Basket Affair" is a giant Chinese auction. People interested in a particular basket, or baskets, on display in the hanger, may buy as many tickets as they like, and bid them on any basket(s) they want to win, by placing them in a container in front of the item(s) they are trying to win. The more tickets that you place in front of a particular basket, the better your chances of winning. At the conclusion of bidding, the winning ticket is drawn from the tickets placed in the containers in front of each item.

Some ideas for basket themes are: your national specialties, baby baskets, children's books and videos, tea time, kitchen gadgets, aromatherapy, baking supplies, art supplies, popcorn and movie night, pet supplies, summer fun, chocolate extravaganza, games night, beer or wine sampler - just follow your own imagination. The overall value of the contents of the basket should be approximately 40 Euros. (Unless the "basket" is a part of the items contributing to the theme in which case the cost of the "basket" will be part of the 40 Euros. Baskets may also be wrapped and/or decorated boxes.) Multiple families can work together to create a "Super Basket". However, each family needs to contribute 40 Euros to the basket.

Please print and fill out the Basket Description form below and hand it back to me by **October 30**, or put the form in the envelope hanging on the "Orca Board" at the pool.

Baskets need to be brought completed (cellophane-wrapped and ready to raffle) to the pool

Family name _____

Swimmer _____

Swimmer _____

Swimmer _____