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October 2006

Issue 1

The Titan PTSA Newsletter

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All SMHS parents are invited and encouraged to attend the

PTSA Association Meeting
Wednesday, October 18, 2006
SMHS Career Center

10:45 a.m. Coffee; 11:00 a.m. Speaker and Meeting

Featured speaker will be
SMUSD Superintendent Jack Rose
Speaking on the "State of the SMUSD"

Loren Kleinrock, SMHS Principal will also speak

A brief question and answer session will follow each speaker

The meeting will include updates on SMHS Homecoming, SMHS Benefit, Grad Night, Athletics, Extracurricular Activities, and general comings and goings concerning our students

For further information regarding the PTSA meeting please contact PTSA President, Page Haralambos at pghara@pacbell.net

President's Message...



October Calendar

Welcome to the 1st Titan "newsletter" for 2006-2007!

I'm Page Haralambos, PTSA President for the 2006-2007 school year! I want to welcome you all

**October 2**

- Make Up Picture Day

October 4

- PTSA Elected Officers Meeting

October 5

- School Site Council Meeting

October 6

- Senior Coffee & Conversation
- Student of the Month Lunch
- Night Float Building Begins

October 7

- Coronation

October 9 - 13

- Homecoming Week

October 10

- Band Pictures
- Tong Dang Restaurant Fundraiser

October 11

- Speech Showcase

October 13

- Homecoming Parade
- Homecoming Football Game

October 14

- SAT and Subject Tests

October 16

- Yosemite Sign ups begin

October 17

- AFS Information Meeting

October 18

- PSAT
- Late Start for Non PSAT Test Takers

- PTSA Association Meeting

October 22 - 27

- Red Ribbon Week

October 23

- Red Cross Blood Drive

October 26 - 29

- Fall Play

October 28

- Parent Party
- ACT test date

to SMHS. By now hopefully your student(s) has settled into his or her new schedule(s). If you took advantage of Back to School night, then you have met your student's teacher(s) and know how to contact them for conferences or questions. SMHS is a very exciting place to be and I assure you this year will fly by!

I would also like to invite you all to our next PTSA meeting on October 18th at 10:45 am in the College and Career center. We have a late meeting that day due to a late start for all non-PSAT test takers. Jack Rose, SMUSD Superintendent, will be our guest speaker.

Homecoming is just around the corner! ASB's theme this year is "Bringing Titans Back ... Is IT in you?" Come watch the homecoming parade march down Huntington Drive. The parade starts at Kenilworth and Huntington Dr. at 3:15 and goes down to Bedford where it turns around and ends up back at SMHS. The day will end with the Varsity Football game v. Blair, the presentation of the Homecoming Court and half time festivities.

Our benefit this year, "Viva Las Vegas", will be held on October 28th at a private club in Pasadena. Please come and enjoy an evening out and get reacquainted with other SMHS parents. This promises to be a really fun evening. The co-chairs, Sidney Barney-Pysher and Valerie Casey have planned an action packed evening for all of us. There will be gambling available for those interested, and Elvis for all the rest! Please come out and support this benefit!

Please come out and support your kids whether it is at a sporting event, a choral or band concert, a drama or dance performance or a speech competition. Remember, these are your last years to see what your child has accomplished after 13 or so years of schooling! Don't be shy!

TITAN THANK YOU'S

Thanks to **Sally De Witt** and her registration committee: **Dru Crouch and Pam Osgood**. These volunteers worked so hard over the summer to make the registration process run smooth and easily. I think all concerned would say the registration process was the smoothest ever!

Thanks also to **Leona Valone and Janice Conzonire** and her volunteers for bringing in baked goodies for the teachers for the whole first week of

Quick Links...

- [San Marino High School](#)
- [San Marino Unified School District](#)
- [San Marino High School Calendar](#)

Join our mailing list!

school.

The teachers also had a treat the 2nd week of school when our trusty team, **Kathy Ramirez, Betsy Felix, Mary Trawick and Sandy Dimkich** provided a beautiful catered lunch to welcome the teachers back from our short summer break. This was the 1st of three lunches that PTSA will provide for the teachers thanks to all your wonderful donations through the 1st day packets.

Valerie Weiss has been and still is working on the calendar for the year. I can't thank her enough for all the hours she has spent inputting, then changing, then changing again many, many dates! For this reason, please be sure to check the high school's website calendar link to keep up to date on all school and athletic events.

(www.sanmarinohs.org)

I am really looking forward to this school year. If you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact me at: pghara@pacbell.net.

Principal's Message...

San Marino High School's recent selection as a 2006 No Child Left Behind - Blue Ribbon School award winner is further confirmation of the quality of the overall educational program offered to students. This is perhaps the highest national recognition that can be earned by a school. Although some schools receive this award by demonstrating relatively high achievement with a school population that includes a high percentage of economically disadvantaged students, a smaller group of schools is selected based on absolute academic performance. SMHS is part of this latter group.

To be nominated for a Blue Ribbon award as a representative from California, a school must first be designated a California Distinguished School. Additionally, schools must demonstrate student achievement in at least the 90th percentile in both English/language arts and math. Schools must also meet Academic Performance Index (API) growth targets. The proficiency rate for students on the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE) was a major factor in determining which schools ultimately were nominated by the state. The overall student score and the scores of all

significant subgroups on the state standards tests must meet state proficiency targets. At least 95% of the students must take the standards tests, and schools must demonstrate a high graduation rate. Additionally, we were required to submit an application that described the overall school program, including: a description of the community; assessment results and how they are analyzed, communicated, and shared; curriculum and instructional practices; and professional development strategies.

Although the school's recognition is not a surprise, it should be celebrated as a major accomplishment. Because we are so used to success, we sometimes take accomplishments in stride, but the reality is that there is a small percentage of schools in the country that receive this recognition, and we should be very proud of our selection. The formula for our success is no secret. Parents and the community hold high expectations and support the school with the resources necessary to allow our students to excel. A highly qualified, capable, and dedicated staff provides students with the knowledge and experience that allow students to be challenged and grow. Our students work hard to take advantage of these opportunities and to prepare themselves to live productive lives.

I congratulate you all, and I am excited to share this news with you. We believe that SMHS offers a top quality education to our students, but it is gratifying to have this belief validated by the state and federal governments who have awarded us this Blue Ribbon distinction.

Respectfully,

Loren Kleinrock

Come to Viva Las Vegas!

Come to
Viva Las Vegas!
A Benefit to Support Our Students

Saturday, October 28, 2006

Cocktails and Entertainment Begin
at 6:00 pm

Dinner and Live Auction to Follow

Dinner * Auction * Entertainment

Cocktail Attire

Share an enjoyable evening with other SMHS parents in a lovely setting at a private club in Pasadena.

Exciting live auction items that you can bid on only if you're there! They will include:

- vacation destinations
- fine dining experiences
- party packages
- special sporting event package
- coveted SMHS privileges for your family and your student

A FUN Las Vegas style experience with entertainment galore!

- Las Vegas style dinner show
- our own casino, featuring assorted gaming fun
- tunes from the "Rat Pack" hey-day of old Las Vegas
- rumored return of Elvis for the occasion

Cash in your gaming chips for a chance to win **great raffle prizes**

- many valued at \$500 or more
- includes a trip for two to fabulous Las Vegas, Nevada!
- participants must be present

Join in the excitement to see who is the lucky winner of the **52-Card Opportunity Drawing** to win a \$2,500 gift certificate to Asanti FineJewelers. It could be YOU!

Don't worry about what to wear!

- Shed your jeans for the night, but the sky's the limit beyond that
- Dress like you would if you were going out to dinner on a Saturday night or spice it up a little if you want.
- Jackets and ties are not required for men.

SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS! The more people

who attend, the more goes to the bottom line!

Everyone should have received an invitation in the mail

Seating is limited. RSVP early. RSVP due no later than October 14.

ASB Fundraisers



There are two upcoming fundraisers sponsored by the SMHS ASB. Please come out and support these kids, they are working their hearts out!

Little Bangkok Fundraiser – from 3:00 til 11:00 pm on September 28th

TongDang Fundraiser – all day October 10th

From the Counseling Office...



The California High School Exit Exam: Juniors and Seniors who have not passed one or both sections of the CAHSEE will have their first testing opportunity on November 7 & 8. Those students will be notified about testing. Seniors will have their second testing opportunity on two consecutive Saturdays, December 2 and 9. ALL Sophomores, plus any Juniors and Seniors still in need of a final test opportunity, will take the exam on March 20 and 21, 2007. Parents of Sophomores, with this advance notice, please take care not to schedule trips, doctor/dentist appointments, or excuses of any kind on March 20 and 21. Sophomores have only one testing opportunity in this school year. **NO HIGH SCHOOL IN THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA MAY AWARD A DIPLOMA TO STUDENTS WHO HAVE NOT PASSED BOTH SECTIONS OF THE CAHSEE.**

It's Senior Year! : Seniors are about to become very busy with college applications. Please be cognizant of application deadlines for applications, athletics, housing, and financial aid. We had a wonderful turnout for the September 18 Kick-Off to College – Information Night. Now, watch for the beginning of online applications for the UC and the CSU on October 1 (ends November 30), and the Financial Aid Nights on November 8 and January 6. These information sessions are conducted by David Levy, Director of Financial Aid at CalTech. Plan to attend both sessions if you are applying for financial aid. The meetings are both scheduled jointly with South Pasadena HS and will be held in their auditorium at 7:00 pm.

Best Advice I've Heard Lately: Quote from Thodore Pak, 2005 All-USA High School Academic Team, 2006 Harvard Sophomore: "Enjoy yourself. Don't turn high school into a contest; don't sacrifice your real passions and ambitions for the sake of the college admissions process, because once you get into college, those passions and ambitions are what you are going to rely on to define your college experience. You don't want to stifle your desires in your last years of high school. And you shouldn't try to fit into some mold that you think College X really likes. Be what you want to be, and you will go where you will really fit in and enjoy yourself. Yes, enjoy yourself!"

Wall of Fame

Add your family's legacy to the San Marino High School Wall of Fame. Buy a personalized brick to be mounted on the south wall of the math and science building. Many are already on display! Go check it out! Personalized bricks make terrific gifts. Click on sanmarinohs.org to download the order form. You'll find the form on SMHS website under "Fundraiser".

Support Viva Las Vegas!

**Support
Viva Las Vegas!**

**PTSA 2006 BENEFIT
OUR ONLY ALL-SCHOOL FUNDRAISER**

Be a Supporter even if you can't attend!

Donate to the Patron Drive

Become a patron supporter of the Benefit by making a tax-deductible donation. Donors will be recognized in the program and school publications. Simply designate your level of support on the on the RSVP card or on the form included in The Titan.

Donate to the Paddle Raise

Parents attending the Benefit will be invited to "raise their paddles" to support "Viva Los Titans," the broad array of co-curricular programs that round out the Titan experience for our students. Proceeds will fund grants to:

- athletics
- band
- choral music
- dance
- drama
- orchestra
- speech and debate

Parents who are unable to attend may support the Paddle Raise by indicating their tax-deductible donation on the RSVP card.

Participate in the 52-Card Opportunity Drawing

Reserve a card for the "52 Card Draw" opportunity to win a \$2,500 gift certificate to Asanti Fine Jewelers! Only 52 cards will be sold. Reservations will be honored in the order in which they are received. Draw your reserved card at the Benefit. If you are not attending, a card will be randomly drawn for you. Winner need not be present.

Thank you for your support of our students and school!

Sidney Barney-Pysher & Valerie Casey
Benefit Co-Chairs

P.S. Please send in your RSVP card early, whether or not you can attend!

A BENEFIT TO SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS "Viva Las Vegas" PATRON DONATIONS

Patron donations benefit EVERY student at SMHS, and are a great way to support the Benefit – whether or not you are able to attend the high-rolling evening!

Our goal is 100% participation from every SMHS family. Donors will be recognized in the program and school publications.

Support at any level is welcomed!

Slots Player - \$25 - \$49
Pit Boss - \$50 - \$99
Card Shark - \$100 - \$249
Jackpot Winner - \$250 - \$499
High Roller - \$500 or more

Please mail your completed Patron Donation Form along with your payment to Jane Brunette, 2544 Oak Knoll Ave., San Marino, CA 91108. In case of credit card payments, the form may be faxed to Jane Brunette at 626-282-9947. Please contact Jane Brunette at 626-282-4088 or jbrunette@socal.rr.com for additional information.

THE PTSA AND OUR CHILDREN THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

[Parent Party Patron Donation Form...](#)

PTSA Recycling Program



Please help the San Marino PTSA raise money by recycling the empty inkjet cartridges, laser jet cartridges, facsimile cartridges, copying cartridges, used cell phones, laptop with its power unit and / or accessories, PDAs (such as Palm Pilot), and Ipods with its accessories.

You can turn in the items to either the APO, or College & Career Center. Also, there will be prepaid postage (brown) bags that you can store at home - this is at no cost to you. Please make sure that you have 2 or 3 empty inkjet cartridges or used cell phones before sending out the items in the mail."

Membership Update

Registration at San Marino High School went very smoothly this year. As usual the credit for such efficiency goes to the behind the scenes work of many people. **Pam Osgood** did a great job of rounding up everyone's flyers in time for the July 10 packet stuffing. **Christine Morris** not only helped stuff but also was instrumental in getting the _ pound envelopes to the post office. **Dru Crouch** did a fabulous job of rounding up people to help with all phases of the process ... stuffing, unstuffing and facing the hordes of students on August 28.

The following volunteers gave up part of their summer or the last day of their summer vacation to help: **Susie Aguirre, Fiona Harwich, Andrea Paul, Earlene Cheung, Avery Barth, Clare Binley, Carlye Cordner, Carol Blauvelt, Cindy Wenzlau, Valerie Weiss, Shelly Lennox, Denise Cervenka, Deanna Converse, Lisa Link, Lydia Rubin, Janet Morgan, Kathy Cunningham, Lorrie Forgatch, Liz Yu, Lucy Mao, Julie Barbour, Margrith Jaeggi, Patti Mashikian, Pegine Grayson, Sandy Dimkich, Jennifer Streit, Sheryl Yortsos, Julie Wofford, Bonnie Tamkin, Vanessa Koo, Susan Birmingham, Hilda Tsang, Jane Brunette, Linda Yeager, Yan Lin and Georgene Smith.**

And a special thanks goes to **Lois McKeown** and **Page Haralambos** for sharing their previous registration experience and for braving the onslaught of over 100 students who were at last bringing in their registration paperwork on August 28.

As to the numbers, over 1100 students got their ID photo taken, received their class schedule and picked up their books on August 28. There are now 748 Parent members of PTSA and 724 Student members of PTSA. We currently have one Teacher member of PTSA and will be encouraging all

teachers to join our ranks.

PTSA membership cards are available on request. Please contact me at sgdewitt@sbcglobal.net or at 626-449-5194 if you are interested. They can be valuable for discounts at some stores such as Apple.

Respectfully submitted,
Sally De Witt, PTSA 2nd VP, Membership

11th Grade Concession Stand



Our 11th grade concession stand is on to a great start!

We already had two home games on September 8 and the 15th. The Junior Class cabinet is doing a really terrific job of organizing the concession stand to be a fabulous fundraiser. Our numbers are really great so far from the first two games. We changed a lot of the items on the menu and prices to help make the booth more productive. We added new items like: gourmet coffee, delicious rich hot chocolate, blended mocha drinks and fresh blended fruit drinks all donated by our terrific Titian family, "Caffe D' Amore" (Jennifer and Kristin Maldonado and family).

We also added home made Sloppy Joes. Each games we have decided to try new and different products and see how they sell. For example the first game we added variety types of ice creams and taquitos to our menu. The second games we added home baked cookies and sweet corn on the cob. Please come visit our booth at our next home game on October 6 to see what new surprises we have added.

Most important come support our students in their hard work and efforts by purchasing some yummy items to enjoy the game.

If you are interested in donating your time or items for our fundraiser booth please contact Chairman, Jacqueline Goodman at jtgoodman@aol.com or call 626-578-1815.

Viva Las Vegas!
2006 SMHS PTSA Benefit
52-Card Opportunity Drawing
For
A \$2,500 Gift Certificate
To



ASANTI
FINE JEWELLERS

Only 52 cards are available, based on the order in which reservations are received.
Randomly draw your reserved card at the Benefit. If you are not attending, a card will be randomly drawn for you.

Winner need not be present.

Reserve your card(s) at \$100 each on your RSVP

District Emails Have Graduated!

We have recently updated the e-newsletter database to reflect students graduating to the next grade level. If you feel you have not been accurately updated, please scroll down to the bottom of any school or district email and click on "Update Your Profile". If you click on "Unsubscribe" thinking you are removing yourself from just one school or interest group, you are actually permanently removing yourself from the entire system district-wide. If you accidentally permanently removed yourself from our system, you may resubscribe at any time.

If you would prefer not to ever receive anymore emails from any of the schools in SMUSD, you may un-subscribe by clicking on the "Unsubscribe" link at the bottom of any email. This will permanently remove you from the entire database.

Community Forum...

Upcoming Huntington Middle School Events



9/29: 6th Grade Dance 6:00 – 8:00 pm
10/6: 7th & 8th Grade Dance 6:00 – 8:00 pm
10/9 – 10/13: 6th Grade Wonder Valley Trip
10/17: PTA Assoc Mtg 8:45 am
10/28: Hauntington Breakfast 8:00 – 11:00 am

Chinese Club of San Marino...Mid-Autumn Festival



September 18, 2006

Dear Members, Neighbors, and Friends,

Chinese Club of San Marino has many wonderful activities and events throughout the year, but the biggest event of all is the Mid-Autumn Festival dinner.

The **Mid-Autumn Festival** or **Moon Festival**, is a traditional Chinese holiday falling on the 15th day of the 8th month of the lunar calendar. On this day the moon is at the year's fullest, roundest and brightest, it symbolizes family unity and harmony.

As a Chinese tradition, friends gather together to celebrate on this day. This is the second most important holiday other than the Chinese Lunar New Year. Chinese Club of San Marino hopes to celebrate with members of our community. I am proud to announce the 2006 Mid-Autumn Festival Gala. This fabulous event will be held on November 4, 2006, Saturday, 6:30 PM at the San Gabriel Hilton Hotel, 225 West Valley Blvd, San Gabriel, CA 91776.

Our Director and MAF Chairman, Steven W. Huang, has prepared many exciting programs for your entertainment. The theme for the dinner is "Tai Chi: The In and Young" which will showcase the

talents of our community. It will be a fun-filled event with live band music for dancing and raffle drawing of many wonderful prizes.

Should you have any question regarding tickets and sponsorships, please contact Steven W. Huang at (626) 308-1808 or Chinese Club Administrator Joanne Cheng at (626) 796-8636.

Thank you for your continuous support. Hope to see you all at the Mid-Autumn Festival dinner!

Sincerely yours,

Stephen Lee
President
Chinese Club of San Marino

**Chinese Club of San Marino is a IRS 501(C)(3) non-profit organization. Federal EIN #95-4055808.

[Mid-Autumn Festival Flyer...](#)

Note From the Editor...

In an effort to save money, time, and paper, your Titan PTSA Newsletter will now be delivered directly to you via e-mail.

If you would like to submit an article for publication, e-mail your submission to jdundas@pacbell.net, preferably in Microsoft Word or Excel format.

Questions? Contact Marian Dundas at jdundas@pacbell.net.

email: hsptsa@san-marino.k12.ca.us
phone: 626-299-7020
web: <http://henry.san-marino.k12.ca.us/~smhs/>

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