

## IVC MOPS "WELCOME HOME" NEWSLETTER

January 2008

Volume 5

By Megan Pickering, Publicity  
<http://www.geocities.com/MOPSIVC>

CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE—IT HAS EVERYTHING FROM BLOGS TO TABLE INFO TO GREAT MOM LINKS!



### Perspective—School Wars (from Susan Crook Communications, LLC August/Sept. Newsletter—[www.SusanCrook.com](http://www.SusanCrook.com))

Holly prefaced her email with, "Tears are falling as I write this, but I need to tell you something. For the last couple of years my daughter, Allison, climbed on the school bus each morning wiping away a flood of tears. I repeatedly exploded with anger and frustration because Allison was too slow and disorganized. Our school mornings were war." Holly continued, "I heard you speak about two weeks ago and was stunned when I learned about the personality information and how it affects relationships. I read your book, "Personality Insights for Moms" and realized that I always expected Allison to act like I do (fast, organized, and charging out the door). "Allison's personality style, on the other hand, needs plenty of time to adjust to each new day by waking up slowly. She requires lots of hugs and reassurance. "I actually resented that because I'm NOT that way. However, after understanding our personality differences, our school mornings changed dramatically! I now know that I'm a 'D' and Allison's an 'S.' I've been a drill sergeant and she's been crushed! No wonder our relationship has struggled. I didn't understand her and she didn't understand me. "How could I have been so hard on her and not understood that it's okay to be different? This information has changed our lives! I feel so bad for all our fights and misunderstandings, but I'm going to make it up to her from now on." Holly went on to say, "For the FIRST TIME EVER, Allison left for school this morning happy and with a smile on her face! "And so this morning, I'm the one with tears - tears of sadness for all the happy times we've missed - and tears of joy for the happiness that we now share. Thank you so much." Needless to say, after reading this email, I too, shed tears. There's no greater joy than when you impact someone else's life - in a positive way. And we ALL possess the opportunity to impact lives - one way or another. Do you understand your children's personality style enough to know why they do what they do? Are they allowed to feel accepted for their unique personality style - or ostracized for being different? The child you impact may be at home, school, church, daycare, or in your neighborhood, but opportunities exist around every corner to help others feel accepted and appreciated for who they are - just the way they are - and to feel understood. If a child feels being different is wrong, then he or she may develop poor self-esteem or lack confidence to pursue goals and dreams. But when a child feels understood, a child feels loved.

### My Thoughts

*I love the start of a new year—to me it is akin to the anticipation of what to fill a blank page with, or day timer for us OCD types, or in reality the furrows of my mind. The thought, or hope really, of the possibility to fill this year with some really "sit on your rocking chair in old age reminiscing" memories. Now that I think about it, that is some kind of pressure...But, at any rate the anticipation of it all makes me giddy till at least the 23<sup>rd</sup> of the month! I just wanted to take this small space here to encourage MOMS out there that if you have some sort of grand plans to possibly, actually complete a sit-up this year, finish your first child's baby book (while pregnant with the third, of course), complete your Master's, get a second or third job, or even....please, all I ask is that you sit for one moment and decide in your heart of hearts if it is even something you truly want to accomplish. Instead, maybe if you really thought about it, you would probably prefer to take your kids on a nature hike every now and again (that does count as exercise), document via photos or blogs instead of that baby book, really, you were so OVER school like a year ago already, second job—can we try a budget instead?, or ... JUST RELAX and enjoy motherhood, belly ripples and all!!!! Make a concerted effort to do the things you want and enjoy. You will be happier, and you will be teaching your children a life lesson for the ages! ☺!*

### Don't Forget

\*\*\*The **Blessed Sanctuary Table** is bringing *Salads* for our next MOPS meeting on January 10, 2008.

\*\*\*Malia Soza welcomed baby Joseph on December 4, 2007.

\*\*\*Begin to start thinking about what part you would like to serve in the 2008-09 MOPS year. Available steering positions will be listed in the March newsletter— Discussion Group Leaders and various committee members are always needed too!

### In the Garage

Rebecca M. (663-5477) **NEEDS** and is willing to **PAY A FAIR PRICE** for a: Full-size bed for her daughter

To place a **NEED** or a **DONATE** item in this section, email Megan Pickering at: [wallypickering@hotmail.com](mailto:wallypickering@hotmail.com)

### Ask a Mentor

**Sorry, there was a tad of a faux pas on my part with this column for this month, but it will definitely be back for February's newsletter!!**

**If you have a need or question that you would like addressed here, please email me your thoughts at: [wallypickering@hotmail.com](mailto:wallypickering@hotmail.com)**

### In the Office

Now is the time to get those credit reports from one of the three national reporting agencies. If you do it now, you can repeat every 4 months by alternating which agency you use. To get your report for FREE, go to:

**[www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or call 1-877-322-8228**

Another great thing to do (and it has done wonders for my mailbox) is to "opt out" of receiving all those annoying credit card offers that unfortunately in today's society can also become a risk for identity theft, by calling:

**1-888-5OPTOUT**

Tax time is coming, and for those of you who like to handle things "in-house," a great inexpensive option is to go to [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) and check out the listings for free or inexpensive tax filing services. I used [www.taxact.com](http://www.taxact.com) last year (for a total of \$16.95 in filing fees and a 3-week wait) and was very pleased with how it handled.

### MOPS Businesses

Lydia Hill (690-8082) is a *Beauti Control*/Independent Consultant. Please call to schedule a fun, spa escape party!

To place your listing here, email Megan Pickering at [wallypickering@hotmail.com](mailto:wallypickering@hotmail.com)

### Meet a MOPS Member

This month's MOPS is: **Jessica Silverman**

1. How many children do you have (and their ages)? **Two girls 4 and 3**
2. Best advice you have ever received. **To be consistent**
3. What is your favorite hobby? **I love reading a good suspense novel**
4. If you could have a superpower, what would you want? **Telekinesis, so I can clean the house without getting off the couch!!**
5. Any confessions? **I plopped my kids in front of the T.V. to fill out this questionnaire.**
6. Beach or mountains? **I love the mountains, especially in the fall!**
7. Favorite movie? **I love the musical, "The Newsies"**
8. Describe the perfect date for you. **A nice dinner and then a trip to the amusement park!**

*Please let Jessica know you appreciate her by thanking her for sharing a little more about herself with the group!!*



### MOPS Steering Members

Jennifer Warren (Coordinator): 358-8656  
Rebecca Mitchell (Secretary): 663-5477  
Brandi Mast (Hospitality): 664-0519  
Melissa Wilson (Discussion Group Leader): 613-3844  
Debby Howell-Moroney (Webmaster): 981-1200  
Linda Harper (Mentor Leader): 995-2118  
Lydia Hill (Creative Activities): 690-8082  
Allison Carmichael (MOPPETS): 908-7916

*For any questions regarding this newsletter or to add a mentor question, column of interest, or anything else, please contact Megan Pickering (Publicity): 664-7175 or [wallypickering@hotmail.com](mailto:wallypickering@hotmail.com)*