

REDWOOD POST

Volume 9, Issue 3

November 2008

Giving Thanks

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www.redwood.org

www.redwoodptsa.org

FROM THE DESK OF

Nancy Neu Principal

School is in full swing. Signs of its smooth running are evident in the benchmarks that make the year eventful and memorable for our community... The football, volleyball, golf, cross country, soccer, tennis, cheerleading and water polo teams compete and parents and fans support their achievements. The first edition of the Bark has been printed and distributed. The first drama production, Tom Paine, is in dress rehearsal while I am writing this. The art cases are filled with student work. The first major assignments have challenged and validated student learning. Parents have hosted senior and freshman get-togethers. Seniors and their parents have met with counselors to learn about the college applications process.

By now you have received the first progress report for your student. Take the time to celebrate your student's success. If you have concerns or questions, please make a call to your child's counselor or teacher. Don't wait until the problem gets bigger. When contacting a teacher, call and leave a message as to when and where the teacher can reach you during school hours. Calling home after hours is at the discretion of the teacher. Teachers and staff are available by appointments. Please realize that teachers are not available on an impromptu basis or during class time. Communication with your student and teachers is a necessary

support for student success. The Redwood website offers parents access to information about student attendance. In addition, some staff post grades and assignments on the website.

I encourage you to talk about class assignments and how things are going at school. Remember, the end of the semester will be here before we know it. To help ensure that students stay focused and are prepared for the rest of the semester, ask them about major assignments, monitor their progress and encourage diligent study. Excellence in education cannot be achieved without intellectual integrity, hard work and commitment. Although a few students may maintain high achievement without our involvement, most students need the support and guidance from the adults in their lives. Although a lot of investments are not a sure thing, this investment in your student will be returned.

Another way to support your student is through Student Nutrition Services. At each of our cafeterias, we offer a prepayment program. We utilize a computerized cash register system that stores information regarding the student's meal account. Parents can prepay money by cash or check into their student's account so when they access it at mealtime the money is drawn out just like a debit account. When students come to the cafeteria at meal times, they input their student identification number to access their accounts.

Continued on next page

From Nancy Neu, cont.

The benefits: by prepaying into your student's account you know that they are spending their money on campus and they are receiving nutritious meals and snacks. It also saves them time because lines are faster as no money changes hands, so they have more time for socializing and other activities. The register even lets you know when your account is running low. Students and parents can bring money to be deposited into the student's account during cafeteria hours, generally between 7 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. If you have questions, please call your campus cafeteria or the Student Nutrition Services Office at 945-3678.

Some students complain that the subjects they are required to learn have no immediate benefit to them. During times of national elec-

tions, I am always reminded how all the subject areas come into play. Whether it's understanding that the powers of persuasion can help to shape our opinions or having the background information to compare and contrast the propositions or the forces that shape our economy; what we learn helps us to cast a ballot. Students learn through modeling. As the election comes closer, I urge you to vote. Participation in our government is our responsibility. Modeling your interest and your involvement will help to ensure that what students learn in school will continue to serve them as they grow into adults.

As autumn continues and the days grow shorter, I hope that you will enjoy the season and that all of our students continue to learn about themselves and the world. ■

PTSA Executive Board

Susan Miltner, *President*

Marinda Lobo, *V.P., Education*

Susan Morrow, *V.P.,
Drug/Alcohol*

Tish Borden, *Treasurer*

Cammie Hinshaw, *Secretary*

Nora Kovach, *Parliamentarian*

Good at Keeping Track of Money?

Redwood PTSA has a vacancy for a volunteer to serve on the PTSA Executive Board as Auditor. The auditor attends Executive Board and PTSA meetings monthly and performs twice yearly audits. If you are interested, please contact Susan Miltner at president@redwoodptsa.org. The PTSA would greatly appreciate a wonderful Redwood parent with financial experience to help out! ■

FROM THE PTSA PRESIDENT

Dear Redwood Parents,

The PTSA has been brainstorming ways in which the website can be of greater use to parents. We hope to have a bulletin board up soon. This will be a page where parents can ask questions or post information that they think might be useful to other parents. We will also be adding pages to the website to make it more user friendly and informative. A giant thank you to Jeff Slavitz, our Webmaster extraordinaire. Please visit the website at www.redwoodptsa.org.

The freshman and senior parents had parent get togethers in October. A great time was had by all, and most importantly, parents were able to connect and share experiences. Mikel Naso and Mary Connolly were instrumental in facilitating the freshman event. Thank you to Bob and Pat Ravasio for graciously offering their home for this event. Sue Pearlstein, Patty Shimek and Elaine Bengle chaired the senior parent event. It was a wonderful opportunity for senior parents to touch base with each other. We are lucky to have such enthusiastic parent volunteers!

The November PTSA meeting on November 13 will be at 8:30 a.m. in Kreps Conference Center. Jason Barber will not be presenting to the parents at 8:30 as previously announced, but instead will be speaking to parents and students at an assembly in the gym at 9:25 a.m. Immediately following the assembly a parent discussion group will be held with Jason Barber in Kreps.

Sincerely,

Susan Miltner

President, Redwood PTSA ■

PTSA 08-09 Meeting Schedule

PTSA meetings are held on Thursday mornings at 8:30. Presenters speak at 9 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

November 13 – Kreps, 8:30

Jason Barber, *The Consequences of Drunk Driving*. Presentation to parents and students at 9:25 in the gym. Immediately following there will be a parent discussion with Barber in Kreps. Visit <http://www.itsnotanaccident.com>

No meeting in December

January 8 – Room 120

Nancy Westreich, School to Career Liaison, and Judy Wiesen, Camp Placement Specialist, *Summer Opportunities*.

Also Steve Hettleman, Chair of the English Department, *International Baccalaureate Programme*.

February 12 – Kreps

Psychiatrist Tim Cermak, *The Developing Adolescent Brain*

March 12 – Kreps

Psychologist Joanie Gillespie, *Cyber Bullying*

April 2 – Kreps

Twin Cities Police

May 14 – Room 120

End of Year Brunch

Parent Speaker Evening Event

March 26 – 7 p.m.

Denise Pope, Stanford Professor, *Stressed Out Students*.

To learn more, please visit <http://www.challengesuccess.org/>

National Merit Recognition

Redwood has recently received notification that three of our seniors, James Davoren, James Dopfel and Maxwell Turner, have been named National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists. Of the more than one million students who took the PSAT/NMSQT last October, less than one percent were named Semifinalists. Students selected as Semifinalists will continue in the program, applying for designation as Finalists and becoming eligible for Merit Scholarships.

The following students scored in the top 5% of all students nationally and have been named Commended Students in the National Merit Scholarship Program: Rachel Abrahams, Gwendolyn Burke, Lauren Cox, Matt Frederickson, Peter Kissin, Andrew Kreitzman, Nicole Leighton, Rosamond Lieberman, Erica London, Anders Miltner, Benjamin Natter, Caroline Nguyen, Eytan Shindelheim, Gabriel Schwartz, and Ari Sigal.

In addition, Matthew Cox received recognition as a National Achievement Scholar.

Congratulations to these exceptional seniors on their outstanding performances! ■

Parent Ed Event

“Drinking and Driving Is a Choice, Not an Accident”

Thursday, November 13, 8:00 a.m. and 9:25 a.m. – Gym

A presentation by Jason Barber. On November 13, Redwood students and their parents will have an opportunity to hear the tragic story that led Jason Barber to this conclusion. A scheduling change from the slate of events previously announced includes Barber starting off his morning at Redwood with two student assemblies, at 8 a.m. and 9:25 a.m.; parents are welcome to attend either assembly. Immediately following the second assembly, Barber will meet with parents in the Kreps Conference Center for discussion and questions. Barber will address parents as part of the Parent Education component of PTSA. (Everyone is encouraged to attend the regularly scheduled PTSA meeting at 8:30 a.m. in Kreps Conference Center.)

As a facilitator of drug and alcohol groups for at-risk youth in local high schools, Barber also led teen and parent outreach groups in the evenings, teaching parenting skills and communication techniques for better teen/parent relationships. He made an award-winning video that tells the story that changed his life forever. While Barber's remarks to students will focus on one alcohol-fueled accident, he will talk to parents about how the home environment impacts teen choices regarding alcohol abuse and drunk driving and what families can do to positively influence the decisions their children make.

For more information on Jason Barber's presentation, go to www.itsnotanaccident.com. ■

Redwood Foundation Kicks Off Annual Campaign

By now every Redwood parent should have received in the mail the 2008/09 Redwood Annual Campaign brochure. Thank you to those families who have already sent in their donations! Your donations will be put to immediate use supporting our fall grant requests. In addition to supporting academics, the arts, athletics and campus improvements, this year we plan to upgrade one of Redwood's two computer labs.



Although we are currently facing uncertain economic times, we know of no investment more secure than an investment in your child's high school education at Redwood. If you have not yet made a contribution, please read through the brochure, find the giving level that fits your budget, and return the remit envelope with your tax deductible donation. Our goal this year is 100% parent participation, so please make every effort to support the Annual Campaign this year, no matter what the giving level.

If you haven't received your brochure, please call us at 924-6793 or e-mail us at redwoodhsf@hotmail.com.

Thank You to Our First Donors!

Donations received as of October 13, 2008

Patron \$2,500+

Ace Printing & Mailing Services –
Rod & Matti Shoja

Major Donor \$1,500+

Eric & Sally Blatt
Steve & Martha Petrakis
Robert & Sharon Staley

Bill & Sue Talmage
John & Sheri Yu

Sponsor \$900+

Anonymous
Anonymous
Dale & Mary Bryan
Julio & Edna Cifuentes
Brian & Mariko Dunne
James Horan & Tara Sullivan
Kreitzberg Family Foundation
Eric Watterud
Christopher Wheaton & Molie Malone
Zec Family

Donor \$500+

Pete & Jacqui DeGregory
Jeffrey Kaufman
Elliot & Heidi Morshead
Maija Norstad
Terry Thomas

Contributor up to \$499

Anonymous
Bernhardt & Kamei
Kathleen Daly
Judianne Eynon
Mitchell Feldman & Jane Kramer
Jim & Barbara Gossel
Jeff Gunderson & Jill Ley
Jack Maslow & Sheryl Hausman
William & Barbara Owens
Diana Putterman
Dave & Nancy Roche
Kirk Runner & Janis Luft
William & Catherine Schulte
Jessie Sterling

Updates and Reminders

ACADEMIC SUCCESS AND SUPPORT

We are now well into the second marking period and students have been signing up for Homework Club and Peer Tutoring. If your student needs a bit of a boost or just some homework support, have him or her stop in the Counseling Office to pick up a form to sign up for Peer Tutoring or Homework Club. Both programs meet in the Library on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. Students should also be making use of Office Hours every Thursday after 6th period. All teachers are available then to help students.



SEMESTER GRADES

The last final from first semester is scheduled just before winter break on December 19 which means that report cards will be mailed after we return for second semester.

SCHEDULES FOR SECOND SEMESTER

Students will pick up their second semester schedules at 7:30 a.m. on January 6. Remember that most courses at Redwood are year-long and many students will have few, if any, changes for spring.

Some electives are semester-long and those classes, for both semesters, were chosen last spring. Generally we make very few schedule changes in January except in cases where the grade that a student earns prevents him/her from continuing in a sequence.

JUNIOR PARENTS

Junior Conferences begin the first week of February and continue through May. Conferences, which include the student and parent(s), typically cover a check of graduation requirements and post high school planning, including a review of the college application and search process, entrance testing and related topics. Conferences are scheduled during the school day, between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. for 45 minutes to an hour. Look in the next Post for more information about scheduling your appointment.

SOPHOMORE PARENTS

Mark your calendars now for the Sophomore Potluck, which will be on February 10 at 5:30 p.m. In January you will receive more information about this fun and informative evening. ■

A Busy Time for College Applicants

Paula Vantrease

The Counseling Department is offering a Financial Aid Evening on Tuesday, December 9, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Library. Denise Peña, Financial Aid Advisor from Dominican University, will provide current information on grants and the completion of the FAFSA.



FAFSA— Families must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) to initiate the financial aid process. This is the form that parents and students must complete to establish eligibility for federal aid. Families may need to complete additional forms if

required by the individual colleges or universities to which your student is applying. This free form is available online at www.fafsa.ed.gov and can be submitted as of January 1 and must be filed by March 2 for California public schools. Private colleges and out-of-state schools may have different deadlines, so please check their websites for the most current information. It is recommended that the student and one parent go online in December to obtain a personal identification number (PIN). When submitting completed forms the PIN will act as your signature. The FAFSA is a multi-page form that asks questions about the family's income and assets.

College and Career, cont.

Once the FAFSA is submitted and processed, the student will receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) usually within two weeks. At this time the information is verified for accuracy, and if necessary corrections are submitted.

CSS PROFILE– Many private colleges use the CSS Profile to award non-federal student aid funds. Students may begin the process as early as October by deciding which private colleges they will apply to for admissions and financial aid. The student then determines which schools require the Profile by checking the list in the College & Career Center or Counseling Office. All students are charged \$25 for the initial application. This covers the cost of creating your Profile application and the first school report. You will be charged \$16 for each additional college or program to which you want information sent. Students should register at least two weeks before the earliest priority filing date specified by your colleges. A limited number of fee waivers are granted to first-time college applicants with a low income and few assets. The fee waiver covers the cost of Profile registration and reporting to up to six colleges or programs. Fee waivers are awarded automatically online based on family financial information. For more information call 305-829-9793 and register online at www.collegeboard.com.

GPA VERIFICATION FORM– In order to receive a grant from the state of California (Cal Grant), students must complete the GPA Verification Form. This form is available in the College & Career Center and in the Counseling Office beginning in December and must be filed by March 2.

SENIORS COMPLETING UC AND CSU APPLICATIONS

Both systems require students to apply online. For each system the applicant creates a user name and password to work on their application over time. Students must be sure to SAVE their work frequently to avoid losing data. Students may begin working on their UC application beginning October 1 and must submit from November 1 to November 30. The CSU applications may be submitted from October 1 to November 30 to insure consideration at the campuses of their choice. Please don't wait until November 30 to submit, as you may find the sites jammed. UCs require the SAT Reasoning or ACT with writing and 2 SAT Subject Tests (from different areas) and will take the highest score from one test sitting. CSUs require the SAT Reasoning or ACT and do not use the writing

scores in the admissions process. Please be sure to have test scores sent to all colleges applied to directly from the test center. For SATs use college code 3594 and all of the CSUs will receive your test scores for the price of one.

UC- www.universityofcalifornia.edu/apply

CSU- www.csumentor.edu

SAT AND ACT FOR JUNIORS

Most juniors begin testing in the spring beginning in March. We encourage students to try both the SAT and ACT as the tests differ in the areas covered. The SAT Reasoning test covers critical reading, math and writing. The ACT covers English, math, reading and science and the writing portion is optional. Students who plan to take the SAT Subject Tests should plan to take them near the end of the subject year, most often in June. Students may take either the SAT Reasoning or up to three Subject tests on a single test day, but not both.

The College Board has approved an important change to the current SAT score reporting policy. This new policy will give students the ability to send the SAT scores that they feel best represent their abilities to colleges and universities. A student can send one, multiple or all test scores to a college on a single score report. They will be able to send SAT scores by sitting (test date) and scores from individual SAT Subject Tests. This new score-reporting feature will launch in early 2009 and is scheduled to be available to students who participate in the March 2009 test administration. We continue to encourage students to send all test scores to colleges and universities, as they will take your best scores. Forgetting to send scores can disqualify you from admissions.

If your student is unsure of which test to take, Kaplan Test Prep will be offering a combined Mock SAT/ACT on Saturday, January 10, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The test will have questions from both tests on it and the students will get results letting them know on which test they did best. There will be a non-refundable fee of \$10 and sign up will begin in December in the College & Career Center.

REGIONAL OCCUPATION PROGRAM

ROP offers entry-level job training in a variety of occupational fields. Classes recreate as much as possible the actual working

College and Career, cont.

conditions of the occupations found in business and industry. Call Cathie Cordner at 499-5860 or talk to your counselor to register for classes. Redwood students may enroll in ROP classes at other high schools if the class times fit into their schedules. Check in the College & Career Center or Counseling Office for dates and times.

ROP SPRING CLASSES AND LOCATIONS:

Construction – Redwood High School
 Radio Broadcasting – San Rafael High School
 Early Childhood Education – San Rafael High School
 Auto Technology – San Rafael High School ■

Internships and Job Shadows

By the time you read this, students will be midway through their fall internships. This semester Redwood students made a documentary about the Mill Valley Film Festival, did legislative and policy research, promoted AIDS education and prevention, learned about landscaping and sustainable gardening, assisted a photographer, worked with the District Attorney, developed a computer-based instrument tuner and worked as a baking assistant. Students also interned at an art gallery, an international film importing business, an environmental magazine, and in the electrocardiography department of Marin General Hospital. As you can see, there is something for everyone.

The next big School to Career event is the Architecture, Engineering and Construction Job Shadow Day on Thursday,



November 20. If your student is interested in exploring one of these careers, have him/her come see Nancy Westreich in the College and Career Center.

OTHER SCHOOL TO CAREER SERVICES

As the School to Career Liaison for Redwood High School, I am available in the College and Career Center on Mondays and Tuesdays. I assist students with internship placement and preparation, finding job shadows and informational interviewing opportunities. I also help students with resume writing, interviewing skills, and provide opportunities for students to participate in career-related field trips and activities throughout the year.

Nancy Westreich, School to Career Liaison
 College and Career Center, Room 111, Redwood High School
 (415) 945-3604; nwestreich@tamdistrict.org ■

Travel With Teachers *(not school-sponsored)*

ALLONS EN FRANCE! LET'S GO TO FRANCE!

Just a reminder that I will be taking a group of Redwood students to Paris and the Riviera this summer (June 22 – 30, 2009). Registration is still open for anyone who wants to expand their horizons! You do not need to be enrolled in French class to participate. We are using the services of a reputable company which will provide competent guides, excellent lodging, meals in French restaurants and all transportation. The trip will include museum visits, historical sites (like the Roman arena in Nimes) and...shopping! Please remember that this is not a yearly event. There will be no trip in 2010. To know more, please check acis.com. Check out the itinerary when you click on "trip finder" and look up "Paris, Provence and the Cote d'Azur."

Please e-mail me as soon as possible at brattet@redwood.org so that I can give you more details about registration. REGISTRATION WILL BE CLOSED BY THANKSGIVING! Merci, et à bientôt! –
Madame Rattet, French Teacher

BAJA WHALE TRIP WITH ECOLOGY CLASS!

This is an amazing opportunity to have a once-in-a-lifetime adventure! Study whales and other marine mammals up close in the Sea of Cortes, explore beautiful Mexican beaches, meet local high school students and contribute to science and conservation. Trip dates: Feb. 14-22, 2009. Contact *Joe Stewart*, stewart@redwood.org, 945-3600, ext. 6211, or go to the Ecology Project International website: www.ecologyproject.org. ■

Teacher News

SCIENCE DEPARTMENT

Have an extra large refrigerator to donate? Unlike “normal” average sized refrigerators we keep in our classroom and our prep rooms, the science office needs as large a refrigerator as possible. The unit that has failed and that we are looking to replace was a very large Sub-Zero. If you are able to help or if you have questions, please contact *Skip Lovelady*, lovelady@redwood.org.

MATH DEPARTMENT

As we approach Thanksgiving, we want to thank all of you who are sending facial tissue and AAA batteries to our classrooms. We use the batteries in our graphing calculators and in our Classroom Performance System remotes. Thank you to the family of Thomas D’Alencar for sending us enough batteries to replace an entire class set of calculators! A big shout of “thanks” goes to the families of Teddy Lefkof, Kenta Kemei, and Jonathan Van Ness for their classroom donations. This year, our thank you notes have been hand-made and designed by senior Nicole Leighton; they have a great touch of whimsy. Thanks to all of you!

In the department, we are moving along with our plans to implement the International Baccalaureate program. In our display case at the end of the hall, we are presenting internationally focused problems with a non-European historical context. We are reading books about non-European roots of mathematics and taking advantage of this infusion of new curriculum to become students again. At all of our staff development meetings, we deal with our business and make sure that we make time to “do math.” Robert Winkler, English teacher, has been mentoring us in moving toward broader questions

that will help our students be successful in asking themselves how they know what they know. This is the fundamental premise of the Theory of Knowledge course. Stay tuned to see how this program will embrace all (or almost all) of next year’s juniors and seniors.

By the time this reaches you, Redwood will be at or near the end of the second reporting period. Please make sure that your son or daughter is using office hours to get assistance in any class where help is needed, not just in math. Some of the math teachers are available for help beyond office hours so please encourage your son or daughter to go in and ask questions when they are lost or confused. It’s a good idea to start looking back at the semester’s assessments to make a study plan for the final exam in December. If your student starts early and is able to do all of the previously asked questions, there is not much studying to be done at the end. Students who learn for understanding, rather than memorizing for a test, have a lot less studying to do at the end of a semester.

Gratefully yours, *Julianne Schrick*; Math Department Chair

ARCHITECTURE, ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY

Do you have any old bicycles looking for a metamorphosis? Students in our Engineering Projects class needs old, broken, and even working bicycles to use for our upcoming Human Powered Vehicle project next semester. In this project, students “cannibalize” old bikes for functional parts and use them in making new 3 or 4 wheeled Human Powered Vehicles. If you have any bicycles that you would like to donate, please give us a call.

Joe Downey, 945-3650 ■

LIBRARY LEAVES

Celebrating Our Shared Heritage

Throughout the school year the Library celebrates various ethnic and other groups which make up the rich fabric of the United States. Starting in September with Hispanic American Heritage Month and ending in May with Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month, the Library staff creates wonderful displays of books and other artifacts that demonstrate the diversity of our country and state.

November is Native American Heritage Month and Redwood’s library has a direct connection to one of the United States’ most important Native Americans.

According to the *New Georgia Encyclopedia* website, Sequoyah was

Library Leaves, cont.

a Cherokee Indian who “invented a system of eighty-four to eighty-six characters that represented syllables in spoken Cherokee (hence it is a syllabary, not an alphabet)” which allowed the Cherokee language to be written for the first time. Sequoyah’s system was derided by assimilationist Cherokees as being impractical and an example of witchcraft. It took him at least 12 years but once he was able to teach his daughter to read and write using the system he had devised, others quickly saw the benefit of having a written language and the syllabary was put to use teaching the language in schools.

“The syllabary was rapidly adopted by a large number of Cherokees, making Sequoyah the only member of an illiterate group in human history to have single-handedly devised a successful system of writing.” The syllabary is still used, in modified form, to this day to write the Cherokee language.

THE LIBRARY CONNECTION

Many libraries have given their online catalogs (OPAC) a catchy title which plays on their school name and library themes. For example, the catalog for the UC System is *Melvyl*, named for Melvyl Dewey, the famous librarian who devised the Dewey Decimal System of classification. SF State’s catalog is called *InvestiGator* (the school’s teams are the Gators), Sonoma State’s is *Snoopy* (named for the Peanuts character because of the connection with Charles Schulz).

When we got our web-based online catalog several years ago I was trying to come up with a title which would reflect all the various ways Redwood High School uses variations on the theme of the redwood tree, e.g. *The Log* (yearbook), *The Bark* (school newspaper), *The Twig* (daily bulletin), *The Post* (parent newsletter), and so forth. The library’s newsletter, and subsequently its blog, are called *Library Leaves*, which continues the tradition of a connection with the growing, living redwood tree. I pretty quickly realized that a great way to refer to the OPAC would be by naming it for this legendary person who had been honored in the scientific name of the redwood tree. (According to the Oxford English Dictionary, the Sequoia tree

(coast redwood) was named in honor of Sequoyah in 1847.) His connection to written text and language was another compelling reason to name the catalog for him.

I encourage all of you to use, and encourage your children to use, the online catalog. You can access the catalog at <http://137.164.143.38:7195/webopac/main?siteID=RHS>. The catalog provides access to more than the physical items in the library.

Recently, we uploaded thousands of records of periodicals from a couple of our online databases, which can now be accessed directly through links in the catalog. Try looking for the journal, *Chinese Studies in History*, for example. Click on the link which states “Available on EBSCOhost,” and then enter the user ID: *redwoodhs* and password: *giants* when asked. This is the kind of journal our students preparing for university, taking AP classes, and hopefully in the future, studying for the IB Diploma, will depend on to succeed in their studies.

For more information on Sequoyah here are some recommendations from the *New Georgia Encyclopedia* site.

Traveller Bird, *Tell Them They Lie: The Sequoyah Myth* (Los Angeles: Westernlore, 1971).

Grant Forman, *Sequoyah* (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1938).

Stan Hoig, *Sequoyah: The Cherokee Genius* (Oklahoma City: Oklahoma Historical Society, 1995).

Henry Thompson Malone, *Cherokees of the Old South* (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1956).

Kim Schlich and Victor Schlich, *Talking Leaves*, *American History*, December 1995, pages 38-40.

Come by the Library any time to see what groups and themes we are currently celebrating. ■

Illustration credit: McKenney, Thomas and James Hall, *History of the Indian Tribes of North America: with biographical sketches and anecdotes of the principal chiefs*. Philadelphia: E.C. Biddle, 1836-1844. Penn Library Exhibitions. Web. 13 Oct. 2008.



For Parents of Students with Learning Challenges

Dear Parents,

Our October Program showcased five TUHSD high schools and was aimed at parents of current 8th graders trying to decide which school best suits their student's needs. Our next meeting is Thursday, November 13, at 7 p.m. featuring Jane McClure, a renowned educational consultant. She will share with you the many four-year college options for students with learning challenges. Our February 12, 2009 session will then provide a different overview of 2-year colleges and vocational opportunities for students who may not be ready for the four-year college track. We strongly advise parents of



sophomores and even freshmen to attend these talks.

P2P meetings are held at the Kreps Conference Center on Redwood's back parking lot at the intersection of Lucky and Doherty Drives. Come early to meet other parents — doors open at 6:30 p.m. and the program starts at 7 p.m.

Parent-to-Parent Connection offers support and information to parents of high school students with learning challenges. Please visit our website for more details. www.tamdistrict.org/P2P

Rochelle Mishkin, Paula Frankel and Lisa Inciardi-Wilkins,
Redwood High School Representatives ■

CAMPUS IMPROVEMENT

Art Garden Pruning Reveals Hidden Sculptures

Volunteers gave the Art Garden an aggressive haircut and were treated to hidden treasures as they cut back bushes, vines, and overgrown plants at the October 11 campus improvement work party. Many thanks to Kim and Morgan Blue, Deborah Wolf, Everett Austin, Maija Norstad, and Lindy Flemming for helping maintain this special student area.

Please join us at our next work party on Saturday, November 8, from 9 a.m. to noon. We plan to plant daffodil bulbs in the Quad, a central outdoor area of the school. To get to the Quad, enter the front of the school and turn left at the first set of doors. Campus improvement works parties are a fun, easy way to meet new people and earn community and school service hours. Students are credited the hours worked by their family members as well.

WORK PARTY SCHEDULE

Saturdays, 9 a.m. to Noon

November 8 – The Quad

December 6 – Lunch Plaza

January 10 – Front of Gymnasium

February 7 – TBD

March 14 – Front Entrance of School

April 25 – TBD

May 30 – Amphitheater

Questions: Contact *Lindy Flemming*, lflemming@sbcglobal.net or *Maija Norstad*, maijanorstad@yahoo.com,
Redwood Campus Improvement co-chairs ■

Leave a Legacy – Buy a Brick



The holidays are just around the corner... And your PTSA has a great idea for you! Inscribe a brick in the Lunch Plaza as a gift to your favorite coach, teacher or family member. Leave a legacy and be a Giant forever! To download the form, go to www.redwoodptsa.org, click on Forms, and then click on Brick Order Form.

Questions? Contact *Robin Moller* at 924-5663 or *Jeannie Perry* at 924-7150. ■

How Can You Say *Thank You*?

The Redwood Staff Appreciation Drawing, a program of the PTSA, honors our teachers and staff members throughout the year with gifts of tickets, gift certificates and services donated by parents. We announce donor family names, their student(s) and grade level(s) and the staff recipient at the teacher-staff meetings...to much applause! Thank you very much to the parents, including those listed below, who have contributed so far this year!



Please join this wonderful group of parents and show your appreciation for our teachers and staff with a gift of event tickets, restaurant and store gift cards or quality gift items. You may drop off your gift, even last minute event tickets, at Principal Nancy Neu's office in care of Samantha Miller, her assistant. Or, you can contact us to make arrangements.

THANK YOU DeeAnn & Gus Ecurra, Simone de Winter, Jean & Norton Lin, Charles & Blanca Thompson, Mary & Michael Connolly, Jeanne & Peter Tymstra, Katherine and Bill Post, Anne & Mark Slater, Monica & Daniel McGue, Susan & George Livingston, Kevin & Denise Jones, Susie Gamble, Julie King, Katie & Claude Jarman, Cheryl Pombo-Soda, Susi Murphy, Jody Coker & Mark Dosker, Ann & George Arabian, Diane & Todd Ziesing, Tara Sullivan & James Horan, Suzanne Kanner, Dan & Iris Winey and Libby & Michael Hatfield.

You may use the form below if you wish and we will gladly get in touch with you. Forms are also available at Redwood PTSA meetings. Thank you for supporting our teachers and staff!

Ann Gordon
apgordon@aol.com
789-0726

Jody Coker
jodycoker@comcast.net
924-1590

(clip and return)

2007-08 Redwood Staff Appreciation Drawing

c/o Sam Miller
Redwood High School
395 Doherty Drive, Larkspur, CA 94939

Yes, we'd like to donate!

Parent(s) Name _____ Student _____ Grade _____

Phone Number _____ Email (if preferred) _____

Circle the months you are interested in participating and we will contact you

Oct. **Nov.** **Dec.** **Jan.** **Feb** **Mar.** **Apr.** **May** **June**

REDWOOD HIGH SCHOOL 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

Look at these great plans-in-the-making for Redwood's 50th Anniversary! Join us in celebrating our **REDWOOD FAMILY** and help to work on **REDWOOD ROCKS THROUGH THE AGES!** Some volunteers (names in italics below) have already signed up. Here is the schedule of events so far:

Thursday, April 23, 2009:

- **Redwood Athletic Hall of Fame Inaugural Banquet** – time, place TBA. (*Mike Dibley & Sue Chelini*)

Friday, April 24:

- **Reunion of first four classes '59-'62** – Embassy Suites, time TBA. (*Paula Daly Skov '61, Nancy Scott Mandl '62, & Great Reunions*)
- **Other reunions** to be organized by individual classes

Saturday, April 25:

- **Day on the Green at Redwood** – music, tours, food, activities, class gatherings, art show, Redwood history movie, kid-zone, souvenir sales, and contests, 10-4 p.m. (*Marilee Ellis Rogers '61 & Sue Chelini*)
- **Redwood Staff Reunion** – 3-6 p.m. at Jason's Restaurant, Greenbrae, cost TBA (*Marilee & Redwood Social Committee*)
- **Redwood Rocks Through the Ages** – evening gala in tent at Piper Park, 7:30 p.m. – 12 a.m. (needs 2-5 co-chairs)

Volunteers who have already signed up to help include *Tom Malvino, Nancy Lubamersky, Eladia Laines, Laura Edwards, Robin Moller, Jeannie Perry, Cindy Brown, Becky Reed, Mike Dibley*

Sunday, April 26:

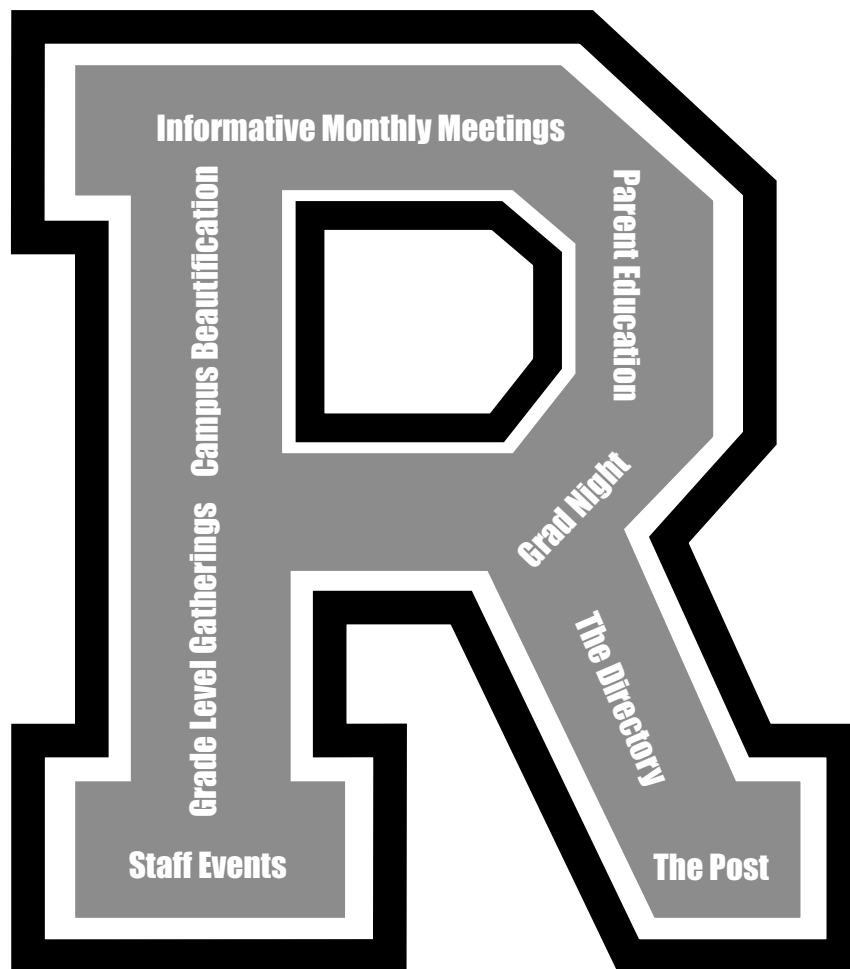
Mini Reunions (to be organized by individual groups) so far:

- **BARK** – 9-12, CM Rec Center Patio (*Donal Brown & Dan Kurtzman*)
- **RISE** – place and time TBA (*Elaine Brockbank & MaryJo Evans*)
- **TROPP'S TROOPS Football** – CM Park/Rec Center, time TBA (*Bob Troppman and Rick Weil*)

How would you like to help? If you don't want to chair one of these by yourself, how about asking a friend to share the job? Or just tell us what you would like to do, and we'll find someone else to be in charge! Here are some suggested opportunities to help:

- Co-chairs for **Redwood Rocks Through the Ages**
- Publicity Graphics/Invitations Program Website: *Jeff Slavitz* Treasurer: *Veronica Tunucci*
- Soliciting donations and sponsorships from community
- Organize a 5-10K Fun Run Music/entertainment: *Deb Bendinelli* Souvenir sales
- Food: catering/donations: **Day on the Green** **Redwood Rocks Through the Ages**
- Drinks Bar Set-Up Volunteers Decorations Set up Clean up
- Raffle Restaurants for "fixed price menu" dinners on April 25
- Decade chairs for: '60s '70s '80's '90s '00s
- Region chairs for: Ross Kentfield Larkspur Corte Madera Belvedere Tiburon Other

Please join us in contributing to make this a fabulous event! To volunteer or for more information, go to www.redwood50.org.



Be In The Loop... Join Redwood PTSA

Looping Communication Between School and Home

PTSA Membership is \$40 per family. **One Redwood Student Directory will be sent to the primary address for joining.** Additional Directories are available to members for \$10. Return this form and

Payment to:

Redwood High PTSA Membership, 395 Doherty Drive, Larkspur, CA 94939

Announcements are sent to PTSA Members via email regarding important school related events and reminders. Please provide the email address where these will be sent:

Parent Name(s) _____

Student's Primary Address _____

Home Phone _____

Questions? Please call PTSA Membership Chair, Jeannie Perry @ 924-7150

Following is the Redwood High School activity calendar. Because dates are subject to change, we recommend confirming any important dates with the school in advance. The schedule for school dances and assembly schedule days will also be published in the *Twig*. Visit www.redwood.org/sports for the Fall sports schedule.

November 2008

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------------------------------|--|--|---|---|--|---|
| | | | | | | 1 SAT Test Homecoming Parade 12 noon; Football vs. Drake (V @ 1 p.m.) Drama, <i>Micetro</i> 7:30 p.m., LTH Homecoming Dance 8 – 11 p.m., RHS Gym (all tkts. pre-sale) |
| 2 Daylight Saving Time Ends | 3 Grad Night Parent Mtg, 6:30 p.m. Rm. 120 | 4 Election Day – VOTE! Board of Trustees Mtg, 7 p.m., Kreps | 5 Benchwarmer's Mtg, 7 p.m., Rm. 112 | 6 | 7 Parent School Tour 8 a.m., Kreps End of 2 nd Grading Period (R2) | 8 Football @ San Marin (V @ 1 p.m.) |
| 9 | 10 Winter Sports Begin | 11 Veteran's Day Holiday (no school) | 12 Pigskin's Mtg, 7 p.m., Rm. 120 Drama, <i>Little Shop of Horrors</i> , 7:30 p.m. LTH | 13 PTSA Mtg, 8:30 Kreps – Jason Barber, speaker 9:25 a.m. Gym Assembly with Speaker, ASSEMBLY SCHEDULE (altered) Parent to Parent 6:30 p.m., Kreps Drama, <i>Little Shop of Horrors</i> , 7:30 p.m. LTH | 14 Drama, <i>Little Shop of Horrors</i> , 7:30 p.m. LTH | 15 Drama, <i>Little Shop of Horrors</i> , 7:30 p.m. LTH |
| 16 | 17 | 18 Board of Trustees Mtg, 7 p.m., Kreps Symphonic Band/ Concert Band/Choir CD release, 7 p.m. LTH | 19 Turkey Bowl (at lunch) Jazz Band, 7 p.m., LTH | 20 Turkey Bowl (at lunch) Senior Grad Product Sales, 3:30 – 6:30 p.m., Rm. 120 | 21 Parent School Tour 8 a.m., Kreps | 22 |
| 23 30 | 24 | 25 St. Anthony's Lunch (extended lunch) | 26 | 27 Thanksgiving Recess (no school) | 28 Thanksgiving Recess (no school) | 29 |

GIVING Thanks

NOVEMBER 2008

Visit the Redwood High School website at www.redwood.org and visit the PTSA website at www.redwoodptsa.org

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The Post is now online at
www.redwoodptsa.org.

THE REDWOOD POST

Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA)

Redwood High School

395 Doherty Drive

Larkspur, CA 94939

Larkspur, CA 94939

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