



# South High Spartan Band Newsletter

Newsletter Editor: Mona Wong

NOV/DEC 2007

## President's Message....

Happy Holidays? It seems like it was just yesterday that band camp was starting! Well, a lot has happened since then.

First of all, congratulations to the Spartan Marching Band, Color Guard and staff for completing a great, albeit abbreviated, marching season. Through their hard work and commitment, the Spartans took on a challenging new field show program, blending complex visual effects and music. In addition, the band sported a whole new image with smart-looking new uniforms. Unfortunately, the band's season was cut short by the

massive fires in southern California, and a schedule conflict that scuttled the Huntington Beach Invitational Field Show. Nevertheless, the Spartan Marching Band scored consistently high throughout the season, improving with each performance. With a new sound and look, the Spartans will be well positioned for a great season next year.

We want to thank all our booster parents who volunteered their time for their terrific support. Under the direction of Dianne Reyes, our Vice President of Marching Band, the booster parents performed a variety of tasks from chaperoning the students at away games, transporting instruments and equipment to preparing and serving food at the field shows. The Spartans could not perform at the level they do without your help. Thank you.

Thanks to the efforts of Mary Cilva and Virginia Davis the South High Band Boosters completed another successful Greenery Sale fundraiser. With the assistance of many parent volunteers we received and distributed the holiday greenery in a timely manner. The Greenery Sale is our biggest fundraiser and helps fund the purchase of new instruments, music and equipment.

As we transition from marching season, our attention turns to the Jazz Band, Drumline and Concert Band and Wind Ensemble programs. Each of these programs will be performing at a variety of upcoming events and competitions. As of the publishing of this newsletter, Jazz Band will have completed its first performance at Virco Manufacturing. In addition the Jazz Band,

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# MARCHING BAND

## BRAVE NEW WORLD -- FIELD SHOW 2007

Now that we have put our wonderful Brave New World field show to bed, what will we do with all our spare time? I want to thank the students for all their hard work during the field show season. Their dedication and strong performance showed through loud and clear on the field — it was a terrific performance! I want to thank Mr. King, the writers, the coaches and drill instructors for putting together such an awesome show. It was wonderful to watch the whole process develop and improve throughout the season and to see the growth in the students themselves. I want to thank all of the volunteers who stepped up to help during our field shows and practices. The list is long indeed: All the “drill team dads” (and moms!) who put together our props and hauled them week after week, our faithful truck drivers, equipment drivers and haulers, the moms and dads who chaperoned, rode the buses, served food, pinned up hair and

mended uniforms.... The list goes on and on! Also, the parents who helped out at the home games and the away games. We really had a large number of volunteers and I was happy to see a lot of new faces jumping right in. Thanks especially to Frank Hubert and Bruce Chew, who faithfully coordinated the equipment vehicles and worked with the newer parents who will carry the torch next year. Thanks to Ryoko Mand who worked tirelessly on the uniforms, both old and new, and made sure the students looked impeccable. And just one more time I'd like to thank Mr. King, on behalf of all of the students and parents, for giving the students this wonderful experience. All of the hardwork and committment invested has undoubtedly filled our students with valuable skills and discipline that they will carry forward in their careers. Thank you Mr. King!

Dianne Reyes

VP Marching Band



Ghazaleh Afrasiab	11/2	Jonathan Yau	11/30
Sara Kordahi	11/2	Andrew Hwang	12/1
Jarrold Brown	11/3	Joseph Hubert	12/2
Soodam Lee	11/4	Angela Chang	12/3
Amie Caraveo	11/12	Dylan Rogers	12/4
Brad Johnson	11/20	Stephen Black	12/10
Ben Kamine	11/20	Daniel Kang	12/18
Craig Andrew Meredith Shields	11/20	Jeffrey Fan	12/19
Merie Ludena	11/22	Yi Na Kim	12/20
Joseph Mak	11/24	Jeffrey Snowiss	12/23
Jesse Reyes	11/24	Frank Rodono	12/25
Ryan Mand	11/30	Yoshioko Adachi	12/29
Crystal Nishioka	11/30		



# JAZZ BAND CORNER

Written Dec 15, 2007



## Jazz News.....

.....And away we go.....Our A & B bands were on the road Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>, as the special guest performers of VIRCO Manufacturing's Employee Holiday Celebration. Traveling with the 2 bands created a great show for our band's #1 supporters. The audience was very enthusiastic and appreciative of the bands talents and variety of musical selections. As you are reading this, I hope you enjoyed the bands next performance, which put the bands on the same stage as the Concert Band, and Wind Ensemble at the Armstrong Theater for South's Holiday Concert on Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>. This was an exceptional treat.

Now, if you said, "but I missed that show too!" don't worry, we have 2 great shows lined up; The Nakano Theater, Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> and The Café Lounge (South's Cafeteria,) April 18<sup>th</sup>. Also, many festivals are lined up for all of you to join and clap for your favorite Jazz Band entertainer.

So keep checking our link on the website for the Jazz Calendar and going to the Booster Meetings. I will always try to get any change info to you quickly, but if you feel confused, please call me at home.

Have a great Winter Break, and thank you for your continued support.

Janet Hubert, Jazz Booster V.P.

[craftyjanet@sbcglobal.net](mailto:craftyjanet@sbcglobal.net)



# CONCERT NEWS

## IT'S CONCERT SEASON AND HERE'S WHAT'S UP!

### WINTER CONCERT - Tickets are on sell now!

South High School's **INSTRUMENTAL & VOCAL ENSEMBLE** will perform at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center's James Armstrong Theatre, on Wednesday, December 19th 2007, at 6:30PM.

### SPRING CONCERT

Our **CONCERT BAND & WIND ENSEMBLE** will perform our Annual Spring Concert, on Wednesday, March 26th at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center's James Armstrong Theatre.

Tickets will go on sell about a month before the actual performance date. I'll send out more information, as the performance date gets closer.

### DATES TO KEEP IN MIND:

(I'll update all of you as we get closer to the actual performance dates)

**Feb. 28th (Thurs)** – “Santa Monica Band Festival “ (Concert Band & Wind Ensemble)

**March 6th (Thurs)** – “South Area Festival “ (All Bands)

**March 13th (Thurs)** – “Anaheim Band Festival” or “Long Beach Poly Band Festival” (Concert Band & Wind Ensemble)

Please feel free to contact me with questions, comments, concerns, etc.

Glenda Chiang

V.P. Concert Band

[musingsphotography@earthlink.net](mailto:musingsphotography@earthlink.net)

Cell (310) 433-4388

Home (310) 540-7220

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*Message from President Letter, continued from Page 1:*

Concert Band and Wind Ensemble will have performed with the South High School Choir at the Armstrong Theater on December 19, 2007.

On behalf of the SHS Band Boosters we extend our best wishes, and hope you all have a safe and happy holiday season. We look forward to a great New Year. Our next booster meeting will be on Monday, January 7, 2008 at 7:30pm in the choir room (next to the band room). Hope to see you all there!

Sincerely Yours,

*Bruce Chew & Kelly Rogers*

Bruce Chew and Kelly Rogers

Co-Band Booster Presidents 2007-08

[www.Shsentertainmentcorps.org](http://www.Shsentertainmentcorps.org)

## THANK YOU

### Frank Kenny and Keller Williams Realty Helps Give Spartan Marching Band a Lift

Thanks to Frank Kenny and Keith Yun at Keller Williams Realty the Spartan Marching Band was able to move its instruments and equipment to and from this year's field shows efficiently and economically.

You may have seen the Keller Williams moving truck around the South Torrance area. Realtor Frank Kenny offers the truck to help clients move into their new homes. In addition, Mr. Kenny generously makes the truck available without charge to community and charitable organizations throughout the south bay.

Since last year, Mr. Kenny has made his moving truck available to help the South High Spartan Band get to its field shows. During competition season the band must transport its instruments, uniforms and equipment to and from its field shows. Over the years the band has expanded and outgrown the capacity of the school's "Band Van." Using the Kenny truck helps the band program save on truck rental throughout the season.

The South High School Band Boosters thank Mr. Kenny and Keith Yun, the administrative and customer service manager, at Keller Williams Realty for their continuing support.



## CALENDAR

12/21-1/4/08	Winter Break (No School)	
Mon. 1/07	All Band Parent Booster Meeting	7:30 pm

## FUNDRAISING

Happy New Year! We've made it through Marching Band season and are in full Concert Band mode with the Jazz Band getting warmed up for a busy schedule. In addition to a very successful musical year, we've had two very successful fundraisers since the beginning of the school year, with our most recent event being our annual Greenery sale. I discovered this year, that the South High School Band has been selling Holiday greenery for over 30 years! Our own Dianne Reyes sold greenery as a student at South High! I received emails and calls from people who have been supporting the band via the greenery for many years. One woman told me that she would always buy a wreath, no matter how tight her budget gets! Customers like that make this so successful. We sold over \$21,000 in wreaths, garlands and holly. Half of the profits went to the student accounts, with our top sellers getting \$570 between the three of them.

I want to thank all of the people who helped make this successful including Bruce Chew, Nancy Wilcox, Nancy Mannon, Carol Rust, Kevin Wilkins (who couldn't talk on delivery day), Linda Wilkins, Julie Peterson, Jack Snowiss, Becky Reilly, Dianne Reyes, Jaime Carretta, Lynda Black, Randy Silva, Cindy Shields (who made it so fun!) And a very special thanks to Virginia Davis. I am truly grateful for all of our wonderful parents who give so generously of their time. And thank you to all of the students (and their parents) who sold greenery to their friends, family, co-worker and neighbors. You make this happen!

Coming up in 2008, we will continue with our fundraising efforts. In January (December for

the Jazz band) we will do a letter campaign. To help our students again build their account, they can send letters to family and friends to request support for our very successful band program. Many people are happy to donate funds without having to "buy" something. Look for more information in January.

Later in the year we will again host our Sweet Jazz night as an evening of great jazz music, warm beverages and sweet treats. Last year our cafeteria overflowed with guests who enjoyed a great evening of music, libations and raffle prizes. We hope to our own Perry Shields to again emcee the event.

Lastly, we will be starting the planning for our annual golf tournament in conjunction with our goal of getting many more corporate sponsors for our program. Please call or email me if you are interested in helping the Committee with this event.

Your Ways and Means Chair

Mary Silva

[macilva@earthlink.net](mailto:macilva@earthlink.net)

310.849.1525



## MESSAGE BOARD

### HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR EMAIL?

Please be sure and immediately notify us of any changes in address, phone or email. It is important that we are able to communicate with all members of the boosters in order to convey important information and changes as they occur. Contact Bruce Chew or Kelly Rogers at [SouthHighBandBoosters@hotmail.com](mailto:SouthHighBandBoosters@hotmail.com).

### Have you visited our web site?

Thanks to our web master, Lisa Branson we have a great site. Check it out at: [www.shsentertainmentcorps.org](http://www.shsentertainmentcorps.org)

Get current information, events calendar, scrip vendors, newsletter, booster meeting minutes, and more.



Get your booster gear and show your support for the band!! Jackets, polo shirts, tee shirts, beanies and caps Available at booster meetings or by contacting Dianne Reyes:

[fdreyes@earthlink.net](mailto:fdreyes@earthlink.net)/(310)542-2114.

Check the announcement board in the band room for scholarship opportunities!



## SCRIP PROGRAM

South High Band families ordering scrip gift cards during the holiday shopping season earned themselves and the boosters almost \$500 in profits! You don't have to wait for the next holiday to order gift cards. You can purchase scrip for almost all your shopping, dining and entertainment needs either at the booster meetings or by submitting an order for a custom order through great lakes "Shop With Scrip" website ([www.shopwithscrip.com](http://www.shopwithscrip.com)). You can also check the scrip available on-hand through the Scrip page on the website ([http://www.shsentertainmentcorps.org/info\\_scrip.html](http://www.shsentertainmentcorps.org/info_scrip.html)) where there is a link with the available scrip at the bottom of the page. Contact Lisa Branson via email at [shsbandscrip@earthlink.net](mailto:shsbandscrip@earthlink.net) and she will contact you promptly to answer your questions and fill your orders!



## STUDENT CORNER

The South High Spartan Marching Band and Colorguard has finished their last performance at the Bellflower Field Tournament, taking home a prestigious first place trophy in their hands. The 2007 marching band season has been a “*year of changes*”, as most students claim, with new staff, new marching techniques, and a new perspective in the band’s goals and accomplishments. As band president, I watched over members struggling during every practice to move towards a completely new direction. However, as a whole, I believe that the band members have done a splendid job in adjusting to these changes while they continuously improved practice after practice. Now, this exciting marching season has made a defining conclusion and concert season is coming right around the corner! After one successful marching season, the band shifts gears to prepare for the upcoming winter concert on December 19th, 2007 at the Armstrong Theater.

As the leader of the band committee, I plan to make changes with the officers this year. I am trying to involve more band officers in working with “office” affairs to let more of them to understand the roles as leaders and prepare them for their subsequent years in leading band. We already started off by creating new positions called Band Managers who help organize office work, which most band officers are, in many cases, required to do. In addition, in the beginning of the year, I have assigned different roles for each band officer, and the officers have done a great job in carrying out these assignments. As a band committee, I believe everyone should have a role in which he or she can take part in to

contribute to the band. My goal was to make changes from last year, where most of the work was concentrated on the “upper” levels of officers.

In addition to the changes I plan to implement among the officers, I am also looking forward to communicating with the other TUSD high school bands this year. In fact, I have already come in contact with the student leaders of the other TUSD bands, and on an upcoming date, we are planning to create a joint-band event. With this event, I am aiming to take the first step in integrating all four of the Torrance bands. Among the interaction of the bands, my objective is to commit to do something as a representative of the bands in Torrance. I believe that with sufficient communication and input, we can create a successful event that would draw interest of all the band members. In the near future, I wish that I could contribute to make a joint-band concert in collaboration with the bands.



Tomoaki Sasaki  
Band President

## FAMILY CORNER

Starting from this issue, we will including a corner for students, parents and friends, so please feel free to email me any news, feelings and others to share with other band families. The following is my experience during my four years as a band parent.

My name is Mona Wong, the parent of senior Margaret Wong. I became a volunteer since my daughter first joined the band in high school. I was hesitating at the beginning, because of my language problems. I did not—and still do not—speak very well English. But Dianne and Janet had encouraged me to volunteer regardless of the difficulties.

My daughter Margaret skipped the eighth grade and jumped into the ninth grade in South High School. She was a band member in Hickory Elementary School and Calle Mayor Middle School. Therefore, she also joined the South High Band as a flute member.

We were very afraid that she would be alone in high school. But it was just the opposite; she met a lot of friends in band just right after school started. The band students had invited her to have lunch with them in front of the band room. They became best friends and still sit in the same area for lunch. If you walked around the campus during lunch time, you would see a lot of band students are having lunch together in front of the band room.

In Margaret's freshman year, she changed the first day from flute to pit. During the meeting, I understood that the pit parents need to help out a lot. The pit student had to move their entire set of instruments from one place to

other. Since then, my husband and I had come to every football game and every field show.

In the first football game that I attended, we gathered in front of the band room before the game started. The pit student leader told us what they wanted. When my husband was moving an instrument, the pit leader actually stepped in and told him how to move it. As for me, when I tried to move one of the instruments, I could not even walk. I struggled with both my hands, but it simply would not budge. One of the students just came and took it away with only ONE hand. Without a doubt, my husband and I were simply oblivious to how the pit worked.

In the first field show I attended, I only remember that I did a great deal of exercise that day. I walked around El Camino College with a little wagon full of water. I passed around the water bottle to each student during their practice time and right before they entered the field. Mr. King wanted each of them to have at least a mouth of water before the show. Even if the student said no when I asked them if they wanted some water, I still told them they had to get some water. By the second field show, when I walked around the students, they knew they had to get some water.

I feel some regret that my daughter spends more time in band than at home with me. However, I am very delighted that both of us made so many good friends during these four years. I knew we will miss all of you when she graduates this year.

From : Mona Wong

### Editor's Note

If you have any information that you would like to include in the newsletter, please e-mail to Mona Wong at [andrew\\_mona\\_family@yahoo.com](mailto:andrew_mona_family@yahoo.com). The deadline for the January/February Issue is Friday, 2/01/2008.

# PHOTO GALLERY

Great photo ☺ !!

