

ACACIAWOOD SCHOOL NEWS

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FOURTH ANNUAL HOLOCAUST WRITING CONTEST WINNER!!

This year the theme for the Holocaust Writing contest, sponsored by Chapman University, was "Conscience and Community: Choices of Courage." Each school is allowed to submit two entries into the contest in each division. After a school run-off, the two finalists from AcaciaWood from the 8th grade class were Isel Lee and Hsiang En Liu, who entered in the Junior Poetry division. The two high school poetry entries were submitted by Aletheia Miyake and Elaine Inoue. Congratulations to Aletheia Miyake and Isel Lee, who were Finalists in the contest, and to Elaine Inoue, who won First Place with her poetry. Prizes were awarded to the finalists and their teachers at the reception immediately following the Awards Ceremony on March 14th. All the students who attended the reception were given a copy of The Holocaust Chronicle and had the opportunity to have their book signed by Holocaust survivors from the "1939" Club who were also at the reception.

AWS DEBATE CLUB

The Golden Eagles debate team made their first and limited appearance of the year at the 35-school La Mirada Tournament at the end of January. The two teams were: 1) Sheri Lin and Karina Qian and 2) Philip Combiths and Andy Lin.

Despite this being their first tournament, the Lin/Qian team won two of their first three rounds, narrowly missed sweeping their three rounds and therefore, barely missed qualifying for the quarterfinals the next day (only eight teams qualified for the quarterfinals out of 24). Karina Qian was voted best speaker in two of the three rounds they were involved in. The Combiths/Lin team won one of their three rounds.

Next year, we look forward to building on this initial success and are considering offering a class in speech and debate to provide a systematic opportunity for the students to develop their public speaking skills, assertiveness skills, research skills and ability to "think on their feet" skills. Please let the office know if you would be interested in such a speech class for our high school students next year.

CHINESE FOOD LUNCHES

Every Tuesday the AWS Community Service Club will be selling a Chinese lunch for \$3.00. It includes a drink, and all you can eat steamed rice, fried noodles, and other tasty dishes like orange chicken and beef and broccoli. Place your order at the office by Monday, and your student can get a great meal for a great price.

FUTURE PROBLEM SOLVING STATE BOWL INVITATIONS!!

Four teams of students qualified for the California State Bowl based on the excellent work they did on their Nanotechnology packet. Students studied the topic of nanotechnology for several weeks and then applied their knowledge of the topic to a future scenario dealing with the use of nanotechnology on the space station, Athena. Congratulations to the following students:

Senior Team: Shenandoah Yang, Andy Lin, Sheri Lin, Karis Miyake

Middle Team: Deborah Scatterday, Aletheia Miyake, Melissa Jones, Grace Liau

Middle Team: Christine Woo, Hsiang En Liu, Anna Cheung, Rebecca Buntain

Middle Team: Laura Sefcik, Isel Lee, Leslie Martinez, Elizabeth Combiths

These students will begin studying the topic of DNA Identification for the State Bowl, held on April 26, in Burbank, CA.

TALENT SHOW APRIL 14TH

Our annual talent show is fast approaching and is scheduled for Monday, the 14th of April. Starting from 7:00 in the evening, those who come will be able to enjoy a vast variety of outstanding performances by students of all grades and talents. Admission prices are \$3.00 per adult and a discount of \$2.00 per AcaciaWood student. Children five years old and younger have free admission as well as performing students. This is a great time to meet other families and to be entertained. Come all and bring your family and friends to watch this once-in-a-year performance! Further details will follow, as we get closer to the date of the event.

CASUAL DRESS / SPRING SCHOOL PORTRAITS

April 15th is picture day and also a casual dress day for all students. Parents are under no obligation to buy. They can see the portraits first, then select only what they want.

LADY EAGLES VOLLEYBALL. . .

Team conditioning begins on April 8 – Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 3:20 – 4:20. Bring a water bottle, knee pads, a jump rope, and an aspiring attitude!

NHD RESULTS

Two winners in 5th Grade Posters:

Individual Poster on Singapore: Nikos Ng

Group Poster on the Trail of Tears: Morgan Massey, Rylee Mayer, Ruby Chen, Diana Reynoso

Three finalists in Junior High:

Website on Jackie Robinson: Jon Allison, Jon Ewing, Ian Pan

Documentary on Japanese Internment: Rebecca Buntain, Isel Lee, Hsiang En Liu

Exhibit on Women's Suffrage: Christine Woo, Anna Cheung

High School Winners:

Individual Documentary: Andrew Tucker

Historical Paper: Evan Chan

Individual Exhibit: Danielle Allison

Group Documentary Honorable Mention: Andy Lin, Sheri Lin, Aletheia Miyake, Karis Miyake

High School Finalists:

Group Website: Gabby Chavarria, Maria Ordenana, Grace Liau

The two 5th grade winners and the three high school winners will go on to the State History competition held in Pasadena in May.

SCIENCE FAIR RESULTS

5th Grade:

1st Nikos Ng, 2nd Morgan Massey, 3rd Eric Romero

6th Grade:

1st Steven Saffron, 2nd Jordan Permantier, 3rd Michael Jones

7th Grade:

1st Elizabeth Huck, 2nd Curtis Barber, 3rd Bing O'Dowd,

7th Grade Honorable Mention:

Elizabeth Combiths, Bruce Shiao, Joyce Liau, Wendy Shichida

8th Grade:

1st Hsiang-En Liu, 2nd Isel Lee, 3rd Ian Pan

8th Grade Honorable Mention:

Jonathan Allison, Christine Woo

High School:

Melissa Jones, Aletheia Miyake, and Sharon Warden

SUCCESSFUL PHILANTHROPIC OUTING

On the 7th of March, the entire school loaded up in cars and drove out to the Incredible Edible Park in Irvine. The park is on donated acreage and is operated by the Second Harvest Food Bank. They grow produce to give to homeless shelters and soup kitchens in Orange County. For two hours, AWS students weeded, planted, and picked broccoli, strawberries, carrots, sweet peas, and celery under the hot sun. At the end of the day, some even got to take home the freshly picked vegetables. Not only was the outing a great success, but the students also spent quality bonding time while giving back to the community.

NEW E-SCRIP PROGRAM OPPORTUNITY!

The eScrip program is a new way you can help to support AcaciaWood School! The eScrip program allows you to designate AWS to receive a percentage of each purchase you make from registered vendors such as: OfficeMax, Payless Shoe Source, Eddie Bauer, American Airlines, Budget Rent a Car, Pep Boys, Chevron, AAMCO, Baja Fresh, Carl's Jr., Carrows Restaurant, Claim Jumper, Coco's Bakery Restaurant, Safeway, and Vons.

Here's how it works:

1. Register your grocery club, debit/credit card(s) on the the eScrip Web site (www.escrip.com), and designate AWS as the group you wish to support.
AWS Group ID is 151055362.
2. The Web site can tell you more about the program, including information about how eScrip keeps your card numbers secure (click on "Privacy" near the bottom of the screen).
3. Every time you shop using the card(s) registered from a vendor participating in the eScrip program, a percentage of your purchase is electronically transferred to AWS.

Advantages of the program: First, you don't need to carry paper scrip and remember to give it to the vendor. Second, this program is nationwide, so your friends and family can enroll as supporters of AWS even if they don't live in the area. Third, this program costs you nothing. Stop by the office for a complete list of participating vendors.

THE ACACIAWOOD FAMILY IS GROWING...

Mrs. Kangas begins her maternity leave on March 28th in preparation for the birth of her second child. In her absence there will be some teaching changes for the fourth quarter in the elementary school. Mrs. Reymmer will continue as the classroom teacher for the 5th/6th grade, but she will also teach Mrs. Kangas' subjects in the afternoon. Mrs. Romero will teach the 6th grade math. In second grade we welcome Mrs. Permantier as the new math teacher.

PLANTS NEEDED

The class of 2004 needs to borrow 3' or taller artificial/living plants for the upcoming Junior/Senior Banquet, which will be held on May 17, 2003. Plants can be delivered to AWS on Friday, May 16th, and picked up on Monday, May 19th. Please e-mail Marilyn Tara at mtara2u@yahoo.com if you can help.

EVENT CALENDAR

- Apr 14 Talent Show
- Apr 14-17 Standardized Testing, Grades 7-9, 11
- Apr 15 Casual Dress, Photos
- Apr 26 FPS, State Bowl
- Apr 28 Progress Reports mailed
- Apr 30 OC Science Fair