

AHS Music Club General Meeting
October 18, 2011

Welcome – President Fred Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. He hoped that we all received the message about bringing a case of water to the meeting for the band members. Fred shared an article called “The Importance of Music Education in Schools” by Vince DiFiore from May 31, 2011 CNN.

Fred highlighted the work done by the people behind the “behind the scenes”. He reminded us that this also includes people without relatives as current students in music. Fred showed clever photos of many volunteers working. Elegant vinyl bench covers with Velcro were designed and sewed for the football stadium seats to protect the band uniforms. The tailgate party was wonderful last Saturday. An extraordinary discount on the truck repairs was negotiated so there were enough funds for new ramps. Shelving units were secured to the walls of the truck as well as extra straps for the drum cases. Recruiting for next year’s officers and committee chairmanships has begun. He thanked everyone for all their hard work.

Secretary’s Report – Suzanne Coulter announced that the minutes of each meeting, after the “approval by committee”, will be posted on the music web page.

Treasurer’s Report – Kathy Mazer presented the report as of 10-18-11. There is \$115,791.39 in unrestricted funds to pay bills. All expenses from Music Camp are in. We expected to break even so the extra is a bonus.

PSAT - Terry Schreiner stated that 510 tests were sold. The profit was \$7400 which has been down the last couple of years. Mrs. Schreiner stressed that this is a service to our students who would have a difficult time finding a location to take the test if we did not offer it. She thanked everyone who helped.

AFOB – Betsy Burcham announced that the Grand Marshall is Tal Jones, Arcadia’s Teacher of the Year and one of the finalists for LA County’s Teacher of the Year. He teaches Biophysical Science and Human Physiology. For the parade, he will have 6 of his grandchildren riding in the car with him. Betsy stated that we will need convertible cars for the dignitary portion of the parade. She asked us to let her know if we knew someone who might be interested in providing a convertible. The driver and car would need to arrive at 7:30 AM and will be finished by 9:00 AM. If anyone is interested, please email Betsy at arcadiafestivalofbands@gmail.com.

Betsy is very appreciative of those who have signed up online to help. A food chair is still needed. Jim Barrows will be in the cafeteria the whole time as the district certified food handler. He will donate his time but someone is needed to work with him and place volunteers.

Betsy encouraged parents and friends to place a fun advertisement highlighting their student in the AFOB program. Encourage friends and businesses to place an ad. There was a discussion about contacting businesses that have been supportive in the past. We were cautioned to review names because the orchestra has ads for the benefit dinner. It

might be imprudent to request that those advertisers donate for both. It was suggested that for families wishing to raise their membership level to the next amount, an advertisement is included in the donation. Ads are black and white except for the back cover of the program which is color.

There is a form for presale tickets to the field tournament competition at Citrus available on the website. Fill out the form and mail it to Athena with the payment. The deadline for placing an ad in the program is Saturday, Oct. 22 but there is a grace period.

Leigh Chavez volunteered to pick up the 10 cases of water that were donated by the water district in Monrovia.

Fundraising – Fred reported for Larry Pang. Fred presented the postcards that were distributed to the students to send out requesting donations to support the participation in the Rose Parade. There were 173 responses with checks totaling approximately \$7000. Postcards work when they go out. Fred suggested that the postcards were effective but maybe old-fashioned. He challenged us to be creative in our contacts and appeals for money. Perhaps we can reach a broader and younger support group by the internet, Facebook, by tweeting or posting on line. We might accept credit card donations on line. Fred reminded us to think of our support base that exists such as parents, businesses and alumni. He also suggested that we should be aware of the current difficult financial environment.

Upcoming Events – Fred directed our attention to the agenda. On the back page he listed the calendar of events from today's date through AFOB. A percussion parent meeting was added to the schedule posted on the web site. Our next business meeting will start a half hour late because the City is recognizing the Festival of Bands at the city council meeting. (All attendees to the meeting are welcome to attend the city council meeting and represent Arcadia Music Club). An Arcadia middle school will be at the Chino Band Review and Field Tournament on November 5.

Directors Reports –

1. Orchestra – Ms. Chen stated that the t-shirt orders are in. The next event is the Fall String Concert on Thursday, November 3 at 7:00 PM at Pasadena High School. Students will need to get written permission from parents ahead of time if they are going home with parents after the concert. Admission is a \$5.00 donation.

Mr. Forbes said that the \$5.00 each person donates goes towards the rental of the Pasadena High School auditorium. Any additional money goes into the Grand Piano Fund.

Picture Day went well. The Ice Cream Social was well attended with about 300 parents and students enjoying ice cream, desserts, and raffle prizes. The Winter Concerts in December have the dates listed on the web page and orchestra teachers' fusion pages. Mr. Forbes gave us an update on building. They will start putting up the yellow siding soon. Interior walls are being placed.

2. Color Guard – Mr. Forbes reminded us that the color guard has several restaurant nights. He suggested that this is an easy way to support the group. Watch web page for

upcoming locations. Students are selling fruit snacks this week. Color Guard is selling field show t-shirts.

3. Band - Mr. Landes reviewed last week's Rowland Field Tournament. He felt that everyone was proud of the performance and it represented a great start. He said that all scores are justified by comments so he has much to share with the students. He believes that the judges' evaluations are a good learning tool. Color Guard and Percussion won sweepstakes. AHS Band had the second highest score. There are 6 charts left to learn of the 72 total in the show. It is a challenge and the demand is high. Upcoming events include the Riverside King Band Review this Saturday which will be the first time out for the parade band. The next event is Mt. Carmel, then Chino, La Palma and then AFOB. We need to go out and evangelize. He thanked us for supporting our children. This Friday even though there is no school, there will be a parade band rehearsal from 3:30-5:30. Monday morning from 9:00 – 12:00 will be a field show rehearsal. Friday, November 4 the president of the Tournament of Roses will be at the football game to welcome the band. The band will not be wearing Halloween costumes for the game like they traditionally do.

Mr. Sherrill felt that the performance for the Rowland Field Tournament was where they were. He said that the goal for tomorrow's rehearsal is to complete the drill. He expressed his thanks to Mrs. Schreiner for coordinating the PSAT, the instructional staff for their work with the students, Mr. Forbes and Ms. Chen, Mindy Cobb for her efforts with the color guard and the marching staff. The percussion parents meeting is next Tuesday, October 25 at 7:00 in MB-1 to begin organizing second semester performances. It will be posted on the web site.

At 8:00 PM we split into the two groups with the band and color guard parents staying in the band room and the orchestra parents moving into the orchestra room.

Respectfully submitted,
Suzanne Coulter, Secretary