



THE BUGLE

The Newsletter of the Thousand Oaks High School LANCERS

June 2006

Director's Notes

Congratulations to our department for such wonderful and memorable performances over the past few weeks.

Our Jazz Program has been busy over the past month. The AM & PM Jazz Bands took first place at the Royal High School Jazz Festival. They opened for the All District Band Festival and played for the Grand Opening of Sports Chalet on May 26th.

The "Jazz Masters" concert on May 23 was spectacular. Our guest artists Ira Nepus, Tom Pederson, Lee Thornburg and Joe Pocaró were fantastic to work with. They gave great musical insight to our more than forty jazz students and were extremely generous with their time and talents. Our jazz students rose to the occasion and played better than ever. I am proud of all of you.

The Thousand Oaks High School All District Band Festival was a great evening to honor Instrumental music in our district. Band One was great. I have not heard Band Two play so well in years and the middle school musicians were great as well.

I was thrilled to have had the opportunity to have the high school perform "Rise and Shine" and the ever famous . . . Godzilla!!! It was great to be able to perform this again in a venue that allowed the kids and the PowerPoint shine.

I am thankful that our musical contributions can help encourage the younger students to continue on. I am proud to tell you that we collectively raised \$1400 for elementary music on that evening alone. THANK YOU for your contributions.

ANOTHER FIRST . . . it's official!!!! We have the music for our 2006 Fall Field Show, currently entitled "The Blueprint". It was great to be able to pass out the Horn Book on May 19th. Now the success of our show is up to the planning and design and the individual practice of each and every member. The incoming freshman will get the music on June 19th. IT'S GONNA BE A GREAT SHOW!!!!

Leadership training went well over the past two weeks. We have a strong and devoted group of sixty leadership candidates. They have been trained well. We all look forward to implementing John Wooden's "Pyramid of Success"!!!! It will be the key to our organization's success.

Welcome to all of our new incoming members. We look forward to making music and building a great team together.

We send our best to the Class of 2006, wishing them success and happiness as they start a new chapter in their lives. The entire department thanks you for all you have given over your time here at Thousand Oaks High School.

This is it for the 2005-2006 school year. GREAT JOB ON A WONDERFUL YEAR!!!!
See you on June 19th as we start the cycle again.

Mr. Martone

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President's Corner

Charles Dickens wrote "It was the best of times. It was the worst of times." That's how we feel at this time of the year. As we come to the end of this school year, we let out a sigh of relief. Band has had a very busy year as we have traveled to Indianapolis and won the "Esprit de Corps" award, competed in the first BOA in California and ended the fall marching season with WBA championships. Then Winter Guard moved up a class and won Bronze in semifinals – making finals for the first time in many years and representing us fabulously. Drumline with their fishbowl program traveled to Dayton. And the Jazz Band played an awesome concert with impressive guests. The memories we've made together are incredible. We are very thankful to all the many volunteers who have help make those memories with us while we traveled, cooked, fed, hauled, built, sewed, cheered, supported, etc..... Where would our band be without all of you boosters?!

Then comes the sadness as we see both our senior students and their parents leave us to go on to their next stage in the journey of life. Our hearts will miss the uniqueness you each brought to the program – you will be missed but the band doors are always open for you to come back to see us and help. Good luck!

Welcome to the new freshmen students and their parents (little do you know what you are getting into!). Honestly, though, we hope you all get involved and find band to be a great experience; we hope we will foster an environment that will make it easy for parents to be involved.

Over the year we have received some correspondence about band that, for one reason or another, we never shared with you. We want to take the time (and space) now to do that – first to bring back some memories and secondly to show you why you are right to choose to be in the band program. (Names have been omitted on purpose – these letters represent the feelings of many.)

"I wanted to thank you and the rest of TOHS Band for the wonderful welcome that XXXX received when she had first started there. She felt comfortable right away and I know that the time she has been there has been a memorable one. (I wish so much that we can take you all with us! lol). I wanted to also thank you for helping in getting uniforms together for XXXX while she was there.

XXXX also really enjoyed the band director. XXXX felt great working with him. Even with knowing that her skill level was not where the rest of the group was, the band director was very understanding and helped XXXX feel good about participating even though she was having trouble with some of the music because she was not at that skill level yet. He was very patient and did not give XXX a hard time when she explained she did not want to make the group get bad scores because she had a hard time with some of the music because she had just started learning it."

After Indianapolis, we got these notes:

"You guys were right in there with the others and obviously demonstrated a lot of character, heart, and showmanship. It showed in the way you conducted yourselves in warm-ups, before competition, and after competition. It showed in the way you held your heads high and chins up/eyes front. You walked tall and marched hard. Way to go TO !!!!"

"YYYY and I had a fantastic time at the Bands of America National competition in Indianapolis. It was so fabulous to see so many parents and MR. CARPENTER there to support our outstanding TOHS students.

We felt the band's performances were their best of the year. It seemed incredible that each and every student could rise to the occasion at the same time. Marty, the entire band

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staff, and the booster leadership really did a great job to get them ready to peak for this event.

The highlight of the whole competition for us was the announcement of the semi-finalists. What a thrill it was for us to be sitting with the band and boosters when the 34th and final semi-final team was announced. Hollywood couldn't have created more drama. The reaction by the TOHS band and boosters was absolutely incredible. The excitement and joy expressed by the entire group was something rarely witnessed up close by anyone during his or her lifetime.

We had the opportunity to walk around Indianapolis and to spend a great part of three days and two nights in the RCA dome. Wherever we went, we saw and visited with band members and parents from all over the country. Many, that is, MANY commented on our band members. They were always complimentary about TOHS students' appearance and behavior. Seeing how much better our young men and women looked compared to those from other schools gave us a lot of pride. And, yes, we too observed their excellent behavior. We spoke to several adults who stayed at the Marriott. When they learned we were from T.O. they really complimented our team.

Oh, yeah, we also saw several other fantastic bands perform. I believe that our freshman, sophomores, and juniors who saw those bands will be even more greatly inspired to prepare for next year.

In case you didn't notice, we are incredibly proud of the TOHS band, their performance and their comportment during their visit to Indianapolis."

"Thank you all for the trip to Indy. I wouldn't have had ZZZZ miss that experience for anything. It is one of the great experiences of ZZZ youth that ZZZ'll always have in ZZZ heart.

Thank you also for allowing me to be a part of it--but I'm so thankful I didn't have to plan it. It was beyond huge--and I thank you all for the countless hours that went into it. I was writing to my on-line group this morning and decided to share what I wrote with you. I hope you are all pleased--and recovering as best you can."

"If I was going to write a movie about a HS band that dreamed of being nationally ranked--here's the ending:

All 150 kids + their 70 instructors/chaperones/parents-who-came-on-their-own fill an entire section of the Hoosier Dome, even though it's 2000 miles from their home.

We know only 30 or so bands out of the 90+ that performed will be called in random order. I'm sitting in front of the band director as he quietly breathes, "10 more...5 more...2 more..." but his band hasn't been called. The students near me are in tears. My thoughts are turning to how I am going to console these great kids who truly performed like champions.

The announcer keeps counting down and finally says, "...and the last band to be announced as semi-finalists is....(long pause)... Thousand Oaks High School!"

The section explodes with screaming and cheering and the whole Hoosier Dome seems happy for the band from far, far away. Awesome.

Any other things that happen on the trip (lack of sleep, sneaky children, plans not going according to plan, yadda-yadda-yadda) is all eclipsed by the fact that the kids performed like champions and were rewarded for the great job they did."

So, as we take the time to reflect on the past, we welcome the future. We can't emphasize enough how much the band program needs everyone's help to be successful. So, while we say goodbye and hello, mostly we say thanks.

See you around the band room!

With incredible love for the band, (even you, RP)

Dorothy Hatfield and Cheryl Pavell

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WAYS & MEANS

Wow!! May certainly started out with a bang!! The Churro Booth went extremely well. Many, many thanks to all the volunteers who worked all the shifts. We were very busy! A special thank you to **Cheryl Pavell, Dorothy Hatfield** and **Betsy Connolly** who helped in estimating what we would need on a daily basis, and also for their help opening and closing out the booth each day. Big thank you's go out to our team of guys including **Jim Pavell, Camden Lorentson, Mark Lindauer, Kyle Gross** and **Scott McPherson** and others too numerous to mention, who helped in setting up the booth, disassembling it at the end, and who kept the Churro Cart in tip top condition.

Following the craziness of the Churro Booth and the Conejo Valley Days Carnival we then had our annual Pancake Breakfast. Again, many thanks go out to **Merle Bower** and **Mandy Parsons** for all the organization that they put into a very successful breakfast. The flowers, table settings, strawberries and avocados were all fantastic. I would also like to thank all the students and parents who showed up (even at 6:00 a.m.!) to set up, cook, serve and clean up. Everything was delicious! I would also like to thank our talented student trio of **Joey Martone, Alex DaSilva** and **Kyle DeKreek** who entertained us so beautifully that morning. Where else can you go on a Saturday morning, eat a sumptuous breakfast, listen to great music, be able to purchase flower vases, strawberries and avocados, PLUS get your car washed for \$5?? Only our band can pull all that off!! Lest I forget, thank you to those who contributed items for our Mother's Day Gift Basket Raffle. We raffled off two lovely baskets: one basket containing a gift certificate for Let's Get Cookin,' and the other basket containing a gift certificate to The Claim Jumper. Both these fundraisers are team efforts and our band is very fortunate to have so many willing and talented people to help out whenever necessary. **THANK YOU AGAIN TO ALL FOR ALL YOUR CONTINUED HELP THIS YEAR!!**

Looking towards the fall, we will again be selling Community Discount Cards for \$10.00 each, \$5.00 going to your student's ISSA. They will be available to be sold beginning on Family Night on August 25th. Many of our local favorite fast food restaurants will again be on the card. These cards will be good through the following August 2007. They make great gifts! **Kay Tallman** and **Larisa Sassoon** will be in charge of selling the cards.

Again, thanks to all the fantastic people who have helped with the various fundraisers this year. I have enjoyed getting to know each and every one of you better. I enjoyed the wonderful opportunity of working with you all. I feel very fortunate.

Have a restful summer and I'll look forward to seeing everyone in the fall.

Happy Fundraising!
Stacey Gessert

A large, stylized, handwritten signature that says "Thanks" in a cursive, brush-stroke font.



Drumline

I just wanted to thank all the parents for their help this season with The Drumline. **Randy Wagner** thank you for all your work with the props and all the equipment, driving the truck, loading and unloading, barbequing and all the other little things you did. **Nancy Skews-Cox** thank you for feeding all the kids and parents, we appreciate all your hard work. **Tim Bonds, Denise Bender, Scott Maxwell-Doherty** and **Mark Fekkes** for painting the beautiful and colorful aquarium backdrops and sand tarp, **Denise Vivero** and **Stacey Gessert** for chaperoning to Dayton and driving to numerous competitions, **Denise Bender, Cindy Wagner, Nancy Bonds, Placide DaSilva, Mark Fekkes, Paul Lopez, Tony Betancourt, John Yates, Michelle Forrest, Melissa Maxwell-Doherty, Anna Cheng** and **Gina Goldman** for getting us all to and from the competitions and home from the airport safely, it was great having you around. To all the parents who sewed and glued leaves on our life-like plant costumes, baked cookies or sent along salads, thanks for helping. And of course, thank you to **Traci Brown** who helped out whenever I needed her to. From the costumes, to driving, to chaperoning, helping with food, getting burn permits (ha), calling on trucks, painting the tarp and tarp sitting, anything I needed help with, she was there. Good luck next year, Traci! (Drumline VP for next year). If I forgot to mention your name, I apologize, but we all appreciated everything everyone did to help out.

And how could we have done all this without **Camden** and **Nick de Boisblanc**. If you see them around, don't forget to tell them thank you for all their hard work and help with the equipment and props.

I also wanted to thank all the parents for the very nice flowers and gifts you gave me. I really appreciate the gift cards and can't wait to use them.

Thanks again,
Tricia Webster

Percussion Extravaganza
Wednesday, May 31st
Thousand Oaks High School
Thursday, June 1st
John Burroughs High School

COLOR GUARD

Try-outs for the Fall 2006 season of Color Guard finished on Thursday, May 18. The students who tried out will be receiving notice of their placement in the show soon. We had a great number of students turn out! Leadership Training and Try-outs are underway for students already participating in the program. Good Luck Guard!



We had a wonderful Winter Guard 2006 Season. We had an extra competition with an overnight and still stayed within our budget. Thanks again to the students, parents and staff for making it all work.

Lauren Piper and **Michele Ackerman**

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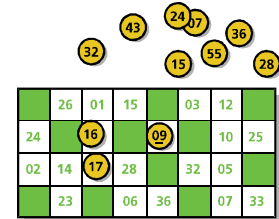
BINGO

Plans are underway for the third annual family bingo “fun-raising” night.

When: During Band Camp, fliers will be sent home during the summer
Where: TOHS Cafeteria
What: Bingo, Pizza, Candy, Sodas, Prizes, Raffle

Get ready for extreme Bingo!

We are accepting donations for the prize table. Any unused gift you have received, donations from the community or gift certificates you no longer need. This is a fun and easy fundraiser for the whole family to enjoy.



If you would like to help with this event or if you have any questions, please contact **Dave and Naomi Burns**, via the band office at 379-0437 or their home phone, via your band roster.

Need \$ for Band Expenses?

TOHS Lancer Band AdBook --published each Spring--celebrates life in the band. We offer local businesses and individuals low-priced advertising space in the AdBook to help band families identify local businesses that support the band when they need goods and services.



50% of the money goes directly to the students' individual band expenses. The remainder goes to the Band Boosters to support the entire band program. Students contact local businesses between the end of school in June and Thanksgiving. This long lead-time allows the dedicated and busy students to gather as much support as possible. This is a great way to earn big money to help cover your band expenses. Complete information for selling ads is in your 2006-2007 information packet. If you have any additional questions, please contact me via the band office at 379-0437 or check your roster for my home phone. I'll be happy to help.

Cindy Wagner, AdBook Editor

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