

# News & Notes



## Continuing Education

Each year, teachers and staff have continuing-education opportunities that frequently occur above and beyond the regular school day. Some continuing education efforts are out of necessity. Some classes are necessary to obtain teaching certification in a specified area and others update skills. I want to give you a feel for the number of continuing courses taken by teachers and staff at Freeman Academy who bring their efforts back to students and our learning community.

### Summer and Fall

**Gwen Ortman:** NCA workshop, All Things Macbeth, All Things Hamlet, Teachers as Writers, Speech Communication Association of SD Convention

**Cindy Graber:** NCA workshop

**Nathan Epp:** Seminary Mission of the Church, and Theology classes. Currently taking an Old Testament Literature class

**Pam Tieszen:** Leadership 910 and 911 classes for doctorate degree

**Vernetta Waltner:** A series of eight online webinars and a skill building workshop sponsored by Engage:SD.com which covers the use of social media for communication with constituents

**Amy Hofer Vetch:** USD Directors Conference, attended sessions and played piano for sessions, three days; SD-ACDA Summer Conference at SDSU, three days

**Donna Ries:** 2010 USD Band Directors Institute

**Melinda Hora:** food services training in Huron

**Teachers** attended a full day in August for in-service on APEX, our new independent learning curriculum. **Gwen Ortman, Susan Schrag** (workshop) and **Nathan Epp** (two webinars) attended WriteToLearn, a new program introduced by the state to assist teachers in providing immediate feedback for students on their writing skills. **Faculty and staff** attended an after school webinar on copyright laws and plagiarism.

*Continued on page 2*



## Enclosures

- November Menu & Activity Calendars—subject to change
- 2nd Trimester Schedules
- GBB & BBB Schedules



## November 2010

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Peace is love that is passed on  
from generation to generation.  
*Clifford, age 8*

Lord, you have been our dwelling  
place throughout all generations.  
*Psalm 90:1, NIV*

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## Continuing Education, cont. from page 1

Amy Hofer Vetch and Pam Tieszen attended an NCA workshop to assist with our continuing school improvement plan.

**Congratulations to Nicolle Hofer Timmerman who received her Master of Science in Educational Technology from Dakota State University in**

**December 2009.**

This is a typical list. We are early in the school year and each year there is a healthy list of continuing education by staff. Congratulations to all the staff on their efforts to expand their areas of expertise and provide Freeman Academy with current information.



## Annual Community Service Day

Freeman Academy Community Service Day will be held Friday, November 5. Students and staff will be available from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to do yard and household projects for persons who need assistance with strenuous work and who live in

Freeman. We would welcome ANY PARENT to assist with morning and afternoon snacks; please contact Susan Schrag. Or to volunteer use of a pickup or trailer, contact Craig Wollman. All work is strictly volunteer. NO PAYMENT is accepted for the work. **Please call the school office, 925-4237, by noon on November 1 to schedule a job.**

## Benefit Auction – Saturday, November 6 at 6:00 p.m.

Plans are set for the annual FA Benefit Auction with proceeds going to the current fund to offset tuition costs. While there will continue to be the usual array of \$1 and \$5 raffles, furniture, food, and unique services, there are a few new items of interest this year.

Would you like to go on a hot air balloon ride for two? Tickets for this raffle item are \$5 each or \$20 for 5 tickets. They can be purchased at the auction OR at any home volleyball game prior to that night. The lucky winner will be drawn at 8:30 p.m. at the auction.

Students and their families have opportunities for two new raffles that DO NOT REQUIRE ANY PURCHASE! Sign up AT THE AUCTION – ONE ENTRY PER STUDENT. **THE STUDENT AND AT LEAST ONE**

**PARENT MUST BE IN ATTENDANCE AT THE AUCTION TO WIN: four \$100 tuition credit coupons AND four \$25 gift certificates to Best Buy or Walmart. Drawings throughout the evening.**

Invite your friends and relatives to join us for an entertaining evening of food, fellowship and friendly, competitive bidding! Doors open at 5:30 p.m., meal begins at 6:00 p.m. and live auction begins at 7:00 p.m. See you ALL there! Contact Delvonna Wentz at 605-660-8369 or [dvwentz@hotmail.com](mailto:dvwentz@hotmail.com) if you have an item to donate.



## State Sports and Music Events Compensation Policy for Meals and Hotels

State reimbursement guidelines for state-level sports and music events are set up differently. The SDHSAA reimburses the school for hotels and meals (\$4.00) during state basketball, volleyball and track events, but golf and cross country are not covered. The State Soccer Tournament, which is not sanctioned by the SDHSAA at this time, does not cover hotels or meals, and those expenses are passed on to parents.

It has been Freeman Academy's practice to cover hotels for state high school music events, but not meals. We do ask parents to reimburse the school for any extra nights when music events have taken place at a distance and extra nights are needed.



## Looking for a Schedule?

Schedules for athletics, trimester, late-start, early release, etc. can be found under "Links" on the left side

of the home page OR by clicking on "Resources" at [www.freemanacademy.org](http://www.freemanacademy.org).

# Notes & Reminders

## FA Welcomes Another Student!

Kittipat Kittiyano “Jump” joined Freeman Academy on October 11. Jump is from Bangkok, Thailand and is in our junior class. He enjoys soccer, music and computers. Jump currently lives in the dorm and is extremely excited about the opportunity to study with us. Please welcome him to our school and community and add him to your family’s FA Directory.



## Are You Planning College Visits With Your Student?

If you are planning a college visit for your student, please consider taking one of our international students along. We have several international students graduating from Freeman Academy this year that plan to continue their education in the USA. We encourage them to explore a variety of educational institutions and options. Thank you for including them in your travel plans when possible.

## School Postponements and Cancellations

In the event of inclement weather or other emergencies, school postponements and cancellations will be announced on WNAX Radio (570 AM), KSFY TV, KELO TV, and KDLT TV. The close line is also published on the KSFY and KELO websites. The decision to postpone or cancel school is made by the president of the board and the superintendent/principal. Late starts allow students and staff more time for safe travels.

## Remind Student Drivers

Remind your student drivers to allow **extra travel time even on late start days**. Remember to create an emergency plan with your children in the event of an early dismissal due to inclement weather.



## TRIP NEWS AND NOTES

We are encouraged that more families are joining the TRIP program each week! It really is a great way to help fund your family’s tuition account! Continue to recruit friends and relatives to participate in this worthwhile project.

Are you interested in ordering online? Please contact Barb for details on how to do this from the convenience of your home. Checks still need to be delivered to the school office by the due date for the order to be placed.

Due to the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays, please pay special attention to the adjusted schedule for ordering and picking up TRIP orders. Families will also want to plan ahead for Christmas, whether you are giving gift cards or using the cards to purchase gifts.

### SCHEDULE MODIFICATION:

**WED., NOV. 17 – ORDERS DUE**

**FRI., DEC. 3 – ORDERS DUE**

**WED., DEC. 15 – ORDERS DUE**

**— OFFICE CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS BREAK DEC. 24, 2010 – JAN. 3, 2011 —**

**FRI., JAN. 7 – ORDERS DUE**

**WED., NOV. 24 – PICK UP ORDERS**

**FRI., DEC. 10 – PICK UP ORDERS**

**WED., DEC. 22 – PICK UP ORDERS**

**FRI., JAN. 14 – PICK UP ORDERS**

We are willing to order Casey’s cards if there is a group of families who would like to gather together orders totaling a minimum of \$1000. This might be done once a month or once every 3 months, but unless we have that amount we will NOT order Casey’s cards. Please contact Barb Yoder at [mbyoder@goldenwest.net](mailto:mbyoder@goldenwest.net) for more details. As of Oct. 15, we have one \$25 card and one \$10 card available for purchase.

# Music Department Notes

## South Dakota All-State Chorus Oct. 29-30, 2010

Congratulations to the following students who will represent Freeman Academy at the South Dakota All-State Chorus this year in Aberdeen. Kristin Waltner, soprano, daughter of Sonja and Don Waltner; Brittney Ries, alto, daughter of Donna and Duane Ries; Chris Miller, tenor, son of Jenelle and Craig Miller; and Andre' Eisenbeis, bass, son of Anita and Tim Eisenbeis.

Alternates selected were Karina Ortman, soprano, daughter of Lori and Mark Ortman; Christina Hofer, alto, daughter of Marnette and Todd Hofer; Matthew Graber, tenor, son of Robin and Kerwin Graber.

## Church Visits



The FA Music Department (instrumentalists and choirs) will participate in worship at the Salem (South) Mennonite Church on November 7.

Service begins at 9:30 a.m. Choir is expected to be there at 9:00 a.m. for warm-ups. Students should wear their

concert attire.

Chamber Choir will worship with Calvary Baptist Church in Yankton on November 14. If you are interested in assisting us with a carpool, please contact Amy Hofer Vetch either via email or at the office: [ahofer@freemanacademy.org](mailto:ahofer@freemanacademy.org) or 925-4237, ext. 240.

## Studio Subscription Series

*Saxophobia* Monday, November 8, 7:30 p.m.

Please see details in the "Instrumental News" in this newsletter. Parents of band members will receive complimentary tickets for their immediate family members. Please bring these tickets to the concert.

Doors will open at 7:00 p.m. and a dessert reception will be served. All FA students receive free admission.



## Chamber Choir Fundraisers

A big thank you to all who supported our first fundraiser with the Celebrating Home products. The students raised over \$2000!

Our next fundraiser has started, BUTTERBRAIDS™! These are great, tasty pastries that arrive frozen. All you

do is thaw, bake and serve. BUTTERBRAIDS™ are great for company. There are several flavors to consider. Seek out a Chamber Choir member to inquire about these delicious pastries.

## American High School Theatre Festival

Last year our school was nominated by a university theatre professor to the American High School Theatre Festival Board of Advisors. As a nominee, our program was eligible to become one of the members of an international troupe that would travel to Edinburgh, Scotland. Top high school programs are identified based on their most recent bodies of work, awards, community involvement, philosophies and recommendations. The application packet was compiled by Amy Hofer Vetch with the assistance of Tim L. Waltner and Pam Tieszen. We had to support our portfolio with news articles, newsletter write-ups and photos. We were accepted and invited to participate last year!!! The possibility was presented to the FA board. However, due to the immense cost per student, the decision was made not to pursue the venture.

This year we received another invitation to participate! However, it has been decided not to complete this year's application. We are grateful that the Freeman Academy theatre and speech departments have been recognized as departments of excellence. Many congratulations to this community and to the students!

## A Renaissance Yuletide

Thursday and Friday, December 16-17, 6:30 pm.

Each year the Creative Arts Department with the help of the Freeman Academy Auxiliary puts on a Christmas concert with a dinner. Grades 5-12 participate in the choir and band selections. Students in grades 7-8 and members of the high school student body also assist with serving the meal.

We will have the entire event in the Pioneer Hall gym. Please note that this event is two evenings. The FA Auxiliary Social Committee is in charge of preparing the meal. Each year we ask parents/caregivers to contribute a salad or dessert, so be on the lookout for a mailing regarding your assignment and the day to bring it for the meal! There is also an opportunity for parent volunteer hours assisting in the kitchen. Please contact Janet Balzer at 605-648-3822 or [balzer@svtv.com](mailto:balzer@svtv.com) if you are interested in assisting.

## Music Department Notes, cont.

### Little Women, The Musical

*Little Women* rehearsals are going strong! The time and energy the students have put into this show is to be commended! Come join us on November 18 and 19 to see this inspiring NEW musical. Curtain opens at 7:00 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the door: \$7/adults and \$3/students (K-12).

### Grades 5-6 Parent Reminder

Students in grades 5 and 6 will be participating in the Yuletide event December 16 and 17 at 6:30 p.m.



### Instrumental Events

Instrumental students have been practicing and auditioning for various special events and concerts. Our **pep band** will be playing for the district volleyball

tournaments which will be held for the first time at Freeman Academy on November 2, 4, and 5.

### FA Concert Band With Saxophobia

Our **concert band** students (grades 7-12) will be performing with Rob Verdi on his "**Saxophobia**" Concert which will be Freeman Academy's second Studio Subscription Series concert on Monday, November 8. Mr. Verdi has a collection of over 100 different saxophones that have been made since their invention in 1847 by Adolphe Sax. His collection includes the smallest saxophone in the world, a mammoth six-and-one-half-foot contrabass sax, and virtually everything in between including a straight alto, straight tenor, C-melody, Grafton all-plastic, Conn-O-Sax, slide and bass saxophones, and even an original 1880 Adolphe Sax tenor. Mr. Verdi will be playing instruments from his collection with the concert band. All Freeman Academy students and band members' parents and siblings get in free for this concert. Don't miss this opportunity to hear our students perform with Mr. Verdi who plays professionally at Disneyland in California.

### All State Orchestra

Results are in for Freeman Academy students for two select ensembles. Three students were selected by

auditions held in Sioux Falls for **South Dakota's All-State Orchestra**. Those earning positions in this prestigious organization are: Karina Ortman, 2<sup>nd</sup> chair oboe, Lillie Koerner, 7<sup>th</sup> chair French horn, and Lea Graber, 2<sup>nd</sup> chair, 2<sup>nd</sup> violin.



(Clarification: Violin students must choose to audition on 1<sup>st</sup> violin music or 2<sup>nd</sup> violin music in the spring prior to the current school year. All wind instruments must audition on 1<sup>st</sup> part.) The concert will be in Aberdeen at the Barnett Center at 8:00 p.m. on October 30 in conjunction with All-State Chorus.

### Augustana Band Festival

Twelve Freeman Academy students have been selected to participate in the 53<sup>rd</sup> annual **Augustana Band Festival** to be held November 12 and 13. The Grand Finale Concert will be at 6:30 p.m. Saturday at the Washington Pavilion. Congratulations go to:

Karina Ortman, senior – Honor Band – 1<sup>st</sup> chair oboe  
Lauren Unruh, senior – Honor Band – 8<sup>th</sup> chair clarinet  
Brittney Ries, junior – Honor Band – 5<sup>th</sup> chair trumpet  
Lillie Koerner, senior – Honor Band – 6<sup>th</sup> chair French horn

Kristin Waltner, senior – Blue Band – 5<sup>th</sup> chair flute  
André Eisenbeis, senior – Blue Band – 6<sup>th</sup> chair clarinet  
Chris Miller, sophomore – Blue Band – 1<sup>st</sup> chair bassoon  
Ben Brockmueller, sophomore – Blue Band – 11<sup>th</sup> chair alto saxophone

Caroline Schrag, sophomore – Blue Band - 4<sup>th</sup> chair French horn

Christina Hofer, junior – Blue Band – 9<sup>th</sup> chair trombone  
Lea Graber, sophomore – Blue Band – 3<sup>rd</sup> chair baritone  
Ben Carlson, sophomore – Blue Band – 4<sup>th</sup> chair tuba



### Region I Honor Band

Presently, several middle school and high school students are awaiting results of their taped auditions for the **Yankton Region I Honor Band Festival** which will be held at Yankton High School on Monday, November 22.

# Upcoming Events

\* Subject to change

## October

- 28 All-State Chorus & Orchestra Leaving for Aberdeen
- 29 Pastor Appreciation Day 9:00-11:00 ~ Library
- 29-30 **All-State Chorus & Orchestra ~ Aberdeen**

## November

- 1 DH Pvt Res 5:30
- 2 Election Day
- Bullying Presentation 8:30 am CH
- 2,4-5 **Volleyball District 11B Tournament - FA Pep Band Plays**
- 3 Dakota Wesleyan College Rep 9:30/11:00 CH
- 4 Enrollment Steering Committee 7:30 am Library
- Communications Mtg 10:00 CH
- Augustana College Rep 11:00
- 5 **Community Service Day**
- 6 **Freeman Academy Benefit Auction 6:00 p.m. Dining Hall**
- 7 FA Music @ Salem Mennonite Church 9:30 am
- 8 **SSS Robert Verdi: Saxophobia w/ FA Concert Band & Jazz Band 7:30 PH**
- 9 **Dist. Oral Interp. @ Mitchell**
- Early Dismissal 2:50, Staff mtg @ 3:00 MH**
- 11 **Community Service Rain/Snow Date**

- Fall Sports Banquet 7:00 DH**
- 12-13 Augustana Band Festival
- 14 FA Chamber Choir @ Calvary Baptist, Yankton
- 15 Finance Committee Meeting 7:30 Library
- 16 **Region Oral Interp. @ Mitchell**
- 17 Mt. Marty College Rep 11:45 Link/DH
- 18-20 State Volleyball
- 18 **End of 1st Trimester**
- FA Musical Little Women 7:00 PH**
- 19 **No School—Teacher Work Day**
- FA Musical Little Women 7:00 PH**
- 22 **2nd Trimester Begins**
- Yankton Region I Honor Band**
- GBB Practice Begins
- 23 PH Private Res. 4:00-10:00 pm
- 23-24 MCC Meat Canning @ Fred Haar Co. Inc.
- 25-26 **Thanksgiving—No School**
- 29 BBB Practice Starts
- Board Meeting 7:00 MH**

- ADM Administration (Classroom Building)
- CH Chapel
- FH Frontier Hall (dormitory)
- MH Music Hall
- PH Pioneer Hall
- SH Sterling Hall
- VisCtr Visitor Center
- Arbor Aboretum
- Amph Amphitheater

## December

- 1 SDSU Rep. 2:15 CH
- 3-4 **State Oral Interp. @ Aberdeen**
- 4 Private Reservation DH evening
- 7 Communications Mtg 10:00 CH (tentative)
- 10 GBB/BBB (H) v Alcester Hudson JVs start 5:00
- 16-17 **Yuletide 6:30 pm PH (Advance Reservations Required)**

## Phone Number Update!



The FA Office has been informed that John & Beth Epp have retained their original home phone number instead of going totally cell. Please change your family's directory to reflect the Epp's home phone number as: 648-3455. Thank you.

## FREEMAN ACADEMY

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Bring Learning to Life*

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## Calendar Reminders

- ▶ October 25 Late Start 10:30; NCA Morning Meeting
- ▶ November 5 Community Service Day (11/11 - snow date) - Dress appropriately for working outdoors (caps, gloves, dress in layers)
- ▶ November 6 FA Benefit Auction 6:00 DH
- ▶ November 9 2:50 Dismissal; 3:00 Staff Mtg
- ▶ November 11 Fall Sports' Banquet 7:00 DH
- ▶ November 18 End of 1<sup>st</sup> Trimester
- ▶ November 19 No School - Teacher Work Day
- ▶ November 22 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester Begins
- ▶ November 25 & 26 Thanksgiving Break
- ▶ December 14 2:50 Dismissal; 3:00 Staff Mtg
- ▶ December 16 & 17 Yuletide (Grades 5 - 12)  
**Advance Reservations Required**