

# Grissom Band Parents Association, Inc. Newsletter

November 2003

Editors - Cynthia Brooks & Mitzi Crawford



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your support during the marching season and for your future support for the remainder of the year. A special thanks to all of those that were able to volunteer. Without your help, this wonderful program for our students would not be possible.

Please remember all of the upcoming concerts and events for the holiday season. As of this writing, the students will be marching in the Christmas Parade on December 6th. Check the Website for other holiday events and activities.

Our last band parent's meeting for 2003 will be held Monday, November, 24th. I know this is Thanksgiving week, but please make plans to attend. We need information and input from all of our parents and the meeting is a great forum to reach a large number of people.

The next fruit sale will be held November 21-22. In addition to citrus, we also have honey and an assortment of nuts. If you do any holiday baking, these nuts are fabulous!

Don't forget to purchase your Scrip. Scrip is a certificate/card that you purchase for stores and restaurants that you are already spending money with throughout the month. Instead of using your cash to pay your bill, you use Scrip. The band as well as your student's account earn a percentage of what you spend. Scrip certificates/cards are also a great holiday gift. Order early, often and lots!!!!

I would like to take this opportunity to personally wish each and every family a safe and joyful Thanksgiving holiday.

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

**Tiffany 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



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!!**

**Julie Ashcraft**

650-5043

**julie22@ashcraft.net**

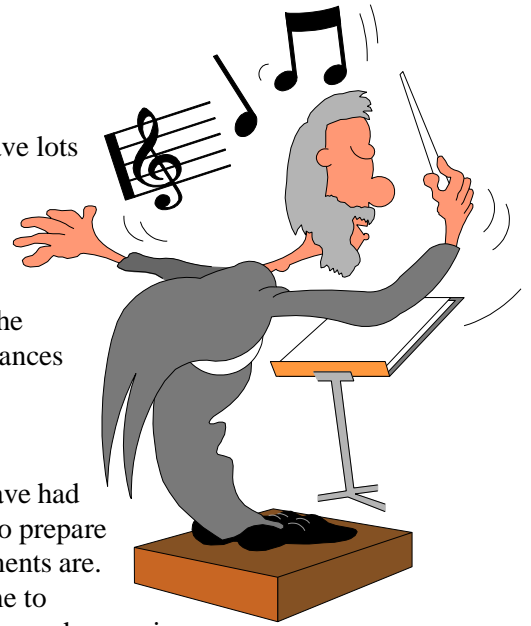
**Kathy Francica**

883-7132

**KFrancica@bellsouth.net**

## Director's Notes

We would like to congratulate the jazz bands and concert bands on the fine performance on the Fall Concert. We were very proud of you! The band department has 5 more performances before the Holiday break so you all have lots of music to be preparing. Potpourri Concert - **December 2-7:00pm** ("B" Jazz Band, small instrumental ensembles), Christmas Concert - **December 5-7:30pm** (All three bands), Christmas Parade - **December 6-TBA** (All marching band members), "**Hilaritas**" - **December 12 & 13-7:30pm** ("A" Jazz Band and Concert Choir). We hope you can all come out to see what the students are preparing. Please spread the word about these holiday performances so we can have packed houses.



## Semester Auditions/Exam Grade

Auditions for 2nd semester will be the week of **December 8-12**. Students have had the music for this audition/grade for over a month and have another month to prepare them. Please ask your students about these auditions and what their requirements are. They have been told in class so they should know and have **PLENTY** of time to prepare for them...over **TWO MONTHS** which is usually less time that we spend preparing for District Contest.

## All-State/District Honor Band Auditions

Pre-registration deadline for these events is **December 8th**. Each event is \$5.00 per student. If you plan on auditioning for both (highly recommended) then the pre-registration fee will be \$10.00.

Auditions will be on **January 10th** for all JUNIOR HIGH ALL-STATE (9th grade) unassigned instruments (oboe, bassoon, bass clarinet) at Boaz High School. You will have to make your own travel arrangements to Boaz High School. You will still pre-register with Grissom. Be sure to get the JUNIOR HIGH Music. It is different than audition music you have for Grissom which is the high school All-State music.

High School All-State/District Honor Band auditions (including Junior High District Honor Band (9th grade) will be on **January 23-24** at Sparkman High School. Senior High on Friday, **Jan. 23** with registrations from 4-5pm. Junior will be on Saturday, **Jan. 24** with registration from 8-9am.

We would like to encourage students to audition for these honor bands. The experience will be valuable and a lot of fun too.

## Senior Trip Information

Washington DC on the TRAIN! We are preparing for a trip with the seniors to Washington DC on **March 18-23**. Trip deposit of \$100 is past due (was due on **November 17th**). Gateway Music Tours is putting together the package for us. We are going to try and keep this trip around \$500.00.

The trip will include:

- Round trip Amtrak train from Birmingham to DC
- Roundtrip Bus transfer from Huntsville to Birmingham
- Four nights at a DC hotel
- All breakfasts
- Three dinners
- METRO passes
- Sightseeing activities

### New Instrument???

Just a quick reminder that if your son/daughter is playing on the same instrument that they started on in 6th grade, you should seriously consider upgrading to a better quality instrument. It would vastly improve the chances of your child improving their playing skills, which would be a benefit to both the student and the band. All the music stores are looking to reduce their inventory before **January 1**, thus good savings are available this time of year. New instruments make great holiday presents!! Please contact the band directors for more important info.

### Rising 9th grade (current 8th grade) GHS Band Info

The band directors at GHS would like to encourage your son/daughter to continue in band next year at Grissom. Not only is the band one of the elite organizations at Grissom, it is known throughout the United States for being a quality program. This is due to the hard work and dedication of the past and present band students and parents.

1. We hope that you are aware by now of the band's trip to **Hawaii** during Thanksgiving next year (2004)!! There is info at your child's middle school band room concerning this exciting event. It is also posted on the band web site- [www.grissomband.org](http://www.grissomband.org). **Please be aware that registration and a \$150 deposit is due by December 12. If you register after that date the quoted price for the trip (to be announced in January- after airfare is confirmed) cannot be guaranteed!** *Please understand that this trip is not mandatory.* We understand that some have no interest in a trip of this type, but we sincerely hope that all those who are truly interested in traveling with us will make every effort to do so. There are several fund raising opportunities (such as scrip) that are available to current GHS Band members, you and your child as a rising 9th grader. That info is also on the website, in addition to frequently asked questions that you may have about the trip. Please mail your payment to:



GHS Band Parents Assoc.  
P.O. Box 4335  
Huntsville, AL 35815

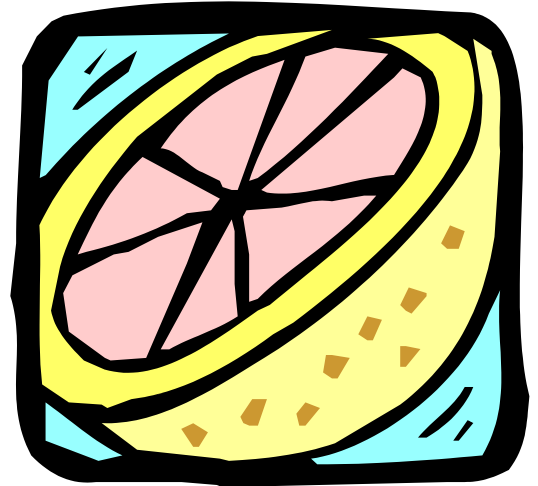
2. We encourage your children to participate in the Alabama All- State Band which is an annual event. Your middle school director has the info. Be aware that the deadline for registration is **December 12th**, with the exception of unassigned instruments (oboe, bassoon, bass clarinet-**January 10**-mailed to another location). Ask your middle school director for more info. The tryout material is listed on the Alabama Bandmasters Association web site and your band director also has it.

3. High school band auditions for your child will be in the spring, late April-early May. The audition material is the Junior High All-State Band music (same as mentioned above), with the addition of playing all 12 major scales. The middle school directors have in past years used this audition as the semester exam grade for the students. We will most likely continue this practice. We will use this audition to place your child in the proper band according to his/her ability level. We have 9th graders make the 1st band every year and 12th graders in the 3rd band every year. For your info, we re-audition everyone every semester to keep everyone on their toes.

We certainly look forward to having your son/daughter in the Grissom Band next fall!

## Citrus Sale News

Our first sale is behind us now. Thanks to all of you who provided support in any way. We have restructured the fruit sale project into a committee arrangement, so we can distribute the responsibilities and workload in a better way. We are looking for volunteers for several of these areas, particularly with regard to support on days of sale. We also need a few volunteers to agree to place a few (about 4 for each designated area) signs at specific locations near English Village and Camelot neighborhoods as well as the Airport Road area and another area near Grissom on Wednesdays before each fruit sale and to pick the signs up after the sale is over (either that Sat evening or Sunday). Please contact Karen Parker (parker23@knology.net) if you would like to help in this way.



Since we have many new families participating in the fruit sales for the first time, we would like to take this opportunity to clarify some of our policies:

1. Full payment for presale and regular orders (fruit, nuts, honey, etc.) is required at the time the order is picked up at the truck.
2. Checks should be made out to "Grissom Band Parents".
3. Here's how Presale orders work:
  - Take orders from friends, co-workers, neighbors, family..... Collect money at time of order for the usual price.
  - Consolidate orders onto one presale order form (available on the web page [www.grissomband.org](http://www.grissomband.org), on the left side click on the button marked "Band Parents", then select "Fruit Sales" on the Right side of the parents webpage).
  - Combine any partial cases to make full cases - only full cases can be picked up as presale items on Thursday nights. Be sure to include on the form your name and customer number, your student's name, total amount of order, and method of payment. **Note that the \$1 discount does not apply to presales.**
  - Come on Thursday night around 7:30 pm to the Fruit Sale Truck (Advanced Auto - South Parkway) with your consolidated presale order form and money. After payment, you will receive your fruit and one of the workers will initial your presale form.
  - Pick up full cases of fruit and plastic bags that will be used for holding partial cases for delivery.
  - Take the fruit home, split your cases as needed, and deliver it.
  - For each full case of fruit, \$2.00 in presale credit will be applied to your student's band account. (No credits are given for partial cases of fruit or for nuts, honey or other items.)

*To make sure you receive proper credit, please make sure that your presale form is the one provided by the band and that it is properly filled out and initialed by a Fruit Sale worker.*

4. We only can offer a limited number of fair share hours, so:
  - Fair share credits can only be earned by individuals who have been scheduled in advance by Dave Parkhill (dave@ddep.net) to work a specific time period at a sale. However, if you just want to come and help the band, your help is certainly welcome, but you will not receive fair share credit for your time if you have not been scheduled.
  - There is a limit of 20 hours per student per semester of fair share credits. However, you can sign up to be "on call" and if called to work, you can accrue more than the 20 hour limit.

## Fundraising News

### Grocery Gift Card/Certificate Bonus Offer

Not only did we meet the \$5000 minimum order for the special 10% grocery gift card promotion, our total order was for \$10,450 !!!! The band made \$1,045 just from this order... of this amount, 40% will be applied to designated student accounts and the remaining \$627 will go to the Max Hammond Instrument Fund. THANK YOU to all who participated in this promotion and made it such a great success!



### Credit Card Promotion

We received results of the credit card promotion. As of **June 30**, nine people had opened credit card accounts (we earned \$5 for each = \$45). Unfortunately, we were only one card shy from getting a bonus of \$100. This, combined with the 1% earnings from credit card use plus earnings from "bonus" merchants for the period April - June totaled \$204.41. Credits will be applied to designated student accounts per the usual 40 / 60% split.

### Scrip

We have started taking Scrip orders for the holidays. These certificates are always welcome gifts - or use Scrip to buy your gifts and earn credit for your student at the same time! Next scrip order deadline is the Band Parent Meeting on Monday, **Nov. 24**. We will be distributing free copies of Scrip Partners magazine (six issues) over the next several weeks, beginning with the Fall Concert on November 13. These magazines include information about Scrip as well as special coupons, order forms and promotions for the holidays. Be sure to get a copy of each issue.

## Hawaii -- Sign Up Now!!!

Less than 1 month! That's how long you have left to sign up for the Hawaii trip. The deadline for registration and the first \$150 payment is **Dec. 12, 2003**. After that date, Gateway will no longer guarantee the rate or the availability of travel space. All checks for students and chaperone applicants should be made out to the Grissom Band Parents. Trip insurance may also be purchased for \$65 per person with checks made out to the Grissom Band Parents. Parent tag-along reservations are made directly with Gateway. Detailed information and forms are available on the website. Questions, including information on account balances, can be directed to the Hawaii Trip Treasurers, Jim & Sheila Kirsch, at [jckirsch@knology.net/880-1162](mailto:jckirsch@knology.net/880-1162).

## Concert News

The holiday season is almost here. We have three wonderful concert events coming up! On **Tuesday, December 2nd**, at 7:00 pm, we feature the "B" Jazz band and several ensembles in the Potpourri Concert. The Grissom Band Holiday Concert will showcase the Symphonic I, Symphonic II, and Concert bands, and it will be presented **Friday, December 5th**, at 7:30 pm. On **December 12th and 13th**, the "A" Jazz band and the Grissom Concert Choir will team up to present their annual Hilaritas Concerts (beginning at 7:30 pm each night.) Come bring your friends and enjoy the delightful music of the season!

We still have a few families who have not picked up their concert tickets. These will be available at the November Band Parents Meeting and at the Grissom Band Holiday Concert on **December 5th**. (Remember, these tickets are not good at the Potpourri or the Hilaritas concerts.)

### Nan Kirk and Monica Geis

#### Concert Committee Co-chairmen

881-3690 (Nan)

881-4314 (Monica)

## Hospitality - Time to Roll Up Our Sleeves!

### Hospitality is Planning For Symphonic Camp and District Competition

We would like to thank the parents who have already volunteered to help with Symphonic Camp, **January 29 through 31** and District Competition, **February 19 through 21**. More volunteers are still needed for both events. Please sign up either at the next Band Parents Meeting or by contacting Janet Wade, Hospitality Chairman. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Symphonic Camp will begin **Thursday, January 29** and a catered dinner will be served to the students, clinician and directors.

**Friday, January 30** the dinner will be a pot luck. All families of the band students are invited and encouraged to attend. Please watch the website in December for what each section has been assigned to bring. It is important for each student to bring his or her assigned dish. Students will also be given an information sheet just prior to the camp regarding this.

In addition to the two dinners the band is also responsible for breakfast and lunch Friday and Saturday for the clinicians and directors. We also provide snacks for the students Thursday and Friday afternoon.

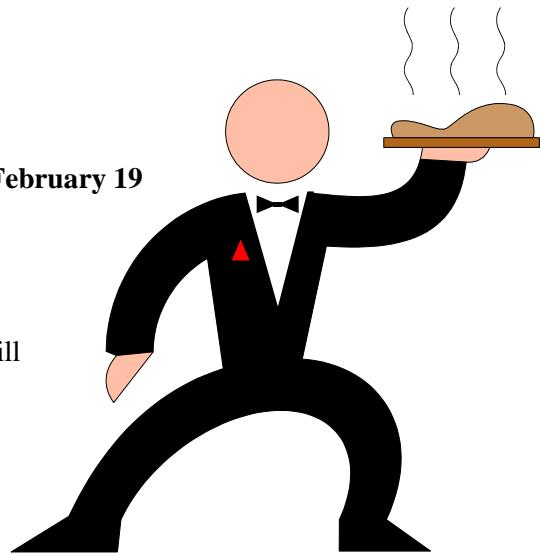
Grissom will host District Competition **February 19th through the 21st**. We will need volunteers for the hospitality room. Please sign up and help us make both of these events a great success.

**Janet Wade**  
Hospitality

## I wish I may, I wish I might....

Let's support our band program by providing these much needed supplies! All donations can be dropped off in the bandroom. Thanks in advance for your generosity!

- Copier paper (both letter and legal sizes)
- Color Copier paper (for concert programs)
- Legal Size (no. 10) white envelopes
- White Address labels (Avery # 5160) for computer use
- 9 volt batteries
- AA batteries
- Printer Cartridges  
HP 15 Black  
Canon BC 02 Black
- Blank CD-R discs and cases (good quality)
- CD Labels - plain white
- Balloons (16 inch helium quality, any color)
- Duct tape
- Black Sharpies



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

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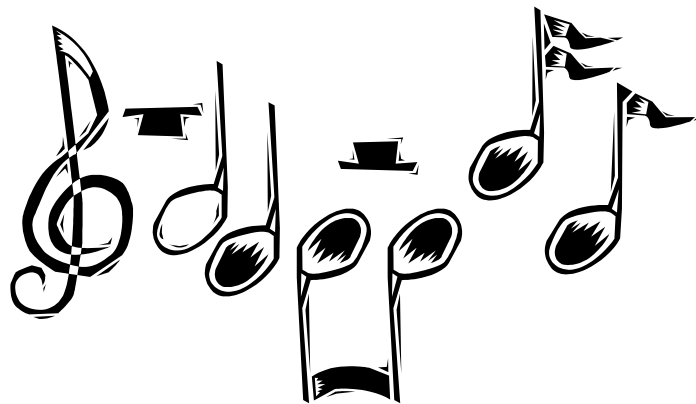
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**BAND PARENTS  
MEETING  
MONDAY  
November 24  
7PM - Auditorium  
See you there!**



***GHS Band Parents Association  
November Newsletter***



**[www.grissomband.org](http://www.grissomband.org)**