

# ACACIAWOOD SCHOOL NEWS

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May 16, 2003

## BON VOYAGE MAY 17

A highlight of every spring is the Junior/Senior banquet. This year it will be held on May 17 at 6:00 pm in the MPR room. The junior class has been working hard to make it an extra-special event in the lives of our senior class. We hope all our seniors and their families will enjoy this time as the juniors take the senior class on a cruise to give them a heartfelt farewell and wish them - Bon Voyage!

## FPS

The 18th annual California Future Problem Solving State Bowl was held in Burbank on Saturday, April 26. Twenty students from AcaciaWood qualified to participate in the competition in two separate divisions. It was a long, rewarding day, beginning with competition at 9:00am and concluding with an awards ceremony at 6:00pm. Congratulations to the following teams and individuals:

3rd Place in the Middle division: Grace Liau, Melissa Jones, Aletheia Miyake, Deborah Scatterday.

1st Place in the Senior division: Andy Lin, Sheri Lin, Karis Miyake, Shenandoah Yang (also awarded 2nd place in the Presentation of Action Plan)

2nd Place in the Individual competition: Abraham Lin (middle division); Philip Combiths (senior division)

The 1st Place team will go on to represent California at the Future Problem Solving International Competition (IC) at the University of Connecticut on June 5, 2003. Philip Combiths will go with the team as an alternate, competing in the Alternates Competition at IC.

Congratulations to all the students who competed in FPS this year!

## NATIONAL HISTORY DAY WINNERS

### **California State History Day**

Senior Historical Paper	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
<i>Evan Chan</i>	
Senior Individual Exhibit	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
<i>Danielle Allison</i>	
Group Poster	Finalist
<i>Ruby Chen, Morgan Massey, Rylee Mayer, Diana Reynoso</i>	

### **Orange County National History Day**

Senior Individual Documentary	Winner
<i>Andrew Tucker</i>	
Senior Group Documentary	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
<i>Andy Lin, Sheri Lin, Aletheia Miyake, Karis Miyake</i>	
Senior Group Website	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place
<i>Gabby Chavarria, Grace Liau, Maria Ordenana</i>	
Individual Poster	Winner
<i>Nikos Ng</i>	
Junior Documentary	Finalist
<i>Rebecca Buntain, Isel Lee, Andrea Liu</i>	
Junior Website	Finalist
<i>Jon Allison, Jon Ewing, Ian Pan</i>	
Junior Exhibit	Finalist
<i>Anna Cheung, Christine Woo</i>	

## NHD TEACHER OF MERIT

Sandy Yang was nominated for Teacher of Merit, an award given by the Constitutional Rights Foundation to a teacher who has made a difference by promoting history through the National History Day competition. At the State NHD awards ceremony on May 11, Sandy Yang received this distinguished award. Nominated by fellow-NHD teacher Hallie Williamson with letters of support from NHD students Danielle Allison, Andy Miller and Walter Liau, Mrs. Yang was selected from among 10 nominees. Congratulations, Mrs. Yang!

## EVENT CALENDAR

- May 16 Last day of PE, 3:10 dismissal
- May 17 Junior/Senior Banquet
- May 19-20 State Science Fair
- May 23-26 Memorial Day Break
- May 30 1:10 dismissal (Friday)
- June 4 Last day of classes
- June 5 Graduation, 7:00pm,  
Brookhurst Community Center
- June 5-8 FPS International

**48<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL ORANGE COUNTY  
SCIENCE FAIR**

Applied Mechanics/Structures & Mechanisms/Manufacturing <i>Andrea Liu</i>	Honorable Mention
Biochemistry/Molecular Biology <i>Elizabeth Huck</i>	2nd Place
Botany <i>Jon Allison</i>	1 <sup>st</sup> Place
Fluids/Aerodynamics/Thermophysics <i>Melissa Jones</i>	Honorable Mention
Pharmacology <i>Aletheia Miyake</i>	3 <sup>rd</sup> Place

**Special Awards**

American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics Orange County Section	<i>Melissa Jones</i>
Center for Inquiry West	<i>Aletheia Miyake</i>
National Water Research Institute	<i>Jon Allison</i>
Society of Women Engineers	<i>Andrea Liu</i>

**WASC came, WASC saw, WE conquered!**

On April 28, 2003 the visiting team of Mark Champaigne and Nancy Olah came to Acacia wood for our three-year interim review. In March 2000 Acacia wood received its first accreditation for the maximum given to any school, six years. All first time schools are subject to a mandatory interim visit and review at the mid-point of the tenure.

The visiting team remained on site for most of the day, speaking with Mr. Miyake, the Leadership Team, parents, and students. They visited classrooms, toured the facility, and examined our progress on the Schoolwide Action Plan. At the end of the day, they reported their preliminary findings to the Leadership Team. They were very impressed by what they saw here and announced that they would recommend us to WASC for the remaining three years of accreditation. We should receive official written approval by June 2003.

Our chief accrediting organization, Western Association of Schools and Colleges, is a highly respected institution and many of the schools along the West Coast and Hawaii seek accreditation by them. The process of preparation takes about two years. In September 2004 we will begin planning for our next accreditation occurring in March 2006. The process is lengthy and tedious at times, but it assures WASC and all of us in the Acacia wood community that we have a high degree of quality control in virtually every aspect of our school operations.

**BASKETBALL BANQUET**

The AWS Basketball banquet was held on Friday, April 25. Andy Miller was honored for his selection to the All-CIF – Second Team, as well as All-League First Team. Robert Buntain and Peter Chang also made All-League First Team. Walter Liao, Daniel Hage and Danny Marks were All-League Honorable Mention.

There was also a farewell tribute to Coach Miller, who served as head coach for the past two years. Mr. Miller will resume his full-time duties at LSM and will not return to coach the 2003-04 season.

**ACACIAWOOD SCHOOL SWIM TEAM**

Acacia wood School (AWS) now has a swim team! Stephen Barber has taken the plunge and is presently the sole swimmer for the team. Stephen has done a great job representing AWS. He has won several events as a varsity level swimmer and placed 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> in others. He has qualified for the CIF playoffs (swim meet) which will take place on May 14 (semi-finals) and May 16 (finals). Good luck Stephen and congratulations on your first year as a high school swimmer!

Any high school student who is swimming in a private swimming club may register to swim for AWS. All practices and coaching are conducted by the swimmer's private coach. Mrs. Barber has volunteered to be the "coach" or act as the representative for AWS, and she will take care of the hard part for the swim team: registration and paperwork. Thank you Mrs. Barber!