



# Take Note

Newsletter of the Hersey Instrumental Association

November 2009

Volume 3, Issue 4

## Hersey Instrumental Association

*an affiliate of:*

The John Hersey High School Bands  
1900 E. Thomas Avenue  
Arlington Heights, IL 60004  
School Office: 847.718.4800  
Band Office: 847.718.4941

[www.herseyband.com](http://www.herseyband.com)

Director: Scott Casagrande  
[scott.casagrand@d214.org](mailto:scott.casagrand@d214.org)

### 2009-2010 HIA Board

President: Jill Birschbach

Vice President: Sheri Hess

Project Chair: Jorgia Connor

Treasurer: Cathy Busse

Recording Secretary: Laura DiVietro

Corresponding Secretary: Linda Takei

Contact any board member at:  
[newsletter@herseyband.com](mailto:newsletter@herseyband.com)



## GOVERNOR'S CUP!!!

Director's Message • Mr. Casagrande

Saturday was a wonderful day in so many ways. How does this sound?: "John Hersey High School - University of Illinois GOVERNORS CUP CHAMPIONS!!!!" It was a personal thrill to see the joy on student faces, on parent faces and on marching staff faces upon that announcement (I knew about our win before it was announced, so I knew it was coming!!). As I have said so often, the awards are only an extension of what happens in class and at home each and every day. We can only succeed from internal motivation and self-discipline, not external motivation such as trophies and accolades from others. On the other hand, it sure is nice when we get them!!!!!! Congratulations, also, to the drum majors, percussion and color guard on their caption awards!

We persevered through some "inconvenient" weather and many hours of practice to make this happen (albeit less hours than other bands...). We only get out of this what we put into it...

Congratulations to all who contributed to Saturday's success. It takes the devotion, skill and talent of many, many people to pull off a great performance. Thanks to all of you.

Congratulations to our FRESHMEN, for making it through their toughest marching season in high school. Your improvement was TREMENDOUS. Congratulations!

Congratulations to our seniors for their four years of devotion and dedication - you finished your marching experience in a glorious way!

I look forward to our next "big performances" this year. Good luck on the upcoming auditions!

Congratulations to ALL of our Hersey band family!

## Making a Difference

President's Message • Jill Birschbach

Many congratulations to the band, color guard, drum majors, drum line and Mr. Casagrande and his staff on a fantastic marching band season and on being awarded the Governor's Cup at the University of Illinois Marching Illini Festival for the first time in Hersey school history! Your parade and field performances at the festival were **AMAZING** and we couldn't be more proud of your accomplishments. A band is only as good as the sum of all its parts, and on Saturday evening, all of the "parts" of the band worked together perfectly. What a great way to end the marching season.

Many thanks to all the band parents who helped during this marching season. Your time and dedication to the band program is very much appreciated and is invaluable. I've enjoyed getting to know so many of you and I hope you had fun helping out the band too.

Now, we move indoors and look forward to the concert season. Soon the students will be auditioning for positions in either the Concert or Symphonic band. Mark your calendars for the Jazz Night Club Concert (11/24), and the Holiday Concert (12/6). Now is a good time to sign up for the Hersey Band Sponsorship Program. Depending on your level of sponsorship, admission to all concerts is included (seats will still need to be reserved in advance). The sponsorship form is included in this newsletter.

The next HIA general meeting will be November 10 at 7:30 in the band room. I hope to see you there.

## FABULOUS VOLUNTEERS

Sheri Hess ♦ HIA Vice President

There are many volunteers to thank this month! Without volunteers, our band would not experience the outstanding success it does. Sincere thanks to all who generously give their time and share their talents with the Marching Huskies!

Thank you to the marvelous meal makers! These wonderful women have planned, purchased and served nutritious meals and snacks for every competition this season! Please thank them when you see them: **Suzanne Cohodes, Shaun Marusek, Lauri Delahanty, Janet Landeweer** and **Penny Goldsberry**.

Competition cookie baker **Holly Anderson** once again provided yummy cookies for the ride home! Thank you!

Chaperones for Prospect were: **Jill Birschbach, Lois Melkovitz, Joannell & Bill Hojjer, Kelly O'Neil, Barb Swanke, Mary Holada** and **Noreen Coussens**. Thank you!

Chaperones for the amazing U of I competition were the lucky crew of **Jill Birschbach, Sharon & Bill Gaske, Mary Holada, Barb Swanke, Joannell & Bill Hojjer** and **Carolyn Jarosz**. Thank you!

Those who helped move equipment at football games, competitions or both were **Paul Swanson, Jeff & Mary Bayer, Bryan Coussens, Mike Nocita, Randy Hess, Tim Menzia, Mark Santry, Kevin Crowe, Jeff Korleski, Rick Johnson** and **Craig Schwenn**. Thank you!

Thanks to **Greg Holz, Denis Jones** and **Jim Rheingruber** for taking video/photos during football games and/or competitions. This marvelous season has been well documented thanks to these men.

Hydration specialists **Bill & Joannell Hojjer, Lois & Rich Melkovitz, Mark & Mary Santry** and **Peggy & Dave Cusick** keep our band hydrated and healthy during all football games. Thank you!

Providing tasty treats for 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter were **Laurie Drake, Bridget Clancy, Amy Stomper, Cindy O'Donnell, Nancy Biedleman, Sally Cleveland, Janet Landeweer, Joe Mross, Mary Santry, Linda Witzke** and **Dirk Huntley**. Thank you!

Hardy October football chaperones (it rained every game!) were **Bridget Clancy, Amy Stomper, Linda Fredrick, Grace Aiello, Susan Andolfi, Lois Melkovitz, Marcia Dickey** and **Mona Frisbie**. Thank you!

An enormous thank you to the amazingly patient, unbelievably calm uniform moms, **Kim Nyquist** and **Lorrie Ellison**! What a messy season!

Again thanks to all those who have helped but are not mentioned here. Help never goes unnoticed!

## MANY THANKS TO ALL OF THE PARENTS WHO HELPED OUT WITH THIS YEAR'S MARCHING SEASON!!

Mr. Casagrande ♦ Director

A huge THANK YOU goes out to all of the parents who worked so hard again this year in helping with uniforms, moving equipment, chaperoning, helping with food, etc., etc. We had so many parents who volunteered precious time to help our kids and this program. **WE SINCERELY THANK YOU.**

## FRANCE TRIP REUNION PARTY

Mr. Casagrande ♦ Director

Our France trip organizers will be in Chicago for a convention in December and we will be organizing a France Trip reunion to visit, share pictures, share stories, watch the new trip video and remember our wonderful trip! The date (to be confirmed) will either be Sunday evening December 6 (after the concerts) or Sunday, December 13. Look for more information next month (or sooner).

## JAZZ NIGHT CLUB CONCERT

Mr. Casagrande ♦ Director

One of the highlights of our year is this concert to be held on Tuesday, November 24 in Hersey's Black Box Theatre. Jazz 1, Jazz 2 and the Jazz Combo will perform this evening. The Black Box is decorated, setup with round tables and drinks and snacks are served throughout the evening. Please plan to attend this special event. A special guest artist to be determined will join us again this year.

## HOLIDAY CONCERT

Mr. Casagrande ♦ Director

Our annual Holiday concerts will be held on Sunday, December 6. This concert will feature many small ensembles and our large ensembles, as well. In addition, incoming 8th graders will also perform on the finale of each concert. More information and ticket order forms will be distributed soon. These concerts sell out each year, so get your order forms in quickly.

## CONGRATS TO OUR ILLINOIS ALL-DISTRICT VII BAND MEMBERS

Mr. Casagrande ♦ Director

**Once again, Hersey had the largest representation of students in our highly competitive District VII Band.** On October 14, over 600 students representing over 60 schools traveled to Niles North to audition for a spot in this year's honors groups. Hersey had more students accepted than any other school in District VII. Over 40 students pre-auditioned for the 18 audition spots available to our school. Hersey's District VII reps this year:

Jazz Bands (8 out of 10 students auditioning): Andrew Kovacic (1<sup>st</sup> chair), Andrew Birschbach (2<sup>nd</sup> chair), Melissa Neff, Jerry Busse, Liam Coussens, Michael Plankey, Alex Roznai, Maria DiVietro

Band/Orchestra Winds (15 out of 18 students allowed to audition): Andrew Birschbach (1<sup>st</sup> chair), Eric Chung, Megan Duffy, Andrew Hess (2<sup>nd</sup> chair), Kristin Holz, Andrew Kovacic (2<sup>nd</sup> chair), Colin Marusek, Melissa Neff, Kelly Nyquist, Michael Plankey (2<sup>nd</sup> chair), Mark Swanson (3<sup>rd</sup> chair), Erin Wells (2<sup>nd</sup> chair), Ilona Widomska, Michael Ozga, Arne Anderson

Congrats to all that prepared this music! More info will be distributed in class. Check the calendar below for specific dates.

## SYMPHONIC BAND EVENING REHEARSALS AND VETERAN'S DAY

Mr. Casagrande ♦ Director

Students interested in Symphonic Band should add the following very important Wednesday night Symphonic Band Rehearsals to their calendars (similar to previous years' schedules):

Date(s)	Event	Time
November 11 (Veteran's Day)	Camp	11 to 5 pm
November 19 (Thursday)	Rehearsal	5:30 to 7 pm
December 2, 9	Rehearsal	6:30 to 8:30 pm
January 6, 13	Rehearsal	6:30 to 8:30 pm
February 3, 10	Rehearsal	6:30 to 8:30 pm
February 16 (Tuesday)	Rehearsal	6 to 8:30 pm
March 10, 17, 31	Rehearsal	6:30 to 8:30 pm
April 7, 28	Rehearsal	6:30 to 8:30 pm
May 7 (Friday)	Rehearsal	6:30 to 8:30 pm

We will have a few clinicians work with the band and we will have sectionals on these evenings in preparation for our February concert, Chicagoland Band Festival in April and our tentative Superstate performance in May.

## PLACEMENT AUDITIONS FOR ALL!

Mr. Casagrande ♦ Director

This year's auditions will again be "blind," meaning that Mr. C will not see who is performing. An important point to be made regarding the audition process is that it is intended to be **educational**. Students will receive feedback from me verbally (after the audition) and also in a detailed written form. Students that embrace this feedback appropriately become better players and have a better chance of accomplishing personal goals. Audition dates for ALL band members (after school/early evening):

- 10/26** Clarinets
- 10/27** Flutes
- 10/28** Bass Clarinets and Horns
- 10/29** Saxophones
- 10/30** Trumpets - 1 pm
- 11/2** Percussion - 10 am  
Trombones - 11am
- 11/3** Baritones and Tubas
- 11/4** Oboes and Bassoons

The audition will consist of an etude excerpt, music excerpt, the scale sheet and sight reading. The etudes and scales have been available since the beginning of September. Students will need considerable practice time to prepare these items. Be sure to take them to your private lessons and get some help. **DON'T FORGET THE PRIVATE LESSON EXTRA CREDIT FORMS!** Good luck!

## CHEESECAKE SALE

Susan Mazzarella • Sherrie Grischow • Madeline Makara • [newsletter@herseyband.com](mailto:newsletter@herseyband.com)

The Cheesecake Fundraiser kicked off on Monday, October 19. Students received complimentary samples supplied by Gourmet's Delight, Inc. and received their order forms. The cheesecakes are restaurant quality and come in 13 different flavors plus the variety. They come pre-sliced, making it easy to thaw only what you need.

Keep in mind, for each cheesecake sold, \$4 goes to the student's account and \$1.50 goes to the HIA general fund.

Checks should be made payable to "HIA." Orders are to be placed in Mr. C's lockbox. DO NOT put cheesecake orders in the MANNA box.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

**November 4** - Last day for orders to be placed

**November 19, Pick up day** - Cheesecakes will be available for pick up from 4 to 6:30 p.m. at the back of the school near the band room. They must be picked up that day since they are frozen and there is no storage available.

Volunteers are needed November 19 between the hours of 3 and 6:30 p.m. to help unload the truck, pack orders and/or check orders upon pick up. If you can help at all during these timeframes, please let us know. Any and all time you can help is welcome. Please send e-mail to [newsletter@herseyband.com](mailto:newsletter@herseyband.com) to let us know if you are able to help.

If you have not received your cheesecake order form or have any questions/concerns, please [contact us](#).

## MANNA GIFT CARDS FUNDRAISER

Laura Hynes • Kelly O'Neil • [newsletter@herseyband.com](mailto:newsletter@herseyband.com)

The Manna program continued strong in October with almost \$19,000 in orders. This added \$600 to the student accounts and another \$300 for HIA. If you haven't participated in Manna yet, next month would be a great time to start. Plan ahead for the holidays and purchase gift cards for your Thanksgiving meal or parties at Jewel, Garden Fresh and Dominicks. If you need a new tablecloth or decorations, you can order gift cards from Bed Bath & Beyond or Walmart. Maybe you need a deep fryer for your turkey? Buy a gift card from Home Depot, Menards or Lowes. If you don't like to cook or will be on vacation, there are many restaurants and hotels offered as well.

Visit [www.mannagroup.net](http://www.mannagroup.net) to see a complete listing. Each vendor designates a percentage of the card's value to benefit our group. One percent of that amount goes to the Manna organization as an administrative fee. The remainder is split between the HIA general fund (30%) and your student's band account (70%). The funds in this account can be used by YOU for any band fee.

Ordering is done online. To place your first order, you can contact Laura Hynes via [newsletter@herseyband.com](mailto:newsletter@herseyband.com) to receive your password and instructions. Once you have placed your order, submit a check payable to HIA in the Manna mailbox. If you would prefer to deliver a check directly to Laura Hynes ahead of time, please contact her. The next ordering/check deadline is **Wednesday, November 4 at 3 p.m.** Pick up will be on Wednesday, November 11. If you have any questions about the Manna program, please contact one of the co-chairs listed above.

## FROM THE TREASURER

Cathy Busse • HIA Treasurer • [newsletter@herseyband.com](mailto:newsletter@herseyband.com)

You may now use your student account funds to pay for private lessons for your student. The form to request a check is on the website, [www.herseyband.com](http://www.herseyband.com), under the "Resources" link. There is also a [form attached to this newsletter](#).

Please fill out the form and return the form to Mr. Casagrande via e-mail or in the drop box in his office. Payments can be made for lessons that have already been conducted or upcoming lessons. Please include a receipt or an invoice. Remember, you are able to obtain your student account balance by entering your student ID number and the password "herseyband".

Good news for the Color Guard: Your student account funds may be used to pay for winter guard expenses. Please send a request to me via [newsletter@herseyband.com](mailto:newsletter@herseyband.com).

## SPECIAL NOTE:

Shari Hess • HIA Vice President

Thank you to all who have gone on line to submit an electronic volunteer form. If you have not already done so, please visit the Hersey band website and submit an electronic copy of the volunteer form. This will allow us to organize our files much more efficiently.

## SAVE THE DATE!

**Mark your calendars for Friday, November 13 for our Fall Wine Tasting Event  
Watch for additional details!**

### BAND SPONSORSHIP

Jorgia Connor • HIA Project Chair

Thank you to all the families and friends who have sponsored the Hersey band – your sponsorship along with your continued support of the fund raising activities contribute greatly to the growth and success of the band students and the program. The Marching Huskies’ recent triumph - *best overall award winner at the University of Illinois Marching Band Festival* – could not have happened without all of your support.

Now that marching season is over, we look forward to the upcoming concerts and performances by our Jazz, Cadet, Concert and Symphonic bands. If you are not a sponsor yet, or if you are grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins or friends who frequently attend the performances, consider the benefit of free admissions to all the band concerts at Hersey!

For more details on the Hersey Band Sponsorship Program, please see the [form in this newsletter](#) or access the [form on the band Web site](#).

### 2009-2010 Band Calendar

Subject to change. Watch for updates to calendar.

Unless otherwise indicated, dates/times apply to all members. Changes are highlighted.

<b>October</b>		
23	Last Home Football Report Senior Night	6 pm
26	Concert/Symphonic Auditions begin	
28	Marching Party	6 to 8:30 pm
<b>November</b>		
4	Cheesecake orders due	
10	HIA General Meeting	7:30 pm
11 (Veteran’s Day)	Symphonic Band Camp Manna pick up day	11 to 5 pm 6 to 6:30 pm
13	Wine Tasting Event	TBD
14	District 7 Jazz Festival (select)	All day
18	First PM Symphonic Rehearsal	6:30 to 8:30 pm
19	Cheesecake pick up Symphonic Rehearsal	4 to 6:30 pm 5:30 to 7 pm
21	IMEA District 7 Music Festival (select)	All day
24	Jazz Night Club Concert (Jazz I and II)	7:30 pm
<b>December</b>		
2	Symphonic Band Rehearsal	6:30 to 8:30 pm
4	Dress Rehearsal Pep Band (select)	3 to 5 pm Report 5:30 pm
6	Holiday Concert (Two Performances)	1 pm and 3 pm
9	Manna pick up day Symphonic Band Rehearsal	2:45 to 3:15 or 6 to 6:30 pm 6:30 to 8:30 pm
11	Pep Band (select)	Report 5:45 pm
18	Holiday School Assembly Pep Band (select)	9 am Report 5:45 pm
<b>January</b>		
4	Classes Resume	
6	Symphonic Band Rehearsal	6:30 to 8:30 pm

## 2009-2010 Band Calendar (continued)

<b>January</b>		
12	HIA General Meeting	7:30 pm
13	Manna pick up day	2:45 to 3:15 or 6 to 6:30 pm
	Symphonic Band Rehearsal	6:30 to 8:30 pm
22-23	Jazz I and II to Purdue	
27-30	IMEA All-State to Peoria (select)	
29	Pep Band (select)	Report 5:45 pm
<b>February</b>		
3	Symphonic Band Rehearsal	6:30 to 8:30 pm
6	Jazz Ensemble II to New Trier Festival	All day to late evening
	Percussion to Vandercook	All day
10	Manna pick up day	2:45 to 3:15 or 6 to 6:30 pm
	Symphonic Band Rehearsal	6:30 to 8:30 pm
12	Pep Band (select)	Report 5:45 pm
16	Symphonic Band Rehearsal	6 to 8:30 pm
17	Symphonic Band Festival at BGHS	7:30 pm
19	Pep Band (select)	Report 5:45 pm
27	Jazz I and II to Jazz in the Meadows	All day to early evening
<b>March</b>		
3	District 214 Honors Music Festival @ Forest View (select)	7:30 pm
8	HIA General Meeting	7:30 pm
9	Concert Band Festival at BGHS	7:30 pm
10	Manna pick up day	2:45 to 3:15 or 6 to 6:30 pm
	Symphonic Band Rehearsal	6:30 to 8:30 pm
17	Symphonic Band Rehearsal	6:30 to 8:30 pm
20-28	Spring Break	
29	Classes Resume	
31	Symphonic Band Rehearsal	6:30 to 8:30 pm
<b>April</b>		
7	Symphonic Band Rehearsal	6:30 to 8:30 pm
9	Chicagoland Band Festival Set-up	PM
10	Chicagoland Concert Band Festival (will need lots of student/parent help)	All day to late evening
14	Manna pick up day	2:45 to 3:15 or 6 to 6:30 pm
15-16	Solo & Ensemble at Hersey	PM
28	Symphonic Band Rehearsal	6:30 to 8:30 pm
<b>May</b>		
1	Symphonic Band to Superstate (if selected)	All day to evening
7	Symphonic Band Rehearsal	6:30 to 8:30 pm
10	HIA General Meeting	7:30 pm
12	Manna pick up day	2:45 to 3:15 or 6 to 6:30 pm
19	Spring Band Concert	7:30 pm
21	Formal Band Awards Banquet	TBA
28	Night of Percussion	TBA
31	Memorial Day Parade	TBA
<b>June</b>		
5	Graduation	
11	Last Day of School	



Request to Use Student Account Funds  
For Private Lesson Teacher Payment

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent email: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of Payment: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment is for: Past Lessons \_\_\_\_\_ Future Lessons: \_\_\_\_\_

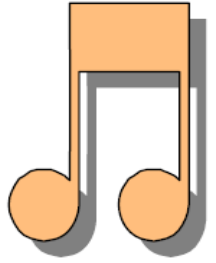
Private Lesson Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Address to send payment: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Payments can be made for lessons already taken or lessons to be taken in the future.
- Please drop this form off in the payment box in Mr. Casagrande's office or email to Mr. Casagrande at [scott.casagrand@d214.org](mailto:scott.casagrand@d214.org).
- Please include an invoice or receipt from the private lesson instructor.
- Checks will be mailed within approximately 2 weeks of request.
- Requests may be submitted up to three times a year.
- Requests will not be accepted during the months of June through August and December.

## 2009-2010 Hersey Band Sponsorship Program



Every year, the Hersey Instrumental Association raises funds to provide scholarships, sponsor learning opportunities, host family and student social events, purchase needed equipment, allow the marching band program to participate in competitions, and fund other band programs. This is your opportunity to become a sponsor and participate in the growth of the Hersey Band Program.

Sponsorship is open to the entire Hersey community, whether you have a student in the program or not. If you enjoy the half-time show, attend one of the concerts, or have pleasant memories of your own high school band days, please consider helping our band program.

The following levels of sponsorship are available:

### **Silver Level \$20.00- 49.00 Individual Sponsorship**

Includes a listing in all band programs and one admission to all concerts including the Concert Band Festival

### **Gold Level \$50.00 – 199.00 Family Sponsorship**

Includes a listing in all band programs and admission for all immediate family members (parents and siblings) to all band concerts including the Concert Band Festival

### **Platinum Level \$200 and up Corporate Sponsorship**

Includes a listing in all band programs, ½ page ad in the 2010 Concert Band Festival program, and admission for all immediate family members. Corporate Sponsors will be contacted by the Festival Committee for their ad. Students who bring corporate sponsorships will have their account credited with 20% of the amount contributed.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print as you would like it to appear in the band programs.)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Level of Sponsorship and amount: Silver \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Gold \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Platinum \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form with a check made payable to HIA to either:

*HIA Sponsorship Drive  
c/o John Hersey High School  
1900 E. Thomas St.  
Arlington Heights, IL 60006*

or

*Jorgia Connor  
1517 N. Harvard Ave.  
Arlington Heights, IL 60004*

If you have any questions please contact Jorgia Connor @ 847-506-1581/  
[robcr1@comcast.net](mailto:robcr1@comcast.net). Confirmation of your donation will be e-mailed to you unless  
otherwise indicated:

*I would prefer my to receive my confirmation in the mail*