



The Eagle Flyer



The Monthly Newspaper of Acacia Wood School
 Issue 2, Spring 2011 Edition
 May 12, 2011

Great Success for Acacia Wood at Orange County History Day 2011!

By Selina Tan

After months of toil, not to mention continuous stress and analysis of historical sources of all kinds, Acacia Wood's Historical Research students finally had their projects displayed at Orange County History Day 2011 on March 19! This competition represented the county level of National History Day, a national historical competition that began in the 1970s in Cleveland, Ohio before expanding to all 50 U.S. states, as well as to Guam, American Samoa, and even to Shanghai, China. The various competition categories included exhibits, documentaries, websites, performances, and historical papers. All categories were further divided into two parts, one for group projects and the other for individual projects, with the exception of the historical paper category, which only accepted individual projects. On the morning of March 19, a Saturday, students arrived at the Orange County Department of Education headquarters in Costa Mesa with their magnificent projects. Many teachers, parents, friends, and relatives came to support them. Then the moment of judgment came. Anxious students waited to be interrogated by county-appointed judges. Several days later, Dr. Deborah Granger, the event coordinator, announced the final results at a special awards ceremony held on March 22. In total, nine Acacia Woodians qualified to compete at the National History Day - California state competition, held in San Jose between April 29 and May 1.

Congratulations to the following students who were selected as Champions at the county level!

Senior Group Website:
 Samuel Lam and Michael Torres
 Ann Huang and Sharon Lee

Senior Individual Performance:
 Hannah Yim

Senior Group Performance:
 Nehemiah Yap, David Kayekjian, and Brandon Valdez*

Senior Historical Paper:
 Ruthannah Wang*

*Special Note: Nehemiah Yap, David Kayekjian, Brandon Valdez, and Ruthannah Wang were selected as finalists at the state competition. The boys were chosen as runner-ups for the national competition that will be held in June this year in the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area, at the College Park campus of the University of Maryland.

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PHOTO: In order from left to right: Sharon Lee, Ann Huang, Ruthannah Wang, Hannah Yim, David Kayekjian, Brandon Valdez, Nehemiah Yap, Mrs. Doering. Kneeling (bottom left of picture): Michael Torres, Samuel Lam.

Noteworthy Events for the Upcoming Month (May-June 2011):

May 16-20: Senior Week
 May 20: Senior Banquet
 May 30: No School - Memorial Day
 June 3, 6-8: Final Exams
 June 8: Q4 Awards Assembly
 June 9: End of Q4
 June 11: Commencement/Graduation
 June 11: 2011-2012 school year information mailed out; report cards sent

Acacia Wood Talent Night 2010-2011: A Fun-Filled Event For All

By Sarah-Gail Permantier and Grace Hong

This year's Talent Night was unlike any other! It began at four o'clock with a family fun carnival. Students, friends, and family members roamed around the back parking lot that had been transformed into a carnival area. Guests and students took part in a variety of games, such as throwing shoes at wooden cats, throwing rubber bands at nails hammered into a board, attempting to toss ping-pong balls into fishbowls, taking pictures in a picture booth, and kicking soccer balls at student Nehemiah Yap. Sweet snacks were served indoors as refreshments, along with a special art exhibition put up by the first grade class that featured photography and original student artwork. At the same time, a Scholastic book fair was set up for interested parents and students to purchase new reading material. All the proceeds from the carnival were raised in an effort to help

Japan, in light of the recent earthquake and tsunami disaster. Despite the heat outside that day, everyone had a great time and it didn't end there! The talent show performances began early this year, right after the carnival ended. As everyone enjoyed their dinner, they also enjoyed the first portion of the talent show, which consisted of live entertainment from several students performing musical acts! After dinner, the second portion of the talent show began. The most striking aspect of the show was both the variety and the amount of talent displayed. Acts ranged from singing to playing musical instruments to dancing, and even included a special comedy act. At various intervals throughout the evening, special student awards were also announced, honoring some of Acacia Wood's brightest young minds and those who contributed significantly to the school community. It was both a fun and successful night for Acacia Wood School.

Writing and Journalism Club Members:

President: Kyle Cheng
 Editor-in-Chief: Ruthannah Wang
 Vice President: Elyse Joseph
 Secretary: Joana Morales
 Treasurer: Selina Tan
 Communications Chair: Sarah-Gail Permantier
 Members: Rachel Nash, Gordon Wong, Gordon Wong, Ben Cho, Michael Handria, David Montiel
 Club Advisor: Jesse Cope

Interested in submitting an article? Send an email to eagleflyer@awschool.org for more information on submissions.

AGATE Annual Writing Contest Student Winners Announced

By Ruthannah Wang

The AGATE honor society at Acaciawood sponsors an annual writing contest for students of all grade levels as part of a fine school tradition. This year's contest featured a prompt that required students to make use of Acaciawood's six character traits – citizenship, responsibility, honesty, fairness, care, and respect – and incorporate at least two of them into an essay that showed specific examples of each trait. An especially unique aspect of this year's prompt also required the students to interview a person of their choice who was 55 years of age or older. The result was that many of the submitted essays were enhanced by personal anecdotes from the interviewees' lives, so much that it was extremely difficult to determine a winner. However, among the submissions, several students' entries stood out, and they were honored for their work during Talent Night. A list of their names, grade levels, and English teachers appears in this issue, as well as the original essays from the winners of the Senior and Junior Divisions. Congratulations to all the winners!

AGATE Contest Winners

Senior Division:

1st Place - Joana Morales - 11th: Mrs. Anna Harris
2nd Place - Kyle Cheng - 10th: Mr. Victor Olivares

Junior Division:

1st Place - David Kayekjian - 8th: Mr. Jesse Cope
2nd Place - Daniel Kuai - 7th: Mrs. Noemi Quinones

Elementary Division:

1st Place - Ashley Gonzalez - 6th: Mrs. Bethany Blatz
2nd Place - Marc Hudson - 4th: Mrs. Kimberly Kangas

CAN I PRAY FOR YOU? – THE PATTERN OF A FAIR, RESPECTFUL, AND CARING WOMAN

By Joana Morales (Senior Division 1st Place)

Can I pray for you? God is who brought you to me. He is the only one who can help you. Though these words are short and simple, the incredible power it had was strong enough to dramatically change a helpless young man's life forever. These words were spoken by an extraordinary woman who I see everyday at school. Her bright smile and frequent "Good mornings" to me as well as to her students never fail to show me what kind of person she is. This admirable teacher whose name is Noemi Quinones truly exemplifies the character traits of fairness, respect, and care. Her positive moral character is one that has placed her perfectly at Acaciawood School; she is a real example of our motto: "Strong in Character, High in Standard."

Noemi Quinones was born in the lively state of New York where she lived for twenty-one years. She attended the High School of Art and Design. However, the art supplies were expensive, so she got a job. When November came, her boss decided to hold a turkey raffle and to her surprise, she won! Her happiness, however was shattered when one of the employees shouted at her saying that she did not deserve to have her name in the bag because she was a new worker. Mrs. Quinones was hurt from the woman's words but decided to offer her fellow employee her own turkey. The manager however told Mrs. Quinones that she had the same right to the turkey as did every employee. From that experience she gained her own definition of fairness: "To me, fairness is a responsibility that a person who seeks respect and trustworthiness needs to possess."

Since 1983, Mrs. Quinones has been working in the education department. As a teacher, she believes that it is important to respect the teachers, parents, and the students. She said that "respect is very important to me in any endeavour or task I perform." An example of respect is when students would get expelled from the school. Those "worst-disciplined students" would write back to her to thank her for caring for them. She always "tried to treat everyone with the respect they deserved as human beings." Mrs. Quinones also believed that through respecting a person, they will respect you too. Her exact words were that "If you care for someone, you respect them and they in turn will respect you forever."

One day, many years ago, as Mrs. Quinones was teaching in Puerto Rico, one of her students came in and sat down. For an hour, the quiet man did nothing. When she asked him what was wrong, his eyes suddenly filled with tears. In her office, after many tears and tissues, he told her that his mom was very ill and that he was tired of working a part-time job as well as coming to school. He told her his thoughts of suicide. Mrs. Quinones became scared, but caringly asked him if she could pray for him because she believed that God was the only one that could help him. From that day, the young man was never the same again. She told me that "he always thanked me for caring and taking the time to listen to him." Her caring manner towards a helpless person in need caused a life to be altered. Mrs. Quinones says that "this is one of many stories where I have seen how caring can help heal someone's heart."

Today, as the tide of the age continues to worsen, the society we live in is not one focused on the importance of positive moral character but rather on material things. Nevertheless, there are those who though not perfect, still make an effort to have a positive moral character. The words of Mrs. Quinones have left an impact on me: "We may be few, but we must take a stand for what we believe and take any opportunity God gives us...to speak about what we believe, remembering always that there is power in the written word... I believe that I can make a difference in someone's life by being respectful, caring, fair, showing citizenship and trustworthiness to all those God places in my way. This is my God-given responsibility and my legacy to future generations." Through Mrs. Quinones's ways of being caring, respecting, and fair, Acaciawood has become a better place and I am thankful to have such a positive pattern like her at our school.

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BE FAIR, SHOW CARE: TRAITS THAT MAKE A LEADER

By Kyle Cheng (Senior Division 2nd Place)

Character is rarely emphasized in today's society. If one looks around, gaining material possessions and pursuing good looks, fame, and/or wealth seem to be the priority of many people. However, emphasis on character is very much prevalent in churches, various religious groups, organizations such as the Boy and Girl Scouts of America, and the Marine Corps. In these specific groups, good character is a prerequisite, if not a necessity, to developing skills that impact other people in a positive, morally upright way. This is especially true if one decides or aims to become a leader, and in this case, a pastor. To lead a group of people or to shepherd a congregation is a daunting task, one that requires much work in one's moral character. Thus, I've decided to interview my pastor, Reverend Shieh.

The character traits of fairness and caring are probably the most evident in Reverend Shieh's life, and he defines each respectively: Being fair is to be just, equal, righteous, and respectful. To care is to be compassionate, and showing empathy and sympathy. The Reverend chose the traits of fairness and caring mainly due to the fact that as a pastor, he needs to be fair with the people he counsels. He needs to make fair verdicts based on listening to both sides instead of making quick decisions. Also, he needs to care for his congregation, the flock, so to speak, God has placed under his authority. He needs to listen to their problems, direct them to scripture, offer them sound counsel, and channel God's love so that the congregation knows that their pastor is someone they can trust; someone who is truly sent by God to help the church grow into spiritual maturity. Caring, Reverend Shieh noted, is also a basic Christian responsibility. Christians are instructed to love and care for their fellow believers as well as the unsaved. Since it is clearly commanded by God, he must listen and obey what is stated in the Word.

The earliest impacting recollection of fairness being exhibited to Reverend Shieh was when he was in high school. He was reading a book about how certain new political ideas sometimes lead to the persecution, mistreatment, and the occasional execution of certain politicians. It upset him that such unreasonable treatment of people existed, and he was determined to be fair to those he dealt with. As for caring, Reverend Shieh had a completely different and probably more impacting experience: After graduating from college and entering the military, as is required by Taiwanese law, Reverend Shieh worked and became a reserve officer; a 2nd Lieutenant. As such, he was given authority over thirty men. Throughout his assignment, he learned to care and take responsibility for his soldiers. At one time, he lent some money to a fellow soldier. Soon after that soldier left the military, however, he committed suicide. Reverend Shieh considers the money a loss, but not as great a loss as the life of that man.

Exercising good character often helps people in their personal life, social life, or ministry. In his case, Reverend Shieh has been most able to utilize fairness with his three kids. He needs to be able to treat each one equally and meet their individual needs in a fair way. On top of that, he needs to make sure that he doesn't spoil or give special treatment to any of them. In his ministry, he has been most able to exercise care to the people he counsels. Caring usually entails sacrifices and moving beyond one's comfort zone, and the Reverend certainly had to give up quite a bit of time and comfort to address people's needs, such as using technology when traditional, in-person appointments could have been arranged.

If there is something about these two traits that Reverend Shieh wants people to know, it is that both should be held to God's standard. Seeing as both are key aspects of God's own character, every Christian should not hesitate to instill such a high standard into their lives. Man's standard is corrupt and flawed; only the Word will be the final authority in determining how fair or how caring a person is. Reverend Shieh references the following verses as such a standard:

"My brothers, as believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ, don't show favoritism. Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes and say, 'Here's a good seat for you.' But say to the poor man, 'You stand there' or 'Sit on the floor by my feet.' Have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?" (James 2:1-6, NIV)

"No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and His love is made complete in us... We love because He first loved us. If anyone says, 'I love God,' yet hates his brother, he is a liar. For anyone who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot love God, whom he has not seen. And he has given us this command: Whoever loves God loves his brother." (1 John 4:12, 19-21)

We should be fair to everyone, and it should not be based on peoples' appearance or status. It should be upheld in accordance to the Word of God, as even the government is corrupt in interpreting laws and passing judgment. When we show care, it should reflect the love of God, for only that is the purest, most reliable, faithful, unconditional love possible. In fact, we should aim to reflect God in everything we do, because without Him, human character would be flawed, no matter how good it looks.

HAYKANUSH SHAMIRYAN: AN EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW

By David Kayekjian (Junior Division 1st Place)

Haykanush Shamiryan was born on March 8, 1945 in Tehran, Iran in a house-builder's family. When Haykanush Shamiryan was a few weeks old her mother passed away and when she was one she had a stepmother. Her stepmother sent her to work as a servant instead of school when she was barely nine years old. As a child she never had motherly love, so her goal was to be the best mom who is caring, responsible, loving, and respectful to her children and others.

Haykanush Shamiryan's care overflows from her being. In 1961 she married Temur Ayrapetyan, a highly educated but poor man, and had four children. Because of poverty, many days she went without food but she made sure that her children were well fed, cared for, and loved. When her mother-in-law was on her deathbed, she fed her, bathed her, and cared for her for three years until she passed away. She did the same for her husband when he was hospitalized. In order to get to the hospital she traveled in three different busses to bring home cooked food to him every single day for four years. She cares not only for people but also for nature. A dried up twig can blossom under her care. If you visit Shamiryan, the first thing she will do is make sure that you are well taken care of. At that moment she will cook for you, provide clothes and blankets if it's chilly, and give you lots of love. Haykanush Shamiryan's care is not the only virtue that I look up to but also her being a responsible person.

Haykanush Shamiryan learned responsibility in a hard way when she was only a child. As a servant she had to wake up at five in the morning to pick up bread from the bakery and prepare breakfast for the hosts. Throughout the day, she would finish all the jobs assigned to her diligently and at night she slept in a basement. Shamiryan was so poorly fed, that she would eat raw onions in the basement and they would taste like the best delicacy in the world. Later in life, she became a successful chef and fed thousands each day while singing and having a smile on her face. From the age of nine till now, she never missed a workday, was never late, and always went above and beyond. However, care and responsibility are not her only character traits. She is also respectful towards adults and young ones.

As a child Haykanush Shamiryan always showed respect to her elders. She respected her father and stepmother by never complaining for making her a servant. As a servant she always respected the host family and followed all of her assignments. Learning respect from a young age helped her to become a person of character. Now, at age sixty-five she not only respects her elders but also young ones. She always humbles herself and never puts herself above anyone.

Haykanush Shamiryan is an example of care, responsibility, and respect for others to follow. She never had a real example to follow but her dedication and experiences through life made her a better person. Shamiryan became the best mom not only for her children but also for many others. Her living, which is full of life in the Lord, is an example for others. She said, "When you work hard and suffer as a kid, it shapes you and helps you gain character traits that will benefit you later on in life." Haykanush Shamiryan is my dear grandmother who I look up to every day and my goal is one day to be as caring, responsible, and respectful as she is.

THE PATH TOWARDS SUCCESS

By Daniel Kuai (Junior Division 2nd Place)

"Personality can open doors, but only character can keep them open." Elmer G. Letterman, who believed in strong, moral character, spoke these words. Although most of society today has low character values, there are some people that still have high character. Christina Poon, a grandmother from Hong Kong, has exemplified the character traits trustworthiness and fairness throughout her life. I believe that Mrs. Poon demonstrates trustworthiness and fairness for the following reasons.

First, Mrs. Poon believes that the definition of trustworthiness is being a "trustworthy, reliable, and dependable person" especially in your job. When you exhibit these traits, your boss will have more confidence and dependence on you. Mrs. Poon believes we should instill trust in all of our associations. Her example of trustworthiness was when her "mother-in-law trusted her with the finances because she knew she would not cheat or steal from her after showing her that she was a trustworthy person."

Next, Mrs. Poon defined fairness as to "care and share with others." Mrs. Poon states that "to be fair to others makes you a better person and causes them to be fair to you." She says that when you are fair, "people commit more trust and confidence into you, giving you more privileges than before." Mrs. Poon's example concerning fairness was when she was "fair to each of her children" causing them to not be "envious of one another." Now Mrs. Poon's children do not instigate fights with one another and are caring to each other. This character trait grew and developed into Mrs. Poon's being and made her a very fair, open-minded, and caring person in today's society.

Lastly, these character traits caused Mrs. Poon to be a better person in society because she became trusted by many more people and became fair to other people. Mrs. Poon gained these character traits by her father. She said that her father "instilled into her not to lie, cheat, and steal", thus, she reflects the true meaning of being caring and fair. Mrs. Poon endorsed these same words to me because she also believes that not lying, cheating, or stealing would cause you to be a fair and trustworthy person.

After hearing and absorbing the responses by Mrs. Poon regarding the two character traits, I realized that Elmer Letterman was correct! It is not personality that keeps doors open, but strong character. Mrs. Poon showed to me that these words were really true, society today in this generation thinks that personality would open doors and would keep them open. They do not realize that it is really character that keeps them open, not personality. I became inspired after listening to Mrs. Poon, to grow into a man that is fair and trustworthy to other people. I agree with Mrs. Poon about her definitions and responses to fairness and trustworthiness because she also taught my mother to be fair and trustworthy. Now, my mother shows fairness and trustworthiness in society, so I believe that I should also demonstrate to others fairness and trustworthiness. I should take Mrs. Poon's advice as my guide to become a person in this society that is "strong in character and high in standard."

Special Feature: Students' Personal Enjoyment from the High School and Junior High Conferences!

"From April 8-10, 2011, I went to the brothers' junior high conference and it was awesome! In the first message, what I enjoyed was what the brother told us: that we are the center of the universe. God made the universe, including the planets and the earth, for us. And it was great that we could blend with different young people from different places. During the second message I started to pay more attention to the brother, and his speaking touched me a lot. I don't exactly know why, but I feel that the Lord touched me. Lastly, for the third message, I enjoyed that we have to build the ark and enter into the ark - and we are not too young to build the ark. So let's build the ark!"

-Moses Lin, 7th grade

"This spring we went to Alpine Camp for our junior high conference. It was a two-hour drive, so we made some stops for dinner and snacks. On our way up, it began to snow and get foggy. As this is a rare sight in southern California, many of us took pictures! During our time at Alpine, we had snowball fights and lots of enjoyable meetings. The speakers were brothers Juan Carlos and Daniel, and they spoke to us about "The Vision and Work That Accomplishes God's Eternal Purpose." Although there were plenty of messages that I enjoyed, my favorite part of the conference was that God didn't need a reason to create us; He created us because He wanted to. I consider myself fortunate because unlike most people, who have been looking for their purpose in life, I know that our purpose is to contain and express our rich, enjoyable Christ."

-Sara Montiel, 7th grade

"In Genesis, we know that there was the Tree of Life and the Trees of the Knowledge of Good and Evil. What does this have to do with us? As part of the Adamic race we were born into a period after man's fall. There was no way that God could use us to fulfill His purpose. However, God's calling of Abraham shows that He gave up the Adamic race and called out a new race, the Abrahamic race, to be His chosen people. We, the believers, have been transferred from the fallen Adamic race to the called Abrahamic race, but although we have the transfer in race, we still need to transfer in life. The brother used a really good example: he said that it was easy to take an American out of America, but that it was difficult to take America out of an American. As we know, Abraham was from a place that worshipped idols, so for God to call him, He had to appear in a strong way in order to draw him away from his evil background.

Through his many experiences with God, Abraham experienced a lot of grace. Grace is the inward experience of life in order for man to fulfill God's purpose. Grace is God Himself, in Christ as the Spirit. Where can we find grace? Grace is with our spirit, grace is in the word of God, grace is with the saints, grace is with the church, grace is in our testimony, grace is in our labor for the Lord, and grace is in our trials and sufferings. Grace is there in our failures. Sometimes, our situation may be beyond our control, so what we can only rely on is the grace of God. When we fail in certain things, God uses this as a way for him to supply us with more grace.

Abraham was promised a seed that would multiply and become as numerous as the stars in the heavens. However, when he was 75 years old, he still did not have a child, so he resorted to his servant and bore Ishmael. After this, God did not appear to Abraham for thirteen years. So, one of the things we need to know is that God does not want us to use our natural strength to work for Him. Instead, all He wants is for us to rely on Him and walk with Him day by day. Praise the Lord! God has called us for His purpose, and now we have to spread the enjoyment of Christ as the gospel. If we enjoy the Christ each day, and let our enjoyment of Christ be the gospel we preach, Jesus will finally have His second coming."

-Gordon Wong, 10th grade

"This spring, the conference for the high school brothers and sisters was from April 17-19. While the brothers went to Engedi Camp, the sisters had the awesome privilege to be the first ones attending a conference at the new campground called Alpine Camp. Upon arriving, we were all able to see that we were in for a cold and snowy weekend, as well as an enjoyable one filled with the Lord! The brothers who shared the messages were Brothers Tom Goetz and James Kuan. The theme of the conference was The Line of Life (7): *The Line of Life with Abraham (1)*.

The title for Message One was "God's Calling of Abraham" and the main burden the brothers were trying to convey to us was that like Abraham, we have a calling; this high calling is to go out and preach the gospel of the Lord to the world. The second message was titled "Living by Faith." Here many of us sisters were touched by the realization that as Abraham did, we need to be those that overcome trials and tribulation with a faithful spirit. Through overcoming, we become stronger in the Lord. Another thing that was stressed in the cabin time for this message was that we need to live a life of the altar and the tent.

"Knowing Grace for the Fulfillment of God's Purpose--The Promise of the Seed and the Land" was the title of the third message. This strong word talked about how the Lord does not want us to trust in ourselves to help Him fulfill His purpose; He just wants us to let Him fill Himself into us, and this is the seed that He wants. In addition, we were able to see that Christ is a land that we can live in and on. This land is also the church. Finally, the concluding message, Message Four, titled "Knowing Grace for the Fulfillment of god's Purpose--Unveiling the Divine Title, the Changing of Human Names and the Sign of Circumcision" emphasized the way that the Lord worked in Abraham. The way that God dealt with Abraham is through circumcision to exterminate his self, flesh, natural strength, and natural ability. This needs to be our prayer--that the Lord may deal with us in every aspect of our body, soul, and spirit. We need to give ourselves to Him completely for the fulfillment of His purpose. After much prophesying from the sisters, we were all able to see how much the Lord was working in all of us. This incredible conference was very enjoyable, refreshing, strengthening, and filled with Christ!"

-Joana Morales, 11th grade

Class of 2011 Senior Trip: A Unique and Enjoyable Experience

By Sarah-Gail Permantier

This year's Senior Trip was most definitely the best Senior Trip ever to occur. Six of the eight seniors embarked in a minivan on April 1, heading toward Northern California. Our first stop was lovely Nord, California, a tiny town with a population of 299, where we visited my Uncle Luke and his family on his farm. My uncle has five horses, which are everything but ordinary: even the average horses of their breeds, Percherons and Belgians, weigh around 1000 pounds! My uncle's horses weighed twice as much at 2000 pounds. Their job was to pull wagons as a team. However, the oldest horse, Butch, was left out this time, and to our great fortune, we got to take turns riding him bareback! It was an amazing experience since this was the first time several seniors had ever ridden a horse. After an amazing weekend on the farm, we headed north to Bend, Oregon, where we saw pine trees and icy rivers. We stayed with my Grandma Gail and her dog, Mr. Fritz. The boys had a great time playing pool, dancing (or attempting to dance), and exercising in the aerobics room. The girls enjoyed taking walks in the snow, shopping, and exploring the lovely town of Bend. One fateful afternoon, we were out for a horseback ride at a ranch near Sisters, Oregon. We were all mounted on our respective horses and trotting along when suddenly behind us we heard the thunderous beating of hooves on the earth. Our heads whipped round to see what was making the noise. I saw a rider-less horse galloping at top speed out from the trees. I recognized it as our guide's horse.

Our horses spooked at the sight and sound of the charging stallion, and took off in every direction. I did my best to get my horse, Honey, under control, but was really worried about Henna and Daniel. Everyone else had managed to calm their horses, but Daniel and Henna's horses had shot off into the trees and we could see flashes of their coats as their horses weaved in and out of the brush. Fear crept into our hearts as we watched the horses climb steadily up a slightly rising hill. With rocks and thorny brush about, there was no good place to land. Daniel's horse finally slowed down but then I saw Henna's feet slip out from the stirrups. To make matters even worse, her headband had slipped down in front of her eyes! I cried out, "Henna!" I saw her fall from her speeding horse. She landed perfectly on a patch of sawdust and turned out to be okay. The pangs of fear eased within all of us. Twenty minutes later I had switched horses with Henna (oh dear) and we were on our way. It was quite the adventure. After five days of fun in Oregon we headed back south and stopped in San Francisco to visit my other uncle, Mark. He showed us around the city, took us down Lombard Street (the most twisty street in the world), and took us to Fisherman's Wharf where we had delicious clam chowder. We headed home the next morning. Overall, it was an excellent trip that was abundantly blessed by our dear Lord Jesus. We all grew in life and had a wonderful time.



PHOTO (L): In order from left to right: Rachel Nash, Henna Shin, Sarah-Gail Permantier, Daniel Kim, David Montiel, Enoch Yim, Mrs. Permantier. PHOTO (R): The senior class on horseback. In order from left to right: Rachel Nash, David Montiel, Sarah-Gail Permantier, Mrs. Permantier, Henna Shin, Enoch Yim, Daniel Kim.

THIS ISSUE'S FEATURED STORY: "THE UNFORTUNATE TALE OF HUMPTY DUMPTY"

By Elyse and Stephen Joseph

An over-sized egg perched atop an arrangement of stones and mortar used to separate two segmented areas of land. Under the influence of gravity, he single-handedly proved Newton's first and third laws of motion, shattering into many infinitesimal fragments of calcium carbonate and protein. Unfortunately, the constitutional monarchy of the country (who collectively attempted to reform his broken and scattered body) was unable to perform the chemical reactions necessary to bind his eggshell back into its original state.

THIS ISSUE'S FEATURED COMIC: "ANIME CLUB"

By Michael Handria

