



The Observatory

Los Gatos-Saratoga Observation Nursery School ~ Issue 1, September 2004

Meeting New Challenges Together

By Marie Imai, LGSONS Director

Dear Families,

Our new school year is about to begin and I am excited for all of us who will share the joys and growing pains of meeting new challenges together. Children, teachers and parents all have so much to learn from each other as we use our curiosity to explore the outdoors together. The children, especially, bring us the gift of seeing the world with fresh eyes – each banana slug, water strider or roly poly brings delight that is contagious to every adult around.

Because LGSONS is an observation school, parents have the opportunity each week to learn from the teachers as they help the children begin solving their own problems and practice negotiating with others. This is where you and your child will experience those growing pains I mentioned earlier because there are times he or she will be left out, will be sad or have hurt feelings and that is not easy for either parent or child. But the crucial goal of learning to speak up for oneself as well as developing a caring heart is not quickly learned. Preschool is the place to practice and the teachers are here to help. Expressing our feelings comfortably is a skill that is critical to our ability to have honest relationships and one that I am still working on. I only wish I had started practicing in preschool!

For some of you this may be your first school experience with your 2 year old and it is an exciting adventure for both of you. You'll have new experiences to talk about, school activities to repeat at home and most importantly, new friends to learn to get along with and to treasure, accepting their differences as well as their similarities. For others, this may be your last year at school, a time when you can ease back into the shadows and really observe and celebrate your child's growing independence. You can concentrate on learning your child's strengths and identifying his or her special interests. I think that this is one of our major jobs as parents and it certainly begins in the preschool years.

(Continued on page 2)



Time Flies!

by Angie Davidson, Board President

On behalf of the Mountain School board, welcome to the 2004-05 school year!

I hope your summer has been wonderful. How quickly it has passed! Time flies especially quickly now for me since having children, as even a short time in their lives brings so many changes. As I write, our older daughter, Julia, is in Phoenix with her Nana and Papa, having flown home with them at the end of their visit here. She will start kindergarten in a few weeks, which seems impossible. A week ago she modeled her school uniform and new backpack, and we all almost fell over. How grown up she looked! I remember her in the Saturday 2's class: so small, yet so strong as she dragged us around by the hand to every new activity. Yesterday she packed her own suitcase, gave me lots of direction as to what I could do, wanted to wear her own backpack and pull her own suitcase at the airport, waved goodbye and kept shouting "I love you!!!" as she went through security. Amazing. A summer can certainly fly by, but the three years we spent together at Mountain School seem to have gone almost as quickly.

Sophie also is growing so quickly. She is almost four now and when she recently brought me a beautiful drawing of flowers with a title written

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In addition to wonderfully wet and muddy experiences of discovery for your child, don't forget that it is a school for parents as well. You can look forward to formal opportunities to learn better parenting skills as well as informal opportunities to support each other in these difficult years of living with and raising young children. When my children were young my husband was a medical student, an intern and resident and was always at the hospital, or so it seemed to me. Without the support and friendships of other young families I would have felt so isolated and alone. Coming to school once a week with your child may seem like a burden at times but the opportunity for making lifelong friendships far outweighs the inconvenience. Truly, most of my best friends now are ones I made when my children were in nursery school or the early elementary grades. Please remember that as you make friends you are modeling to your child how to be a friend as well. This is another of life's crucial skills.

All of you parents bring wonderful skills, diverse experiences and backgrounds which can add greatly to the richness of your class this year. We teachers always learn more from the parents than vice versa and really look forward to developing friendships with all of you. Please let your teacher know of any special interests or skills that you would be willing to share with the children or other parents. And welcome to Mountain School everyone.

Love, Marie ☺

Fall Family Photos

by Michele Kwong
School Photos Coordinator

Saturday, September 25th
and
Sunday, October 10th



This is a wonderful opportunity for Mountain School families to have professional family photos taken. Susan J. Weiand will be taking colored family photos, by appointment only, in the beautiful outdoor location of Oak Meadow Park. To schedule a sitting please call Susan directly after September 7th at 408-996-1933, Mon.-Fri. 10am – 8pm.

What Shall We Give?

by Susi Steiner,
Community Service Liaison

Our Mountain School is an enriching place. We give our time and energy, and in return we learn and grow and have fun. The joy shows on my 3 year old's face weekly when she is attending school. I feel it, too. As the new Community Service Liaison for Mountain School, I'd like to find many ways to share the joy and enrichment that has come into our home with the larger community.

My husband, Rick, and I teach our kids about 3 kinds of family, our immediate family, our community family and the family of man. If we as a school can find ways to connect with each of these families, then we will have instilled something very positive in our children.

I would like to make it easy for all of us to give something to our community on a seasonal basis. You will find information on the current giving program in the "parent check-in room" and most likely in each newsletter. Please take a moment to notice the current project and give when you are able. As I am new to this position, I welcome all ideas and comments.

This year our family will have two children at Mountain School... Krystal in the T-Th 3's class and Kylee in the Friday 2's. We will be finding different ways to involve all of the school's children in giving. Your involvement will be a great thing. ☺

(Time Flies!, continued)

on it in lovely, legible letters (spelled to her by her dad), I was stunned. The leaps they make are incredible. For me those moments feel like some time warp in a movie, when you're whooshed along and are suddenly in a new place, wondering what exactly has just happened and only knowing for sure that you're not where you were only seconds before. Where and when did she learn to make R's? (Todd swears he didn't tell her.) When did her writing get so legible? How'd we get here? It's going so quickly!

She and I, happily, get to continue at Mountain School. I am so excited to see what adventures she –we– will have in the coming year, and to observe and record faithfully the wonders that will surely happen. I love the observations we write. I bought a journal when each of my girls was born, intending to do this on my own, but I didn't. Thanks to Mountain School there are precious moments caught forever in writing and in photos (thanks to the other moms in our classes who shared pictures with me!), milestones noted and celebrated, recorded forever in observations and culmination projects. I am so grateful to our school for having us create a record of this amazing time in their lives.

It isn't just recording the good times, though. Many times observing and thinking about the harder moments and trials and then writing about them has helped me learn and understand so much more about my child, my parenting and myself. I feel truly thankful for those times, and for the insights the teachers and other parents can provide. What a gift it is to have the time and the impetus to reflect on things and work through them.

And how great to have time especially for parent and child, dedicated just to them! Today I looked at Sophie and thought about how much more time I have to spend with her at this age compared to what I was able to do with Julia: now I have no little 2-year-old requiring so much of my time. And again I was grateful to our school and for the time and opportunity it gave me to focus, at least a few times a week, only on her, to have special time just for us. How many wonderful, unique dimensions our school has: it offers us the rare chance to spend focused time with our child in beautiful, magical places and a way to capture it all. I am so excited about getting to spend another year here, watching Sophie, playing with her, soaking it all up, writing it all down!

I wish you a year full of wonderful memories. May your pen always be full of ink when the developmental leap occurs, and your digital camera's battery charged. May you be blessed with sunshine and warm days, rain and big puddles, joy and serenity. May thinking and writing through the tough times offer you new clarity. May it all unfold for you right there, so you can write it all down and take pictures, and have it with you forever. May you enjoy the time set aside just for you. Have a wonderful year! ☺

Getting the Word Out

by Angie Davidson, Board President

One of the things we value so much about Mountain School is our wonderful school community. Apart from the shared experience of having young children, we all have the common interests and beliefs that led us to choose this particular school. As a result, we have an abundance of ideas and information to share. However, as in any community it's sometimes a challenge to communicate effectively with everyone, especially when our classes meet outdoors and we don't all come together at the same time. How can we let everyone know of changes to schedule, events and happenings that may be of interest, and simply wonderful news? There are several ways.

The first is this very medium, the newsletter. It's typically published 6 times per year and includes information from teachers, parents, and board members. Our Newsletter Editor, Sonia Casper, welcomes your contributions: reviews of parenting or children's books, your kids' favorite recipes for home or school, reflections on parenting and family life, or any number of other topics suitable for our school community. You can e-mail Sonia at mtnmama@garlic.com with questions, ideas or submissions; she'd love to hear from you!

For quick communication within each class, our Webmaster, Bill Skeet, has set up class e-mail aliases. They're formatted with the class age followed by the days of the week, as follows:

Wed. 2's: 2w@lgsons.com
Fri. 2's: 2f@lgsons.com
Sat. 2's: 2s@lgsons.com
3's: 3tt@lgsons.com
3/4's: 34mtt@lgsons.com
4/5's: 45mwf@lgsons.com

Each class can decide what information they'd like to share via this method, such as directions to circle meetings, recipes from class, or instructions from teachers. If for some reason you fail to receive group e-mails or your e-mail address changes, please contact Bill at webmaster@lgsons.com.

For communicating with the entire school, we've established the alias everyone@lgsons.com. This address is reserved for use by the staff and board members to communicate official news, general information, upcoming events, meeting time changes, or timely material that is too pressing to put in the newsletter.

If you have timely information that you'd like to share with the entire Mountain School community, the bulletin board in the schoolhouse parents' room is available for postings.

Soon you will also receive our school roster with names, addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses of families and staff. Our Registration Chair, Sue Bozzini, maintains and publishes this, so please let her know of any changes to your contact information. You can e-mail her at sbozzini@aol.com.

We know that good communication is vital, and we try hard to ensure that important information reaches everyone. Thanks so much to Sonia, Bill and Sue for all their work maintaining our school's channels of communication, and to the entire community for keeping the good word afloat! ☘



Curriculum Project

by Jane Krejci, Teacher Friday 2's

The Staff has been working to codify the many activities, resources and experiences of our talented teachers. Our aim is to assemble and write down the many ideas from every teacher. The results of this monumental task are threefold.

- 1) Teachers share and learn from one another
- 2) Both the children and parents experience more varied and enriched activities.
- 3) This huge body of knowledge will be in a form that new teachers can use to continue and build on the rich tradition of Mountain School.

Here are some examples of the "Curriculum" we are developing:

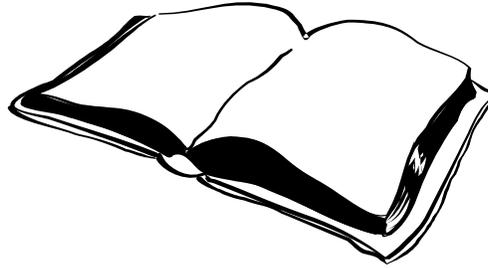
~ Identifying and describing both indoor and outside activities related to nature, art, drama, science, music, cooking etc. according to age and developmental levels.

~ Creating skits based on a book and story with ideas for Circle Time, art, cooking and other activities. For example, Ginger Bread Boy can be read, told as a flannel board story, and acted out.

To support this theme, there are cooking activities, art projects, dramatic play (store, tea party) and puzzles to enhance the story. All of the materials and directions for each project are assembled in a bag.

~ Developing outlines for Circle Meetings. This is an evolving project as we try to provide meaningful

parent education and follow the guidelines set out by Adult Education at the Los Gatos-Saratoga Recreation Department. Topics, readings, handouts, activities and discussion guidelines are included. We have discovered that it is best to provide a framework with resources and then let our experienced teachers customize it to their own particular style and class.



This year we are using the "As They Grow Series" (see below) as the basis for discussion and questions. The other books will be referenced for each of the topics.

~ Preparing and organizing for the year. There is much prep and behind the scenes work to get ready for school. Each teacher has established her own routine and preparation. We are putting together a packet of materials so when new teachers join the staff, they will quickly and easily be brought up to speed.

These two binders have been completed:

1) A Field Trips binder that lists outings in our area that are appropriate for the different classes. It includes maps, directions, features, suggestions for activities, materials needed, and follow-up. These will be available on-line for families sometime later in the year.

2) An Observation binder of masters for different topics for writing Observations. Teachers can select the topic and duplicate the form for parents to complete.

If you have any questions or suggestions, call Kathy Wilcox or Jane Krejci.

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

We have chosen four books this year. The books will be available at a discount to you at the Orientation and Circle Meetings.

1. Parents Magazine, "As They Grow" Series:

- Your Two-Year Old
- Your Three- & Four-Year Old
- Your Five- & Six-Year Old

We suggest that you purchase the book that is age appropriate for your child.

2. "Becoming the Parent You Want to Be", by Laura Davis & Janis Keyser

3. "Positive Discipline - the First Three Years", by Jane Nelsen (appropriate for the 2-year old classes)

- or -

"Positive Discipline - for Preschoolers", by Jane Nelsen (appropriate for the 3's, 3-4's, and 4-5's)

4. "Kids, Parents, and Power Struggles", by Mary Sheedy Kurcinka

These books have very practical suggestions for dealing with the development and behavior of your young children. They also challenge you to articulate your hopes and dreams for your family; and suggest different strategies for reaching your goals. ☞

4/5's and Fri. 2's WORKDAY

by Julie Mercik

Workday Coordinator

Our first workday of the year is scheduled for Sunday, October 3rd at 12:00pm at the school-house for the 4/5's class and the Friday 2's class.



Families are required to send one parent for four hours, or two parents for two hours each. Please wear old cloths and bring your tool box and painting supplies.

If you are unable to attend, please try to schedule a make up ahead of time. To schedule a make up, or for further questions, please contact Julie Mercik as soon as possible at 358-7955.

Note, further workdays are scheduled as follows:

~ Sat. 2's & 3/4's
Sunday, January 9th

~ Wed/ 2's & 3's
Sunday, February 27th ☞

Schoolpop & eScrip

by Jane Johnson, eScrip & Schoolpop Coordinator

**SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL – WITHOUT PAYING A THING!!!
AND....
MACY'S ADDS ON!**

Welcome back to a new school year here within our Mountain School community! While we're all settling in to the new year, now's the best time to tune-up each of our behind-the-scenes school support by updating our information with both eScrip & Schoolpop. Please take a minute (yes, right now!!!) to log on & update your information.

IMPORTANT: Everyone needs to update your Safeway cards with eScrip (they've changed their policy so that it's a requirement once a year). This literally takes less than a minute to do.

EXPIRATION DATES: Even credit cards/debit cards/grocery club cards, which have remained the same account but have expired need to be updated.

MACY'S = NEW ADDITION: Macy's has joined eScrip! You can sign-up online, phone-in your information or use a mail-in form. Your Macy's purchases will contribute between 2-6% of your qualified purchases.

NEWCOMERS: You can sign up for both programs through the web (www.escrip.com & www.schoolpop.com) or by completing the forms and returning via mail. All you do is continue to shop where you already do, or order online through an interface to your favorite retailers, and our school receives funds based on your regular shopping.

eSCRIP: Restaurants & Hotels now offer up to a 10% rebate. Simply pay using one of your registered cards on the date offered. See online listings for details.

SCHOOLPOP: Please take time to register/update and our school and community will benefit!!

If you have any questions, please contact me. You can reach me at either 408-425-8723 or e-mail jcwjohns@yahoo.com. Just type "Mtn School" somewhere in your subject line if emailing. Thanks for your support!!!

Safeway Whole Foods Payless Shoesource OfficeMax Barnes&Noble
Gap Eddie Bauer LandsEnd TechDepot Gardener's Supply
PetsMart ETC ETC ETC... ☞

Apple Dumplings

By Sonia Casper, Newsletter Editor

When we were little these were always special treats and special time with mom when she made these for us. They were like our own little apple pies. After she cored and peeled the apple we would help her put the “yummy stuff” into the core and help pull the dough up and seal it at the top. She always seemed to have a little extra pie crust left for us to play with...accident, I think not...just a special mom.

Ingredients:

Apples (granny smith or your favorite baking apple)

Butter

Cinnamon

Sugar

Your favorite pie crust recipe

- 1) Peel and core apples
- 2) Roll out a piece of dough large enough to cover apple
- 3) Place apple in the middle and stuff a little butter, sugar and cinnamon into the core
- 4) Pull up corners (edges if dough is round) and pinch at the top
- 5) Place on a cookie sheet and bake in a preheated 350 degree oven and bake until golden brown, approximately 30-45 minutes

Enjoy! ♡

Calendar

SCHOOL STARTS

Thursday, September 9th

Welcome to all our new and returning families.

Get those backpacks ready? Do those creek boots still fit?



BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, September 14th

7:30pm at Daves Avenue portable

4/5's and Fri. 2's WORKDAY

Sunday, October 3rd

12 noon at the schoolhouse

GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, October 5th, 7:00pm

Bev Bos, a preschool teacher and director for over 30 years and highly sought after speaker of topics in her fields of expertise: creative art, music and language; self-esteem; and helping kids to learn how to socialize in a very natural way. She is the author of “Don’t Move The Muffin Tins”, “Before The Basics”, and “Together We’re Better”, and a National Education Media Silver Apple award winner. She has appeared on NPR and ABC News’ 20/20. We are very fortunate to have such a tremendously enthusiastic and dedicated advocate for young children as a speaker. Mark your calendar and call the sitter.



TURKEY TROT

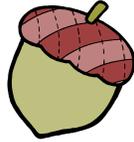
Sunday, November 14th

Vasona Park

Save the date for the Second Annual Turkey Trot. A Run/walk followed by activities, food and fun for the whole family. Watch for more information from Mary Matlack as the date approaches.

Our Approach to Nature

Excerpted from The Observatory, October 1993



Holding nursery school classes in the out of doors is an ideal way for pre-school children to learn to be “at home” with their basic natural surroundings. It gives them a ready-made laboratory where they can learn by touching, handling, smelling, hearing and seeing the wonders of nature close at hand. We see and encourage feelings of delight, wonder surprise and curiosity in the children as they share their discoveries with friends, teachers and observing parents.

Nature walks are sometimes an important part of the school day. The teacher leads the group; when she stops to look, comment upon, touch interesting discoveries by the side of the trail, this information should be passed to the parents behind or assign a parent to pass the information on to those behind as the teacher proceeds with the walk. Parents should be alerted to watching for special “finds” or responding as the children discover their own subjects of interest on these walks.

Listed below are some of the nature life the teachers may wish to call by name. How many you name should be determined by the interest of the children but care should be given not to underestimate the interest of the children. They can always cast-off the name but if it is not presented, they cannot know. A real meaningful experience can only be acquired by the accompanying sensory learning proceeding or coinciding with the verbalization.

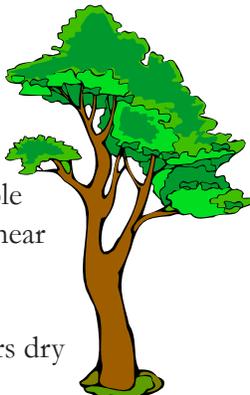
TREES:

Redwood: and Redwood Cones; touch rough bark..

Bay or California Laurel: Leaves have distinctive odor. Sometimes we find a green bay “nut”, the seed.

Sycamore: Large leaves, much like maple leaves but “fingers” are longer; grows near streams often; grey, mottled bark.

Maple: Leaves of varying sizes, spinners dry



enough in the Fall for flying from bridge at Saratoga Springs, also have tiny pricklers in Fall on seed pod part of spinner; spinners in Spring can be separated and stuck on forehead as a “horn” for a bit of fun.

Alder: Profuse at Saratoga Springs; rather small dark green, shiny leaf; watch for alder cones, the seed carrying cones, green in Spring and brown in Fall.

Douglas Fir: Cones can be found in the area just to the left of the “Bunny Hill”. These cones are a favorite “treasure”.

Oak: There are a number of kinds at both school settings; leaves are rather scalloped with pointed scallops; acorns can be found, some already partly eaten by squirrels or insects. The acorn caps are sometimes attached, most often not by the time we find them. The nuts are poisonous for human consumption.

Madrone: With orange bark that peels off.

OTHERS:



Moss: Soft, lovely patterns on rocks, grows longer and lush with rain.

Lichen: A type of fungus, grey varying in designs, interesting to compare with moss. Pronounced li-cen.

Fungus: Various manifestations.

Indian Rocks: One at Saratoga Springs with grinding holes. Very young children have difficulty figuring out time concept, i.e., how long ago the Indians were here and perhaps this part could be left out. Even 4 year olds have been disturbed about the thought that Indians were here. Whatever we say about this should be tempered by our understanding of the child’s limited ability to absorb all of these verbal concepts, and perhaps enough to feel the smooth holes and see some bit of grinding. For older children some positive mention, re: the Indians use of such grinding rocks would be in order.

Banana Slugs: Caution children not to let them climb on their jackets as they leave an unwashable film in their wake. (Yet another good reason not to have children wear cloths you care about to school.)

Water Striders: Watch them “skate” or “stride” across water.

Caddis Worms: Turning into flies mid-May; found on underwater rocks.

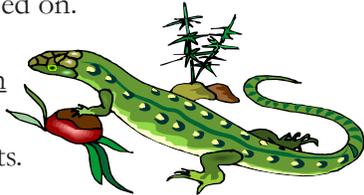
Salamanders and Eggs: hatching in mid-May.

Newts: reddish-brown in color.

Frogs and Eggs: hatching mid-May; discussing cycle and have eggs, polliwogs an baby frogs for observation.

Algae: For water life to feed on.

Water beetles and crayfish



Lizards: Blue bellies, swifts.

Box Elder Bugs: The flying “beetles” with black wings and red back that shows when they fly; they mate and often have a nest of dry grass just above where we park our cars.

Stellar Jays: The blue bird with the “cap” on his head.

Sour Grass: Sour grass hill at Saratoga Springs, edible.

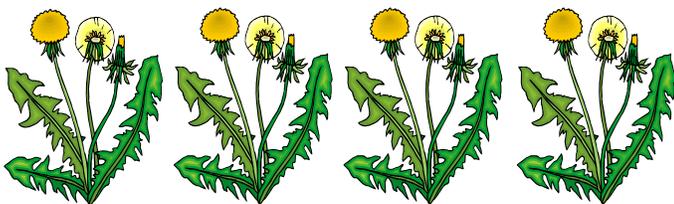
Miner’s Lettuce: Edible in early Spring, was lettuce for miners.

Ferns: Sword, Maidenhair, “gold-locks” for making gold imprint on back of hand or dark clothing, and other types.

Myrtle: At Saratoga Springs.

Dandelions: great for “making a wish” and blowing when white and watching the seeds parachute to earth or making chains.

Wild Strawberries: at Saratoga Springs. ☞



2004 Fall Fundraising Opportunities

by Heidi Casey, Gift Wrap Sales Chairperson

Welcome everyone to another wonderful year of Mountain School! We are all so fortunate to have the opportunity to enjoy all the wonderful things Mountain School has to offer, the exceptional teachers, educational activities, and a rare environment that helps our children to grow and learn. All this is due in part to our parents’ exceptional fundraising efforts and willingness to lend a helping hand.

This year we are changing one element of our fundraising to offer more options. We will continue to sell Sally Foster Wrapping Paper. Their high quality wrapping paper always sells well. In addition, by popular demand, we will offer Van Bourgondien Flower Bulbs. They are also known to be a high quality product and a good fit with our school’s focus on nature. Each of these companies gives back to the school 50% of every dollar sold.

Look for the Sally Foster and Flower Bulb fundraising information in September. The fundraiser will only last a few weeks and both products should be delivered back to you before November. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions, hbcasey@mm2k.net.

We realize that as parents you have many demands on your time. Therefore, while we appreciate any participation, these fundraisers are completely voluntary and not required. Do as much as you can or pass if you need to. While fundraising is important, parent education and observation of your child is the main focus of your time at Mountain School. ☞

Note From the Editor

Thank you for the contributions, ideas, time and help. Do you have a recipe, information, or other idea you would like to submit for consideration for the next newsletter? The deadline for the next newsletter is Wednesday, September 22nd. Please e-mail submissions to mtnmama@garlic.com.

Thank you.

Sonia Casper

Teacher Spotlight: Marie Imai

by Nicole Frees, mother of Daniel in 4/5's

This is a first in a series of teacher interviews that we hope to publish regularly in the Observatory newsletter. I took a few minutes to speak with teacher Marie and find out a little more about where she's from, what she likes, and how she spends her time. Here's what she had to say.

Q: Tell me about your origins?

A: I grew up in a suburb of Portland – Milwaukee, Oregon. I'm the oldest of three children. My father had a tire recapping business and my mother was a Christian education director for a Presbyterian church. As a family we always camped at Mount Hood. My father took us camping, skiing, salmon fishing, and mountain climbing throughout the Northwest.

Q: How about your own family?

I met Kent in college and we married quite young; I was 21. We just had our 40th wedding anniversary. I have three children. The boys are 39, 35, and my daughter is 30. They all went to Mountain School. I have four grandchildren.

Q: Why Teaching?

A: I think of nursery school as different from teaching at "real school". What appeals to me about teaching at nursery school, is the relationship between the children and the parents. I guess I think of myself not so much as a teacher as a companion in exploring our world and having adventures inside and outside ... with outside of course being a little dearer to my heart.

Q: Why Mountain School?

A: The outdoor emphasis speaks to my heart and my soul. The relationships. The fact that my children went there and I went there as a parent offers a sense of continuity. I am able to share the experiences that I had as a parent and help make those experiences possible for other parents. It just seems like a wonderful community and match for my interests.

Q: What draws you to the 4/5's age group?

A: Their growing physical and intellectual abilities. The maturity of those children as opposed to the younger

ones allows you to do more exploring outdoors and more complex projects inside. The children are so remarkable and curious and positive.

Q: Do you have a favorite artist?

A: I like Matisse and Miro.

Q: Favorite Music?

A: I guess I like rock n' roll from the 50's and 60's.

Q: Best Ever Vacation?

A: Maybe our most recent one, which was to Peru and Ecuador this June. We went to the Galapagos Islands and to Cusco and Machu Picchu and to the Amazon basin in Eastern Peru and it was a place I wanted to go all my life. The animals were fantastic. We went with 17 family members and friends. Good company and exciting places to see and great variety. And there was some shopping at markets for textiles, which I loved.

Q: How do you like to spend a free afternoon?

A: I like to work in the garden. I like to take my grandkids on hikes or go on a hike myself.

Q: Favorite cookie?

A: I like molasses cookies.

Q: Do you have a favorite author?

A: I enjoy reading Barbara Kingsolver. My favorite book was, "Prodigal Summer".

Q: Anything to add?

A: If I were to pick a perfect job for myself, I couldn't imagine one better than having spent the last 25 years or so at this nursery school; it's my idea of a match made in heaven. I so appreciate the support of teachers and parents ... and the friendships, more than anything in my life, except for my husband and children. I just feel so fortunate; I don't think most people get all the benefits from their work that I do from mine. It's so much more than a job. ☺

