

Quarter Notes

Issue V May 2004

The official newsletter of the Arcadia Music Club



Presidents' Message

It is the end of the school year and there are many musical events still on the horizon. The Pops Concert Thursday May 13 in the North gym, the

about all the time we've spent with the groups over the years has been the time we've spent with our fellow parent volunteers. The work has been hard, the pay low, and the laughs non stop. I wouldn't trade any of it. The sense of community built up with directors, students and parents has made a difference in our lives. It truly takes a village.

Color Guard Spring Show with the Percussion on Saturday May 22 in the North gym and the Concert in the Park featuring Band I and Orchestra I and Jazz Band. These exciting concerts and shows mark the end of a year full of great performances by our students. The Color Guard and Percussion have just returned from the National competition in San Diego both placing in the top ten. Our Orchestra trip to Northern California was a fantastic outing for all the students and parents who went, highlighted by the orchestra taking Sweepstakes at the festival.

Thanks to Art Farr for close to 40 years of service to our kids (and some of their kids' kids). Art's smiling face, ready wit and joy in teaching will be missed. Thanks, Art.

*Mike and Polly Green
Co-Presidents
Arcadia Music Club*

The end of the school year marks the end of our two year term as Co-Presidents of the Music Club. Thanks to Sandy DeSurra for taking on the responsibility of President for next year. We know that she and her board and committee chairs will work hard to support all the instrumental music programs at the high school. Polly and I would like to thank the directors for their support of the parents as well as their continued excellence as teachers and role models for our kids. We would like to thank the students, many hundreds of them over the years, who have enriched our lives by their performances and their spirit and the joy they bring to every practice, parade and concert. The best part

Art Farr is Retiring!!!

Come to a party in honor of Art Farr and celebrate his career in Arcadia. Mark your calendar for Saturday, June 5th. A steak dinner will be served at the home of Jim and Margaret Barrows. Go to WWW.ARCADIAMUSIC.ORG and get an invitation and send in your reservation to Terry Schreiner. Questions??? Call Terry at 821-1711. A good time is guaranteed for all.

Inside this issue

Page 2

Color Guard

Page 3

Band

Page 4

Music Camp

Orchestra Events

Page 5

Orchestra News

Page 6

Percussion

Page 7

Business Sponsor

Ads

Page 8

A Note from the

Editor

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Jim Tanner

Issue V May 2004

Color Guard

Wednesday afternoon, April 14th, 2004, the Arcadia World and A Guard left for the 27th annual WGI Championships held in San Diego, California; which began with Scholastic A prelims on April 15th and ended with World Class finals on April 17th. For the first time the Arcadia Color Guard was able to enroll two of its three competing units in the national championships. The success of the season was evident throughout the numerous competitions in which both guards performed. Obtaining first place in nearly every competition they attended, the A Guard finished with a phenomenal performance and an 8th place status in the Scholastic A Class. Concluding the season in 9th place the World Guard finished off one of its most successful seasons. All 48 members of the A and World Guard will be joining the B Guard in attending the local WGASC Championships on April 25th-26th in Long Beach. Congratulations to both guards for their accomplishments and acquisition of national recognition; good luck to all three winter guards, best of luck at Circuit Champs!

Color Guard

Colorguard Makes Top Ten at Winter Guard International World Championships.

Winter Guard International is the greatest event that is the culmination of months of commitment, hard work, practice, fund raising and countless hours of creating a unique piece of the tapestry that will define Arcadia High School Colorguard. I reflect with amazement on the magnitude of our program what works in

such harmony to bring about three programs of this standard setting quality. This past week our Scholastic A and World Colorguard competed at the WGI World Championships in San Diego, California. Arcadia High School is only the third program in 25 years, to have two scholastic finalists. After having an amazing performance, the Scholastic A Colorguard placed 8th, with a score of 91.00. The A guard was one of three Scholastic A Colorguards that represented Southern California and the Winter Guard Association of Southern California. This weekend, April 24th -25th the Scholastic A Guard will compete at the WGASC State Championships, where they hope to go undefeated in the circuit.

Making their fourth appearance in the Scholastic World division, the Scholastic World Colorguard moved up the ranks and into 9th place. The World Colorguard is the only Southern California guard to ever make finals four years in a row. Dressed in midnight blue, the performers spun and moved so elegantly to Jane Oliver's, "Some Enchanted Evening".

After a slow start the Intermediate A Colorguard is catching speed. Placing first at the Huntington Beach and Mt. Carmel Show, the A guard is now ready for WGASC State Championships. Performing their show entitled "A movement in three parts", this all freshman team will be spinning to the music of Coldplay. This complex show takes the performers and audience through three various shades of pink. The performers move so effortlessly though the show only being allowed to stay within a confined space. Look for them at the



Arcadia High School Spring Show.

With the season almost over, please mark your calendars for the 15th Annual Arcadia High School Colorguard Spring Show. This year the Spring Show will be held on May 22, 2004, starting at 5:00pm in the AHS North Gym. The Spring Show will include performances by Arcadia High School, along with Foothill, Dana and First Avenue Middle School. Don't miss your opportunity to see best Colorguard program in



Band

As the end of this school year approaches, we still look forward to the "Pop's Concert" Thursday, May 13th, "Concert in the Park" Saturday, May 22nd, Band III Auditions in the end of April, and Student Awards and Recognition in June. You don't have to look too far behind you to remember the fine job our students did at the Vertical Concert and the Spring Concert. And just last week the Varsity Percussion went to the National Championships in San Diego and finished as the #7 Drum line in the World. To all the band students in general and to Mr. Sherrill and the Varsity Percussion in specific, Congratulations on a job very well done. The future has many exciting things for us to look forward to. Enrollment for next year looks as though the Marching Band will continue to have over 300 members. Along with our regular schedule of performances, we are looking forward to taking a major trip to Washington D.C. during the week of the Presidential Inauguration, January 16th through the 22nd. You will receive more details regarding this once in a lifetime trip as they become available. Know that we want every student to experience this opportunity which is available to all Marching Band and Color Guard members. If you haven't signed up for Marching Band as of yet, please make arrangements with your counselor to add it to your schedule. With continuing the kind of hard work and determination that has been shown this past year, outstanding accomplishments are ahead for us this next year. You should be looking in you mail for Music Camp registration material in the first few weeks of May. Music Camp is the activity that enables us to get the musical start to the year needed to be our best. We want everyone to come to camp this summer, so set the week of August the 29th aside for a great time of music and friends at Music Camp. Thank you for being a part of something truly special, the Arcadia High School Band.

Music Camp '04

Music Camp Brochures will be arriving at homes around May 10th. Hopefully your calendars are already marked to be sure your students are at camp Sunday, August 29, through Friday, September 3. Music Camp is the time when students learn the music for the upcoming season with instructors for each section. During no other time can such individual attention given to each student to extend their musical abilities. Our success depends on each student maximizing their abilities individually and in working with the group. Bonding with other students is also a major advantage to camp. Knowing others makes a large school more intimate. You need to be at camp.

-Coyla Grumm

Orchestra Events

The Orchestra has been busy since the last newsletter. Thank you to all the parents for producing a FANTASTIC Orchestra Benefit Dinner. Susan Lai and her volunteers brought the Community Center alive. Our Orchestra Students Ensembles were a joy and what can we say about Craig and Mary Durst except "marvelous." We were extremely proud of the entire Orchestra as they performed their surround sound finale.

Orchestra 3 has been busy performing at the Arcadia High School Showcase and Vertical Concert. Both of these performances outstanding and we received many fine comments for people in the audience. Orchestra 1 and 2 performed at the Spring Concert and played very solid and with great skill and emotion.

We have just returned from our Spring Trip



to Sacramento and San Francisco. We performed on the west steps of the Capitol and at the Heritage Festival in Palo Alto. Our activities included a harbor cruise in San Francisco Harbor, dinner at the Hard Rock Café and free time at Fisherman's Wharf and Paramount's Great America. At the Heritage Festival the Orchestra received two 2nd Place Trophies, an Adjudicators' Award and the Instrumental Sweepstakes Award. The students represented our school and community very well all weekend long.

And the busy schedule continues....

May 8th, Orchestra 1 trip to Santa Barbara

May 13th, Orchestra 2 and Symphony Orchestra perform at the Pops Concert

May 14th, Symphony Orchestra performs at our school assembly

May 22nd, Orchestra 1 performs at the Concert in the Park

May 24th, Orchestra 2 and Symphony Orchestra visit Disneyland

June 6th, Orchestra performs at Baccalaureate

June 11th, Symphony Orchestra Performs at Graduation

Finally, we just want to say thank you to all the students, parents and alumni who have helped to make this an exciting year. Your help and support make our job easier and we appreciate each and everything you do to help!!!

Best wishes for a restful summer!!

Tom and Art



still be several more chances before the end of the, rapidly approaching, school year. Please check the Arcadia Music Club web site (www.arcdiamusic.org) for a list of concert dates and locations when the three orchestras will be playing. Your child has worked so hard and plays so well, you really need to come and appreciate what your son or daughter can share.

Orchestra News

We are in the fourth quarter of the school year and we are rapidly heading down to the end of another year of Orchestra at Arcadia High School. Many of the students from Orchestra II and III had a chance to play in Sacramento and San Francisco recently at the Heritage Festival. I had a chance to listen to them in Sacramento and they played beautifully. What a thrill it was to see the 130 students who made the trip decked out in formal dresses and tuxedos standing on the steps at the entrance to the west side of the Capitol building. Many people who were just passing by stopped and spent their entire lunch time just watching and listening to the performance. The students were a great reflection on the City of Arcadia and the quality of the music program we have. My thanks to those parents who chaperoned the trip with the kids. With out parent support we would not be able to provide these opportunities to our students.

I know that many of our parents have not had a chance to see the students in concert yet. I'm pleased to let you know there will

I'm very much looking forward to the next school year when our orchestra parent team will be stronger and better than the team we had this year. We have built a great team over the last several years and our parent participation has been great from those who helped, too few parents were doing too much of the work. Starting now, more of the orchestra parents need to attend the student performances, volunteer with events (starting with music camp – see the related article in this issue), and to attend music club meetings. Our children have been playing their part in the orchestra, time for us to play the part that parents were intended to play – a supporting role.

*Thank you for a great year!
Doug Failing*

MICHAEL E. HOEY, O.D.
MEMBER A.O.A., C.O.A., S.G.V.O.S.

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Percussion

The AHS Percussion Ensembles have been busy over the past month. The Varsity Ensemble recently competed in the WGI National Percussion Competition in San Diego on April 16 and 17, 2004. The group competed in the World division. This is the highest level of competition in the nation. More than 120 high school

groups from all over the country were in attendance. Our group placed 7th in the competition, and had the 4th highest music score of the contest. Our students worked extremely hard, played and marched at a very high level, and were very deserving of their placement. Earlier in the month, the Varsity Ensemble won the bronze medal in the Southern California Percussion Alliance Championships on April 10, 2004. The group also traveled to Hayward, California in late March where they placed second in the WGI Hayward Regional. The JV Ensemble also completed a very successful season, placing 5th in their A division round at SCPA Championships, placing 4th at the Ayala competition, and making the finals at the WGI Las Vegas Regional on March 13, 2004. The JV students really improved throughout the course of the season. This is a young ensemble, consisting of mostly freshmen and sophomores. These students have a bright future ahead of them in the AHS music program.

Additionally, I would like to say a word of thanks to Sue Narevsky for helping coordinate all our trips this year, as well as organizing parent help for the spring

season. Also, Paula Gallaher and Ginger Brody were instrumental in coordinating the JV parents. My thanks go out to both of these ladies as well. Ed Schreiner built backdrops and kept equipment in running order. Kevin Doran, Dale Richter, and Denny Barton helped with trucks. Many percussion moms helped with costumes and snacks. Many others helped in so many other ways. I would try to list everyone, but I would probably leave someone out. The students and I thank you all for your contributions.

Finally, a word of thanks to all the students who put out so much effort and realized so many goals this season. Great job to all of you!



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A Note from the Editor

As the year comes to an end, so does the final chapter of the magnificent career of Art Farr as the director of music for the Arcadia Unified School District. It has been my pleasure to share 7 of his almost 40 years with Arcadia Schools. During this time, Art not only taught our kids to be better musicians but also prepared them to be better citizens. There is definitely a shortage of "Art Farr's" in the world today and we all will miss you greatly. Thank you for your service and commitment to excellence.

Wishing you much health and happiness in your retirement!!!

-Jim Tanner



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