

# Athens Band Boosters

Late February-March 2008

## Director's Message

Dear Band Families,

I'm enjoying my work with the high school and middle school bands, and hope you will join me in wishing Susan Climer success in her new position as assistant principal of Meigs High School. As many of you have noticed, Susan—as Emily's mom—is still an active part of our program, having worked at our Applebee's pancake breakfast and attended and supported our kids at solo/ensemble competition.

Please also welcome Tina Schlabach, who is assisting at the middle and high schools and has taken on primary responsibility for the elementary program. Tina already has done wonderful work with our woodwind and flute choirs and will be assuming more conducting duties with the bands as the year progresses. Please take a moment to introduce yourselves to her. You will quickly find she has the most important qualities needed for this job: energy, enthusiasm, a love of kids and music, great organizational skills, and a healthy sense of humor!

Though the New Year is young, already our band members and boosters have a number of fantastic accomplishments to make us all proud. Our pancake breakfast was a great success—thanks to all who worked, sold tickets, and attended the event. In January, Christina Wince, Doug Chiki, Conor Hartwick, Nick Graham, Nick Simko, Emily Climer and Maddison Matthey performed as members of the highly selective Ohio University Honor Band. Emily Climer was one of only two students from all of southeastern Ohio to win a seat in OMEA's All-State Band, which performed at the OMEA Professional Conference in Cincinnati in early February. Just this past weekend, nearly half our concert band participated in OMEA solo/ensemble competition, with EVERY participant earning at least one "Superior" rating (look for individual results elsewhere in this newsletter). Booster president Maryann Hartwick added new meaning to "hands-on leadership" by learning and performing the

piano accompaniments for most of our soloists. Jim and Tyler Carey (AHS band dad and member emeritus!) delivered and installed a handmade percussion equipment cabinet, free of charge; that will immediately improve our ability to store and maintain our equipment. I am so proud to be a part of the wonderful things that happen here on a daily basis, including our ninth-period band classes. It has been a real joy to see and hear our band members commit to the details and emotion that makes notes and rhythms into MUSIC!

Remember that all AHS Concert Band students will be participating in "Playathon" at AHS on Friday, February 22 from 6:45 till 10:15 p.m. Students will work in sectionals with OU music majors for an hour, play through the district contest program, and then work with Dr. John Climer in full rehearsal for the final hour. Dismissal time is dependent on how long we take to clear the stage (probably about 10:15). Thanks to strong fundraising efforts earlier in the year, "Playathon" is strictly about performance this year and does not include a fundraising component!

Much more is on the way—be sure to check the "Upcoming Events" bulletin elsewhere in the newsletter. I thank every parent and friend who supported our students at solo/ensemble and hope you will consider traveling to OMEA District Band Contest at Shawnee State on Friday, March 14 to applaud what is sure to be another exemplary performance by our high school concert band. For those participating in the NYC trip, we are only about a month away from departure. We will hold a trip orientation/information session in conjunction with our next Boosters meeting in the AHS Band Room at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 3—hope to see you there!

Sincerely,  
Sean Kelbley  
Director, AHS Bands

## SOLO/ENSEMBLE A GREAT SUCCESS

AHS Band members entered 26 events at the OMEA District 17 Solo/Ensemble Contest at Ohio University on Saturday, February 16. Bringing home 24 “Superior” and two “Excellent” ratings, AHS had the best results of any school in our seven-county district. Impressively, EVERY student who participated earned at least one “I”, as did all six of our ensembles. Special mention goes to freshman Annie Kruse, who achieved a “I” in four separate events.

Events rated “Superior” included Annie Kruse, piccolo and flute; Christina Wince, Liz Linn, Mary Hartwick, Karlyn Steadman, Emma Hauser and Maddie Fiocchi, flute; Andrea Pierson, clarinet; Doug Chiki, alto

sax; Conor Hartwick, Nick Graham and Nick Simko, trumpet; Ian Taylor, trombone; Jason Snoddy and Kyle Young, tuba; Turner Matthews, drum set and xylophone; and the Brass Choir, Clarinet Trio, Flute Choir, Woodwind Choir, Keyboard Trio and Percussion Ensemble. Brynnie deLange and Samantha Russell earned excellent ratings for their bassoon and clarinet solos. Congratulation and thanks to all participants for taking on this extra, voluntary challenge. We are very proud of your hard work and how well you represented our band program!

## Member Updates



***Maryann Hartwick sends a message:  
Please attend the band booster meeting March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm. See you there!***

### Upcoming events to check:

**Friday Feb 22<sup>nd</sup>: AHS Concert Band “play-a-thon”, AHS 6:45-10:15 pm (mandatory attendance)**

**Tuesday Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>: AMS Winter Concert, AMS Auditorium, 7:00 pm**

**Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>: NYC Trip Orientation Meeting followed by Band Boosters Meeting, AHS Band Room, 7:00 pm**

**Friday, March 14<sup>th</sup>: AHS Concert Band at OMEA District Contest, Riffe Performing Arts Center, Shawnee State University, Portsmouth (schedule to be determined— evening performance time likely)**

**March 24<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>: NYC Trip**