



September 2009

# VOICES

A newsletter from DGS Choral Boosters

## A Note from the President...

Welcome back! I know most of us don't like to hear that in the fall. If you're like me, you dread going back to all the commitments the school year brings. Yet there is comfort in routine, seeing friends again, and starting a new school year with many exciting events to come. We will hit the ground running this year with preparations already underway for our fundraisers, fall concerts, and our trip to New York in February.

Our first choral event for the school year will be "*Meet the Choirs*" on Monday, September 14. The evening's presentation will give parents an in-depth look at the DGS Choral program. You will hear of the many opportunities students have within the program and have a chance to ask questions of staff & the board. All parents are welcome.

There are currently 83 students registered to attend the choir trip to New York City in February. In addition to performing, they will be able to experience an opera, a Broadway show, Ellis Island, and Ground Zero. What a great opportunity for our students!

This year the Choral Boosters will be initiating a membership fee of \$20.00 per family. As a service organization, our goal is to help provide funding for many of the events throughout the school year –

costumes, choreographers, clinicians, field trips, special events, etc. Parent involvement is crucial in growing our organization and supporting the directors.

There are many opportunities to get involved. Whether you volunteer once or several times throughout the year, it's a great way to stay connected with your son or daughter and get to know other parents. Our Choral Booster meetings are held on the second Monday of every month and we invite all parents to attend. I hope to meet each of you at some point. Please contact me or any other board member if you have questions or concerns. We are looking forward to a great school year.

*Sue Utesch*

President, DGS Choral Boosters

## ♪ 2009 Event Dates ♪

September 8..... NYC Trip Meeting  
September 14 ..... Meet the Choirs Night  
September 28-29...Homecoming Show Tech  
September 30 .....Homecoming Show

## ♪ You've Got Mail ♪

Feeling left out? Wondering how to keep up-to-date? Have you signed up for our mailing list, joined our facebook group or visited our website ([www.dgschoir.org](http://www.dgschoir.org)) yet? All of these are great ways to keep up with what is going on with the DGS Choirs.



We maintain several mailing lists to share information about each of the DGS Choirs, some with specific information targeted to certain groups (i.e., Concert Choir, Madrigals, Overtones, etc.) and others with general information that applies to everyone. The Choral Boosters and Directors rely on email to circulate a lot of important information. Please help us keep our database up to date by providing us with your e-mail address. It is simple to do just send your name, your students name, the choir(s) they are in and the e-mail address where you would like information to go to Carol Fendrick at [cfenddsonnenb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cfenddsonnenb@sbcglobal.net).

To join the facebook group go to [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com), go to groups and look for DGS Choral Boosters. This is an open invitation group.

## ♪ First Annual Choir Banquet ♪





The Choral Boosters had their First Annual Choir Banquet on May 17<sup>th</sup> with 187 guests, which was a great turn out. The dinner was held in the cafeteria which was transformed by tropical decorations. We designated a committee of two students and five adults to plan the events. The committee consisted of Nancy Janis, Kathy Schreck, Jane Zielinski, Debbie Stelling, Harlene Murry, Kathleen Murray, Maureen Space, Jen Dust and Natalie Zielinski. They were in charge of the coordination of the choir banquet and creating decorations. Thank you to all of the additional parent and student volunteers who baked and helped to make the first annual banquet a huge success on the day of the event.

The Italian food from Suparossa was fantastic and in great abundance but the attendees and special memorable moments made the choir banquet a success. The slideshow was created by Jane Zielinski with photos highlighting the London trip and all of the choir events. Each of the Choir Directors called their Choir group by name and the students stood in recognition of their talents. After all of the accolades to the students were mentioned an awards certificate, school letter and pins were presented to the students. This tradition will carry on and also the tradition of thanking our Choir directors. This year the students were asked to put together their thoughts about their choir experience, words of praise and well deserved thank you for the directors. Jen Dust and Natalie Zielinski coordinated the collection of emails and decorated thank you posters which were presented to each of the directors. Mrs. Coster, Mrs. Belt- Roselieb, Mr. Kowalis, and Mr. Hernandez were honored and touched by the recognition.

The Choral Boosters presented a framed musical poster and cast picture which will be hung in the Choir area and began a new tradition of presenting this gift to annually recognize our outstanding choir program. The Boosters presented floral bouquets to the directors for their never ending commitment to all of the students. Joy Roselieb and the group presented Margaret Buhtanic and Jane Zielinski with a collage of musical photos to thank them for years of work developing the Choir Booster group.

We are looking forward to an even bigger and better event this year with the help of our great volunteers and the participation of the students. If any students or parent would like to be involved in the planning of the banquet, your help is needed. There are lots of opportunities and great fun with the Hospitality Committee. Help is needed for every choir event from providing baked goods to serving refreshments. This is a great way to meet other parents and students. Please complete the volunteer form provided at the meet the choirs program or contact our volunteer coordinator Diane Richard at [dianegro7@aol.com](mailto:dianegro7@aol.com) to volunteer. Every parents help is needed to provide truly quality programs.

Nancy Rick- Janis, Kathy Schreck  
Co-Chairs V.P.Hospitality

# ♪ Carabas Fund Raiser ♪

Please take advantage of this fabulous opportunity to support your choir students and enjoy the delicious food at Carabas! Come as a family or put together a group of friends and neighbors for a great evening out.

**Saturday, Sept. 19**

**11:30 AM**

**\$20 per person**

(50% of the ticket price will go to the student's account)

Menu includes: Bread, Caesar Salad, Chicken Marsala, Penne Pomodoro,  
Sogno di Chocolata and a Non-Alcoholic Beverage  
*(seats are limited)*

## ♪ Membership is where it all begins ♪

**Support your choir student by joining the Choral Boosters. Membership forms are available in this Newsletter, so please fill it out and send it back to school.**

## ♪ 2009-2010 Choral Booster ♪ ♪ Executive Board ♪

| <b>Name</b>                     | <b>Position</b>              | <b>E-mail</b>                         |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Sue Utesch                      | President                    | chilipeppermom@gmail.com              |
| Carol Fendrick                  | Secretary                    | cfenddsonnenb@sbcglobal.net           |
| John Kohls                      | Treasurer                    | johnkohls@sbcglobal.net               |
| Bob Schreck                     | V.P. – Committee Liaison     | rschreck@mwe.com                      |
| Steve & Jan Junk                | V.P. - Communications        | stevengjunk@aol.com<br>jkjunk@aol.com |
| Debbie Stelling                 | V.P. - Fundraising           | debbiestelling@comcast.net            |
| Nancy Rick-Janis                | V.P. - Hospitality           | nancyjanis@netscape.net               |
| Kathy Schreck                   | V.P. - Hospitality           | rschreck@mwe.com                      |
| Liz O'Toole                     | V.P. – Membership            | lotjot@aol.com                        |
| Diane Richard<br>Cathy Beecroft | V.P. – Volunteer Coordinator | dianegr07@aol.com<br>rjbcmb@flast.net |

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## \$ Student Accounts \$

Parents don't forget your students can request money from their student account to be used for any approved choir related fees (private lessons, required ensemble apparel, camp, trips, etc.). All they need to do is to check their balance on the Student Account list posted in the Choir Room and complete a Student Account Refund Request Form. This form should be completed and deposited in the choir mailbox in the Choir Room. Requests approved by the appropriate Choir Director will be reviewed at the monthly Choral Boosters board meeting. Upon approval, a reimbursement shall be made and that amount shall be deducted from the Student Account balance.

## \$ Announcing DGS Choral Boosters Annual Gift Wrap/Gift Fundraiser \$

This is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year, supporting student accounts and the choral department. We are pleased to announce we have partnered with a new company this year. We chose **Market Day**, which is known for their quality and service.

With good participation we will earn up to **55% profit** on each item. So all orders are important. **75%** of the profit goes to **student accounts** and 25% goes to Choral Boosters to help with department needs. This year you may send e-mails to family and friends with links to an **on-line site** and they may order there. Their order can be shipped to school or their home. With on-line ordering you may **order all year**, however our profit percentage throughout the year is based on this initial sales drive.

Your student should now have received the Life:Styles sales brochure.

The sales dates are August 31<sup>st</sup> thru September 14<sup>th</sup>. **Orders are due September 14, 2009.**

## ♪ Choral Volunteer Opportunities ♪

Throughout the school year we will need many parent volunteers. Parent representatives are needed for each choir (Freshman Girls, Freshman Boys, Freshman Girls Select, Concert Choir, Chambers Singers, Overtones, Treble Choir, Treble Ensemble, A Cappella Choir and Madrigal Singers). We will also need volunteers to help provide baked goods, serve refreshments, chaperone, help out at choir performances etc. It is a great way to support the choir program and meet other parents.

Please look for sign up sheets at Meet the Choirs night on September 14 or feel free to call or email us.

Choir Volunteer Coordinators

Diane Richard  
630-960-1766  
[dianegr07@aol.com](mailto:dianegr07@aol.com)

Cathy Beecroft  
630-852-6118  
[rjbcmb@flash.net](mailto:rjbcmb@flash.net)

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## 🎵 Presenting the Choirs 🎵

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| <b>A Cappella Choir</b>      | Open to juniors and seniors, the most advanced choral class. Membership requires good vocal technique, part reading, and sight reading skills; students are selected by audition. A Cappella Choir performs choral literature representing a variety of musical styles and historic periods. Activities include evening concerts, programs for school and community events, choral festivals and the annual production of a Broadway musical. The organization rehearses daily and requires extra time commitments for special rehearsals and performances.   |
| <b>Chamber Singers</b>       | A volunteer choral ensemble open to members of Concert Choir and Freshmen Boys Choir. Membership is based upon audition. This group sings a wide variety of music ranging from show tunes to madrigals. This mixed ensemble performs at various community events and rehearses during a resource center opposite a lunch period. Auditions are held in the spring for the following school year.  |
| <b>Concert Choir</b>         | Open to sophomores, juniors and seniors who have good basic vocal abilities and part singing skills. Focuses on the development of ensemble singing, good tone quality, clarity of diction, and expressive singing. The choir studies music representing a variety of musical styles and periods. Participates in three evening performances, a spring show, and additional program, festivals, and concerts during the school day.   |
| <b>Freshmen Boys Choir</b>   | Open to all freshmen boys whether or not they have had previous vocal music experience. The class focuses on the development of basic singing skills, tone development, part singing, and reading music. Special attention will be given to challenges of the male voice during times of transition and voice part changes. Responsible for four evening concerts during the year. Additional performing opportunities will be provided during the school day   |
| <b>Freshmen Girls Choir</b>  | Open to all freshmen girls whether or not they have had previous vocal music experience. Class focuses on the development of basic singing skills, tone development, part singing, and music reading. Responsible for four evening concerts during the year. Additional performing opportunities will be provided during the school day.  |
| <b>Freshmen Girls Select</b> | A volunteer organization which meets outside the school day and is open to freshmen girls. Membership is based upon auditions held in the second month of school. Music performed is a variety ranging from chamber music to popular styles. Performances include school and community events. Concurrent membership in freshmen Girls Choir is required.   |
| <b>Madrigal Singers</b>      | A volunteer organization open to juniors and seniors who are members of A Cappella or Treble Choir. Membership is based on audition and willingness of students to commit to an active rehearsal and performance schedule. Group performs a wide variety of music ranging from Madrigals and Chamber music to various popular styles with a show choir format. Activities of this vocal ensemble include performances at many school and community events throughout the year. Rehearsals are scheduled during a resource center opposite a lunch period and some evenings; auditions are held in the spring for the coming year. Purchase of performance attire is required. |
| <b>Overtones</b>             | A volunteer organization open to boys currently enrolled in a choir class. The music performed is a variety with some choreography. Activities include school and community performances. Rehearsals are held outside the school day.   |
| <b>Music Theory</b>          | This course is offered for students who have a serious interest in music and want to improve their comprehension of music. Course objectives include study of the basic elements of music, notation, harmony, and analytical techniques with emphasis on ear training and sight-reading. Students use the Fine Arts Computer Lab two days per week for individualized music theory skills tutorials. Individualized projects focus on historical background, composition, and arranging. The first semester may be taken for 1/2 unit of credit.<br>This course is scheduled as an Early Bird class (7:00-7:50 A.M.). Transportation is not provided for this class.          |
| <b>Treble Choir</b>          | An advanced choral group for sophomore, junior, and senior girls. Students are placed in Treble Choir through audition. Choir works on refining choral techniques, improving sight reading skills, and developing independence in part singing. Class will study three or four part treble literature representing a variety of music styles and periods. Activities include four evening concerts, a spring show, programs and festivals during the school day, and selected solo/ensemble performance opportunities. The choir rehearses daily and requires some extra time commitments for special rehearsals and performances   |
| <b>Treble Ensemble</b>       | A volunteer organization open to members of the Treble Choir and A Cappella Choir. Membership is based upon audition. The music performed is a variety ranging from chamber music to popular styles. Activities include school and community performances. Rehearsals are scheduled during a resource period opposite a lunch period. Auditions are held in spring for the coming year.   |

# ♪ Save the Dates ♪

## 2009-2010 South High School Choir Calendar

*"Igniting a passion for the arts in every learner."*

| <b>Date</b>      | <b>Event</b>                 | <b>Time</b>            | <b>Place</b>          | <b>Ensemble</b>          |
|------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>September</b> |                              |                        |                       |                          |
| 8                | NYC Trip Meeting             | 7:00 PM                | Choir Room            | Parents and students     |
| 14               | Meet The Choirs Night        | 7:00 PM                | Choir Room            | Parents and students     |
| 28-29            | Homecoming Show Tech         | 6:30-9:00 PM           | Auditorium            | Select Students          |
| 30               | Homecoming Show              | 7:00 PM                | Auditorium            | Select Students          |
| <b>October</b>   |                              |                        |                       |                          |
| 1                | Homecoming Show              | 7:00 PM                | Auditorium            | Select Students          |
| 5                | Choir Boosters               | 7:00 PM                | B124                  | Parents                  |
| 5                | IMEA Choir Help Session      | 6-8 PM                 | Music Suite           | Select Students          |
| 12               | IMEA Choir Help Session      | 6-8 PM                 | Music Suite           | Select Students          |
| 13               | IMEA Auditions               | After School           | Hinsdale Central HS   | Select Students          |
| 19               | Freshmen Choir Mixer         | 3:30-6:00 PM           | Auditorium/Cafetorium | Freshmen Choirs          |
| 22*              | Fall Choir Concert           | 7:00 PM                | Auditorium            | DGS Choirs               |
| <b>November</b>  |                              |                        |                       |                          |
| 9                | Choral Boosters              | 7:00 PM                | B124                  | Parents                  |
| 13               | Middle School Choir Festival | 7:00 PM                | Auditorium            | OT, CS, TE, M            |
| 14               | IMEA Jazz Festival           | All Day                | TBA                   | SS                       |
| 21               | IMEA Festival                | All Day                | Lincoln-Way West      | SS                       |
| <b>December</b>  |                              |                        |                       |                          |
| 9*               | Holiday Concert Rehearsal    | Day: TBA               | Gymnasium             | Combined Choirs: All     |
| 10*              | Holiday Concert              | 7:00 PM                | Gymnasium             | DGS Choirs, Orch, WE, WS |
| 11*              | Holiday Concert Assemblies   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Period | Gymnasium             | DGS Choirs, Orch, WE, WS |
| 14               | Choral Boosters              | 7:00 PM                | B124                  | Parents                  |
| 18               | Jefferson JHS Performance    | TBA                    | Jefferson JHS         | Madrigal Singers         |
| 18               | CSO Performance              | TBA                    | Symphony Center       | Madrigal Singers         |
| <b>January</b>   |                              |                        |                       |                          |
| 11               | Choral Boosters              | 7:00 PM                | B124                  | Parents                  |
| 1/27-30          | IMEA All-State               | All Day                | Peoria, IL            | SS                       |
| <b>February</b>  |                              |                        |                       |                          |
| 8                | Choral Boosters              | 7:00 PM                | B124                  | Parents                  |
| 9                | Vocal Festival               | All Day                | Music Suite           | DGS Choirs               |
| 11               | NYC Rehearsal                | 7-8:30 PM              | B126                  | SS: Choir                |
| 16               | NYC Rehearsal                | 7-8:30 PM              | B126                  | SS: Choir                |
| 23*              | DGS Choirs "Bon Voyage"      | 7:00 PM                | Auditorium            | DGS Choirs               |

|            |   |                    |                            |                        |
|------------|---|--------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| 25-March 1 | Final Student/Parent Meeting<br>DGS Choirs/NYC Tour | 8:30 PM<br>All Day | Auditorium<br>New York, NY | SS: Choir<br>SS: Choir |
|------------|---|--------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|

### March

|    |                          |         |            |         |
|----|--------------------------|---------|------------|---------|
| 9  | D99 Honors Vocal Recital | 7:00 PM | Gloria Dei | SS      |
| 15 | Choral Boosters          | 7:00 PM | B124       | Parents |

### April

|        |                 |         |            |         |
|--------|-----------------|---------|------------|---------|
| 12     | Choral Boosters | 7:00 PM | B124       | Parents |
| 15-18* | Musical         | TBA     | Auditorium | AC, PO  |

### May

|        |                               |           |                       |                            |
|--------|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 10     | Choral Boosters               | 7:00 PM   | B124                  | Parents                    |
| 17*    | Choir Show Dress Rehearsal    | 6-9:00 PM | Auditorium            | FG, FB, CC, TC, FS, CS, TE |
| 20-21* | Choir Show                    | 7:00 PM   | Auditorium            | FG, FB, CC, TC, FS, CS, TE |
| 21*    | Choir Show for Sender Schools | Morning   | Auditorium            | FG, FB, CC, TC, FS, CS, TE |
| 23     | Choir Banquet                 | 1:00 PM   | Cafetorium/Auditorium | DGS Choirs                 |
| 27*    | Spring Concert                | 7:00 PM   | Auditorium            | AC, WE                     |
| 30     | Select Ensemble Concert       | 5:00 PM   | TBD                   | FS, CS, TE                 |

### June

|    |                          |         |            |          |
|----|--------------------------|---------|------------|----------|
| 2  | Madrigal Singers Concert | 7:00 PM | Auditorium | Madrigal |
| 4* | Graduation               | 5:00 PM | Stadium    | AC, WE   |

\*Required performance for the quarter grade

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| <p>AC = A Cappella Choir; TC= Treble Choir; CC= Concert Choir; CS = Chamber Singers; FB = Freshmen Boys Chorus; FG= Freshmen Girls Chorus; M = Madrigals; TE = Treble Ensemble; FS= Freshman Select; CS= Chamber Singers, PO = Pit Orchestra; SB = Symphonic Band; SS = Select Students; WE = Wind Ensemble</p> |
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♪ 2009 Spring Musical Cast: Anything Goes ♪

