PHONATHON 2012

JASMINE AHUJA (EE '13)

Cooper Union’s annual Phonathon took place during Spring Break, and I recently talked to Joseph McDonald, Director of the Annual Fund and the organizer of this year’s Phonathon, about how the event went. This was McDonald’s first Phonathon at Cooper, but he has worked to raise money for the Annual Fund at other institutions. McDonald described the event at Cooper as a positive experience.

In the beginning of a typical Phonathon session, he said that “it’s always quiet for about a minute or two, and then there’s a nervous energy in the room, and then you hear dialing… and then before you know it, something weird happens and the room is just bustling. Everyone’s on the phone, everyone’s talking.” The volunteers received a road map of what they should say during a phone call. They started out by introducing themselves as a member of the Cooper community. Then they began chatting with the people they called about their experiences at Cooper. As McDonald said, “Every individual caller does it a little differently. The most important thing about the call is that the caller be comfortable, and that it be a real conversation. That’s what works.” After the volunteers established a bond with the people they called, they went on to talk about the importance of Cooper’s tradition of changing no tuition. Other institutions also have annual funds, but they are used to make up for the difference between what tuition pays for and what expenses actually cost since tuition does not cover the whole cost. At Cooper, the annual fund is doubly important; the volunteers make the case that donating would be an honorable thing to do, and help support the cause of a free education.

The best outcome of a phone call would be that a credit card payment is made right away. The second (continued on back)

FOCUS

YARA ELBROLOSY (CE ’14)

On Wednesday March 21st, about 20 alumni and a few students came together to discuss potential ideas in assisting Cooper Union with its financial situation at the Friends of Cooper Union Strategies (FOCUS) Group Sessions. At this meeting, nearly every person was given a folder that was titled with a different focus such as the Cooper Union Community. Each folder had several pages filled with all of the potential ideas brought up in previous meetings or e-mailed to members of the group. Each person with a folder went through the ideas, looking for duplicates and discussing the ideas with the other members at their table to ensure the idea was placed in the correct category. A few ideas I came across included starting an alumni mentoring program for both students and other alumni, increasing communication with alumni, and setting up online classes to get Cooper’s name out. The ideas overall were pretty good and if they are implemented, we should be seeing some good results. The group is scheduled to meet again next Wednesday (3/28) at 7 P.M. and love hearing from the students.

VERITAS FORUM

The Intervarsity-hosted Veritas Forum took place last Thursday, March 22nd. For more information of this event you can read Intervarsity’s own description of the event at http://cooperunionivc.choipot.com/2012/03/ veritas-forum.html. [photos below from the website]
**KenKen**

KenKen is a Japanese paper puzzle by Tetsuya Miyamoto much like Sudoku, only it involves both math and logic. It roughly translates to “cleverness-cleverness.”

**Instructions:** Like Sudoku, each row and column must contain the numbers from 1 to 6. The number in the upper-left corner of the bolded shape made up of squares is the number you need to get by using the operation next to the number. For example, the “2-” rectangle in the top right corner can be filled in with a 6,4; a 5,3; a 4,2; or a 3,1 (or the reverse of those numbers).

The solution to this puzzle will be released next week. The solution to the KenKen from the Spring Issue is below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>5</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>1</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cryptoquote**

A Cryptoquote is an encoded quote. It is encoded such that each and every occurrence of a letter is substituted with a different letter of the alphabet. Using clues such as frequency of occurrence and placement, the original quote can be found. For instance, the word XBDIKCXXBZ could be deciphered to reveal the word LONGFELLOW.

**Solution to Spring issue cryptoquote:**

YOEB LOJCDHHO QPHKY

ZOBEOAO EQ KC YKQ.

EH QNDQ EQ KH VNOQNOC PKS

QNO JKKL QNEY DZKSQ HIEOYIO

Cryptoquote - Marcus Michelen

**Follow Us on Twitter!**

twitter.com/cooperpioneer

**Like Us On Facebook!**

Shortlink: goo.gl/YkmW1

**The Pioneer is Online**

Visit: pioneer.cooper.edu

**Be Part of The News Revolution**

JOIN THE PIONEER TODAY

E-mail cooperpioneer@gmail.com