

Quarter Notes

Feb/March

The official newsletter of the Arcadia Music Club



Presidents' Message

Second semester has begun at Arcadia High and with it brings the second semester of events for the Music Program. The highlight of February is always the

Orchestra Benefit Dinner, which features student ensembles, guest performers and 300+ strings playing in surround sound for the finale. It is always a memorable evening for all who attend.

March is the month for the Band and Orchestra Vertical concerts. These are wonderful opportunities to hear groups from the Middle Schools as well as Band III and Symphony Orchestra from the High School. Don't miss this chance to enjoy two evenings of great music.

Color Guard and Percussion have already begun their Winter Seasons. Color Guard has three teams competing in three different divisions. Percussion has two competitive Drum Lines. Color Guard is hosting two shows at AHS on March 25th and April 2nd. One or more teams from both of these groups are performing every weekend through April, so come out and support them. They are amazing!

It is hard to believe but we are already making plans for next year. This process starts with the election of next year's Executive Board. The nominations were announced at the February General Meeting and will be voted on at the Annual Meeting on March 15th. The nominations are:

President – Sandy DeSurra
Past President – Polly Green
1st V.P./ Fundraising – Helen Liu
2nd V.P./ Festival of Bands – Mike Green
3rd V.P./ Band – Irene Kahn
4th V.P./ Color Guard – Laurie Rambeau
5th V.P./ Orchestra – Carol Chao
Secretary – Kevin Doran
Treasurer – Karla Kroesing
Board Member – Blennie Danielson
Board Member – Bruce Renfrew



We are still looking to fill some chairman positions, so if you would like to be involved it is not too late!!

Please remember to regularly check the website, arcadiamusic.org, to keep updated on the latest events. Also, if you are not receiving email notices from the Music Club, send an email to HYPER-LINK "mailto:AHSMusicClub@aol.com" AHSMusicClub@aol.com and ask to be added to the list. It is a great source of information.

Join us at the monthly Music Club Meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of each month

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Editor:
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to see old friends, meet new ones and find out about upcoming activities in which our students are involved. Come hear from all four directors about each of their programs. Hope to see you there!

*Sandy DeSurra
President*

Spaghetti Dinner

What an unbelievable night we had at our 38th annual Spaghetti Dinner and Show! The fact that we had to have the dinner two weeks earlier than usual and the fact that we had one of the biggest rainstorms of the century didn't seem to put a damper on our big event. We had a great outpouring of support from the school and the community. It was wonderful to see all the people who braved the rain to come and see our show. All three shows were packed and the cafeteria was always full of hungry people.

I want to give a heartfelt thank you to everyone who worked so hard to make this night work as well as it did. There were hundreds of volunteers who came to help out with serving food and many other numerous jobs. I am always amazed at the work effort of the parents of our great band and color guard, and of the many people who return each year to help, even when their children have graduated. It really must be a lot of fun!! We wouldn't have the unbelievable music program that we do if it wasn't for the countless hours of volunteer work that all these people donate.

So I want to officially thank all of you who helped to make this night such a great success. A special thank you to Mike and Polly Green for their service these past years as the official "chefs" behind our great pasta dinner.

I'm looking forward to next year, be sure to volunteer!

*-Kris Johnson
Spaghetti Dinner Chair*



Washington D.C.

Washington DC...even with the fencing, the scaffolding, the bleachers, and the porta potties everywhere, it was a fantastic city! The students were outstanding and rose to the occasion each day. Every day was an exciting adventure, weather included, from bitter cold to a snow storm, to a pleasant (!) 35 degrees on parade day.

On Monday morning, students laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers in Arlington National Cemetery, then performed for the lunch crowd at the Old Post Office Pavilion, followed by Capitol Tours and free time to explore. Tuesday brought a White House Tour for students and directors, a four hour guided city tour for each of the seven buses, then a Youth Concert at the Washington Armory where students were treated to performances by several groups and a surprise appearance by President Bush and the First Lady!

On Wednesday, the group practiced on a nearby soccer field only to have their instruments freeze (not to mention themselves) in a brand new snow storm; relief was on the way with lunch and games at a nearby Hard Times Cafe in Germantown, MD. The evening was spent at our very own Arcadia High School Inaugural Ball with "guest appearances" by a pseudo Governor, President and former President along with their First Ladies.

Thursday was the BIG day, a lot of waiting, but so worth the wait! The students were so very impressive marching down Pennsylvania Avenue, each of them looking sharp and dignified! What a treat for all of us!

Friday, the students were met by Congressman David Drier who was presented with some trip memorabilia. He spoke to the students and congratulated them for their performance, then the House photographer took a group picture on the Capitol steps. What a sight! We attempted to fit in the remaining Capitol tours that day, but

long waits, evacuations and split groups made it impossible to complete. A small price to pay.

The Doubletree Hotel in Rockville, MD. was a perfect place for our group. Breakfasts and dinners at the hotel kept us together for socializing and meetings. Students had plenty of open space to spread out for study time and for get togethers.

The flights both coming and going were just right, the flight captains made sure everyone boarded both coming and



going, we arrived in DC on time and we left on a very snowy day without undue delays...a few changes, and a couple of re-routings, but everyone was home safe and sound by early Sunday morning.

All in all, this was an exceptional, memorable, heart warming, awe inspiring trip with 317 of the most remarkable students, 26 outstanding chaperones, two dedicated truck drivers and four extraordinary directors. Without those adults, the trip would have been impossible. They all helped make it a week to remember...for all of us! Thank you for your support and your hard work.

We also want to thank our community who supported this trip with interest, concern and financial involvement. We thank the Arcadia Unified School District, Arcadia High School, the city government, residents, businesses and all of the add-on travelers for their full support and encouragement.

*Terry Schreiner
Washington DC Trip Coordinator*

Band Notes

As the end of the marching season comes to a close, all I can say is...WOW.

Your students have set themselves apart by performing outstandingly.

Their performance at the SCS-BOA Championships reached a new high for Arcadia High School. That high point was followed by a great night at the Spaghetti Dinner.

On a night that was so rainy I thought for sure that few if any people would risk coming out, the gym was filled. The students performed three wonderful shows that would have been a great finish to any marching season, but not this year.

We then came back to the school the next day to load the trailer to leave for Washington D.C. One week later we left on nine flights to arrive in Washington for what was to be an experience of a lifetime. Washington was more than I ever imagined, and our students conduct and performance was all that I had hoped for. Every one of them was a great ambassador for California, the City of Arcadia, Arcadia High School and the Apache Marching Band. This trip has left me with the realization of how privileged I am to be a part of something so special.

The new semester brings with it concerts by all the concert bands, along with the competitive seasons for both percussion and color guard.

Please make every effort possible to attend these student performances. They want you to be there and you want to celebrate their efforts and accomplishments. Thank you for your unending support of both your students and the music program.

Gratefully,

Tom Landes and Kevin Sherrill



Orchestra News

If a busy and successful performance schedule is any indication, if an active and enthusiastic social life is further evidence, then our orchestra program is thriving. After a comprehensive concert schedule in December, the four weeks following Winter Break saw the beginning of what we hope to be two additional annual events. The first was an immensely successful movie night. Several hundred Orchestra students and brave parents met together for a memorable night of movies and good times in the transformed orchestra and band rooms. Ten days later, an enthusiastic audience of family members and friends enjoyed remarkable performances of five senior musicians in a formal recital. Works by Liszt, Haydn, Ravel, Sibelius and Charlie Parker were presented. Look for this recital on local cable television in the future. At the end of that same week, the freshmen orchestras were well received in their performance at Disneyland. The Disney hosts commented "this was by far the most outstanding String Orchestra we have heard here in a very long time." Wait until they hear our Orchestra II and III later this spring.

We are eagerly looking forward to February 26 when the Orchestra Benefit Dinner will take place at the Community Center with the theme Lights, Camera, Music. Our special guests will be members of the Los Angeles Baroque Orchestra. We are pleased to say that this event is absolutely sold out. In March, two very important concerts will be presented

by the Arcadia High School Orchestras. Orchestras from Foothills, First Avenue and Dana will join the Arcadia Symphony Orchestra at the Annual Arcadia Orchestras in Concert (the vertical concert), March 10 in the auditorium of Pasadena High School. Our program this year is a challenging one, taken from a new version of Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition. Two weeks later, our own Orchestra One will be featured in the Long Beach Invitational Orchestra Festival.

All these concerts, appearances and activities will have taken place in less than 12 weeks. That works out to one concert every 5 school days. This, of course would not be possible but for the enthusiasm and dedication of our students and the support and hard work of our orchestra parents. This is the secret to our success. Thanks to all.

*-Rick England and Tom Forbes
Orchestra Directors.*



Photo Gallery - Spaghetti Dinner



Photo Gallery - Washington D.C.



Calendar of Events

March

- 1 Music Club Board Meeting, 7pm
- 3 Vertical Concert #1
- 12 Percussion Competition
- 15 Music Club General Meeting
- 19 Percussion Competition
- 19 Color Guard Competition
- 29 Spring Concert
- 31 Vertical Concert #2

April

- 2 Color Guard Show
- 5 Music Club Board Meeting
- 7-11 Percussion Competition, Ohio
- 14-17 Color Guard Competition, Ohio
- 19 Music Club General Meeting
- 21-24 Orchestra Tour

May

- 3 Music Club Board Meeting, 7pm
- 17 Music Club Meeting
- 19 Pops Concert
- 20 Pops Assembly
- 27 Disneyland

June

- 1 Concert in the Park
- 7 Music Club Business Meeting
- 12 Baccalaureate
- 17 Graduation



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