



# MONARCH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Fall/Winter 2013/2014

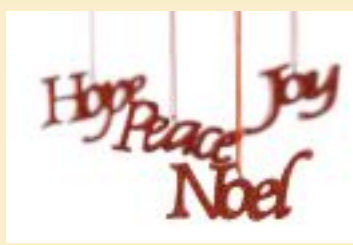
## MONARCH SCHOOL

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### Monarch Parents Foundation

[www.MonarchParents.org](http://www.MonarchParents.org)



### Message From Monarch Parents Foundation

As I'm writing this article, the board members of the Monarch Parents Foundation (MPF) are meeting for our annual meeting at the house of Amy Kekst in Cleveland, OH. We are having fun working together and getting to know the three new board members better. Our group now includes the following alumni Monarch parents:

- Inge Jechart - President
- Amy Kekst - Vice President, Parent Programming
- Antonia Grifo - Treasurer
- Cheryl Messick - Secretary
- Alan Cohn - Financial Assistance
- Ben Chant - Fundraising
- Nina Rego - MPF Parent Workshop

We are also hard at work planning our activities for the coming year. Our most well-known services to the Monarch parent community include: the parent mentors, monthly parent phone chats, the MPF Parent Workshops and the financial assistance we offer for parents who experience unexpected circumstances.

Two of our members, Cheryl Messick and Antonia Grifo, are visiting the

Monarch School for the October All-Parent Seminar. I hope you will have a chance to meet and get to know them. As always, we love hearing from parents and also getting feedback and new ideas on ways to improve connections for our Monarch community.

We are always looking for volunteers and possible new board members. If you are interested in helping in the areas of website maintenance/updates or working with our email/database tool, please let us know by emailing me at [i.jechart@comcast.net](mailto:i.jechart@comcast.net).

With best wishes.  
~Inge Jechart, MPF President~



Above: The campus in fall  
Below: A view from campus of our beautiful mountain scenery





## Message From Academic Director

Monarch School is excited to welcome two new teachers to our core academic faculty. Chris Eaton is joining our Mathematics Department and will be teaching primarily Algebra 1 and Geometry. In his 25 years of teaching, Chris has taught a variety of ages and subjects including teaching 5th grade for 13 years and then moving on to teach Computer Applications, Science, and Mathematics to middle school and high school students. Chris earned his master's degree in School Administration and has been granted a Kindergarten through 12th grade Multi-subjects Lifetime Teaching Credential.

Nancy Carre is joining our Social Science department, and during the fall semester, she will be teaching US History and World History. Nancy has master's degrees in Secondary Reading and International Relations and Conflict Resolution. She is currently working on her doctorate in Public Policy and Administration. Her dissertation topic is "High School Non Persistence Among Navajo Girls: A Phenomenological Approach." Nancy arrives with a strong understanding of Monarch School, as she was formerly an English teacher at the school. She and her husband moved away from the area for a period of time, and since their return, Nancy has been providing one-on-one tutoring for a handful of our students. We are glad to have her expertise returning to the classroom. Nancy and Chris provide a strong addition to our already excellent staff of teachers. Welcome, Chris and Nancy!

~Jamie Jones, Academic Director~



~ Nancy Carre and Chris Eaton ~



## Returning Student - 10 Years Later

Just over 10 years ago, I was sent away on a journey that would forever change my life. I came to the Monarch School fresh out of wilderness in August of 2003. The school was much smaller than it is currently and without all of the nice amenities of today's campus. We ate in the upstairs Garden House (that are currently classrooms) and spent every evening in Walden. Our science classes were held in the Chrysalis and Rick taught us Spanish in a small building called "Casa Del Sol," which was little more than a glorified storage unit.

This past decade had been good to the school; I came back to interview three months ago and the campus has been transformed into a bustling metropolis of sorts. A new lodge, sauna, a few new dorms, a basketball court and a playground dot the landscape and make the campus function even better. In fact, it is so different that I didn't know where I was going when I first stepped on campus for my interview.

Even though the campus has changed tremendously, the feeling and culture of the school has not. Students are still working hard at building meaningful and lasting relationships with their peers, and the staff continues to hold students to the highest standards. The current students continue to work hard on vocational crews like we did during my stay.

I have returned to the school to work because I want to give back to the students what was given to me all those years ago. The school transformed me and gave me the values I need to be successful and fulfilled in my life. I was given a gift all those years ago and now I want to return the favor.

~Charley Nish, Life Skills Instructor~



Monarch's Second Annual Harvest Meal; Enjoying the fruits of our labor



## 2014 Is Just Around the Corner



### Holiday ABCs for January

I is for Icy streets and sidewalks

C is for Chilling temperatures

I is for Imagining warmer weather

C is for Cozying up in a warm blanket

L is for Ladlefuls of stew

E is for Elaborate plans for the year



November 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

- 1 Graduation Workshop 11/1 - 11/3  
1st Home Visit 11/1 - 11/5  
3rd Home Visit 11/1 - 11/10
- 2 SAT Test
- 3 3rd Home Visit 11/3 - 11/9
- 7 Gift Trip 11/7 - 11/10
- 11 Veterans Day
- 15 Lower School Conference  
11/15 - 11/17
- 27 Hanukkah Begins
- 28 Thanksgiving

December 2013						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

- 5 Hanukkah Ends
- 7 SAT Testing
- 13 Fall Semester Ends
- 14 ACT Testing  
Legacy Night
- 15 Graduation!
- 16 1st Home Visit 12/16 - 12/20  
2nd Home Visit 12/16 - 12/22  
3rd Home Visit 12/16 - 12/23
- 24 Holiday Family Visit 12/24 - 12/25
- 25 Christmas

January 2014						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

- 1 New Year's Day
- 6 Winter Semester Begins
- 10 All School Conference 1/10 - 1/12
- 20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 25 SAT Test

