

Grissom Band Parents Association, Inc. Newsletter

October 2003

Editors - Cynthia Brooks & Mitzi Crawford



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

Haven't the kids done a wonderful job this year on their marching program? They are all to be commended for an outstanding team effort! Each year they continue to amaze me with their dedication, desire and pride. What a great group of representatives for today's youth.

Our students again will represent the Grissom Band in the Veteran's Day Parade on **Tuesday, November 11th**. More information will be forthcoming as to the time. I know this is a workday for most, but I urge you to try to attend if at all possible. Help show support not only for our children but for all of our veterans as well.

Please mark your calendars to attend the Band Parent's meeting on **Monday, October 27th** at 7:00PM. This is one of your vital communication connections for upcoming events as well as general information for the operation of the association. Also, remember to visit the website frequently for information (www.grissomband.org). Ron Lewis, our Webmaster, continues to do a wonderful job in keeping our site information updated.

I want to personally thank all of the parents that have helped during the marching season. Without you, this program would not be possible. While the marching season is winding down, there is still much to do for the remainder of the year; so keep your sleeves rolled up and let's keep plugging away. Thanks for YOUR dedication!

Sincerely,
Teresa Montgomery
President 2003/2004

GRISSOM BAND PARENTS EXECUTIVE BOARD 2003-2004

Teresa Montgomery, President
881-9387; tdmont@HiWaay.net
Greg Harris, 1st Vice President
880-7564; harris4au@knology.net
Karen Parker, 2nd Vice President
883-4622; parker23@knology.net
Doris Lewis, Secretary
881-3154; dslewis@knology.net
Julie Ashcraft, Treasurer
650-5043; julie22@ashcraft.net
Kathy Francica, Treasurer
883-7132; KFrancica@bellsouth.net
Bill Connell & Theo Vernon, Directors
881-1075 (bandroom)

Committees

Chaperones

Debbie Rose: 882-9694; ROSEDJSCJ@aol.com
Loren Foster: 885-0743; LBF8887@hotmail.com

Color Guard

Joyce Amos: 883-0168; joyce.amos@comcast.net

Concerts

Nan Kirk: 881-3690; Kirk195@comcast.net
Monica Geiss: 881-4314; MGeis@juno.com

Fruit Sales

Lisa Johnstone: 881-6453

Hospitality

Janet Wade: 880-8116; JWadeSews@aol.com

Newsletter

Cynthia Brooks: 880-6669; brooks1981@knology.net
Mitzi Crawford: 882-2115; mitzi.crawford@adtran.com
*Please send email corrections to us!

Webmaster

Ron Lewis: 881-3154; RCLewis@knology.net

Publicity

Kristi Fugit: 881-1072

Stadium Setup

Colleen Toth: 880-5852; drummom13@aol.com

Transportation

Karen Ivey: 881-5291; KarenI@HHSYS.org

Trucks

Rick Cornelius: 650-5955; RHC@knology.net

Uniforms

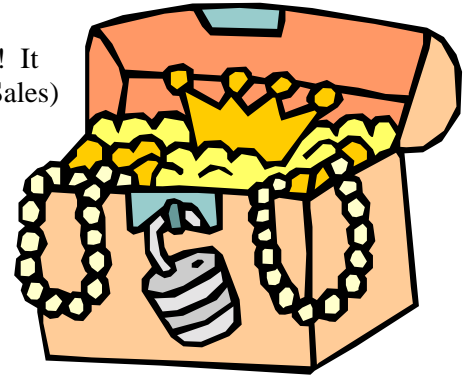
Tiffeny Hubbard: 880-3669; UniformFairy@msn.com

\$ Treasurer's Box \$

Please remember that the first half of your Fair Share is due by **December 19!** It must be paid by check or earned by working Fair Share events (such as Fruit Sales) where you will be credited for \$5/hour.

FAIR SHARE REQUIREMENTS

Marching - \$200
Concert Only - \$200
Guard Only - \$100
Fee Exempt - \$200



***** Be sure to attend the next Band Parents Meeting (Monday, October 27, 7:00pm) to sign up for upcoming Fruit Sales!!! *****

When you have earned Fair Share credit by working an event (such as the VIPERS games last summer or the many Fruit Sales) the credit will be applied to the Fair Share you owe. This next part is important. *You must then let the Treasurers know where to apply any ADDITIONAL CREDITS you've earned (over and above Fair Share).* Extra credits may be used to pay for instrument rental, trips of any sort, miscellaneous fees, band banquet, etc. You must tell us where you'd like to apply that credit!! We will not automatically apply your credit.

As always, contact Julie Ashcraft to have her check your account and see what credits you have and what you may owe.

Fall Instrument Rentals are PAST DUE. If your student rents an instrument from the band or is in the pit/percussion section, please be sure that your \$45 has been paid.

As always....

1. Make checks payable to **Grissom Band Parent Association** -or **GBPA**- and put purpose of check and student's name (especially if you don't share the same last name) in the note section. Then, do one of the following:
2. Place fee in the Treasurer's Box located in the Band Room, right outside the Director's office.

or

Mail payment to:
Grissom Band Parent Association
P. O. Box 4335
Huntsville, Al. 35815

or

Pay fees at the Band Parents Meeting
(4th Monday of each month @ 7:00).

Call or email either of us if we can help you in any way!!

Dates to Remember October/November

Oct. 25	Homecoming Dance
Oct. 27	Band Parents Meeting: 7PM
Nov. 3	Concert Rehearsal Schedule Begins
Nov. 7-8	First Citrus Sale
Nov. 11	Veterans Day Parade
Nov. 13	Fall Concert
Nov. 13	Deadline for video tape orders
Nov. 21-22	Citrus Sale
Nov. 24	Band Parents Meeting: 7PM

Julie Ashcraft
650-5043
julie22@ashcraft.net

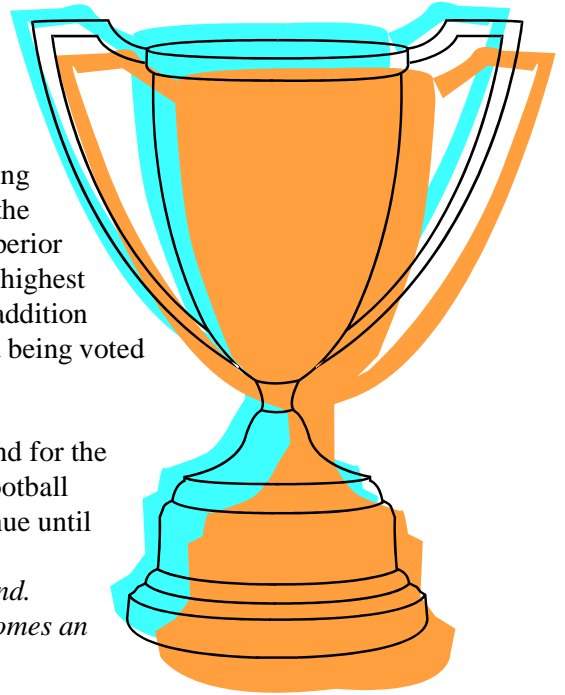
Kathy Francica
883-7132
KFrancica@bellsouth.net

Director's Notes

Marching Band

Thank you so much for your tremendous support for our marching band this fall!! As you may have heard... we had a very successful contest season, not only winning a few trophies, but also more importantly reaching some of our goals that had been set earlier in the season. For the record, the band finished 2nd at the show in Columbia with all captions receiving superior ratings. In Alexander City, the band won their class and overall, with the highest scores in music, marching, color guard, percussion and drum majors. In addition the woodwind section and low brass were chosen best along with the band being voted "Most Entertaining" at the contest. Quite a sweep!!

We will continue with an abbreviated rehearsal schedule for marching band for the remainder of the football season. Rehearsals will be the day before the football game immediately after school from 3:30-4:30. This schedule will continue until football season is completed. *Please remember these performances and rehearsals are part of the student's grade, so it is important that they attend. Some people feel that after contest season is over that marching band becomes an option. This is not the case.*



Concert Band

We have begun concert band rehearsals during class and will begin after-school rehearsals soon. As stated in the calendar that has been posted since July, these rehearsals start on **November 3rd**. We will announce several days in advance the beginning of after-school rehearsals. *These rehearsals are also mandatory and are a part of the student's grade. An unexcused absence of an after school rehearsal is 10 points off their 9 weeks grade. This is stated in the band handbook. Please refer to the handbook for further info.*

Beginning November 3rd, the after-school rehearsal schedule is as follows:

Rehearsal Schedule		
Symphonic I Band (3rd period band)	<i>Tuesday/Thursday*</i>	3:30-5:30PM
Symphonic II Band (2nd period band)	<i>Monday</i>	3:30-5:30PM
	<i>Thursday*</i>	6:30-8:30PM
Concert Band (5th period band)	<i>Wednesday</i>	3:30-5:30PM
<i>*Naturally, we will not have Thursday rehearsals the day of a football game or marching band rehearsal).</i>		

Fall Concert

On Thursday, **November 13th** all three bands and jazz bands will present our annual Fall Concert in the auditorium. Lots of music is being prepared for this concert, so please come hear what the students are doing.

Semester Auditions/Final Exam Grade

Audition music for 2nd semester band placement and final exam grade has been distributed in class. Students are required to prepare this music (3 pieces) along with all 12 major scales (2 octaves when possible) with arpeggios and the chromatic scale. Major scales/arpeggios will be timed (a minute and a half for one octave and 2 minutes for two octave scales). These auditions will take place **December 8-12** during their band class and after school if we do not finish during class. This music is taken from the Alabama All-State Audition music for 2004.

Hawaii!!

We are rapidly approaching the deadline for registration and payments on the Grissom Band trip to Hawaii during Thanksgiving 2004. **Please remember that we must have a completed registration form and a minimum of \$150 per person in hand by December 12 in order to lock in the cost of \$1780 for quad occupancy for students. Chaperone (not adult tag-a-long trip) total is \$1981 for double occupancy.** *If you register after this date, you will not be guaranteed the price listed above due to changes in airline prices.* **Tag-a-longs should register directly with Gateway Tours and send all payments to Gateway. This info is on the band web site.**

Trip insurance will be handled on an individual basis. Please see information on the web site concerning this insurance. Insurance payment can be made to Grissom Band and we will make sure Gateway applies it to your account.

Registration forms for the student trips have been distributed to the high school and middle school band classes. All registration forms and lots of info about the Hawaii trip are on the Grissom Band site at www.grissomband.org.



Pictures

Gene Tuck Photography has taken group and individual pictures of the band members by the time you receive this newsletter. Purchase is optional. There are several packages for you to choose from. Please ask your son/daughter for the handout from Mr. Tuck. This will have all the info that you need. Gene does not have a web site anymore so he will be handing out proofs instead of posting for perusal.

New Instruments

If your son or daughter is playing on the same instrument that they started on in middle school, it probably is time to upgrade to a better quality instrument. The instrument dealers are making big reductions in prices to reduce their inventories for tax purposes. The local music dealers are quite reputable, plus we have the names and numbers of several reliable mail order houses that offer very competitive prices on step up instruments. *A higher quality instrument not only makes it more fun to play, but also gives the student more incentive to practice. More practice means more and faster improvement.* This helps the individual student and the band as a whole. **Please contact the directors for information.**

Max Hammond and Marching Band 2003 Videos

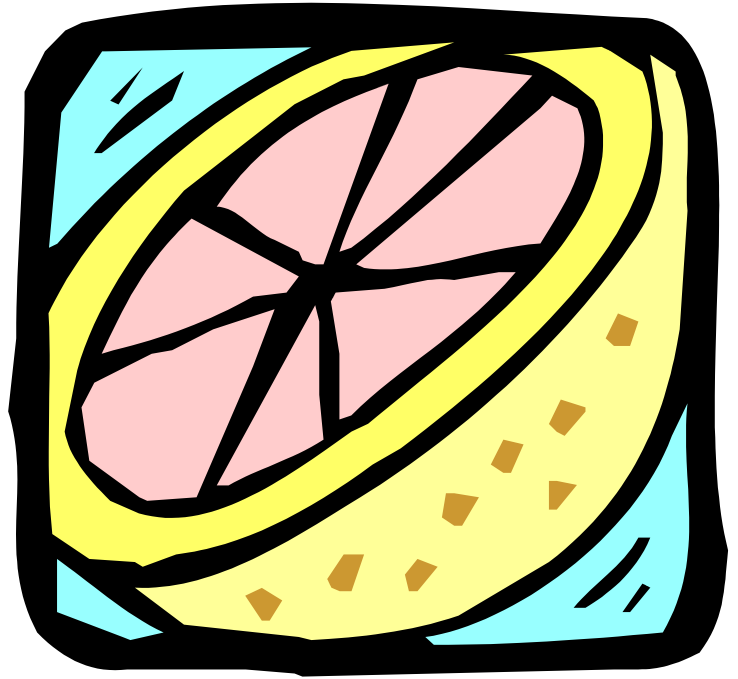
We will be taking orders for the Max Hammond Concert video (\$15) and the 2003 Marching Band video (\$20). Both videos are produced by Mark Smith at Cutting Edge Productions and will be very good quality. The marching video will have clips of rehearsals and the marching performance from the Alexander City contest. Deadline for orders will be on **Thursday, November 13th** at the fall concert. Make checks out to Grissom Band

Citrus Sale News!!!

Our annual citrus sales are coming up, beginning in November. This is a great time to get involved and also to earn *fair share credits* for your student's account. We will keep the latest information on our website and will present the opportunity for shift sign up at our next band parent's meeting!

Citrus sales are held at Advance Auto on South Memorial Parkway. Remember, pre-selling fruit to friends, relatives, and co-workers is a great way to earn additional fair share credits. For each box of fruit that you pre-sell, you will earn \$2.00 towards your student's account. Order forms will be available on the band's website soon. You may pick up pre-sold orders at Advance Auto on the Thursday night preceding a fruit sale (advertised on the website and announced at the band parent meetings).

Earn pre-sell credits by taking orders at work and offering to deliver fruit to co-workers, neighbors and friends. Many of the local schools are also good opportunities for taking orders on a regular basis for teachers/staff, picking up the fruit yourself, and providing delivery to the school. (Note that the \$1 discount on the postcard or newspaper coupon does not apply to pre-sales.)



2003-2004 Citrus Sale Schedule:

November 7-8	January 23-24
November 21-22	February 13-14
December 5-6	March 12-13
December 19-20	April 9-10
January 9-10	

*Delivery of trailers will be on Thursday before 6PM with sales on Friday and Saturday.

How do I sign up?

Dave Parkhill is the scheduler for fruit sale slots. His email is dave@ddep.net and his phone number is 883-0516. He prefers to receive requests by e-mail because it makes it so much easier to keep track of everything. Once your slot is assigned, he will send you an e-mail confirmation. If you are unable to work a shift you have committed to, contact Dave as early as possible. Due to limited opportunities for Fair Share hours this year, sign ups are limited to 20 hours per student, per semester. However, you may sign up to be "on call". If someone cannot work their assigned times and you are called in to work, you may earn extra hours for fair share (above the semester maximum of 20 per student).

We are recruiting volunteers for:

- Putting out /picking up signs for each sale
- Repainting signs
- Tent crew to deliver and set up the tent before each sale/take down and put tent in storage after
- Data entry

From the Chaperones

Thank you to everyone who has chaperoned on our recent trips to games and competitions. It takes a lot of work to get the band "on the road". If you have been a part of these trips, you know how much these kids count on us to help them "get on with the show".

All students must have a 2003-2004 Huntsville City Schools Field Trip Medical Release Form in order to travel with the band. Reminder notices have gone out to the guardians of the students that do not have medical forms on file. We would appreciate you getting those to us as soon as possible. These forms *must be notarized*.

Thanks for your support,
Loren Foster and Debbie Rose
Head Chaperones



Stadium Setup

Thank you to all who have donated water to our water fund. We are still in need of water. If you could donate a case or two of 20oz bottles, this would be greatly appreciated. I would also like to thank all who have already donated water and \$\$ to our fund. And a HUGE thank you to those that pitch in to help "roll" the seat covers. Your support is greatly appreciated! Also, a very special thanks to those who help with the actual watering of the bands. I couldn't do it without your support. Water can be dropped off in the bandroom library before or after practices (or after school).

Thanks again,
Colleen Toth



Fall Concert

The Grissom Band Fall Concert will be **Thursday, November 13**, at 7:00 pm in the Grissom Auditorium. Invite your friends and relatives to enjoy an evening of great music! Tickets are \$5.00 for adults and \$3.00 for school-age children and senior adults.

Parents, have you picked up your FREE TICKETS yet? The family of each Grissom Band student is entitled to eight free concert tickets once their basic dues are paid. Parents can pick up these tickets at the Band Parent Meeting on **October 27**, or at the Fall Concert (in the lobby of the auditorium.)

Nan Kirk and Monica Geis
Concert Committee Co-chairmen
881-3690 (Nan)
881-4314 (Monica)

Fund-Raising News

Scrip (Gift Certificates)

Our new supplier for gift certificates has done a great job with the three "test" orders we placed, so we are taking routine orders again!! The deadline for the next order is **Monday, Oct. 27** (at the Band Parent Meeting). After that, we plan to do two orders per month. The cutoff date for the next order will be posted on the main page of the band website (www.grissomband.org). We need around 8 days to turn around an order.

Be sure to start planning to order scrip for your holiday shopping as well as your routine purchases. The idea is to try to pay for ALL of a purchase with gift certificates to maximize your result and to use scrip to buy things you plan to buy anyway. *Remember!! Gift certificates are always the right size, style and color!*

Rechargeable Grocery Cards

In its first few months, this fund-raiser is averaging \$300 per month (and it's growing!) Don't forget to ask friends, family (in-town or out-of-town), co-workers and neighbors to use these cards and help your student. Some of our students are already receiving around \$10 - 20 per month this way toward their accounts. Over the course of a year, this would be about \$120 - \$240!!

The more people you get to sign up to use cards that designate your student for credit, the more money your student makes for his/her account! Each gift card is only \$5 (it has to be purchased from the band for us to be able to apply credit). This alone is a simple and painless way to earn enough for the "fair share" portion of student fees while you buy your groceries!



This Just In!!!

We have an opportunity to **DOUBLE** our return in the grocery gift card program with a special annual promotion. We are taking orders until **Nov. 1** for gift cards (these are non-rechargeable, one time use) and paper gift certificates. For each, you can order any denomination up to \$500. The band will receive an extra 5% credit for this special order, so that means you will **DOUBLE** the credit your student receives on this order. We have to have a minimum of \$5000 order to take advantage of this promotion.... last year we ordered over \$8000. We can do it!!! To order, contact Karen Parker (parker23@knology.net) or put a Scrip order form and check in the band treasurer's box.

Uniform Update

WOW!! Thank You for all of the wonderful support. We have had so many great volunteers fitting, altering, painting, pluming and helping the kids get ready before the game. There's no way it could have all been done without your help. Don't worry that you've missed your chance, we still need people to help with the glove cart and to help get the kids ready before each game. We also still need people on Monday mornings to prepare the uniforms for the cleaners. If any of this sounds interesting to you, please feel free to call me at 880-3669.

We have a lot of fun and it's really easy to get involved.
Thanks again for all of your hard work!!

Tiffany Hubbard

P.S. REMEMBER BLACK SOCKS

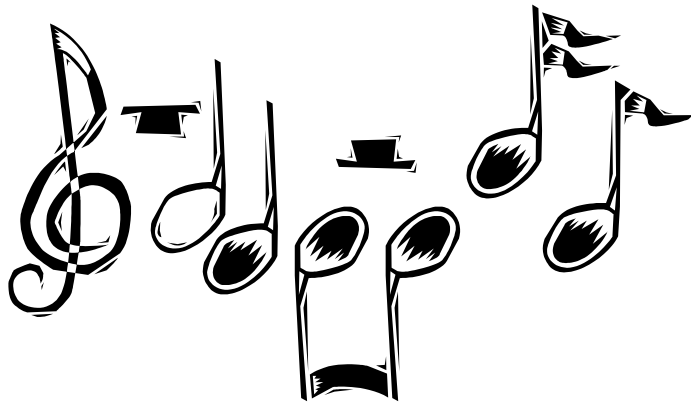
**GRISSOM HIGH SCHOOL
GRISSOM BAND PARENTS ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 4335
HUNTSVILLE, AL 35815**

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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**BAND PARENTS
MEETING
MONDAY
October 27
7PM - BANDROOM
See you there!**



***GHS Band Parents Association
October Newsletter***



www.grissomband.org