



Just Kidding

Hello everyone. With our newsletter coming out quarterly, there is a good deal of territory to cover.

It has been over a month since we had our first performance, the annual Fall Concert. Those who were there know what a fine job the students did. If you have forgotten, you can still order Fall Concert CDs! (Speak with Neil Schore.) Since then we have been sight-reading, selecting pieces, and rehearsing for our next performance, the annual Winter Concert. (Don't forget the dress rehearsal the evening before!) The Orchestra will again be recording this concert, so please help support our efforts to preserve the memories our students create.

After the winter break, our schedule becomes quite hectic. The Golden Empire Solo and Ensemble Festival will be held at CSU Sacramento on Saturday, February 5. But the big news is that there has been a change in the date of the annual Wennberg Concert from Wednesday February 16 to Monday, February 7. This year's concert will be an Orchestral and community tribute to Margaret Neu. As many of you know, the band program saluted Margaret in a concert on November 22. Likewise, this year's Wennberg Concert will bid a fond farewell to this faithful supporter of music and music education in Davis for nearly thirty years. Mark Inouye, the newly appointed second trumpet of the San Francisco Symphony and an alumnus of Davis High, will be performing in this concert.

Following the Wennberg Concert will be our main fundraiser, the annual

Please see "Just Kidding," page 2

Wennberg Date Changes

- Rehearsals: 7:00 to 10:00 p.m., Thurs., Feb. 3, Freeborn Hall, UCD: Probably 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., Sun., Feb. 6, Main Theater, UCD
- Concert: 7:30 p.m., Mon., Feb. 7, Veterans' Memorial Theater

Volunteer to Support Trip Effort

By Susan Linz

At our last Parents' Meeting, a delegation of students from the Orchestra came to address the group. They made a strong argument for planning a big trip. Dr. Kidd was enthusiastic about seconding the students' plan, as he would like the Orchestra to participate in the first annual California Music Educators' Association Competition, to be held in Los Angeles over the Memorial Day Weekend. He is looking into workshops and performing opportunities the students could participate in en route or in Los Angeles itself.

All of the parents at the meeting were concerned about the time and effort that would be necessary to raise the money for such a trip. Chris Higgins has volunteered to plan the trip and is determining the exact cost.

What was most impressive about the student presentation was their willingness to take on the responsibility for finding, organizing, and carrying out the fundraising necessary for this large trip. Though some fundraisers exist already—the Rummage Sale, Candy Sale, Home Tour, Davis Lumber Inventory, and Dessert Dance—it is clear that the students themselves will have to raise a large sum of the money.

Diana Wiggins will be posting, on a regular basis, the amounts students have earned in their accounts. The students are to be commended for taking on this responsibility, and I am con-

fident that we will support them in any way we can.

I would like to thank the many parents who have tirelessly given up their efforts in the last few months to work on the Rummage Sale, Candy Sale, and Home Tour, as well as the Fall and Winter Concerts. We are all busy people, and it is amazing to see so many finding the time and energy to work, not only for their students, but for the group as a whole.

I would like to extend an invitation—perhaps "plea" would be a better word—to those who have not yet been active in the Orchestra Parents group. We need your help! Please, especially parents of sophomores, do not hesitate to join us. Do not think that you need lots of experience to take on some of these duties—you will get on-the-job training!

Coming up first next year is the Davis Lumber Inventory, a particularly painless way for you and other members of the family to work with your student to earn money for his or her trip account.

The Dessert Dance is a lovely event, but we are in need of workers to take on specific tasks. Please look over the jobs listed in "Dessert Dance," in this newsletter, and think seriously of taking one. Then call me at 758.6122 so that we can find other people to work with you. Thank you!

Start Planning for the Big Trip

The Orchestra is planning to attend the First Annual California Festival of Champions in Los Angeles, May 27 to 29, 2000, an event sponsored by the California Music Educators Association (CMEA). Dr. Kidd has proposed that the Orchestra leave on Thursday afternoon and return Monday.

We estimate the cost of the trip to be \$400-500 per student, including

Please Help with Dessert Dance

The annual Dessert Dance will take place at Emerson Junior High School on Monday, February 14 from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. This gala event includes luscious desserts as well as dancing to the music of the Orchestra and chamber groups.

Please mark your calendar, and start asking friends and family members to attend!

Every student needs to donate 2 items or services to the Silent Auction that is run at this event. Money earned goes toward student accounts for the spring trip.

Parents should look at the following list of jobs and volunteer now so that we can organize the event in a timely manner:

- Tickets and program: Design and print tickets, then distribute to students and businesses; Design and print a program with music to be performed, business donors, items to be auctioned, etc.
- Set-up (approximately 4 hours): Locate and transport tables; Put up

audience and orchestra chairs, microphone, and stands; Stage lighting (work with custodian)

- Food: Coordinate desserts made by Orchestra members; Set out desserts during the event; Arrange for donations of chocolates, coffee, paper products etc.

- Decoration: Tablecloths, flowers (solicit donations), candles, etc.

- Dancing: Arrange for instructor
- Silent Auction: Coordinate donation of 2 items or services from each student; Solicit donations from businesses; Set up Silent Auction items on tables; Print and display bid sheets and certificates of receipt and collection of payment; Work with program designer to include list of auction items in the program

- Clean-up: Sell table decorations; Return and put away tables and chairs; Clean up room

Please contact Susan Linz, 758.6122, or Barbara Eastman, 756.5840, to let us know you can help. Thank you!

—Susan Linz

Just Kidding

Continued from page 1

Dessert Dance, on Valentines Day, February 14. Next is our annual trip to CSUS for the Golden Empire Orchestra Festival on February 28, followed in the subsequent week by the opening of the school musical.... You get the point.

Golden Empire is especially important this year because our success is all that insures our participation in the first annual CMEA Festival of Champions, to be held in the Los Angeles area Memorial Day weekend. Not only will the full symphonic Orchestra be participating in Golden Empire, but a smaller Chamber Orchestra similar to the one that performed in the Fall Concert will begin rehearsing weekly after school following the winter break and also will be participating. Things are starting to get very exciting as well as busy. Please let your students know that they have your support as they are asked to go beyond the call of duty once the new year arrives. It should be fun!

Dr. Kidd

Orchestra Parents Meeting Notes

Submitted by Harris Levin

- The present balance in the treasury is \$5002.32.
- The Winter Concert is being set up now, so expect calls.
- Volunteer sign-up sheets for the Dessert Dance were distributed. Each student needs to donate two items or services for the Silent Auction, to be held at this event.
- A group of students made a presentation on the feelings of other students regarding a "large trip." They stated that: interest of the students is high, students are committed to fundraising, musical group trips are significantly different experiences from family trips, and missing school for short time while on a school-sponsored trip is not a serious problem.

Families will need to pay some of the expenses if their students are unable to cover the cost of the trip through fundraising.—Chris Higgins

A proposal was made to set a goal

Please see "Meeting Notes," page 3

Group Photo Now Ready

Carol Jordan has a lovely portrait of the 1999-2000 Orchestra that can be yours by calling 758.1080. Don't wait too long—the holidays are just around the corner!

More News on the Web

Visit the new Orchestra web page:
dhs.djUSD.k12.ca.us/orchestra

Donations Aid in Instrument Repair

By Diana Wiggins

While no one is obligated to donate when he or she uses a school instrument, such money does help defray the cost of new strings, bow re-hairing, and repairs. The School District does not provide any funding for these instruments, so all costs must be covered with funds the Orchestra earns.

Also remember that any donation is tax-deductible. Everyone should have received the tax deduction form; contact me at 758.1702 if you need another.

Compare the cost of renting an instrument for nine months from a music store with the small donation we encourage, and I am sure you will conclude that we offer an outstanding value. It is our preference that costs be covered by those most directly benefiting from the program.

Meeting Notes

Continued from page 2

to raise half the cost of the trip, and if not achieved, the money would roll over to next year. In addition, the initiative would be student-led with mostly "external" money used to fund the trip.

- It is anticipated that the trip will be an extended weekend of about four days in order to minimize school absence.

Dr. Kidd would like the Orchestra to work its way to larger trips. He favors the California Music Educators' Association statewide competition in southern California as well as educational opportunities at UC Los Angeles, UC Santa Barbara, or Disneyland. The trip will be planned without a professional tour guide.

- The above proposals were passed by members present.
- The students suggested that a student coordinator should work alongside a parent coordinator.
- All of the Fall Concert CDs were

issued in class and should be distributed by now to those who requested them.

- Donations for school instrument repair are not required, but definitely appreciated.

- Eileen and Rob Jaffe are developing a "How to" binder for future parents' reference.

- Candy sales netted slightly over \$400 but only 54% of the students participated.

- A parent volunteer is needed for coordination of the Spring Concert.
- The next parent meeting has been rescheduled for December 1.

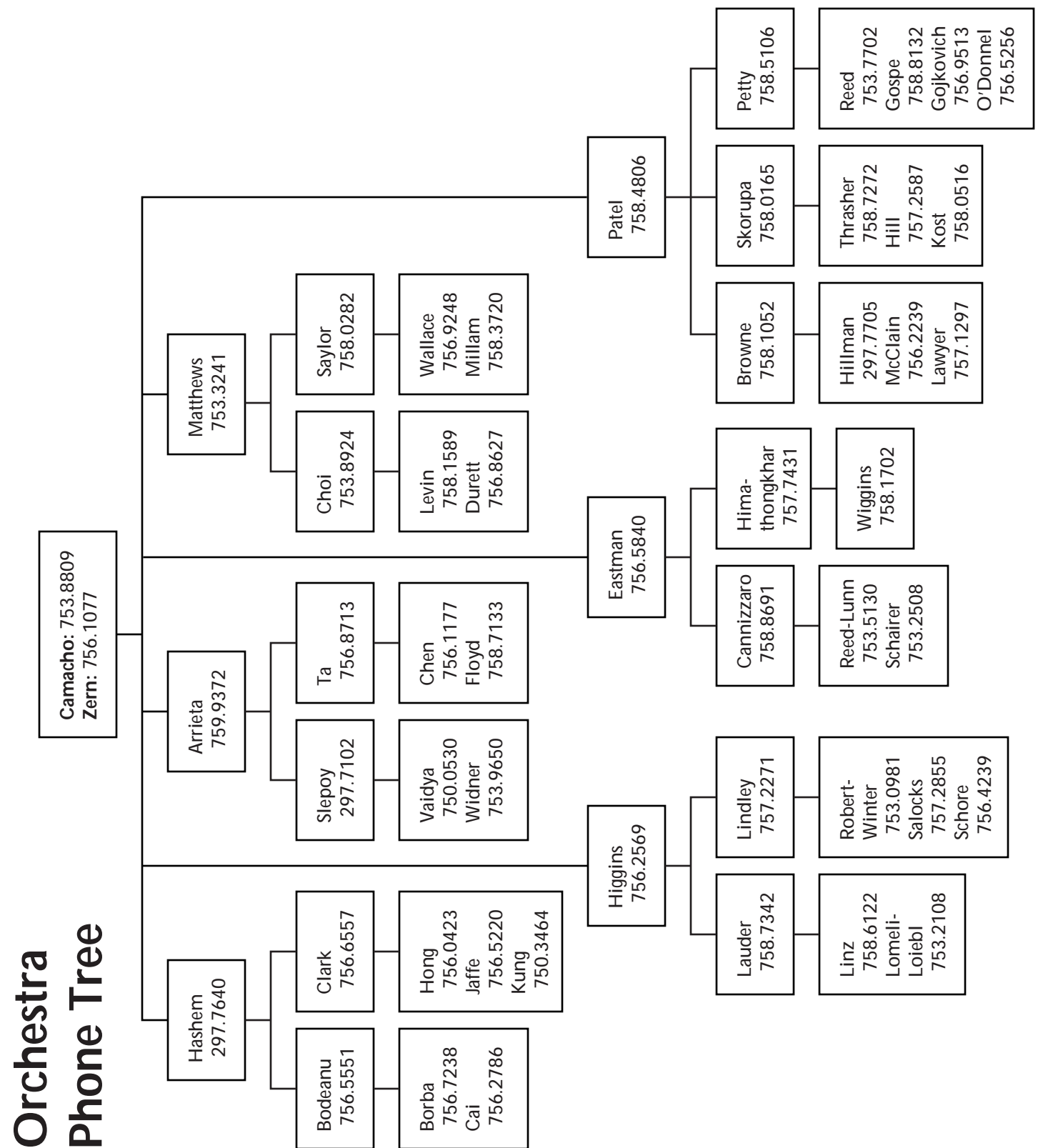
DAVIS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
Orchestra News
Susan Linz, editor
Christopher Kost,
layout designer and assistant editor
dhs.djUSD.k12.ca.us/orchestra

Trip to Santa Cruz

By Diana Wiggins

Wow! There is much to be said for putting 50 kids on a bus and traveling with them. I know we had some logistical problems. We didn't load the bus on time, we did get into traffic, and the bus could travel, at best, only 50 miles per hour over the Santa Cruz pass. When we did arrive it was to a gorgeous day in Santa Cruz. The sky was blue, the weather perfect. What could top that off? It was going into the concert hall and playing with Nicole Palement. Nicole worked our students hard for an hour, and the kids responded by giving her their best. If you went to the Fall Concert, you heard the results of all that hard work! After the clinic, we went down to the boardwalk for beach access. At the appointed hour the bus was loaded for the return trip home. Time to reflect, a trip the kids will remember. I feel privileged that I had the opportunity to participate. I strongly encourage others to take advantage of similar activities.

Orchestra Phone Tree



Candy Sales

Twenty members of the orchestra recently participated in a candy sale, which ended October 30. Forty-four boxes of candy were sold and \$12.10 in donations were collected, resulting in a total profit of \$408.10. Many thanks to those twenty students!

Money from donations and sales during the Rummage Sale, totaling \$66.10, went into the general Orchestra fund, while remainder of the profits

was credited to the individual student accounts for the spring trip. The highest seller earned a total of \$63 for her account from selling seven boxes.

According to students who sold candy at school, as well as parents who did so at work, it was very easy. Still, our participation rate was only 54%. If you did not participate this time, be sure to take part the next time a fundraising opportunity rolls around.

—Barbara Levin

Hardware Inventory

This year's annual Davis Lumber and Hardware inventory will take place on Tuesday, January 11, 2000. Volunteers will be paid minimum wage (\$6.25 per hour) to complete the work, and all money earned will go to the Orchestra. Orchestra members and their parents, relatives, and friends are all eligible to participate in this activity.

There will be three work shifts: 1 to 4 p.m., 4 to 6 p.m., and 6 to 10 p.m. If you feel particularly energetic, you can work more than one shift. Don't worry if you've never taken inventory before—you'll be shown how to complete all aspects of the job.

Sign up sheets for the inventory will be available at the parents meeting on December 1 and also will be posted in the music room.

—Chuck Salocks

Hire a Brass or String Ensemble

Our ensembles are going strong. The Christmas season is fast upon us and so are our performance opportunities.

The quartet, led by Hermes Camacho, has played several public relations gigs, starting with the Stroll through History in Woodland and the Turkey Trot. A second group, a piano trio headed by Ann Cal, will be playing on December 4 for the Tremont School "Breakfast with Santa" fundraiser.

If you attended the home tour, you personally witnessed several groups performing. The chamber group is planning a concert around the holidays as well.

If you are planning any sort of social function at which you would like to have a string ensemble, please call 792.1008 or 758.1702. For the brass quintet, call 758.0516. Leave a message with a brief description of the event and the date and time.

—Dianna Wiggins

DSHS Orchestra Parents
Davis Senior High School
315 West 14th St.
Davis, CA 95616

Next Meeting: 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 1
Room M2

DAVIS SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
Orchestra News