

VALHALLA NORSEMEN NOTES

Volume 11, Issue 2

November, 2006

Our Director

I am so thankful for the wonderful students, parents and staff that we have at Valhalla who bless our Instrumental Music program. Day in and day out we see the program moving forward, despite the negative hurdles that seem to be thrown in the pathway every year by individuals. Thank you to all of you who have persevered through the rough times and the trying times. Our successes are a reflection of the commitment that you have shown to do the best that you can with what you have been given. Of those successes:

The Booster group is now officially a tax-exempt 501C3 organization. We are officially now the Rancho San Diego Music Foundation (RSDMF). We have successfully competed in a new, larger and more competitive classification for Marching Band, the 4A class. We have placed in all competitions we have gone to which by all standards is remarkable as we should have taken another year at least to succeed. We have been successful in getting the community to help support our program in ways unlike previous years. Hawthorne Lift Services donated an electric cart to our program to replace the old (and I mean old) one. We have competed successfully not only in San Diego County but also out of our county. Part of that success is the \$1,500 in prize money that we received from the Loara Tournament of October 28th. We have received national recognition for our program in various areas. As example, we have been invited to be the California representative band for the Washington D.C. Fourth of July National Parade in 2008. We have some of the best Jazz teachers/performers agreeing to adjudicate our annual jazz festival (Grammy winner Bill Yeager from SDSU, and trumpet great Jeff Jarvis from Cal. St. Univ. Long Beach). We have close to 50 students trying out for District Honor Band in December and over 20 for State Honor Band.

Good things come to those who work hard. The program is flourishing. The students are playing better everyday. The quality of our program is receiving recognition by other programs and people around the county and out of it as well. One of those programs that is giving Valhalla a close look is the Tournament of Roses Association, whom we are sending in application to for future consideration.

Yes, there is a lot of hard work ahead of us but that will always be the case. As we grow and get better it requires more work on our part to allow that growth to happen. Many things help influence that growth and thankfully one of those elements is the money that the state is providing that we have not had before.

I am honored and blessed to be apart of this program and look forward to continuing down the pathway we are on. It is exciting to see the students grow into the young men and women that they become with the education that we are able to provide them. I look forward to being able to continue to provide that and more for each and every one of the students who pass through our doors every year at Valhalla High School.

Mr. Almanza

RSDMF

It is hard to believe we are in another November with our band and color guard program. All of our groups have been busy and very successful with performances and competitions. Congratulations to all of our students for your hard work and determination.

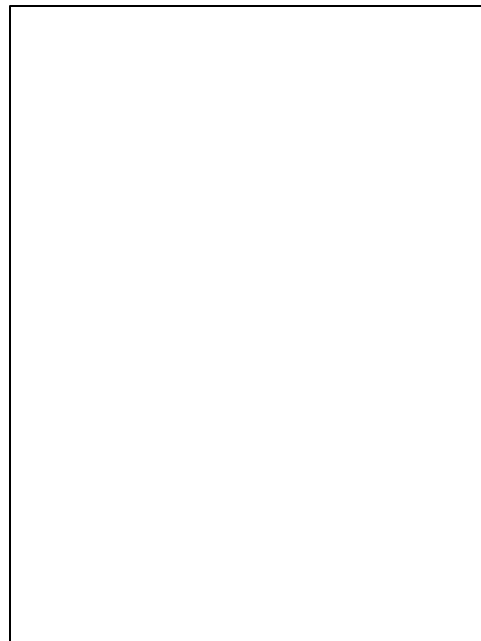
Much thanks to all of our families for the endless hours of work behind the scenes to make all of our groups successful...uniforms, orange shoes☺ , instrument and back drop repair, emails , phone calling, baking and the list goes on and on. Thanks to each and every one of you for all you do for our students.

I would like to especially thank one parent who is tireless in his efforts and never lacks determination.....*Leon Hayes*. Many of you only know Leon as “ Cameron’s Dad” and definitely all of our students know him by this title. “Cameron’s Dad” is involved in most of the activities of Valhalla’s music program and lends a hand from chaperone to uniforms and everything in between.

His most recent amazing contribution is the acquisition of a new cart for our program. As many of you know, we have been struggling with a golf cart for several years that our program had outgrown. Leon has persistently searched out a new cart to be donated to us from Hawthorne lift systems. This cart will be able to be used all year long for percussion, jazz and winter guard and needs as they arise. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts, CAMERON’S DAD!!!!

Cathy Gac

Booster Club President



2006- 2007 RSDMF Board

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(Chaparones)
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BAND FEES are determined each year by the projected costs to run the program divided by the number of students (including Jazz Band and String Orchestra). This year's total is \$730 for each Marching Band and Color Guard student and \$500 for each Jazz and String Orchestra student. Three payment options are described below:

For Marching Band & color Guard students:

Option #1: Monthly payments of \$46.50 (over 10 months). Students are still asked to participate in fund raising to make up the balance of the total cost.

Option #2: One payment of \$465.00. Students are still asked to participate in fund raising to make up the balance of the total cost.

Option #3: One payment of \$730.00. Students can option out of all fund-raising for the year.

As an incentive, \$50 is deducted when the student's full amount (either \$465 or \$730) is paid by November 15, 2006.

Payment options for String Orchestra and Jazz students:

Option #1: Monthly Payment of \$30 (over 10 months). Students are still asked to participate in fund raising to make up the balance of the total cost.

Option #2: One payment of \$300. Students are still asked to participate in fund raising to make up the balance of the total cost.

Option #3: One payment of \$500.00. Students can option out of all fund-raising for the year.

The \$50 incentive for paying the student's full amount (either \$300 or \$500) by November 15, 2006 also applies.

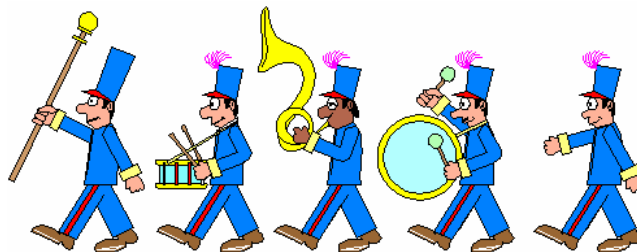
Instrumental Music Department 2006/2007 Schedule

November 18 th	West Arcadia Band Review Savanna Field Tournament
November 21 st	District Field Show – El Capitan H.S.
December 8 th	La Mesa Christmas in the Village Jazz Band Performance
December 15 th	Winter Concert
January 25 th	Jazz Band Concert
February 28 th	Pre-Festival Concert (Hillsdale)
March 3 rd	Helix Solo/Ensemble Festival
March 6 th	Orchestra Concert
March 10 th	CMEA Jazz Festival
March 8 th	El Camino HS Band & Orchestra Festival
March 12 th	Hillsdale Solo & Ensemble Festival
March 16-17 th	Grossmont Band & Orchestra Festival
March 30th – April 4th	Spring Tour to New York
April 25 th	San Elijo Jazz Festival
April 28 th	Valhalla Jazz Festival
May 5 th	Jazz Festival
May 12 th	Jazz Festival
May 18 th	Music Till Midnight
May 24 th	Pops Concert
June 1 st	Awards Dinner
June 8 th	Graduation (Band plays)

ALL EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. Details concerning times will be given when available. Please reserve these dates on your calendar. Remember, only you can fill your position! You are needed for all events; there are no substitutes to fill your position. If you have a conflict, it must be cleared as soon as possible and meet the requirements of the school and district.

Drum Line, Indoor Color Guard and further Jazz Festival dates will come later when we receive the schedules from the organizations in charge.

Marching Band rehearsals are Mondays and Thursdays from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM.



District Honor Band

The District Honor Band auditions are on Sat., Dec. 9. Students are to bring their application, fee and audition materials with them. All pertinent information is on the application as to where and when.

See Mr. Alamanza for application forms and the music audition lists.

Upcoming Fund Raisers

Team Angels

Five dates in November (including Thanksgiving Weekend) and December 16 & 17

Christmas In The Village (La Mesa)

December 8 – 10

Hear our Jazz Band perform and visit our craft booth

Auction

Late February 2007 (more details to come)

Annual Golf Tournament

May 5, 2007

For the generous golf cart donation Special Thanks to Hawthorne Lift Systems

Mr. Randy Lippert, sales manager

Mr. Craig Warner, Supervisor

Mr. Charlie Crew, Vice President

Did you know... Valhalla Instrumental Music Dept. has a website?

www.vhsmusic.org

Plenty of helpful information, schedules and pictures! Updated consistently.

Sectional information.

Sectionals are considered assigned homework and are graded accordingly. Missing sectionals for other class

homework is not excusable for the students. Assigning homework is a district directive and sectionals fulfill that requirement. Sectionals will not be assigned on days with night rehearsals.

The Ten Commandments of Band

1. Thou shalt have no other band directors.
2. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven noises or any sounds unlikeness to the music
3. Thou shalt not take the name of the band in vain.
4. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy practicing, but the seventh day is the sabbath of the band: In it thou shalt have a concert.
5. Honor thy section leader and thy band director:
6. Thou shalt not hurt instruments.
7. Thou shalt not commit to other conflicting activities.
8. Thou shalt not steal sheet music.
9. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy stand partner.
10. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's instrument, thy neighbour's reed, nor his mouthpiece, nor anything that is not already in your case or cubby.

*Norsemen Notes is published monthly by the Valhalla Instrumental Music and Colorguard Parents booster club.
Submissions can be sent to R.B. Anthony (rbanthony@gmail.com) Deadlines are the third Tuesday of every month.*