

MENLO-ATHERTON HIGH SCHOOL BEARNOTES

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CALENDAR

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Monday - Thursday, June 1 - 4** - Thursday, June 4, [Finals Week Schedule](#)
- **Monday, June 1** - Senior Farewell, 7 p.m., New Gym
- **Tuesday, June 2** - Senior Picnic, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., Huddart Park
- **Tuesday, June 2** - Senior Awards Night, 7 p.m., New Gym
- **Wednesday, June 3** - Free Senior Breakfast! Open to all seniors. 9:00 a.m., New Gym, followed by Mandatory Graduation Rehearsal, 10:15 a.m., Coach Parks Field
- **Thursday, June 4** - M-A GRADUATION - 4 p.m., Coach Parks Field **CONGRATULATIONS to the Class of 2009!**
- **Thursday, June 4** - Grad Night Party, 9:30 p.m. - 5:15 a.m., June 5 (see [article](#))

SAVE THE DATE

- **Wednesday, August 12** - Arena Check-In, Freshmen and Seniors, 1:00 - 5:30 p.m., New Gym
- **Wednesday, August 12** - Freshman Orientation, immediately after completing Check-In, Soccer Field
- **Thursday, August 13** - Arena Check-In, Sophomores and Juniors, 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., New Gym
- **Wednesday, August 19** - Class Schedule Distribution, 7:00 a.m., New Gym
- **Wednesday, August 19** - First Day of Instruction

2009-2010 District Calendar available [here](#).

BEARNOTES SUMMER HIATUS

Please note that our final edition of BearNotes

for this school year will be **Monday, June 8**.
Deadline for all submissions is this **Thursday, June 4**.

ADMINISTRATION

LOCKER CLEAN OUT is Monday, June 1, during Brunch. Please be sure to remove all books and school property, binders, and personal belongings from all outside hall lockers. School issued padlocks must be returned to Ms. Orcutt in the Vice Principal's Office. Any locks remaining after 3:30 p.m. on June 1 will be removed. Textbooks and library books should be returned to the library if they are not needed for final exams. Questions? Contact Toni Di Cicco, (650) 322-5311 x5111, tdicicco@seq.org.

SUMMER HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS and SUMMER LIBRARY HOURS. The summer assignments for **English classes** are downloadable [here](#). Summer homework assignments for **AP Biology, AP European History, AP U.S History, AS Chemistry, AS Physics, and AP Physics** will be posted for downloading on the [M-A website](#) and the [Library & Media Center home page](#). Please note: in order to complete the assignments for **AP U.S. History** and **AP European History**, students must pick up a full packet from the teacher **before** they leave for the summer.

Textbooks (checked out from the Library) are required to complete summer homework assignments for the following classes: **AP Biology, AP European History, AP U.S. History, and AS Chemistry**. The M-A Library summer hours will be Monday, June 8 through Tuesday, June 30, 8 a.m. - 12 noon, closed in July, reopening Monday, August 3 until the first day of school, 7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Questions? The library summer phone number is (650) 322-5311, x5162.

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SPECIAL STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS OUTSIDE M-A

BearNotes takes pleasure in announcing the following special student achievements for this school year, submitted by proud parents and friends. We will accept additional submissions through Thursday, June 4, for inclusion in the June 8 edition of BearNotes.

Amrita Sehgal (2009) tied for top honors at the [Young Epidemiology Scholars \(YES\) Competition](#) in Washington D.C, on April 20, 2009 and was awarded a \$50,000 college scholarship for an original research project using epidemiological methods of analysis to investigate a health problem in a population. Amrita's project involved teenagers' intake of calcium and their risk of osteoporosis later in life.

Jackie Leylegian (Jackie DT, 2012) competes in horseback riding. She did a final point match in February in LA where she qualified to compete in jumping in the Regionals. She won there and was one of 20 girls in the U.S. to go to the [IEA National 2008-2009 Championships](#) held in Ohio in May, where she placed in the top 12.

Tom Ivy (2009) recently appeared as a soloist playing the Mozart Clarinet Concerto (Mvt. 1) with the Sinfonietta orchestra of [El Camino Youth Symphony](#), as one of the ECYS concerto competition winners. An ECYS member since 2002, he will travel to Europe with the Senior Symphony this summer. Tom has also received three California Music Educators Association "Gold Medal/Command Performance" awards at the State level for solo and ensemble performances

Ice Hockey Defender, **Sophia Titterton** (2010), had a great season with the U16AAA [Girls Jr. Sharks](#). During their 8-month season, they traveled all over the states and Canada to find the best games. In January, they won the 17A Silver Sticks Tournament in Sarnia, Ontario. In early March, their season ended with a trip to the USA Hockey Regional Tournament in Fairbanks, Alaska where they made it to the semi-finals.

Robert Cooper (2009) and **Chris Kelvie** (2009), with Troop 109 in Menlo Park, achieved the [Eagle Scout Rank](#). As leadership service projects, Robert replaced rotten fence posts at Flood Park, and Chris built 6 sets of cubbies to furnish three classrooms at Fair Oaks Elementary School in Redwood City.

Spencer Petersen (2010), with Troop 222 in Menlo Park, achieved the [Eagle Scout Rank](#). For his leadership service project, Spencer remediated and improved trails in San Mateo County's Edgewood Park and Natural Preserve.

Congratulations to M-A's NorCal Crew rowers competing at the 2009 [US Rowing](#) Southwest Junior Championship Regatta, May 9-10: **Ashby Cogan** (2010) and **Megan Nash** (2010) won bronze medals in the Novice 4+ competition. They also rowed the Novice 8+ (6th place). **Sydney Young** (2012) rowed Lightweight 4+ (5th place). **Sofie Madden** (2011) rowed in the JV 4+ (5th place) and the JV 8+. This regatta was the season finale for over 1,500 athletes on 26 teams from Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah.

Leah Worthington (2011) was awarded an Honorable Mention in the [Palo Alto Weekly](#) Photography Contest youth category. She will receive her 10-year award in June for ballet work at Menlo Park Academy of Dance.

Nic Brody (2011) won 2nd place in the [American Mathematics Competition](#) Lower Division.

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BEARNOTES EXCLUSIVE, PART 1

WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS THIS SUMMER?

Your friendly PTA BearNotes team asked our amazing M-A teachers, staff and administrators the above question and received a mountain of responses! Here we share with you their delightful and varied answers (stay tuned next week for more submissions):

In addition to student teaching as part of my intern credential program at SJSU, I'll be working on the 2009 Fall Play and 2010 Spring Musical with my student assistant directors and stage managers. **Mandy Peoples, Drama**, apeoples@seq.org.

I am going to Cincinnati to grade the AP in Computer Science, and to Milwaukee to visit my cousin. My family and I will go to the [Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival](#) in July to see *Much Ado About Nothing*, followed by a week camping at the Wawona Campground in Yosemite. Plus I plan on riding my bike a lot, as I get ready for [Waves to Wine](#) in September, a fundraiser for MS research. **John Dumanske, Math**, jdumansk@seq.org.

I plan to relax at home, the family will go boating/waterskiing several times, and I am teaching a marriage and family course at San Francisco State. **Mona Klein, Consumer and Family Studies**, mklein@seq.org.

Our family is taking a trip to Disneyland to celebrate my son Gavino's 4th birthday. This will be his first trip to Disneyland. **Naomie Wade, Copy Center**, nwade@seq.org.

For the summer I will be competing in several roller figure skating championships. I will get to visit Fresno, CA for the Southwest Regional Championship; Koashung, Taiwan for the World Games; Peoria, Illinois for the [National Championships](#); and Freiburg, Germany for the World Championships. **Aubrey Orcutt, AVP Office, aorcutt@seq.org.**

I will be working at the SF Exploratorium as a mentor in the New Teacher Institute, working as a [US Rowing](#) Referee at the US Rowing Youth Nationals in Cincinnati and the US Rowing Club Nationals in Oak Ridge, TN, traveling down to LA to be a bridesmaid in my little brother's wedding, and traveling to NYC for a week with my family. Phew! **Colleen O'Neill, Science, coneill@seq.org.**

My wife and I will be traveling to Costa Rica for our second honeymoon in celebration of our 25th wedding anniversary. I will also prep for AP Physics, a new course I will be teaching at M-A next year. **Jeff DeCurtis, Science, jdecurti@seq.org.**

I'm heading to Boston to watch my son graduate from Harvard (M-A '05). Then, I'll return to teach English II at Sequoia High this summer. In between, I plan to read, starting with [Lisa Genova's novel Still Alice](#), visit art museums and garden. Next summer, however, I hope to take M-A students to Europe after a two-year hiatus. **Liane Strub, English & Art, lstrub@seq.org.**

I'm off to the Big Island of Hawaii to scuba dive, hike and hopefully watch lava flowing into the ocean. This is my first time visiting Hawaii and I'm very excited about my trip! **Audrey Stevenson, Special Education, astevenson@seq.org.**

After teaching double-sessions of AP Calculus this summer, I will spend 12 days with my family hiking 100 miles around [Mont Blanc](#) which lies on the corner of three countries: Switzerland, Italy and France. **Gregg Whitnah, Math, gwhitnah@seq.org.**

My summer plans include teaching M-A Compass English, then visiting my family and childhood friends in Spain. **Ana Ventura, English, aventura@seq.org.**

After ensuring that the district's English Immersion Institute is up and running, I will return to Mexico. I used to live 3 miles from the Tex-Mex border and crossed as often and with almost as little thought as you cross into Santa Clara County (in those pre - 9/11 days you only needed a driver's license and a quarter). Now it's been more than a decade, and it's time to do another round of Spanish immersion to expunge all of the slang I pick up from the 15 year olds with whom I usually speak! **Stephen Ready, Bilingual Resource Teacher, sready@seq.org.**

We will be eagerly awaiting the birth of our first child, due to arrive around August 1st! **Paul Snow, Social Studies & Computer Academy, psnow@seq.org, and Betsy Snow, English & Art, esnow@seq.org.**

What are my summer plans? I'll enjoy some family time as my daughter, Georgia, is getting married in June, and my other daughter, Lexy, is expecting her first baby, a boy, in August. In July, except for the last week (when I will teach a class for the College Board at University of San Diego), I plan to do as close to nothing as possible. No traveling - just reading, walking and hiking, reading some more, gardening, a little more reading, baking and cooking, watching the Giants, and reading. **Alice Kleeman, College & Career Center, akleeman@seq.org.**

We will be driving to Colorado and Arizona to visit friends and family. Our girls (Hazel, 5.5 yrs and Ellery, 4 yrs) have been good travelers in the past; we hope they can withstand the open road this time. **Mike Burton-Tillson, Art, mtillson@seq.org, and Cat Burton-Tillson, English & AVID, cburton@seq.org.**

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GRAD NIGHT 2009

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS. Junior, sophomore and freshman parent volunteers needed. We need just a few more volunteers for Grad Night Student Check-In, Thursday, June 4, at the New Gym from 8:30 - 10:45 p.m. Contact Debbie Verity at gradnight2009@mabearspta.org or (650) 321-3069 if you can help.

GRADUATING SENIORS. The Grad Night party, *One Enchanted Evening*, is only a few days away! As of last week we still had a few tickets available. If you wish you'd signed up, email Julie Gaston at gradnighttickets@mabearspta.org or call her at (650) 324-2422 to see if we have room for you.

If you're one of the 300+ grads coming to the party, please note the following: Check-In is at the New Gym at 9:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 4. Enter from the T-lot. You will return to the T-lot about 5:15 a.m. on Friday, June 5. Make sure you are dropped off and picked up because secure parking at M-A is not guaranteed. If you do drive yourself, park in the B-lot.

Your dress should be appropriate for a nice dinner. Girls, slacks and flats are fine, but dress up more if you want! Don't forget a jacket or sweater. No need to bring anything except an ID, confirmation letter (most were emailed), a jacket or sweater. Don't bring money, iPods, cell phones and yearbook. We will not be responsible for them. **YOU MUST NOT BRING** any food or drink, alcohol, cigarettes or drugs.

Remember this is a Safe and Sober event. Alcohol, cigarette and drug use is strictly prohibited. NOTE: If a student arrives under the influence of alcohol or drugs, the student will NOT be allowed to attend the event and there will be no refund.

Still have questions about Grad Night? Contact Debbie Verity at gradnight2009@mabearspta.org or call (650) 321-3069. **Congratulations to the Class of 2009!**

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PTA



ESL TUTOR PROGRAM - - A huge THANK YOU to our tutors! Our year of tutoring has drawn to a close, and we want to convey our heartfelt gratitude to all of our 38 tutors for their hours devoted to tutoring English Language Learner students at M-A this year. Their deep commitment of time and energy coming once a week all year long has made a world of difference in what the students learn and the caring they experience from our community. And we've had a fascinating and fun year working with the students.

We hope all of our tutors will continue next year and be joined by other parents and community members. If you think you would like to tutor in the fall, contact Marla Stark or Diane Jones (marlastark@mac.com, dianevsj@sbcglobal.net). Happy summer to all!

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IN THE COMMUNITY

Hillview Hawks at the Giants -- 10th anniversary! Calling all Hillview band alumni. If you would like to play the national anthem at the Giants game, come join the band on Friday, August 28 at 7 p.m. Go to www.hillviewpto.org, then click through to the music program to sign up or buy tickets.

"M-A's Own PSAT/SAT Prep." is enrolling juniors for the PSAT in October, and is wait-listing sophomores as juniors must have priority for the PSAT. The course needs an enrollment of 20 students to meet the base fee of \$100, and enrollment has already begun. If you wish to secure a place for your student or have questions, contact Jane King at (650) 323-4066 or by email at jcking@juno.com. "M-A's Own" office will be closed from June 23 through July 15, 2009. Enrollment is on a first-come, first served basis both for juniors on the regular list and for wait-listed sophomores. To keep costs as low as possible, the course operates on a no refund, no make-up basis. If any senior still needs to take an SAT, this preparation will work for that.

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BEARNOTES SUBMISSION INFORMATION

- Email submissions to [your BearNotes Team](#) by Thursday midnight, spellcheck/proofread them first, and format them in Arial 10 pt.
- Please keep submissions **concise**, and include the organization name, event, date, time, location, and contact info, including web site URL.
- All submissions are subject to editing by the PTA.
- For the PTA policy on BearNotes publication, please go to the [M-A PTA web site](#).

Menlo-Atherton PTA does not endorse third-party events or submissions, nor take responsibility regarding the content of any third-party websites.

Go Bears. Grrrr!

Your BearNotes Team,
Julie Brody, Kris De Lisle and Pam Stoner
M-A High School PTA BearNotes