



Savanna High School
Mighty Rebel Band and Colorguard

301 N. Gilbert Street, Anaheim, CA 92801

www.savannaband.com

Summer 2007

Welcome to the first newsletter of the 2007-2008 school year! That's right, even though it is summer (and I hope you are having fun), the new school year has begun – summer sectionals are in progress, planning for fall events is in the work, and the calendar is being finalized. So we wanted to take this opportunity to fill you in on some of the changes, dates, and information for the new year.

In this newsletter you will find information on:

- Good-bye to our 2007 Graduating class, and 2007 Class Awards
- 2007-2008 Student Leaders
- Band Camp: August 20-30
- Fall Preview: August 30
- Participation Fees: August 20 & November 2
- Car Wash: September 22
- Cookie Dough Sales: October
- Chaperoning and Volunteers

*And a lot lot more - in addition, there is information about the Savanna Hosted Field Tournament on November 17, a special day that we need **everyone** to help ... so reserve that weekend now!*

Remember, you can contact us one of several ways if you have questions – the band office is open occasionally during the summer (note when rehearsals are) and you can phone (714) 220-4270. In addition you can email us as follows:

Mr. Belski – Belski@savannaband.com

Tournament Specific Questions – Tournament@savannaband.com

Booster / Information – Boosters@savannaband.com

Just a note on this newsletter, we are mailing it to the student list (as well as friends and alumni) that we currently have – if you know a student that has not received this, please have them contact Mr. Belski and the Boosters at the above email so that we can make sure they are contacted and have up to date information!

We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at our first parent meeting of the new school year – Monday August 20th!

Bill Ramm

Booster Club President

READER WARNING! *I realize that this is a long newsletter crammed with a lot of information! Please set aside some time, make yourself comfortable, and read through this - it is really important to know what is going on, what your student's requirements are and how you can help!*

Good-bye, Farewell, Auf Wiedersein, Good-bye!

Before we say hello to the new year, we want to celebrate one more time our 2007 Graduating class. Our seniors always provide the leadership and stability to the group, and this last year was no different. We miss them already, and wish them the best in their new endeavors (and we keep them on our mailing list so we hope to see them in the future!).

**Cristina Albarran
Christal Ennis
Leyna Holquin
Edwin Lovo
Jasmanny Ochoa
Aracely Priego
Monica Romero
Ryan Smith**

**Ana Camacho
Jerry Gutierrez
Kayla Kimmel
Peter Nguyen
Christopher Olivares
Jon Ramm
Itzel Sanchez
Frank Toledo**

**Anthony Cardoza
Courtney Hession
Chelsea Knopp
Phoebe Nishimoto
Elizabeth Padron
Joseph Rivera
Adrian Sandoval
Andrew Woodcock**

2007 Awards

We closed the 2006-2007 year with our annual awards banquet in June. There was a lot of recognition of student achievements. And though so many of our students deserve an award – these top student deserve a little extra limelight! So here are the 2006-2007 student awards:

National Awards:

John Philip Sousa National Band Award— **Phoebe Nishimoto**
Louis Armstrong National Jazz Award – **Andrew Woodcock**

Seniors:

Outstanding Senior Colorguard Performance – **Christal Ennis**
Outstanding Senior Musical Performance – **Edwin Lovo & Jerry Gutierrez**

Juniors:

Outstanding Junior Colorguard Member – **Denisse Rudolph**
Outstanding Junior Band Member – **Ryan Daly**

Sophomores:

Outstanding Sophomore Colorguard Member – **Heidi Reeley & Grace Ortiz**
Outstanding Sophomore Band Member—**Martoni Kairan**

Freshmen:

Outstanding Freshman Colorguard Member – **Hannah Nishimoto**
Outstanding Freshman Band Member – **Adrian Morales**

Spirit Awards:

Bill Hitchcock “Rebel Spirit” Award – **Kayla Kimmel & Anthony Cardoza**

2007 Awards Continued:

Most Improved Performance:

Most Improved Colorguard Performance – **Stephanie Trujillo**

Most Improved Musical Performance – **Western Palacios, Adela Moreno, Pablo Vasquez**

Jazz Ensemble:

Most Improved Jazz Performer – **Andrew Martinez**

Woody Herman Award for Outstanding Jazz Soloist— **Jasmanny Ochoa**

Outstanding Sections:

Jazz Ensemble: **Saxophones**

Symphonic Band: **Flutes**

Wind Ensemble: **Trombones**

2007-2008 Student Leaders

In addition to the prior year award winners, at the June Banquet Mr. Belski announced the 2007-2008 student leadership. These students take increased leadership in the band, and become their section's main point of contact for news and information. If your student has a question, these are people that they can go to for help and clarification.

Drum Majors

Field Drum Major – **Bryan Burgonio**

Parade Drum Major – **Christina Nguyen**

Assistant Field Drum Major – **Anthony Chavez**

Section Leaders

Flutes – **Stacy Tran**

Saxes – **Denmer Dela Cruz**

Horns – **Joel Ramm**

Baritones – **Dwayne Mason**

Battery Captain – **Speros Mantas**

Colorguard Captain – **Patty Corona**

Clarinets – **Martoni Kairan & Elsi Villa**

Trumpets – **George Diaz**

Trombones – **Ryan Daly**

Tubas – **Dustin Gutierrez**

Pit Captain – **Lynn Sanchez**

Band Staff

President: **Dwayne Mason**

Vice-President: **Stacy Tran**

Secretary: **Christina Nguyen**

Treasurer: **Russel Rosales**

Loading Crew Head: **George Diaz**

Summer Rehearsals

By the time you get this, summer rehearsals (July 17, 24, & 31) may already be over. Section leaders attempted to call all students currently enrolled to inform them of the dates and times. If you know a student that was not contacted, please call the office or send an email to Mr. Belski and the Boosters right away with the student name, contact information (phone and address), and instrument played.

Band Camp August 20-30

The first MANDATORY event of the year is Band Camp. This is held for all Band / Colorguard members from Monday August 20th through Thursday August 30th. “Camp” is held at Savanna High school each weekday during that period from 9am to 5pm (note: exact times may vary – we will update you in August). This time is important as it lays the groundwork for the entire fall season. Students will do everything from learning their drill and music to be fitted for uniforms and order shoes. A typical day is:

- 9:00 – 9:30 Stretch, Endurance and strength training
- 9:30-10:30 Marching Fundamentals
- 10:30-12:30 Learning Drill Formations
- 12:30-1:30 Lunch
- 1:30 – 2:45 Sectional rehearsals
- 2:45-3:45 Ensemble rehearsals
- 3:45-5:00 Drill rehearsal

What do you need to know?

This is a physically and mentally demanding time for the students. They are working with 150 other students, and a dozen coaches to learn both the music and the performance routine. They are long days. First priority, please send them to each day well rested and nourished (we will talk a bit more about this in August). However, here are things to help you plan ahead:

- Dates – Save the dates, your student is required to be here.
- Water – Clean, fresh water each day and LOTS of it. [Tip: We have found that those 1 gallon jugs work well (put the students name on it – they look alike) as they need a lot of water. In addition, you can freeze ice in the 10 oz lunch meat containers or equivalent and it fits nicely in the jug – a small block of ice lasts longer]. Hydration is very very important. Sports drinks and the like are not encouraged for several reasons – basic H₂O is the best!
- Clothes – Comfortable loose-fitting clothing, shorts – but no Jeans. Good athletic shoes (no Converse or sandals). Think of camp as an exercise regimen, and dress appropriately.
- Sun – Sunscreen (bring it and put it on more than once), hat, sunglasses
- Lunch – a sack lunch (members have lockers in the band room) or \$\$ for lunch (remember, there are few places very close to the school for the hour lunch break)
- Supplies – 3 ring binder with plastic sheet protectors for music. Small (3” x 5”) spiral bound memo pad. Pens and Pencils.

NEWS ALERT: What do we spend that money on? Here are a couple items you will hear more about next month, but the board authorized a couple of cool items –

- Sabers: Working with Designs by King, the Colorguard will be able to perform with new sabers on order now (~\$2400)
- Mellaphones: Were acquired several years ago on a lease to buy program. With the good financial standing at the end of the year, the board authorized a final payment a year early for the Mellaphones – we now own them free and clear! (~\$2500 final payment)

Fall Preview August 30

Thursday August 30th is the famous fall preview!! Come see and hear how much the students have learned in the 2 weeks of band camp. Though it is only a few minutes of showtime, it is a fun evening to have dinner with family and friends, meet the coaches, hear Mr. Belski tell more about the program and coming year. We will start with *Dinner with Carl* – well, we will rent the Carl's Jr. mobile kitchen – at 6:30 and then move to the field for a sampling of the show. Keep that date free!

➔ What do you need to know?

- August 30 – Save the date
- Food – Presale order form (Carl's needs the info to stock the truck accordingly) will be sent out with the Band Information packet.

Participation Fees

It costs over \$125,000 to run this program each year – that is over \$800 per student. However, we only ask for about 1/3 of that in participation fees, and raise the rest. This year we have revised the participation fee structure. Instead of fees plus many fundraisers, we have changed the fees to \$340/\$370 for fall (due in two installments) reduced the all-band fundraisers to four key events (two car washes, tournament weekend, and spring fundraiser event). While the actual fee is increased, you will not be “asked” to buy entertainment books, band spectacular tickets, etc – and we can concentrate on a few large events.

There will still be two cookie dough sales each year (see info on the fall sale in this letter), but they will be voluntary, and the net proceeds will go to the selling students account – not to the general band fund – so it is a personal fundraiser! In addition, all accounts in good standing in November, will be given four (4) band spectacular tickets (additional tickets may be purchased).

➔ What do you need to know?

- Due Dates – Participation fees are due in two installments: \$200/\$230 [Drumline and Colorguard owe the \$230] due August 20th (start of band camp), and the remaining \$140 is due November 2nd.
- Reductions – The second payment may be reduced through personal fundraising with the cookie dough sale.
- Student accounts – see more information on this later, but bottom line is that student accounts continue from year to year, so positive balances can be carried forward to pay the next years fees.
- Participation Credits – A \$75 credit on the students account may be earned by adult participation in the key fundraisers. A student that enlists an adult (parent or other person over 25) to help at 3 of the 4 key events (the tournament is mandatory, then the adult must work 2 of the 3 remaining key events – fall car wash, spring car wash, or the spring event) receives a \$75 credit at the end of the year)

Car Wash September 22

Our first all band fundraiser of the year! Students wash cars, parents supervise / take money. Set aside the day as student participation is required. Parent participation is requested – and counts toward the student’s participation credit. Adult sign ups will be taken at the parent meetings leading up to the event.

Cookie Dough Sales October

Sales are tentatively planned for October 8 – 19th. All net proceeds go to the selling students account. What does this mean? The exact amount varies on brands and types, but approximately \$5 for each \$14/box goes to directly to the selling students account to pay off participation fees and other account charges. Sell 10 boxes and the student earns \$50 – and that is not too hard.

Our top sellers the past few years have sold around 30-40 boxes – with a few students selling over 60 in one sale alone – and since student account credits stay with the student all the years they are in the band, that can go a long way to paying off the current year as well as part of the following year fees!

Chaperones

A very important part of every event that occurs off the school property is our chaperones. Chaperones are parents that volunteer to help supervise the students, ensure their safety, and be available if students need assistance. While there are many volunteer opportunities – chaperones are clearly very important! For your students safety, and our peace of mind – each chaperone is cleared by the district. This takes a little time and effort (really, not that much) but is well worth it.

The district mandates that a TB test and a fingerprint background check be done for each chaperone, and pays for all costs associated with them – all it takes is an appointment with the district office, and a simple TB screening. When cleared, the district notifies Mr. Belski. Note: TB tests must be renewed every 4 years, but if you have recent paperwork because of your profession or other reasons, the district may accept that – check with the human resources office when you call to make your appointment.

What do you need to know?

- Starting/Fingerprints: Call the AUHSD district human resources office, **(714) 999-3511** to make an appointment. The brief appointment will include some basic paperwork and having your fingerprints electronically scanned.
- TB Testing: At the appointment, you will be given the address of a medical testing facility on Katella. The actual test takes a few moments and then you must return 48-72 hours later to have the test area viewed by the nurse. Test results then are to be returned to the district office.
- With the TB test results and background check complete, the district will notify Mr. Belski and Savanna. - Questions: Check with the district office – (714) 999-3511

About the Boosters

The Booster Organization is a non-profit organized to support the Savanna Band and Colorguard. Through fundraising, participation fees, and donations, the boosters provide both capital investments in new equipment for the students, as well as paying on-going items like consulting coaches, transportation, uniforms, show equipment and more. Membership in the organization is \$5 for a school year, and entitles you to vote and serve in board positions. If you would like a membership application form, send us an email at boosters@savannaband.com or see us at any parent meeting.

For the 2007-2008 School year, the elected officers are:

President – Bill Ramm Boosters@savannaband.com
1st Vice President – Debbie Woodcock
2nd Vice President (Fundraising) – Lisa Bostic
Recording Secretary – Kim Valdez
Treasurer – Sandy Reeley
Financial Secretary (Student accounts) – Pam Ramm
Parliamentarian – Bessie Kezos
Auditor – Dianna Thongsavanh

Additional Booster positions and their volunteers (or vacancies) are as follows:

Tournament Staff:

Tournament Chair – Lori Aguirre Tournament@savannaband.com
Assistant Chair – Vacant
Volunteer Coordinator – Vacant
Food Purchase Coordinator – Lisa Bostic
Judges/Director's Hospitality – Vacant
Program Layout – Vacant

Fall Field Show Staff:

Transportation/Equipment – Vacant
Volunteer/Chaperone Coordinator – Sandy Reeley
Student Supplies/Services – Mary Hoquin
Bench Covering – Gina Climer

Other important jobs:

Assistant to Ways and Means – Lori Aguirre
Assistant to Ways and Means – Vacant
Communications Secretary – Vacant
Newsletter – Bill Ramm
Band Representative – Vacant
Colorguard Representative – Bessie Kezos
Historian – Vacant
Travel Coordinator – Gina Climer
Hospitality – Gina Climer

You will notice a lot of vacancies, and some duplicated names – we surely have a spot for you! Drop us a note if you have any questions or would like to be more involved! Whether it is taking a job or assisting, we always have room for one more!

THE Tournament

Yes, THE Tournament is the biggest event of the year. It requires all the students to work at it, and we need every parent, family member, alumni, friend, volunteer organization, and more to pull it off – this means all of us!

The date is Saturday November 17th. Set it aside.

The tournament is where we host bands all day long as they perform their field shows in front of a set of judges. This year will be the 31st annual event and again held at Glover Field. As it is held on the last “official” weekend of the season, it is always full – last year we had 45 bands performing from 8am until 9:30pm. It is quite a day. That involves over 5,000 performers and 10,000 spectators in two sessions. All those people need tickets, food, and more! That is where we come in.

On that day there are shifts starting at 6AM, and ending at midnight. There is also set up work on the Friday, and clean up on Sunday. Shifts are 6 hours long, but many of us work more than one shift (and it really helps). We cook food, take tickets, stripe the field, feed the judges, clean up trash, direct traffic, monitor gates, direct bands, and much much more. Sign ups begin at the first parent meeting, and continue throughout the fall. Sign up early and get your favorite spot.

Another aspect of the tournament is the souvenir Program which carries photos and info on all the performing bands – as well as various advertisements. These ads range from credit card size to full pages costing from \$25 to \$300 and come from local and other businesses, but also friends and family sending words of encouragement. An important part of this is that students that bring in such advertisements from businesses get ½ of the price credited to their account (so, if the student brings in a half page ad costing \$100 from a local car dealer, for example, \$50 goes to the band and \$50 goes to the student account). In addition sponsorships are also available.

For more information, send a note to tournament@savannaband.com for a copy of the latest advertising / sponsorship form (note, you can download if from the website too).

What do you need to know?

- HELP! November 17th is a day we need EVERYONE to be available to work at least one 6 hour shift.
- Student Accounts: There are two ways to earn money for the student account at this event.
 - Participation Credit: At the end of the year, students get a participation credit of \$75 for having an adult work 3 of 4 key events – the tournament is a mandatory event for this credit.
 - Tournament Advertising: Sign up a local business (or family member) for an ad or a tournament sponsorship, and the student receives part of the fee credited to their account. Ad/Sponsorship forms are available from online, by request, or at our parent meetings.

Coming up

Dates and notes to put on your calendar now to remember:

- August 14th: Booster Board Meeting
- August 20th: Band Camp Starts – 9AM at Savanna Band Room
- August 20th: Parent / Booster Meeting – 7PM at Savanna Auditorium
- August 30th: Fall Preview Dinner and Show
- September 6th: First Day of School
- September 6th: First Performance – Home Football Game at Glover Stadium
- September 10th: Booster Board Meeting
- September 13th: Parent / Booster Meeting
- September 22nd: Car Wash Fundraiser
- October 6th: Kennedy Field Tournament
- October 12th: Home Football Game (Homecoming) at Glover Stadium
- October 18th: Home Football Game at Glover Stadium
- October 20-21: Road Trip – Royal HS Field Tournament / Magic Mountain
- October 25th: Home Football Game at Glover Stadium
- November 17th: Savanna Field Tournament!

Remember – get the latest calendar from the website www.savannaband.com which includes all the rehearsal times, the year (as we know it now) and more specifics.

General rehearsal schedule:

Note: The ending time is when students are dismissed from the field. It can take 10-20 additional minutes for the students to walk in and put their equipment away properly.

Mondays – 3: 00 – 4:30pm (pick up ~4:45)

Tuesdays - 3:30-7:30pm (pick up ~7:45)

Wednesdays – OFF

Thursdays – 3:00-6:00pm (pick up ~6:15)

Fridays – 3:00 – 6:00pm (pick up ~6:15)

LOOK FOR THE NEXT EDITION WITH MORE INFORMATION ON BAND CAMP, MORE 2007 HIGHLIGHTS, AS WELL AS BOOSTER CAPITAL INVESTMENTS AND DONATIONS THAT ARE SHOWING UP NOW!

If you know someone that should be getting this newsletter and did not (student ready to go into band or Colorguard) contact the office via phone or email right away.

In addition, there are lot of family and friends that would like to keep abreast of the latest info and events in the band – grandparents, aunts/uncles, or friends – a \$5 booster membership will get them a years worth of newsletters – sign them up today by asking for a membership form at our parent meeting or email boosters@savannaband.com

Welcome to the first edition of the 2007-2008 school year Savanna Band and Colorguard Newsletter. You are getting this for one of several reasons – you are a parent/guardian of a Savanna Band or Colorguard member, you are a recent alumni, you are a booster, or you are just a friend of the group. In any case – we hope you will take a few moments to read through this very important document with information about:

Band Camp August 20-30

Fall Preview Dinner August 30

Parent Meetings August 20 and September 13

Participation Fees

Chaperone Requirements

And well, a lot more – so open up and read it today!

Anaheim Union High School District
Savanna High School – Band and Pageantry
310 N. Gilbert St
Anaheim, CA 92801

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DATED MATERIAL

To the Parent/Guardian of:

ADDRESS UPDATES REQUESTED