this type face is called Staccato!

...Cleff Notes...mid winter 2006

the "official" Newsletter of the Sycamore Music Boosters

Inside this edition;

- Thank you from Jenny Thornton,
- Thank you to Jenny Thornton and Donna Slemp,
- Calendar with disclaimer,
- All-State Music Students,
- Stock tips.

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.....but first the rest of the story. I know most of you were wondering what happened to the December newsletter. Waiting and watching, asking the other boosters if they had received theirs, wondering if you had been dropped from the sacred mailing list. Fearing your child had been kicked out of the band and this was the cruel way to inform you. Well it was none of those things they were lost in the mail. They were sent on some strange journey from Sycamore to Carol Stream then on the Palatine eventually ending up in Kuala Lampur where some adept postal worker decided they were in the wrong continent and returned them to the USA and they eventually wound up in the School Board office. They say they are sorry but we should really know better than to mail anything during the busy Christmas season. We're sorry too, out of our hands and all that but those of you who received a December newsletter, there were 6 delivered, might consider listing them on Ebay.

The really important thing you missed is the following printed in its entirety.

Thank you!!! You did it again! Thank you music student parents for all the fantastic help for the Craft Show in October. The first year in the Field house and concessions went smoother than a lot of us thought it would go. Thanks for your patience and effort thru the transition of facilities-we'll go for even smoother next year.

The following "behind the scenes" folks involved: our Sycamore High School Principal Mark Thurwanger and staff, Athletics Director Tim Carlson and staff, the custodial staff, the cafeteria staff, Kirk Lundbeck who graciously let us borrow 2 golf carts for shuttling, Dan Brown who donated the beautiful pie boxes for our wonderful pies, and last but not least our illustrious music staff who worked not only during the week-end but a number of them worked on organizing the special treat of student performances on Saturday. Many Thanks.

Some "not so behind the scenes" music advocates that need to be thanked are Scott Blunk, Lisa Pluhm and Caleb Pluhm who did such a fine job selling the whole pies on Saturday. Scott is the same funny guy who puts this newsletter together-I made him promise to leave this paragraph in. IGNORE THIS LAST PART!

Thank you Jean Evans and Marianne Vogel for running the concessions! They did a great job in very tight quarters.

Donna and I are both looking to find replacements for our positions. We would like to train someone for each of the jobs next year and those folks would take over in 2007. They both have been paid position for a long time and if you are interested come to the next booster meeting to find out more. Our meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. in the High School library (usually). Thanks Again.

Jenny Thornton
General Manager, Sycamore Music Boosters Antique, Craft and Flea Market

Now our thanks to Jenny, her peeps, her family, her patience. Our thanks to Donna, her peeps her family, her vendors. This issue of the Sycamore Music Boosters "official" Newsletter is dedicated to you. This is the best we could come up with. Money is tight; did you see the wish list from the last Boosters meeting?

RESPECT

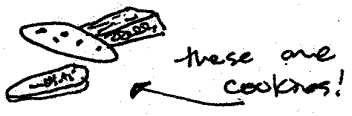
The SHS Treble Choir sang at the NIU Women's Choir Day Festival on Feb 8th. This non-competitive festival gives the choirs an opportunity to sing for three university choral conductors and nine other high school women's choirs. Each group is then critiqued and the students are able to hear all the comments making this a powerful learning experience.

Calendar thru April

Feb. 13	MS Winter Orchestra	HS Aud
Feb. 21	SPC Band Festival	
Feb. 25	MS Solo/Ensemble Contest	MS
Feb. 25	U of I String Consortium	U of I
Mar. 2&3	Allerton Band Symposium	U of I
Mar. 4	IHSA Solo/Ensemble-all groups	TBA
Mar. 11	Mundelein Jazz Fest	Mundelein
Mar. 17,18,19	School Play	HS Aud
Mar. 21	HS Band Concert	HS Aud
Mar. 22	NIU Orchestra Day	NIU
Mar. 27	HS Orchestra/Choir Concert	HS Aud
Mar. 30	South Elementary Sing	HS Aud
Mar. 31 & Apr. 1	IHSA Organizational-all groups	TBA
Apr. 3	West Elementary Sing	HS Aud
Apr. 4	North Elementary Sing	HS Aud
Apr. 6	South Prairie Elementary Sing	HS Aud
Apr. 7??	Orchestra/Choir Tour	TBA
Apr. 21&22	Allerton Symposium	U of I
Apr. 24	Jazz Nite-Jazz Band and Choir	HS Aud
Apr. 27	Middle School Fine Arts Festival	MS

Calendar disclaimer: the information contained in this calendar was compiled about 5 years ago in a dark janitor's closet somewhere near the HS Aud. The calendar, like the shifting sands at the sea shore is constantly changing, being revised, scratched out, has arrows drawn, highlighted, initialed, circles, explanations and other illegible notes. Use it as a guide and not a gospel. And I have no idea where TBA is.

There are a lot of great things going on in our music community; more instruments being purchased for the schools, more scholarships being awarded get involved with your kids music education get involved with the Music Boosters. Next meeting, 6 p.m. February 16th, in the HS Lib, unless they move it. There have been cookies at the last 4 meetings.



take advantage of it!

Now on to the non gushy part of the newsletter, the hard hitting stories.

Summer Music Camp Scholarships…Every year the Music Boosters award scholarships to music students attending summer music camps. The applications will be available through you music teachers after Feb. 10th. All applications are due back to Christine Lalowski by Apr. 15th. You may send them directly to her or return them to your child's music teacher. Music faculty members have lists of camps. Any questions call Christine at 895-9752 or email at brknaro6@aol.com

The Sycamore Middle School Solo/Ensemble festival will be held the morning of Feb. 25th. Our music students will be performing selections for judges and they will receive brief written critiques. If you have specific time preferences for your student's performance please let their teacher know as soon as possible.

All State Musicians/Choirs

All-State Orchestra; Quentin Scott, Violin, Gina Spinoso, Violin, Anna Bross, Viola, Jill Griffis, Cello.

Honors Orchestra, Hellen Weberpal, Cello-2nd Chair!

All-State Band, Alicia Waite, Flute.

Great Job!

Honors Band; Emily Bonkowski, Flute-3rd Chair, Patrick Untch, Clarinet

Honors Jazz Band, Mark Hirsch, Guitar.

All-State Choir, Keith Lang, Tenor

Honors Choir, Ryan Ferguson, Bass.

Congratulations to all these students on an outstanding weekend at the State Music Convention. Once again Sycamore High School has distinguished itself as having one of the outstanding music programs in the State.

2006 Best Communities for Music Education Survey is underway. For the seventh year NASMD and a coalition of other leading music education organizations are working to find the Best 100 Communities for Music Education in America. We could/should be on this list!!!

Here's how. Visit the American Music Conference web site www.amc-music.org you will find an online survey to submit information on behalf of our district. You can do this now through the first week in March. Get on this, survey early survey often. Let's let the rest of the country find out what we already know.

Check this out, it just takes a few minutes!