

This handbook is a publication of the Student Council Association. The SCA strives to include and involve students in school activities.

The 2008-2009 SCA Officers are:

President-Robert Kemp

1st Vice President-Caroline Gecker

2nd Vice President-William Kennedy

Secretary- Jessica Greene

Treasurer-Daniel Miranian

Historian-Anne Taylor Hinton



The information found in this handbook is believed to be accurate, however due to the changing nature of clubs and their components, some details may be inconsistent with the current status of each organization. Please forward questions, comments, and corrections to the SCA.

James River High School Club Handbook



2008—2009
Academic Year

Administrators

Principal:
John Titus

Assistant Principals:
Kathryn Catina
Jennifer Coleman
Amanda Voelker

Deans of Students:
Michael Fennessey
Nytasha Garland
Jeanine Grabham

Guidance Counselors

Erin Gardner
Bryan Carr
Michele Lawrence
Amy Cook
Wallace Dietz
Julie O'Bryant

Clubs at JRHS

Club success at James River is based on student involvement. Club participation is essential to many annual projects, such as Homecoming, Christmas Mother, River Jam, and school beautification. The ICC (Inter Club Council) holds monthly meetings in order to update clubs on events and programs. Check the SCA Club Board for details and information regarding specific clubs. Clubs welcome new members, so become a part of the James River Experience!

Table Tennis

The purpose of the James River High School Table Tennis Club is to provide club members with an athletic challenge as well as benefits of the social aspects of the game of table tennis.

Sponsor: Matthew Cohen

Writer's Guild

The Writer's Guild is for students who like to write and who want to take their writing skills to another level.

Sponsor: Dr. Emily Decarlos
President: TBA

Young Democrats

The purpose of the Young Democrats is to elect Democratic candidates and encourage involvement in the Democratic Party. Members help in informing the student body about Democratic views and opinions. The members will sponsor and participate in debates on political candidates and issues, and they will host a voter registration drive.

Sponsor: Ann Reinke
President: Becca Lowe

Young Republicans

The Young Republicans are interested in informing the student body about Republican views. They debate with the Young Democrats and organize field trips to Republican events.

Sponsors: Kris Negaard
President: TBA

Academic Team

The Academic Team involves students in academic competition at the county, regional, and state level. All students who are interested in challenging and fun competition should stop by the weekly meetings. There are no dues.

Sponsor: Mr. Ed Bosh
President: TBA

American Chemical Society

The American Chemical Society is open to any student interested in the field of Chemistry. Students do not have to be currently enrolled in a Chemistry class to join, but must have taken Chemistry in the past. Throughout the year the club participates in scientific competitions and are \$5.00.

fundraisers during the school year. Dues
Sponsors: Dr. Eileen Downey,
Tara Brunyansky
President: Daniel Miranian

Animal Care Club

Animal Care Club is an organization dedicated to the humane,

loving care of animals. We work together to raise funds for organizations that care for animals and we dedicate time to assist with the placement of orphaned animals into loving homes. Anyone who has an interest in the well-being of furry or scaly friends is welcome to join in!

Sponsor: Sara Storck
President: Alex Phan

Art and Photo Guild

The Art and Photo Guild is open to all students who want to help supply art support to the school and community. The club meets in the art room at least once a month for community and art services including art displays and trips. A student does not need to be enrolled in an art class to belong to this club. Dues are \$5.00 annually.

Sponsor: Mrs. Allison Duvall
Presidents:

Asia Club

The Asian Club will be a forum for discussion and learning about the civilizations of China, Korea, and Japan. Students will be able to connect what they learn in the history classroom or their home, with the dynamic cultures of East Asia. The club will meet monthly, or as deemed necessary by the members or sponsor.

Sponsor : Cathy Short

A.S.T.A.

A.S.T.A. (American String Teachers of America) is a club for all musicians and music lovers, particularly lovers of stringed instruments. Players of all abilities can join; non-players are very welcome. Our goal is to serve the community through music and to serve the community of musicians. A.S.T.A. members provide music for a wide variety of events, including the Winter Faculty Social, elementary school concerts, and other charitable events. Activities such as ushering at the Modlin Center or answering phones at the public radio station's pledge drive help keep Richmond's music scene strong. We provide service to fellow musicians by running the annual Central Regional Orchestra auditions. Field trips can include excursions to perform music at nursing homes, schools, and hospitals; or we may venture out to meet great performers of stringed instruments. Meetings are on Mondays after school in the orchestra/guitar classroom (M-4). Dues are \$5.

Sponsor: Ms. Beth Almore

Athletes Who Care

Athletes Who Care is a club that was founded to give athletes and those who care about sports the chance to make a difference in their school and community. One goal is to break the myth of the "dumb jock" and show that athletes care about school and the world around them. Besides helping with school events, we ran an ultra-marathon to benefit the victims of Hurricane Katrina. We ran the distance from James River High School to the Superdome in New Orleans. We also raised nine thousand dollars through this event. We will continue this fundraiser for different charities each year.

Sponsor: Mr. Pete Schumacher

Senior Class

The Senior Class participates in Homecoming and several other activities and special senior events such as Senior Night and the Senior Cookout. Please see sponsors for details.

Sponsors: Harriet Meader
Suzanne Willie
Stephanie Burr
President: Carter Brown

Shakespeare Club

Sponsor: Kathleen McDonald
President(s): Michael Bacon
Caitlin Daffron

Solid Rock Bible Study

Those interested should see Ms. Sarah Knott for details.

Sophomore Class

The Sophomore class participates in Homecoming and many other events, such as the Ring Ceremony in March. Please see sponsors for details.

Sponsor: Margaret Heysel
President:

Spanish Club

The mission of the Spanish club is to promote cultural understanding of Spanish speaking countries. Activities of this club include building a Homecoming float, conducting scavenger hunts in the target language, ordering a meal at a Mexican restaurant, and celebrating Hispanic customs and traditions. The Spanish Club meets once a month and is open to all students who demonstrate a sincere interest in the goal of this club. Dues are \$8.00 annually.

Sponsor: Stephanie Layton
President: TBA

Robotics

The robotics team is for students who love science, technology, engineering, mathematics, programming, art, graphic design, marketing and promotion, and team sports. This team competes in the FIRST Robotics Competition every spring at VCU. The objective is to design and build robots to master a challenging team game played with other robots. The competition season runs from January-March with pre-season meetings beginning in September. Cost to join is \$50.

For more info, contact head coach, Mr. Timothy Couillard (timothy_couillard@ccpsnet.net)

Student Contact: Ashvin Sood
Katy Waters

Roller Hockey

Those interested should see Mr. Brad Smart for details.

Rock Climbing Club

Cost is \$20.

Sponsor: Elizabeth Morris
President: Olivia Rappe

SCA (Student Council Association)

The SCA is the governing body for the students, faculty and staff of JRHS and promotes positive club activities and involvement at school. Activities of the SCA include: Guides at Freshman Orientation, Homecoming Dance, Blood Drives, teacher recognition, teacher helpers, River Jam, school clean-up and beautification, etc. The club meets once a week for Officers and Senators. SCA representatives must apply in the spring for the following school year; Ninth-graders may apply in the fall for the current school year. They must be active to remain in good standing. Officers are elected in the Spring for the following year. There is no cost to join.

Sponsors: Helena Oakey
Katherine Ruse
Sarah Snell
President: Robbie Kemp

Beta Club

The Beta Club is an academic leadership-service organization for students in grades 10-12. The purpose of the club is to encourage effort, reward achievements, and promote good leadership. Sophomores with a cumulative un-weighted 3.2 academic average and no serious discipline action are invited to submit an application in the spring of the school year. Those approved will be notified and inducted into Beta Club during a ceremony. Each member then performs required club sponsored service hours to maintain membership. Projects have included peer tutoring, teacher helpers, Talent Show, and many other worthwhile activities. Dues are \$5 for Juniors and \$10 for Seniors.

Sponsor: Janel Parks
President: Tessa Anderson

Chess Club

The game of chess has been played for over six centuries by both kings and commoners. Chess playing is associated with the development of analytical and mathematical skills. The JRHS Chess Club provides students with an opportunity to learn the game of chess or develop their skills by playing against club members. Membership is open to all JRHS students.

Sponsor: Mr. Chuck LaRocca
President:

Computer Networking

The Computer Networking Club is a co-curriculum student association, which promotes leadership skills, Information Technology skills and best practices. The club brings IT and education together in a positive working relationship through innovative leadership and IT programs. We meet once a month in room 2202 or in a space that is appropriate for the activity we are working on.

Sponsor: Peter Meade

Debate Club

This club involves research, development of communication skills, and debate technique. Activities include preparing, researching, practicing and periodically attending and competing in tournaments. Novices and experienced debaters are welcomed. The club meets once a week after school and costs \$20.00 to join.

Sponsor: TBA

President: TBA

Do Something

The Do Something Club endeavors to improve the human condition, effect social change, and service the community through energetic and charitable fundraising. Dues are \$12.

Sponsor: Stuart Nabors

President: Stephanie Hubbard

Drama Club/ International Thespians Society

The purpose of the Drama Club is to support, produce, and experience theater. The main activity is to produce a fall and spring show with full staging. Other activities include student directed one-act plays, play festival, workshops in acting and stage combat, guest artists, set construction, field trips to plays and a spring picnic by the river. The club meets the first Thursday of each month. Students may pick up applications from M3, or at orientation and guidance. Auditions are open to all students, however, students cast in a play must then join the club. Dues are \$5.00 (or \$10.00 if join after Oct. 1st).

Sponsor: Allison Oyler

President: Emily Willis

Quill and Scroll

Quill and Scroll, the International Honor Society for High School Journalists, was organized for the purpose of encouraging and recognizing individual students' achievements in journalism and scholastic publication. To become a member of Quill and Scroll, students must be recommended by their teacher/ advisor.

Sponsor: Elizabeth Morris

Rapid Fire

Rapid Fire is a team focused on showcasing the skills and athleticism of students with varying levels of physical and mental abilities. As a participant in the Z.T. Medford Basketball League, sportsmanship and participation are the primary concerns of the team. School-wide participation is encouraged to promote support for the players and cheerleaders.

Sponsor: Mr. Randy Early

Rapid Reaction

Sponsor: Sarah Chadwick

President: Cleo Dan

Literary Magazine

Sponsor: Elizabeth Morris

Editor-in-chief:

Newspaper

Sponsor: Elizabeth Morris

Editor-in-chief:

Yearbook

Sponsor: Elizabeth Morris

Editor-in-chief:

National Art Honor Society

The purpose of this club is to recognize outstanding art students and to allow them to support the school through their talents. Members are chosen after a portfolio review and interview with current members and sponsors. Selection is based on character and attitude demonstrated in art class, as well as quality of artwork. A club member must be willing to assume responsibility for National Art Education Association activities and attendance at all meetings. In addition, a student needs to be currently enrolled in an art or photo class and maintain a minimum "B" average. Dues are \$5.00.

Sponsor: Laura Wright
Presidents: Jessi Leonard,
Bailey Tarren

National Honor Society

The National Honor Society promotes scholarship, leadership, service and character. Juniors and Seniors with a cumulative 3.6 academic average are eligible to submit an application describing their extracurricular and volunteer activities. Those approved by the faculty council, a committee selected by the principal, will be notified before being inducted into the NHS during a ceremony. Dues are \$15.

Sponsors: Jan Nelson
Sharon Hoffert
President: Mark Smithson

Partners In Education

The Partners In Education (PIE) Club is dedicated to assisting inner-city schools through a mentoring program. PIE meets weekly and carpools to assigned school where the JRHS students meet with their elementary student who need extra help in the SOL areas such as Math or Reading Comprehension.

Sponsor: Mr. Matt Cohen
President: Olivia Rappe
Jessica Greene

FBLA (Future Business Leaders Of America)

The purpose of the FBLA is to work with students and the community. The goal is to prepare students for the world of business. Activities include community service, fundraising, guest speakers and social activities. Meetings are held once a month. A club member must be in a business class. Cost to join is \$14.00.

Sponsor: Jon Neblett
President: Michael Midkiff

FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes)

All Students are welcome to join. For meetings and information check the club board or see sponsor.

Sponsor: Ben Dyer
President: TBA

Fencing Club

The Fencing Club provides the opportunity for students to learn and practice the basics of foil fencing. The club meets Monday evenings, February through April, in the auxiliary gym. For the first four weeks basic footwork, arm and hand techniques are practiced, with some use of limited club equipment. Dues are \$35.00.

Sponsor: Eileen Rowe
President: TBA

Forensics

Forensic team members have the chance to practice and showcase their talents in the categories of storytelling, humorous and serious dramatic interpretations, prose and poetry readings, original oratory, and extemporaneous and impromptu speaking. Members compete in local and state-wide tournaments. The club meets once a week after school with additional practices scheduled the week before a tournament. Those students who enjoy public speaking, performing and making literature come to life are welcomed to join.

Sponsor: Laura Stewart

French Club (Le Cercle Francais)

The goal of this club is to learn more about French culture and to have fun! The activities of the club include watching French films, having cooking demonstrations of French foods, playing culturally relevant games, doing service projects, hosting a French dinner for all students in May, and participating in school events such as the Homecoming parade. Meetings are usually held once a month after school. Dues are \$7.00 for all members. All students of French (past, present or future) are welcome.

Sponsor: Sarah Chadwick
Laurel Maughan

President: Lindsey Delegge

Minority Expressions

The purpose of this club is to strengthen the academic performance of minority students, facilitate increased participation of minority students in school organizations and activities, increase visibility of minority parents, and increase knowledge, understanding and appreciation of diversity. Activities include resource speakers, forums, community service projects, cultural enrichment activities, career mentoring, fund-raisers, and awards recognition. Meetings are held twice a month. Any student may join for the annual \$10.00 fee.

Sponsor: Mrs. Karen Brown
President: Brittany Roots

Model United Nations

The purpose of Model U.N. is to give students an idea of what goes on in an actual United Nations session. The club is open to all students willing to participate. There are no set dues; however, students must pay for all expenditures at conferences and on trips.

Sponsor: Ms. Jean-Marie Mendelis
Presidents: Scott Setien

MSA (Muslim Student Association)

The MSA helps students of Islamic backgrounds interact with the very diverse student body of James River. Non-Muslims are welcome to join also.
Sponsor: Tiffany Toledo
President: TBA

Mu Alpha Theta

Mu Alpha Theta is an organization whose purpose is the promotion of scholarship and enjoyment and understanding of mathematics among high school students. Meetings are held regularly and students are involved in activities such as tutoring and organizing events for National Math Week. To be eligible for induction, a student must have met the following minimum requirements: completion of four semesters of college preparatory mathematics and completion of, or enrollment in a more advanced course, with no grade less than a "B" in any course.

Sponsor: Steve Taylor
President: TBA

Latin Club

The purpose of the Latin Club is to promote the study of Latin and the Classics. Activities include State Convention (in the fall), National Convention (in the summer), Certamina, Saturnalia and Ides of March socials, field trips, public service, and other activities as desired. Meeting times and locations are to be announced at the beginning of the year. To join the club a student must currently be a Latin student or have successfully completed two or more years of Latin. The dues are \$25-\$50, depending on how much members earn from fundraising.

Sponsor: Donna Dollings

President: Victoria Dickens

Marketing Club— DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America)

The goal of this co-curricular club is to provide professional, social, and civic understanding within a business environment. District, State, and National competitions are held. A club member must be enrolled in a marketing educational class. Meetings are held monthly and the cost of \$10.00 covers district, state, and national dues.

Sponsor: Jeanette Baird

Freshman Class

The freshman class participates in Homecoming and several other activities. Elections are held in the Fall. Please see sponsor for details.

Sponsor: Ruth Mills

President: TBA

Frisbee Team

If you like running and ultimate frisbee, then this co-ed team is for you! The frisbee team plays other high schools throughout the county all year long.

Sponsor: TBA

Captain: TBA

G.S.A (Gay Straight Alliance)

The purpose of the James River Gay-Straight Alliance is to promote tolerance and equality among students of all sexual orientations and gender identities through education efforts and awareness building; to inform members of the student body of issues and events effecting the lives gay and straight ally youth; to create a safer, more respectful learning environment for all students; to work in coalition with administration and other on-campus clubs to promote a respectful environment; to create a safe, welcoming space for gay and straight ally students to socialize and talk together about issues they hold in common.

Sponsor: Ann Reinke

President: Charles Craig

German Club

The purpose of the *German Club* is to promote an interest in *German* language and culture. The club's meetings take place monthly in room 1216 from 2:00 to 2:30 p.m. Social events for the month are planned and scheduled, typically for Fridays or weekends. Some possible events for this year include dinner in a *German* restaurant, an outing to a *German* opera/symphony, an Oktoberfest at Busch Gardens, a black forest cake making contest, a gingerbread house decorating contest, attendance at the state convention for *German* students, regular showings of *German* movies, a *German* cultural trivia contest, *German* card games, participation in an inter-language volleyball competition, picnics by the river (with plenty of *German* sausages!), and participation in the Homecoming parade. Students wishing to join should attend the first meeting (TBA). Students not taking *German* are also welcome. Dues are \$20.

Sponsor: Dr. Stuart Gapper
President: Sean Cook

History Club

The purpose of the *History Club* is to foster interest and involvement in activities such as field trips, historically based movies, games, contests, guest speakers, Homecoming and other school-related events. Meetings are on Tuesdays and vary in frequency depending on what the club is involved in at a given time. The only requirement for membership is regular participation in club activities. Dues are \$10.00

Sponsor: TBA
President: TBA

Interact Club

Interact provides service for the school and community and allows students to "interact" with one another. The members perform services that benefit the community as well as the members of the club. Activities include Walk America, Midlothian Food Festival, Dance for the Mentally Challenged, Christmas Mother, a school Christmas dance, and school beautification. The club meets twice a month in the sponsor's classroom. To join, a student must sign up at the orientation meeting, attend meetings, and be an active participant. The dues are \$5.00 per member.

Sponsor: Anna Tsironis
President: TBA

Junior Class

The *Junior Class* participates in Homecoming and several other activities including planning and running the Prom. Please see sponsors for details.

Sponsor: Melinda Patriquin
President: Jordan Dibich

Key Club

Key Club is a service organization whose activities include volunteer opportunities at a local elementary school, contributing to underprivileged children and families at Christmas, assisting with various local festivals and events, and many others. Meetings are held after school on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of every month. To become a member, an application is required with two recommendations. Annual dues are \$15

Sponsor: Scott Hartman
President: Taylor Lavery