Poetry in Our School
by Jonnell Liebl

Every year, around the middle of December, a small group of students file in and out of Ms. Bitz's room with paper work and optimism. They wait until mid-February for their hopes to be answered. Hope for what you ask? The answer is simple: waiting to be accepted into the program known as Pen in Hand. Pen in Hand is a writers conference which accepts about sixty individuals each year. These people convene at Little Falls New York, where published authors come to meet with the students and teach them a thing or two about life and writing as poetry and stories abound. For a small number of students, the waiting has just begun. However, the students from last year should be recognized for their individual accomplishments as well as the fact that, quite impressively, our school made up ten percent of the students at the conference. For the six students accepted from our school, it was a quiet celebration with no announcement or fanfare. Ruzena Thibault, with her short story, and Zac Maloof, with his poetry, were first time contenders. However, the majority of the group did a repeat performance showing their skills for a second year. These second year students included Frannie Bray, Benjamin White, Jonnell Liebl, and Melissa Liebl. Frannie submitted a short story and Benjamin, Jonnell, and Melissa submitted poetry. Congratulations goes to these six individuals! Although Ruzena and Frannie have graduated, Jonnell, Melissa, Ben, and Zac have once again entered. Look for winners and their winning entries in the next issue of A Peek at the Creek!
A New Year in Drama by Mike Cambareri

As the curtain rises on a new act in the Sandy Creek Drama Club, we are reminded of the rich history of comedy that precedes us. Many current members of the club have had the privilege of witnessing and participating in past productions, such as You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown and The Dis(concert)ed Choir. In the tradition of these great comedies, the group will perform a pair of short comedic plays called Check, Please 1 and 2. These satires are both set in a restaurant, in which a pair of diners sit down separately to a variety of blind dates, all of which go calamitously wrong. The unfortunate man and women are greeted by a bizarre variety of personality disorders, as well as one very interesting piece of apparel. (I must, for the sake of preserving a truly spectacular sight gag, remain mute to the specifics of this outfit.) This year’s cast includes seniors Adam Sternberg, Ethan Claflin, Cameron Thibault, Elizabeth Lawrence, Ashley Haskins, JerriLynn Schad, Jonell Liebl, Matt Cwirko, Ashley Wilson, and Dillon Schroeder. The play will be performed on March 14th and 15th, so come and witness these seniors and many other stellar performers in their triumphant debut!

Humor and Quotes by Russell LeVack

Duct tape is like the Force. It has a light side, a dark side, and it holds the universe together.
-- Carl Zwanzig

I’d kill for a Nobel Peace Prize.
-- Steven Wright

Well, I was bullied at school, called all kinds of different names. But one day, I turned to my bullies and said, “Sticks and stones may break my bones but names will never hurt me.” And it worked! From there on, it was sticks and stones all the way.
-- Harry Hill

Source: http://www.amusingquotes.com

History Club by Frannie Felo

A brand new club this year is History Club! History Club is administrated by Mr. Ferguson and Mrs. Elderbroom. The president is Ashley Haskins, vice president is Jonnell Liebl, secretary is Dylan Davis, and treasurer is Dillon Schroeder. History Club created gift baskets for a silent auction which took place during the first weekend of February. They did this to raise money for their organization. They hope this money will enable them to travel to historical monuments and do other fun and educational experiences, such as the recent trip to see National Treasure 2: Book of Secrets. Look for future fund raisers to support this brand new club!
**Literary Journal by Melissa Day**

Fantasia Grossman, Kimberly Rudd, Nicole Miller, Dillon Schroeder, Ethan Claflin, Niki Scheppard, Kim Liebl, Jonnell Liebl, Melissa Liebl, Maggie Oliver, Rachael Hurd, Ashley Haskins, and Adam Sternberg are the judges for our school’s new Literary Journal. Never heard of it? The Literary Journal was adopted into our school this year by Mrs. Cornell. The journal contains original creative writings and arts by the students of SCCS. It is Mrs. Cornell’s belief that “there is a tremendous amount of talent in this school, it’s just hiding.” She wants these talented students to turn in their writings or drawings into the submission box, located in the High School Library. These submissions can be poems, short stories, songs, drawings, comics, photography, or even essays. The staff requires the submissions to be school appropriate, and the articles should not be plagiarized or contain vulgar language. The piece must also be double spaced and in Times New Roman 12 point font. This journal is open to any students, all you have to do is submit. Or maybe you think you are creative but you want that kept on the down low? That can work too. When you submit your creativity, you must submit one with your name and one without and specify whether or not you want to be anonymous. The peer judges won’t even know whose work they are judging, just Mrs. Cornell. This journal is made to recognize the incredible amount of talent in our little school that is, at this point, going unnoticed. So if you think you are creative, submit! The journal should be going out in the spring.

**Video Game Club by Steven Radford**

If you like video games and would like to socialize with people who play them, join the Video Game Club. In this club, you can play games and talk about new releases for systems like the Wii and Xbox 360. This is only a very brief overview of the Video Game Club, join the organization to enjoy the entire experience!

**Business Club by Jessica Blauvelt**

Business Club is run by Ms. Miller, who is also the keyboarding teacher. The club is looking to raise money for a trip to Conobles, Pennsylvania. They are hoping to gain that money by means of pizza sales, car washes, and other avenues that have not yet been determined. President of Business Club is Samantha Phillips. Vice president and treasurer is Matt Smith. Secretary is Shannon Lohr. Other members of Business Club include: Brandon Wilms, Chelsea Darling, Brittany McGrath, Paige Sawyer, Austin Dingman, Sylvia Grimes, Sam Luberto, and Ronnie Mullen. New members are always welcome.
High school days have their ups, and they certainly have their downs. Between the work load, the sports, the competition in general, and of course: the drama. Relationships and friendships alike can be filled with woes. So what are the positive aspects of your educational career? Well, there's the opportunity that knowledge and experience can offer. There is also the experience in life mechanics. How to build and operate with your interests. No, the school hasn't adopted Social Graces 101. The next best thing, then, would be Art Club. What draws you to people? Their look or style, personality, the things they do. All of the above usually have some sort of an effect. The Sandy Creek Art Club reaches and fills multiple purposes. During the first meeting, attendance is taken. A King and Queen (as opposed to president) is chosen by the group through a secret ballot. High school art teacher and Art Club advisor, Mr. Scoville, opens the nomination to any seniors who are present at the meeting. The “Monarchs” sole purpose is to provide a good example and positive peer pressure to keep things manageable, and maintain a peaceful and welcoming atmosphere. Mr. Scoville also expects the responsibility of the two to include offering extra help to set up or clean up before and after a project. This year, he decided that in light of the lack of aid in the past, the positions were really pointless. We voted on them anyway. After all the specifics are taken care of, and everyone has been introduced, the students are free to create. Art becomes a common interest. It provides a time and place for students who may not be taking an art course, to utilize the supplies and receive some instruction. It creates a communal atmosphere where kids can glean moral and scholarly support from their instructor and ultimately, their fellow students. The emphasis placed on creativity is not limited to the fine arts, many students develop and display their musical creations. Art Club has become a small picture of what we want for the whole student body: a true community.

**Library Club by Niki Scheppard**

In my opinion, not many people take the Library Club seriously or think that it is fun. That is why I would like to inform people about Battle of the Books. Battle of the Books was started as an “English as a second language (ESL)” competitive reading program in Alaska. Today it has spread across the United States taking place in schools such as ours. Students must read a certain number of books (Our team has to read twelve!) and then the team competes to answer questions that are presented in a “quiz show” format. For example, in which book did a character think that there was too much green? Your team would then have to answer with *Twilight* by Stephanie Meyer.

There is a first round competition between the eight people who are on the team now. Three will be picked to compete with the high schools in our county. A green poster behind the desk in the library shows how many books each person in the Battle of the Books has read. If we win the county competition, we will each be given metals and the school will be given a trophy. I hope that this information will get more people to consider joining the Library Club!
The Varsity Volleyball team had an overall record of 12-7 before heading into sectionals. Although the season started off shaky with a few losses, the girls came back with a seven game winning streak until they faced their biggest rival, Beaver River. However, after this loss, the girls played hard and beat Belleville Henderson in five games on their senior night. The team ran a 5-1 this year, which means that Lyndsay Rowell was the lone setter, with Emily Nellis, Brittany McGrath or Amber Lizotte as her opposite on the right side. The middle hitters were Chelsea Crump, Christina Peck, Elizabeth Lawrence and Miriah Buley. The left side and outside hitters were Tricia Stevens, Cassia King and Pamela Denny. Rachel Pretory was the libero (a player specialized in defensive skills) for the team this year. Lyndsay Rowell, Tricia Stevens and Chelsea Crump received the frontier league all-star award, while Cassia King received an honorable mention. Congratulations on a successful season, ladies!

The J.V. volleyball team had a successful season in terms of development, maturity, and improvement. Most of the starters from last year’s team moved up to varsity so the season began with a young group, in terms of game experience. The setting duties were carried out by Samantha Pfluger and Christine Howe, with Viki White and Kaylin Foster-Switzer expected to carry the load next year. Key middle hitters were Stefani Senke and Nicki Clark; Chelsea Elliott and Jada Bachar will take the role in that position next year. Playing left side and outside hitter positions were Marie Mason and Eden Rudd, with Shaina Johnson inserted as a defensive specialist. Shaina Johnson, Jona Maloof and Lalitha Sergis will pick up the responsibilities as the left sides next year. The girls played with heart and never lacked for enthusiasm. Team bonding with secret pals and the topic of the day helped them to mesh and work as a cohesive team on the court. Great season, ladies!

The 7th grade volleyball team had an exceptional season, with an overall record of 8-2. The players contributing to this record include: Toni Gray, Mackenzie LaVeck, Alexis Donohue, Natasha Malick, Alyssa Akey, Ashley McNitt, Cassandra Thomas, Kendra Valley, Samantha McNitt, Mykayla Howlett, Olivia Ivison, Britaney Lyzinski and Korine Kastler. Excellent job, ladies!

The 8th grade volleyball team had an overall record of 3-7. However, the record doesn’t reflect the effort that each player put forth while on the court. The players on this team included Lilliam Luszczynski, Marissa Raneri, Kaitlin Allen, Allie Miller, Brooke Keruskie, Maria Rice, Sara Tyrrell, Breanne Warner, Deanna Buley and Izzy Bray. As the season progressed, so did the talent of the 8th grade spikers. The girls played well as a team and often made tremendous plays in each match. Many of the games were close, but unfortunately the team didn’t come out on top. The girls learned about team unity and significantly improved their skills as young volleyball players and will be ready to come out firing next year. Nice job, ladies!

Ontario Bay Repeats as Tourney Champs!

With the coaching skills of Mr. Sturick, the Ontario Bay Storm compiled a 10-12-2 record. The Storm managed to clinch the Ontario Bay Thanksgiving Tournament after an exciting overtime win against Corcoran. Other highlights include winning the Morrisville Cup and advancing to the finals in the tough Kings of the Coliseum Tournament. Sandy Creek seniors Ben Thomas and Eddie Stevens both provided the leadership necessary for the Storm to be successful. Younger members of the team, such as Devin Coon, also made contributions to the team.
The Comets Crush the Spartans!

Under the leadership of co-captains Koby Fowler, Brent Trexler and Paul Hallock, the varsity boys were able to put together a very impressive season. Although the Comets were plagued by injuries, returning starter Koby Fowler stepped up while Brent Trexler recovered from a serious car accident and Hallock recovered from a knee injury. The team’s record was 12-8, with some notable highlights. For instance, the team was able to win the League Championship and the playoffs for the first time in twenty-five years. Another highlight was when the boys christened the gym with their first win against South Jefferson since its construction. Mike Elkin, Taylor Ouderkirk, and Koby Fowler were honored as Frontier League All-Stars. The Comet’s are the four seed entering sectionals and will face Mohawk first. Good Luck Boys!!!

Sully’s Girls Head to Sectionals by Brittany McGrath

The varsity girl’s basketball roster consists of Kelcie Cashel, Mercedes LaVeck, Tiffany Crandal, Courtney Claflin, Tyffany Howlett, Fantasia Grossman, and Karlie DeCarlious. These members have improved a lot as a team this year. They have come a long way and now are on the way to sectional with Coach Mike Sullivan. The girls have played hard this year and were able to keep their heads during the games. Excellent job ladies, keep up the good work!

The J.V. basketball team’s 3-15 record does not reflect the ability of the Comet’s basketball program, they lost many close games. The boys managed to keep themselves in every game due to the experience provided by the veteran co-captains Jarrett Luberto, Alex Howland, and Dustin Green. Even though the team is very young, with only one sophomore, the team managed to bring the tough South Jeff Spartans into overtime as well as losing a close shootout to the Thousand Island Vikings in double overtime. The future looks bright for next year; the Comets look to improve now that they have more experience under their belts.

Mr. Stoker has led the eighth grade team to a strong start with a 2-2 record. Captains Cornell Newsome, Josh Bradberry, and Adam Fox have all been great role models for the team to look up to. Under such leadership, the team managed an impressed victory over Lowville with a score of 36-17. Cornell Newsome was the game’s standout, score an outstanding eighteen points in the game. Overall the team has shown tough defense and relied on the teams cohesive to win games. Avery Barney and Wyatt Wells have also been key players, motivating the team to perform so well.

Tyler Phelon, Mitchell Garvin, Kameron Goodsell, Dallas Miller, Jesse Ladd, Ben Shepard, Kyle Leighton, Andy Carter, Samuel Luszczynski, Justin Mintoyne, Dan Luberto, and Ivan Grossman make up the seventh grade boy’s basketball team. They are coached by Mr. Phillips. So far, the boys have a record of 1-2. They are looking forward to winning more games and having a successful season!
The Comet’s varsity wrestling team finished a season for the history books. They achieved a 23-6 record and finished as the eighteenth ranked team in the state. Among their many accomplishments, highlights included winning their Frontier League Divisional Championship for the first time since 1980 and finishing second in the league overall, the third time in Sandy Creek history. The Comets also won the Red Creek Duals and participated in the prestigious Section Three Tournament for the first time in their history. The leadership of co-captains Scott Luberto, Kevin Shirley, Zach Presley, and Justin Manchester all contributed to the Comets success. Younger members of the team, such as DJ Pfluger and Logan McNitt, were crucial; these individuals even won League titles! Other finalists included Matt Shirley, Kevin Shirley, and Scott Luberto. Matt Shirley advanced to the finals after defeating the returning sectional champion. The team now looks to clinch the Class D Championships and advance to the sectional tournament.

Cheering for Success!
by Brittany McGrath

The varsity cheerleaders "worked hard all seasons and I love them," says Coach Van Ornum. The girls on the team are Brittnea Bryden (captain), Brittany Braley (captain), Caitlin Clark (captain), Allie Miller, Jamie Urquhart, Lisa Salzman, Stephany Quick, Alex Forcione, Megan Clark, Brooke Thomas, Kat Deep, Rachel Paige, Sagan Bush, and Nickie Ginnan. A highlight of the season was winning the Frontier League Competition and assisted the varsity with the Section 3 Competition. The girls competed in the Copenhagen Winter Cheer Competition and took first place for their division! Their team consisted of Rachel Urquhart, Torrie Edwards, Sabrina Prins, Jenna Waggoner, Lacey Lyons, Katy Robinson, Lyndsey Parker, and Tania Sergis. The J.V. cheerleading squad was coached by Heather Peterson. Nice season ladies!

Wrestlers Grapple Their Way Into the History Books

Coach Mike Stevens returned this year to continue coaching the young modified wrestling team. He was very optimistic about the Comets, especially about the fact that Sandy Creek had the largest number of participants of any modified team in the league. He spoke praises about the team’s hard work and their improvement throughout the year. The team, which is composed of a majority of seventh graders held their own in the tough Frontier League and had a great time doing it. Coach Stevens looks forward to seeing the wrestlers progress in the future as they mature and contribute to the program next year.

Skating with Sabrina

Sabrina Howland was the lone figure skater representing S.C.C.S. this year. She is currently a member of the Skating Club of CNY. She has skated in Pulaski as well as Cicero. Sabrina began skating when she was only four years old. She has accomplished the level of juvenile in the field class and she passed her pre-juvenile level in the freestyle class. Some of Sabrina’s highlights include landing an axle for the first time and performing her senior solo. This was very special because it was her last show and all of her friends were present. She said, “I love skating because it’s an individual sport, where you have to push yourself on and off the ice.” Sabrina credits her coach, Jennifer Duvall, with inspiring her to push herself to become so successful. Great job Sabrina!
**Elementary School News** By Rachel Pretory and Rachel Paige

The Elementary Student Council has been very busy lately! The Student Council has Maggie King as their president, Rosie Joyce as their vice president, Zeke Durham as their secretary and Matthew Guarasce as their treasurer. Mrs. McNitt is their supervisor. They had a T-shirt design contest and Rachel Yerden won. They then sold t-shirts with her design on them. The student council also had a bake sale and the money was donated to the Friendship Shop. They set up a school spirit day in November, a Christmas spirit day in December, and a “Wacky Wednesday” in January to get the whole elementary joined in on all their fun.

The elementary also has a Climate Committee. The president is Sarah Clark and Jacob Cornell is the vice president. The secretary is Codi Anne Salzman and Keith Gibbs is the treasurer. Mrs. King is their supervisor. The climate committee is made up of two students from each homeroom in 3rd, 4th and 5th grade. They had a Cherry Dale fundraiser and donated $100 to the friendship shop. They also gave money to the spelling bee winners. They made Valentine’s Day cards for senior citizens and will personally deliver them. They also bought 21 new sleds for their playground. The climate committee is going to work together with the high school business club students to make books for the pre-k kids. They will give the books to the children when they go to kindergarten registration.

**Advice with Bonnie and Clyde**
**By Jonnell Liebl and Matt Smith**

Hello all. Due to the fact that the newspaper doesn’t run often, Clyde and I have decided to try and give general advice rather than answering a specific question.

**Bonnie’s advice:** This issue is about getting along with people and not vandalizing school property. Recently, two windows have been punched out at our school. These windows are very expensive to replace. Instead of following the trend, it would be wise to talk it out, or break your own windows, which are less expensive. Either course of action would make you realize that breaking things is not the way to go. Try to relax and breath, then confront the problem at hand with a cool head and a new perspective.

**Clyde’s advice:** Everyone should act like themselves. At school, I’ve see a lot of people lacking originality. This is just a depressing sight. If you are not yourself, then who are you? People need to fit in their own box, not others circles. People shouldn’t morph who they are for others. Find your own group; don’t go to others when you have to change. So my advice to you is: don’t follow others, follow yourself. Otherwise, the world could turn into black and white.

**Middle School News**
**By Megan Clark and Nicki Clark**

Sandy Creek Central School recently held its annual District Spelling Bee. Fourteen students qualified for the final oral spell-down on December 19th, 2007. By the final round of the Bee, two students battled it out for the championship. The second runner-up was Fiona Lewis, the first runner-up was Kris Day, and the champion was Eloise Thibault. Other participants included Mara Gibbs, Ryan Kind, Elizabeth Houck, Amelia Yousey, Michael Horth, Justin Haskins, Natasha Malik, Sklyynn Salzman, Shannan Robbins, Rosaleen Morgan, and Madeline Yousey. The top three spellers advanced to the 2008 Post-Standard/ WCNY Regional Spelling Bee in Syracuse. Pictured below are the top three spellers.
Rocking Out with Steven Radford

You’ve seen Guitar Hero, but the new game Rock Band combines a guitar, a microphone, and a drum set. In Rock Band, these peripherals are used to play songs in the game, hit the notes on the screen, and get a high score. Gather three more people and you have a whole band with a singer, drummer, bassist, and electric guitarist. You’re scored based on how well you hit the notes. If one of you band members is doing terribly, the score will go down and eventually the bad player will be kicked out. However, another band member can save the failed band mate at a special time called Overdrive. In Overdrive, the points you score are multiplied. When you start in a band, you can customize your character’s attitude, physique, look, and eventually buy clothing. As you play through the solo tour, you receive more songs to play with your friends both online and at home. If you have another person playing an instrument or singing at home, you can go on the Band World Tour where your band travels from city to city playing clubs and conventions all over the world. As you get more fans, your band becomes more popular and you can perform in more places. You can play with or against three other players on Xbox Live. You can buy new songs from the Xbox Live Marketplace to add to your playlist. Although the guitar controller doesn’t help you learn how to play the real guitar, the drums do. You feel like a real drummer and sometimes actual drummers can perform well on the hardest difficulty. The entire set of Rock Band (Including the drums, microphone, and guitar) costs $169.99 for the Play Station 3 and Xbox 360 versions and the Play Station 2 version costs $159.99. It may be a hefty price, but it is worth it and won’t be forgotten. This isn’t just a game, it’s a chance to release your inner rock star!

Tech Corner By Rachael Hurd

Technology is the unsung hero of the modern world. So much of how we live centers on technology, and it is often overlooked. In this article, we will examine some of the most important technologies that we sometimes take for granted. Often, many of us feel technology starved after a day without the T.V. or computer. However, the truth is, in our modern society, a day without any technology is next to impossible. For instance, when you woke up this morning you probably saw a clock. This is an example of complex technology that has been in development since ancient times with the use of the sundial, hourglass, and water clock (which used water in the same concept as the hourglass). Your clock, even if you don’t realize it, took mankind thousands of years to make. Many times, we pass over it with a simple glance each day; never thinking about the accomplishment it represents. Alright, so now that your up, you turn on a light. Now in that one simple motion you have put into use at least three technologies and again they might go unnoticed. You have just used the incandescent light bulb, electricity, and the light switch. The incandescent light bulb is the product of man constant need to substitute the sun during the night and today’s light bulb took over 200 years after the first arc lamp to achieve. Electricity has been in the works since the first person wondered about lightning. While Ben Franklin and his famous kites might be the first thing to pop to mind discovering, understanding, and harnessing are completely different. Truthfully, it is men like Alessandro Volta and Michael Faraday that we should think of when we use a battery or electricity of any sort. So now that you’re up you might as well get dressed. Now you have gone and run into more technology. Both the ability to efficiently produce your clothing outside of the home and the invention of clothing to suit the elements are technologies. If you use a zipper, that’s another technology; even Velcro is a technology! As you can see, the world is full of technology, we just have to take the time to appreciate it.
Meet the Teacher by Caitlin Clark, Mercedes LaVeck, and Eden Rudd

Mr. Burris by Caitlin Clark and Mercedes LaVeck

Where are you from?
Virginia

Where did you attend college?
Virginia Commonwealth University

Do you have any children?
Yes, I have one son in college.

What made you want to become an art teacher?
The diversity it brings. You can teach all different levels of art and it is always interesting.

What’s your favorite movie?
This Property Is Condemned

What kind of music do you like to listen to?
James Taylor

Who is your favorite artist?
Vincent Van Gogh

What are your favorite hobbies?
Painting, reading, and running.

What inspires you?
Nature.

Mrs. Hathaway by Eden Rudd

What high school did you attend?
Pelham Bay Memorial High School

Where did you go to college?
SUNY Cortland

What is your favorite movie?
Silence of the Lambs

Have you gone to any interesting places?
The Yellow Stone National Park

What people inspire you today?
My mother first and foremost, then God, and poets like Maya Angelou

What are your hobbies?
I like playing board games, playing sports, and I LOVE making all kinds of puzzles.

Have you had any life changing experiences?
Yes. The birth of my children.

What is your favorite quote?
"There is no should have, could have, would have, when you give all you have." - Mrs. Hathaway

Do you have any advice for the students of Sandy Creek?
Now days people need to be more people conscious and take other people's feelings into consideration instead of being self-centered.

Is there any current news about yourself that you would like to tell the people?
I am elated to report that I am having another baby!!!