

Grissom Band Parents Association, Inc.

Newsletter

February 2005

Editors - Mitzi Crawford & Judy Hardwick

President's Message

Band camp and district competition are now behind us and both events were very successful. The kids did a great job learning their music at band camp, which was evident at the district competition. A big thanks to the hospitality committee for all their hard work. There is a lot of work that goes on behind the scenes whenever the band is involved in something. I encourage each of you to come to the band parent meeting and sign up to help at an upcoming event. These kids are great to be around and you will be glad you volunteered!!

Due to the quality and quantity of fruit available, the remaining fruit sales have been canceled. The good news is that the fruit trees seem to be surviving and it looks like next year will be a great year, unless we have more traumatic weather events!! The bad news is that the fruit sales are Grissom Band's major fundraiser and we are feeling the loss of fruit sale income in our budget. The board has met and reduced all budget items that can be reduced. However, since the remaining funds are very low, we will have to charge the students a fee for the competition trip to Chattanooga on April 23. The cost per child will be \$45. Please remember that all band fees must be paid in full before your child can attend this trip. If you have any questions about this, feel free to call me, the directors, or the treasurers.

Remember to continue to support the band through our Scrip program. It is a fundraiser that helps you and helps the band. By purchasing Scrip, you will earn credits towards your student's fees, so be sure to stop by the Scrip table at the next band parent meeting, or access our website and order through there!!!! If you have any questions about the Scrip program, please contact Karen Parker. She will be more than happy to assist you with this continuing fundraiser.

A nominating committee has been selected and we are looking for a few good men or women to serve as officers on the 2005-2006 Grissom Band Board. If you are interested in serving as an officer next year please contact me or one of the directors. Although it is hard work, serving on the board is extremely rewarding!! I promise you will be glad you answered the call.....you will be tired, but glad that you volunteered!!

Congratulations to the kids who tried out for District/All State Band!! Grissom is well represented at both of these events!! Our kids just never cease to amaze me with their talents. Please congratulate these kids when you see them. They worked very hard and are all very deserving of this honor!!

Mark your calendar for the bandparent meeting on February 28th. We will be receiving information about State Competition, All District/All State Band, the Band Banquet and the Chattanooga Festival. As always, there will be sign up sheets for you to volunteer for future events. I look forward to seeing you there!!

Sincerely,
Cherry Hovik
President 2004/2005

Executive Board 2004-2005

Cherry Hovik, President

882-6190; cjhovik@comcast.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; julie23@ashcraft.net

Kathy Francica, Treasurer

883-7132; KFrancica@bellsouth.net

Bill Connell and Theo Vernon, Directors

881-1075 (Bandroom)

Committees

Chaperones

Debbie Rose: 882-9694; ROSEDJSCJ@aol.com

Loren Foster: 883-5643; LBF8887@hotmail.com

Script

Nelson and Karen Parker: parker23@knology.net

Hospitality

Lynn Dowling: 881-5058; lynndowling@yahoo.com

Rachel Rawls: 881-3263; brawls@hiwaay.net

Concerts

Monica Geiss: 881-4314; MGeis@juno.com

Colleen Toth: Drummom13@aol.com

Fruit Sales Scheduling

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Newsletter

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Judy Hardwick: Judhrdwk@knology.net

*Please send email corrections to us!!

Webmaster

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Publicity

Kristi Fugit: 881-1072; kristi.fugit@ngc.com

Stadium Setup

Jennifer Todd: 656-3802; jendav5@yahoo.com

Jim and Debbie Krenn: 883-7811

Transportation

Karen Ivey: 881-5291; Karen1@HHSYS.org

Trucks

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

Uniforms

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

Historian

Susan Fields: fielddocs@knology.net

\$\$ TREASURER'S REPORT \$\$

The final \$100 portion of the band fees is due in March. If you have not already done so, please send in your check for \$100 now.

With the loss of half of our fruit sales, we are scrambling to meet our financial obligations, as you can well imagine. It is crucially important that **everyone** keep his or her student's account current. Please, please double-check and make sure that you have paid all you owe. Call or email Julie Ashcraft and she will be happy to review your account with you.



For those who rent instruments from the band, your spring rental of \$45 is due now.

We've had our last fruit sale of the year and those who worked will have the credit applied to their accounts shortly. That's it for opportunities to earn credit for this school year, so now would be an excellent time to check your student's account and make sure you don't have an outstanding balance.

The spring semester holds many exciting opportunities and events for band members. The All-State Competition, the Dixie Classic Festival in Chattanooga in April, and the kids' favorite, the Band Banquet. *Please be aware that participation in all these wonderful events requires that the student's account be PAID IN FULL.*

Julie and I will be retiring as your Treasurers at the end of May. The Bylaws state that no one can serve in the same Board position for more than two years. So we are actively seeking our replacements. Hey, don't all stare at your feet at the same time! Truly, there are 2 good reasons that you need to give this opportunity some serious thought. First, if you are happy that your child is in Band, if you like their band friends, the activities they participate in, their love of music, then you **need to give something back to the program**. Second, the 2 components of the Treasurer's position are very flexible and will fit into most schedules. I won't kid you, it takes a lot of time, but it is work that can be done in the comfort of your home, at any time of the day or night.

The Co-Treasurer's positions require the following: the person who keeps the accounts needs to be familiar with QuickBooks and be very meticulous. The "bill payer" needs to be detail-oriented and not afraid to constantly be saying, "Where's the receipt?" or "No paperwork, no check!"

Please contact Julie or Kathy to ask for more information. Otherwise, we'll be calling you!!!

Let us know what we can do to help you!

Julie Ashcraft
650-5043
Julie23@Ashcraft.net

Kathy Francica
883-7132
KFrancica@bellsouth.net

Director's Notes



Kudos!!

Many thanks to all for the wonderful food at the pot luck dinner during Sym. Camp. That is always a highlight of the weekend, and this year was no different. Also a big thank you to Mrs. Rawls and Mrs. Dowling and all those who provided food and goodies for the clinicians. It was a treat!!

We certainly also appreciate those who helped out during district competition, which we hosted here at Grissom. It is always a big task, but is made much easier by all the parental and student support we get from you. Without your support and help, we certainly would not be able to do what we do. We always have very positive comments about our hospitality every year.

All-State Bands

Congratulations to the following students who made All-State Band: Danny Thompson, Rita Weinzettle, Karen Kirk, Deanna Swain, David Potter, Andrew Noble, Kevin Geis, Chris Allison, Scott Rawls, Matthew Parker, Rusty Clark, Erica Foster, Courtney White, Allison Potter, Ashley Tarquine and Karen Branick. These students will be attending the festival at Auburn University April 14-16. The cost will be \$115 per student, which will be for motel and transportation. Make checks payable to Grissom Band Parents. NO CASH!! Each student will be responsible for paying for their meals. We suggest approximately \$15-20 per day.

District Honor Bands

Congratulations to the following students who made District One Junior High and High School Honor Band. Jennifer Ireland-Rita Weinzettle-Amelia Lane-Shibli Rahman-Chris Allison-Scott Rawls-Amy Gatherer-Michael Montgomery-Alex McCool-Karen Branick-Ashley Tarquine-Angela Keffer-Allison Potter-Courtney White-Erica Foster-Rusty Clark-Daniel Thompson-Karen Kirk-Anna Marie Ferntheil-David Potter-Deanna Swain-Stuart Ivey-Matthew Parker-James Ashcraft-Andrew Noble-Kevin Geis

Rehearsals and performances will be held at Decatur High School February 25 & 26.

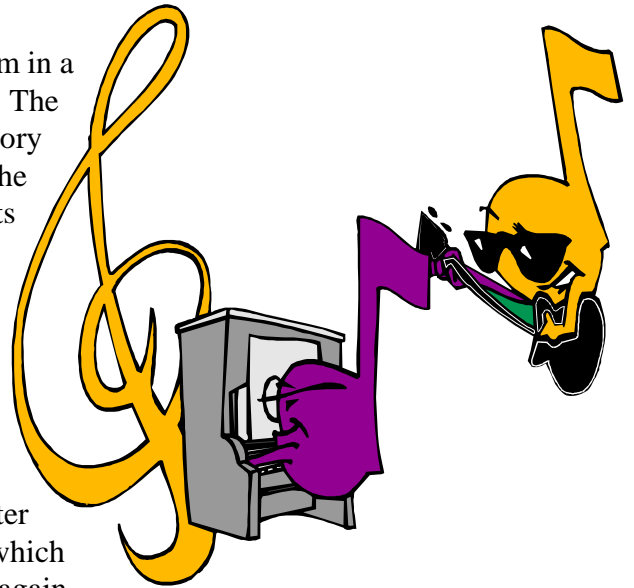
Schedule:

Friday, February 25 th	5:30	Begin seating. (High school band will meet on stage Junior high will meet in band room.)
	6-9	Rehearsal
Saturday, February 26 th	8:30-12:00	Rehearsal
	12:00-1:30	Lunch
	1:30-4:30	Rehearsal (High school in band room. Junior High on stage.)
	6:30	Warm-up / tune up for concert. Dress will be band uniforms.
	7:00	Concert

Be sure you take your uniform and accessories with you after school on Friday.

"A" Jazz Band Performance

Sunday, February 27th at 3:00pm the "A" Jazz Band will perform in a concert at A&M University's Earnest Knight Reception Center. The Tennessee Valley Jazz Society is sponsoring A Valley Jazz History Celebration with the Youth Jazz Ensemble from Birmingham, the Neo Soul Band "Remedy" and Grissom's "A" Jazz Band. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults and \$10.00 for students. I have some tickets available in the band room for those interested. The Tennessee Valley Jazz Society will make a donation to the Jazz Band for this performance. Please come out and support Jazz in the Valley!



State Concert Festival

District competition will be completed by the time this newsletter is distributed. Hopefully all 3 bands will have passed District, which means that now qualify for State. This year we are fortunate to again have State in Huntsville. (This saves the BPA approximately \$4,000 in transportation.) The Festival will be at Huntsville High School. We are applying to play Tuesday, March 15. This is the last day that it is held in Huntsville. As soon as the schedule is published, we will distribute it to the masses.

Grand National Adjudicators Invitational

The Grissom Symphonic I, II and Concert Bands have been invited to compete in a national symphonic/concert band competition Saturday, April 23 in Chattanooga, TN. This is truly an honor not bestowed on many top bands in the country, much less all 3 bands. The invitation was extended to the GHS Band after our yearly band events calendar was published when school opened, thus it is not on the band calendar. It also was not budgeted for when we were working on the budget last summer. However, this is such a prestigious event and a wonderful opportunity to play for a nationally recognized panel of adjudicators. After each band performs they will have a clinic with one of the adjudicators who have evaluated their performance and then give them immediate feedback on ways to improve. The entire cost for the festival is \$45. This covers transportation and all expenses for the festival. The only other cost will be for food, which each student will be responsible for. 2 meals maximum. Payment is due by March 11. Checks only please, **NO CASH! PLEASE REMEMBER ALL BAND FEES AND EXPENSES MUST BE PAID BEFORE YOU CAN PARTICIPATE IN THIS EVENT.**



Grissom Marching Band Invitational Marching Band Contest

Our first marching band contest will be held October 22, 2005. Many of you have already agreed to help or chair a committee. Even if your child graduates this year, we will definitely need help from any parents who are willing to work. A list of committees will be published in next month's news letter for you information. Hosting a marching contest is lots of hard work and dedication, but also is a very profitable event that is lots of fun to be a part of.

Fundraiser Updates

Tupperware Fundraiser

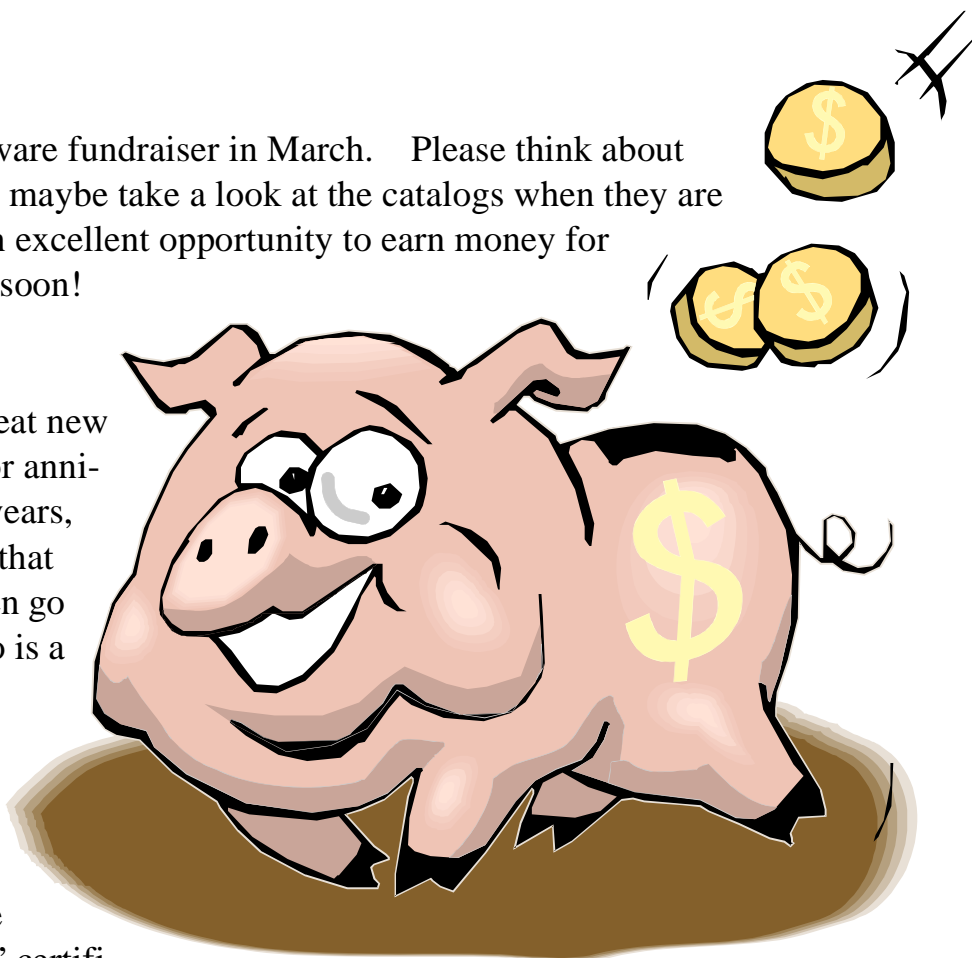
We are setting up for a Tupperware fundraiser in March. Please think about what items you might need and maybe take a look at the catalogs when they are available? This will give us an excellent opportunity to earn money for the band! More details coming soon!

Scrip Update

One of our parents offered a great new idea – for landmark birthdays or anniversaries like 10, 20, 25 or 50 years, you could give gift certificates that are for that amount. We can even go up to \$100 if needed! Scrip also is a great graduation gift!

We are doing very well so far this year – since June 04 we have raised about \$8,000. Most of this is from grocery recharge cards and selling “in-stock gift” certificates. Please keep up the great work! Now, maybe we can concentrate on actually placing orders for scrip, too. We “stock” a limited number of gift certificates for merchants that we sell the most of and have “good” percentages, but many more merchants are available as well. Order forms and merchant lists are available for printing on the band website or you can pick them up at the band parent meetings or concerts. Order deadlines will be posted on the website (the next deadline is Monday, Feb 28). We also will be selling “in stock” scrip at the band parent meetings and concerts. To place an order, just fill out and return an order form along with your check (made payable to Grissom Band) to us and we’ll take care of the rest! Thanks to all of you who are supporting the band through Scrip!

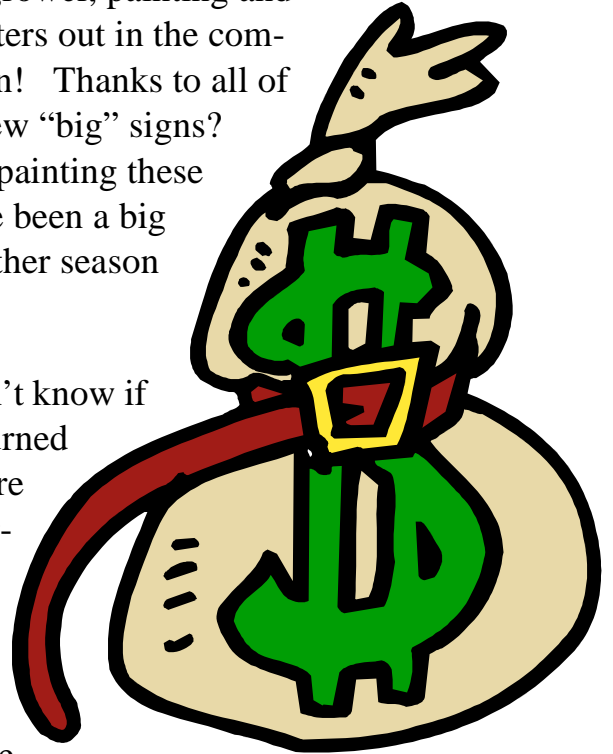
Nelson & Karen Parker
Scrip Coordinators
parker23@Knology.net



Fruit Sales

This has been a challenging year! Our Fruit Sale committee worked diligently behind the scenes to support our workers in carrying out the sales – updating the customer database, getting the postcards ready, updating forms, coordinating with the grower, painting and deploying the signs, setting up publicity and getting posters out in the community, putting up/taking down the tent – the list goes on! Thanks to all of our team for doing a fantastic job! Have you seen our new “big” signs? Very special thanks go to Kim Mills for stripping and repainting these wooden signs. They look absolutely wonderful and have been a big help to spread the word that our fruit came back for another season in spite of Charlie, Frances, Ivan and Jeanne!!!!

After all the hurricane damage last fall, we honestly didn't know if we would even have any fruit to sell this season. As it turned out, we had three very good sales. Each of these sales were at least equal the average of the two sales nearest the corresponding date last year. We had to cancel the February and March sales because we could not get enough quality fruit for these sales. As we all realize, the effects of the hurricanes went beyond just blowing fruit from the trees. The good news is, so far it appears that the trees will recover for a more “normal” season next year.



We would like to offer our sincere thanks to everyone who supported the fruit sales this year in any way, with special thanks to our Fruit Sales Committee Leads:

Signs – Maudie and Kevin Woodsinger

Tents & Equipment – Richard Aplin (and Jeff Brewer for filling- in for a sale)

Database – Alice Searcy

Scheduling – Jan Baker

Publicity – Kristi Fugit

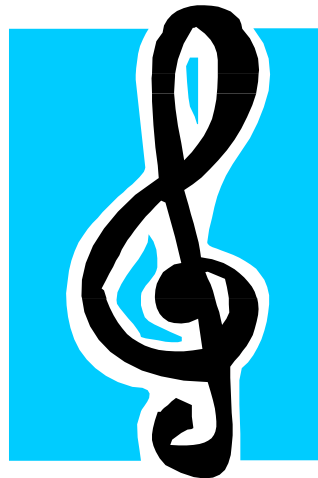
Credits – Sharon Suever

These folks, along with many, many parents who worked the sales were wonderful about always being willing to help and go an extra mile! We appreciate all your enthusiasm and hard work!

Nelson & Karen Parker
Fruit Sales Coordinators
parker23@Knology.net

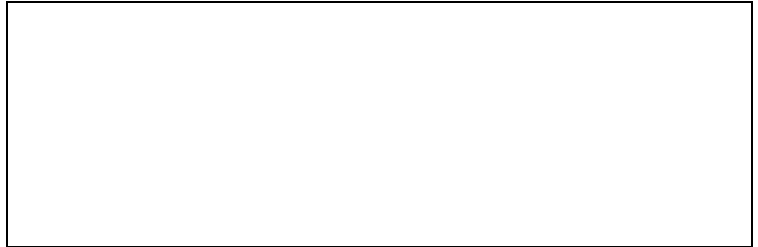
Grissom Ornaments

Grissom Band will be taking orders for hand painted keepsakes/ornaments that depict Grissom High School (including the familiar GHS sign out front). These ornaments are available with or without a display stand. They make excellent graduation gifts or keepsakes for remembering Grissom High. A display sample and details for ordering will be provided at the band parent meeting on Monday, Feb 28. Only a limited number of ornaments are available!



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**BAND PARENTS
MEETING
MONDAY
February 28
7PM - Bandroom
See you there!!**



GHS Band Parents Association

February Newsletter



www.grissomband.org