



THE CLEF NOTE NEWS



Mr. Derek Castellano

Hello all,

Another exciting year has begun, and we're off to a great start as boosters!

As you'll hear in this issue of the newsletter, the Marching Band has kicked off its year already, with the completion of Band Camp, and the Music Boosters have completed their first fundraiser, benefiting individual students as well as the general program. Soon, the rest of our music programs will begin their semester with equal vigor.

You may or may not have noticed, but with each passing week, we are trying to improve our booster website with current, and useful information. I would like to take the opportunity to thank our webmaster, Chris Slack, for his time and effort in helping us to improve the functionality and content. Check out everything that is going on at www.svhsmusicboosters.org.

With arguably the busiest part of the season soon upon us, our biggest fundraiser is already in full swing, and we're calling on the support of ALL instrumental music families. Volunteers are needed for the day of our Band Spectacular event and we need to continue efforts to secure Program Ads. Remember, proceeds from this event support the **entire** Music Program - Jazz Band, Orchestra, etc. It will take the collective effort of all of our boosters to pull off this 40th annual event!

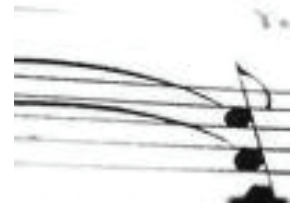
One last note - In the interest of ensuring that all instrumental groups are getting their needs met, I am looking for individuals to help be the eyes and ears for each group. See the newsletter insert and let me know if you are interested.

I look forward to getting into full swing on another incredible year of great music. Thanks for all of your support and effort!

Best Regards,

Derek Castellano

Our Instrumental Music Director Mr. Daniel Sternberg



Greetings Everyone!

The 2008-2009 school year is about to begin, and it looks to be a most exciting year for our instrumental music program. In September, the Simi Valley High School "Marching Pride" Pioneer Marching Band takes to the streets for the Simi Valley Days Parade. This is a historic year for the music program, in that we will be hosting the 40th Annual Band Spectacular. Band Spectacular, our own marching band field show competition, is the longest running competition in Ventura County, and one of the longest running field show competitions in all of Southern California. This season also marks the occasion of our first trip to a college bowl game. The "Marching Pride" will be participating in the festivities of the Holiday Bowl this December, in San Diego. This will be a year long remembered for our marching band and color guard.

The excitement isn't reserved for the marching band alone, however. Concert band, orchestra, and wind ensemble each have fabulous performance experiences in store this year, including our orchestra's annual appearance at the Simi Valley Senior Center's Thanksgiving Dinner.

Our jazz season will begin earlier than ever this year, thanks to the return of Jerry Steinholtz. Auditions for the Latin band will be early and highly competitive, so be prepared. We also hope to add a second, fully instrumented, big band this year. Any jazz hopefuls should talk to Mr. Sternberg as early as possible. We are looking forward to an even more successful Valentine's Dinner this year, and to a triumphant return to the Reno International Jazz Festival.

This is just the beginning! Please check the website regularly for updates, and come to the music booster meetings to know what's going on, and how you can help support our outstanding program.

Mr. Sternberg



To start the year off right, the music department will be accepting donations of:

Copy paper

Dry erase markers/erasers

Cases of bottled water

Replacement refrigerator





WANTED:

Looking for 8 booster parents to be our contact person to represent each music group—

Concert Band, Orchestra, Wind Ensemble, Jazz Band and Marching Band.

Availability to attend the general booster meeting each month is a plus, but the key is to have a voice for each music group, and bring to the floor any parent or student concerns throughout the year.

As well, we could look to you as a point of contact for your group for the Band Spectacular planning and activities.

*Interested parties may contact:
Derek Castellano at 522-1346*



Fundraising Update.....



Our fundraising efforts have already begun with a great deal of success!

Since June, we have been collecting program ads for our annual Band Spectacular program, and have reached half way to our goal! But we still have a ways to go prior to the middle of September, when we need to have all of our ads submitted. Please continue to collect those sponsorship ads, which not only benefit the whole music program, but your own student's personal account. For those of you have already "pounded the pavement", thank you for your efforts to help the music program – Keep up the great work!

Another early fundraiser of the season was a carwash, held on Saturday, Aug 23rd. The students who participated in the carwash worked very hard and washed a steady stream of cars all day long. I would like to thank all those music students who scrubbed, rinsed and dried each and every car that came through the line. We received many compliments on quality!

Not only did the students work hard, but we also had a few parents who gave up all, or part of their Saturday to help make our car wash a success. First, I would like to thank, Ruth and Dirk Drossel, Jeff Hayden, Rick Aronson, Derek Castellano, Tina Alvarez and Jan Willis for keeping the lines of cars running smoothly. I would also like to thank Mary Richards for hanging and rehangng towels to dry, as well as Tom Groshko for providing pizza for the students.

In conjunction with the car wash, we conducted a bake sale, and could not have had a profitable bake sale without the help of Lisa Lopes, Jeanette Marquez, Jennifer D'Atri and Sally Coons, who made our signs and tip jar, and, of course, all those parents who prepared all the delicious goodies we sold.

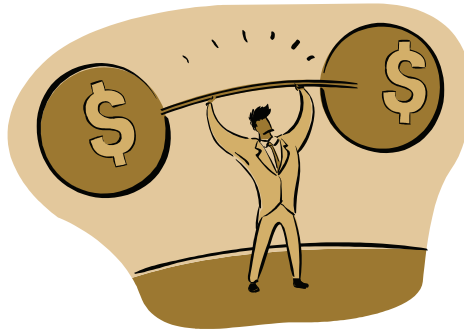
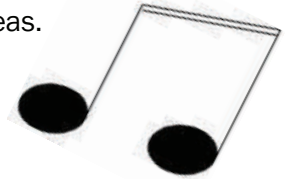
Overall, we held a smooth running, highly attended and very profitable carwash.

Let's keep the momentum going, as we enter into the football season – if you have not already done so, please visit our calendar on the website, pick a game to help in our popcorn and souvenir booth, and then sign up by sending me an email. This is a great way to help with our fundraising efforts, and get to know your fellow boosters.

Also, if you would like to be part of my fundraising team please drop me an e-mail or give me a call at 522-1346. I am looking for parents to help plan and implement new fundraising ideas.

Thanks for all your continued support.

Kristen Castellano
1st VP, Fundraising



BAND SPECTACULAR

The Simi Valley High School 40th Annual Band Spectacular Field Tournament is still two months away but many exciting things are already in the works to make this annual event truly "Spectacular". With the help of dedicated committee members important decisions are being made now to ensure a festive environment for our guest bands and visitors. We expect the day long event to feature 20+ bands coming from as far as Bakersfield. So mark your calendar and plan to attend... **Saturday, October, 25th**



Volunteers Needed:

Band Spectacular is the single biggest fundraising event which supports the entire Simi Valley High School music program (not just marching band). As such, this day long event requires more than a hundred volunteers. Please donate your time and support your student. To help, send an email to: band_spectacular@svhsmusicboosters.org or call Becky Custer at 522-2329.



Band Spectacular Committee Member (Volunteer Coordinator) Needed:

An adult volunteer is needed to collect names and telephone numbers of our volunteer work force, set up a work schedule and post volunteers as needed throughout the day long event. To help, please contact Becky Custer at 522-2329.





2008 HOLIDAY BOWL UPDATE:

As the start of Band Camp heralds in the Marching Pride's 2008 season, the Holiday Bowl performance is only four months away. This year's nationally televised Holiday Bowl halftime show will have over 1,800 high school musicians playing to a synchronized fireworks show. Selections include *Run through the Jungle*, *Jungle Love*, *The Lion Sleeps Tonight* and *Eye of the Tiger*. The Holiday Bowl is sure to be a spectacular event, along with the Holiday Bowl Parade, the Awards Dinner Dance at Sea World and a variety of activities in San Diego.

Please contact me with any questions you might have regarding the trip. This will be a wonderful opportunity for the students and an exciting time for all. Please note that at the start of band camp a \$50 deposit and a \$100 second payment were due. We need to make our next payment to the Holiday Bowl. Thank you for making your payments on time.

During the first week of Band Camp each student was given an information packet and updated tentative itinerary. If you haven't seen this please ask your student for the packet. It is also available at the SVmusicboosters.org website.

Larry Kameen – Holiday Bowl Trip Coordinator
Lkameen@mac.com

2008 HOLIDAY BOWL PARTICIPANT PAYMENT SCHEDULE

The Bowl Game event coordinators require several deposits to be made prior to the final payment due 11/15/08. We are proposing several payment dates in order to spread out the total amount over time and more importantly to enable each student opportunities to fund raise towards their individual program costs.

Please make your checks payable to: SVHS Music Boosters
Note on check: "Holiday Bowl" and the payment number

Payment #1 - \$50 NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT – **WAS DUE JUNE 12th**

Payment #2 - \$100 - **WAS DUE AT THE START OF BAND CAMP – DEPOSITS ARE DUE TO THE HOLIDAY BOWL RIGHT NOW**

Payment #3 - \$150 DUE SEPTEMBER 15

Payment #4 - \$150 DUE OCTOBER 15

Payment #5 - \$150 DUE NOVEMBER 15



FAQs:



Who is going? The trip is available to all members of the 2008 Simi Valley HS Marching Band & Color Guard.

When is the trip taking place? Saturday December 27th to Monday December 30th

What will they be doing? Performance in the nationally televised Holiday Bowl Big Bay Parade and the 31st Holiday Bowl Halftime Show (www.holidaybowl.com), plus a judged field competition for awards and possible selection to perform in the televised Holiday Bowl pre-game show; a day at Sea World including a private Awards Banquet Dinner Dance, and selected activities in San Diego. The students will also have an opportunity to meet people from all around the country who enjoy being in marching band & color guard.

Where is this taking place? The city of San Diego, Qualcomm Stadium and Sea World

Where is the hotel? The Town & Country Resort & Convention Center 500 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, California 92108, Tel:(888) 231-3058, Fax: (619) 291-3584, www.towncountry.com.

What are the transportation arrangements? We will be using a chartered bus to move the students to all the venues.

Will we have extra tickets to the game? No, BGA does not have extra tickets. BGA provides tickets as part of the event package. The block of tickets for the students puts them at field level so they can move on/off the field quickly. Directors and chaperones will be sitting nearby. Tickets are now on sale to the general public. We can coordinate a group ticket purchase but would require pre-payment as they are non-refundable. Please indicate your interest in going to the game by e-mail: Lkameen@mac.com.

Can we watch the parade? Yes, you can purchase bleacher seating for the parade at the Holiday Bowl

What about watching the rehearsals and field competition? The Otay HS facility is open to spectators; there is no admission fee and they will have concession stands open. The halftime show rehearsals will mostly be practicing the movement of 1,800 plus musicians on and off the field to a very tight schedule, along with assembling the on field formations. The field show competition will be similar to the typical tournament the band participates in during the season.

Can I be a chaperone? If you are interested please send me an e-mail. The number of chaperones is dependent on the number of participants so no guarantees on getting a spot as a chaperone.

What about hotel accommodations for spectators? Certainly you can book rooms at any number of hotels in the area if you plan to attend the game. In addition, the BGA package is available to non-participants at the same price. Note that the estimated cost for participants is based on 4 per room and the price increases accordingly with fewer people in the room. Also, first priority for rooming at the Town & Country is for the students, staff and chaperones. Given the large number of participants, it is most likely that you would be staying at an adjacent hotel on Hotel Circle Drive. Transportation to/from the venues would not be provided.

What if I have other questions or specific concerns about the trip? Check the booster website for updates (www.svhsmusicbooster.org), and you can contact me by e-mail or phone 805-660-6201.

My fellow musicians,

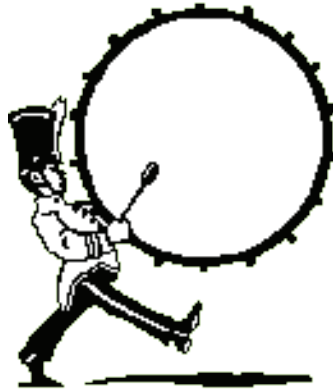
The beginning of this year in marching band has proven to be an exceptionally promising start to what I hope will become an exceedingly fruitful year. Last year bore witness to one of the greatest seasons the Marching Pride has seen in over a decade, and the memory of that amazing chapter in our band's history seems eerily similar to the reality of this newfound season. As with last year's success, it began when we departed with a batch of seniors who left their mark on the music program forever. It then proceeded with the addition of an incredibly talented group of eager young freshman who did not come to fill the senior's gap, but rather to add a new stanza to the time tested spirit, tradition, and pride of this epic poem we call Simi Valley High School. With such similar beginnings, I have extremely high hopes for this year's season.

I would like to thank all the staff and students for making this year's band camp one of the most memorable yet, from day one, where we met separately to discuss this thing we do called marching band, to our own closing ceremonies of sorts, where we showcased all that our hard work and discipline had grown to accomplish. Very special thanks go to the incredibly talented section leaders, captains, and assistant drum major, who all put their heart and soul into everything they teach.

But a greater thank you goes to all the parents, siblings, and family who support everything we do in the band. As a whole, we only see one another for a few hours a day, but to the families who have lived with and supported these incredible young people twenty four hours a day, seven days a week for their entire lives, I thank you all for your dedication and perseverance that has brought them to us in such high spirits. I am truly honored to be a part of such a fine group of musicians, students, and people. I wish everyone a great start to the school year.

Musically yours,

Nicholas Castellano
Drum Major



Order your Music Booster Window Decals today!
Just \$5.00 each—show your spirit and support our students.
See Pat Kameen or fill out the form below and mail your \$5.00 to
Simi Valley High School Music Department
P.O. Box 1013
Simi Valley, CA 93062

Name _____

Address _____

Phone number _____

Number of decals _____ Amount enclosed _____





Booster Contacts

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