



GRISSOM BAND PARENTS ASSOCIATION, INC.

NEWSLETTER

June 2005

Editors: Judy Hardwick and Erin Gaston

Judhrdwk@knology.net Erinmgaston@aol.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings, and hope you're having a wonderful summer!! I am very excited to be returning as your President! Summer is here and the directors are preparing for marching season. Rookie camp was a success and the Guard/Percussion are practicing hard. That means that Band Camp is just around the corner. I hope that your child is practicing their instrument and looking forward to a week of hard work and fellowship.

I want to thank all of you who participated in our Sock Fundraiser. This fundraiser came to us after the last Band Parent Meeting so we did not get a chance to discuss this fundraiser up front with you. However, I do want to thank those of you who embraced it and helped us sell the socks!!!! We still have some socks available and are hoping to sell them at the summer orientation meetings and at the football games with the other Spirit items.

Our Fall Marching Contest is developing and we will soon need your help in preparing Milton Frank Stadium. Please email me if you are able to help with the clean-up of the stadium.

Our website contains many important dates for you and your student. Car washes are every Saturday and are manned by the different sections. Please check the website to find out which dates your child is needed to help at the Carwash, and be sure to note the dates for Band Camp and Uniform Fitting.

The Grissom Band Parent Organization is a fabulous group to be associated with!! I encourage you to find somewhere that you can help and GET INVOLVED! You'll be glad that you did. Last year we had a very successful "Spirit-Building" cookout at GHS for Band members and their families. We will be continuing that tradition this summer on **August 5th**, at **6 PM**. We have activities planned for all, and lots of good food and fellowship. Please mark your calendars and plan to come and meet the directors and other band parents. More information and sign-up sheets will be available at Uniform Fitting.

Let me extend a personal welcome to the freshman band parents! We are glad to have you as a part of our organization. I must warn you, though: Get ready for a whirlwind of a football season and practices. I would encourage you to attend the football games and watch the changes and maturity in your child. It is amazing, and you will be proud of the band and their accomplishments!

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions at the phone number or email address below. Enjoy the rest of the summer and I'll see you at the picnic on **August 5th**.

Cherry Hovik

882-6190

cjhovik@comcast.net

Executive Board, 2005-06

Pres Cherry Hovik cjhovik@comcast.net
882-6190

1st VP Jim Gatherer hsvjim@yahoo.com

2nd VP TBD

Secretary: Rex Simmons
rasimm@knology.net

Treasurers: Teresa Montgomery
tdmont@hiwaay.net; and Mary Setzer
TubaJrsMom@hotmail.com

Chaperones: Luann Holloway and Debbie
Krenn dlkrenn@comcast.net

Publicity: Kristi Fugit

Color Guard: Alice Searcy
searcy@hiwaay.net and Doris Lewis
dslewis@knology.net

Stadium Setup: Jim Krenn
jdkrenn@comcast.net.

Spirit: Avi Swain swainjad@msn.com

Concerts: Sharon Keffer
sharonkeffer@knology.net

Transportation: Paula Dickerhoff and Valerie
Anderson dickerhoff@knology.net

Fruit Sales: Jim and Sheila Kirsch
jckirsch@knology.net

Script: Nelson and Karen Parker
parker23@knology.net

Trucks: Rick Cornelius RHC@knology.net

Raptors: Jerry and Liz Potter
jpotter@knology.net

Uniforms: Tiffeny Hubbard and Linda Craft
uniformfairy@msn.com

Historian: Susan Field fielddocs@knology.net

Ways and Means: TBA

Hospitality: Lynn Dowling and Rachel Rawls

Webmaster: Ron Lewis
webmaster@grissomband.org

Bill Connell and Theo Vernon, Directors
881-1075 (band room)

Director's Info

We certainly hope you and yours are having a great summer with all the fringe benefits included. We would like to remind you of some responsibilities that the students need to take care of. Even though most of the students are on 'vacation' there are still things that need to be accomplished during this time. Please make every effort to take care of these things in a responsible manner.

Car Washes

Each section in the band has been scheduled to work a couple of car washes during the summer. These car washes accomplish a couple of things, both of which are very important. One, it earns money for our Max Hammond Fund that is used to purchase new instrument for the band, and two, it provides a service that enhances the band's standing in the community. We need this community support to operate our band in the way we have in the past. Please make sure your son/daughter works this activity if you are in town the Saturday your section is scheduled. The schedule is posted on the band website.

Summer Section Rehearsals

There are some sections that have regularly scheduled rehearsals during the summer. Percussion and Guard work very hard during these rehearsals and get a great start on the activities for the fall. Please make sure your son/daughter is at these rehearsals if at all possible. If you are going to be out of town during any of these rehearsals, please make sure you notify your section leaders or call the band room and leave a message concerning your absence (881.1075). This schedule too is posted on the band web site.

Thank you for taking care of these matters!! Please make an effort to support you son/daughter's participation in your great band!!

Band Rehearsals

We start full band rehearsals in a few weeks. That schedule is posted on the website. Please make sure you check these dates and be at those

rehearsals. This is a major way that we determine who will get a position in the band that marches at the contests in September and October. These rehearsals give us about a month's head start on the fall activities. In order to get ready for them, please have your son/daughter get exercise on a regular basis, at least 3 or 4 times a week. A brisk walk or jogging, working in the yard (ha ha) or something that elevates the heart rate and gets the sweat glands working. Marching band is a physically demanding activity!! The students do not want to come out the end of July and feel the heat for the first time that summer. We schedule regular rest and water breaks and build up their endurance gradually, but the students still need to be in some sort of good physical shape when the report. It makes the process MUCH easier!! Make sure you have tennis shoes with the majority of the color being WHITE. This makes it much easier for us to see the students' feet and correct problems with their marching. It also makes it easier for the individual marcher to 'read' the formation that they are in and to see what adjustments they need to make to get in the correct coordinate. When there are all different color and shape shoes, it is difficult for director and performer to see things in the proper perspective.

Marching Contests

We will be participating in two marching contest this fall and hosting our first ever marching contest also. More on our contest in the next paragraph. The band will compete in marching contests on Saturday September 24 and October 8. The September show will be a one day event, probably to Columbia, TN although that has not been confirmed yet. The October 8 show will be an over night trip (spending Saturday night and returning home Sunday morning) to Atlanta to compete in the Lassiter Marching Band Showcase. ***Please note: this is the Saturday at the beginning of fall break. Please make arrangements for your son/daughter to be present at this very important contest!!*** We will be competing against some of the best marching bands in the Southeastern U.S.

The First Annual Grissom Marching Band Exposition!!

We hope that you are as excited about this brand new activity as we are. This will be our first and most important opportunity to host a first class marching contest in Huntsville and North Alabama on Saturday October 22 at Milton Frank Stadium. Applications for participation are being mailed to over 500 schools in Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi and Georgia. There will be time slots for only 24 bands to participate, so we hopefully will have a full slate of bands of all sizes and makeup from throughout the southeast attend. We will definitely need help from each and every one of you (parents and students) so keep a close eye on the website and the phone. One of the major areas in need of help right now is the committee that will be doing some renovation at Milton Frank Stadium (not that it really needs it or anything). If you are interested in that sort of thing, please email Mr. Connell at lennoc1@aol.com or call the band room and leave a message. As we get closer to the event, there will be much more help needed, so please be willing to lend a hand so we can make this an event worthy of the name GRISSOM!

Benefit Concert

The Grissom Band and area business and civic groups are teaming up to present a benefit concert for the Children's Hospital in Birmingham. One of our band parents who works for the hospital helped set up this event as a fund raiser note only for the band but also for the hospital. This will be at our annual Christmas Concert, scheduled for Friday December 2. We will have much more info on this event in later newsletters and at the band parents' month meetings, which begin in August. SEE YOU THEN!!

Marching Band Music

The marching music show music will be posted on the web site for you to download and practice in July. Check the web site to see when it will be ready. All of the stand music is already posted so you can begin learning it too. You will need the following to access the music. Name: student and Password: bandontherun Please download this and print out your parts. We will have your specific part (1st, 2nd, or 3rd etc.) posted on the band room door the week of July 4th. Come by

and see what part you play before down loading your music. We ask that each playing member of the band, with the exception of the pit percussion, have a **flip folder** by Pre-Camp to hold all music for the fall. **You are to have the following music learned and memorized by the time you come to pre- camp: National anthem (Star Spangled Banner), Alma Mater and Tiger Rag. We will play these pieces from memory during camp week.!!**

Medical Forms

All students, whether returning or new, are required to have a notarized medical form on file to be able to participate in band activities. All veterans must fill out a new form each year! Please take care of this prior to July 28th. A copy is in the news letter, on the band web site or at the band room.

Band Fees and uniform fittings.

Band fees are \$500.00. The \$300.00 portion of your student's fees is due at uniform fitting during pre-camp in July. See uniform info in this newsletter for specific dates. You are encouraged to make smaller payments in each summer month. For example, you may pay \$100 in June, \$100 in July, with the final payment of \$100 made at the time of uniform fitting. \$100.00 is due November 1st and the final \$100.00 is due March 31st. Because a majority of the band's expenses are incurred during marching season, prompt payment of your fees is crucial to the band program! A 20% penalty will be applied to the unpaid fees if not received by September 1st. Students who are exempt from school fees based on their family income are exempt from all band fees. Payments can be mailed or placed in the treasurer's box in the band room. Check only NO CASH.

Grissom Band Parents Association
P. O. Box 4335
Huntsville, AL 35815

DCI show at MTSU

We are planning a trip to a Drum Corp Show at Middle Tennessee State University on Friday, July 29th after orientation We will plan on leaving around 3:00 pm and return after midnight. The

cost of a ticket will be \$15.00 plus transportation costs of approx. \$15.00. Please make sure you have paid a total of \$30 if you are riding the bus. Thank you!

Summer band uniform for the first few football games

Each band member is required to have a pair of Khaki shorts and WHITE tennis shoes to wear along with the band T-shirt for the first few football games when it is so hot. We prefer a knee length (or as close to that as possible) Khaki pant for everyone. These white tennis shoes can be the same ones you use in marching rehearsals. See rehearsal info in directors' notes for details.

Instrument Rental

If you are playing a Grissom Band owned instrument, you will pay a per semester rental fee of \$45.00 for summer, fall and spring. The following instruments have a rental fee: Sousaphones/Tubas, all percussionists, Mellophone (marching French Horn), Concert Baritones, Bass Clarinets, Baritone Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone (as available), piccolos (as available) and Bassoons.

Uniform Fitting

Each class will be assigned a specific night for fittings during pre-camp in July. Please refer to the information in this newsletter for specifics. All new marchers will be required to order a pair of black marching shoes from the band at approx. \$30.00. Any veteran marchers who need new shoes will order at this time also. Black gloves will be sold prior to the first performance in uniform. Be sure to come on your assigned night and time to make this go as smooth as possible. Thank you!

Pre-Camp and Band Camp

These rehearsals are required for all marching band members and are part of your grade for the first nine weeks of school. Pre-Camp for all marching band members is July 27-29 from 8am-12pm. Marching fundamentals and music will be practiced. Band-Camp is August 1-5 with three sessions. 1. 8:00am-12:00pm (outside learning the show) 2. 1:30-4:00pm (inside working on music and equipment work) 3. 6:00-9:00pm (outside working on show). We get so much done

during these camps and have a great time doing it!

Rehearsal Attendance

Attendance at all scheduled rehearsals (full band and sectionals) and performances is required of all members of the band program. Unexcused absences or frequent tardiness will lower your grade and hinder you from performing. It is your responsibility to notify the band director in advance (**at least 2 weeks**) with a signed note from your parent if you will miss a rehearsal. You must make up all missed rehearsals (excused or unexcused) by staying after school, making up the lost time, and passing off music with the director. Failure to do so within one week will result in your grade being lowered 10 pts. per missed rehearsal during that 9-week period. We request that **2 weeks prior** to a performance no rehearsal is to be missed; no excuses except family emergencies. The student will not be allowed to perform with the band and as a result they will receive a failing grade for that 9 weeks. This is why we hand out activity calendars at the beginning of each school year and post on the web site in late June or early July.

Excused absences included the following reasons: (Must be made up within one week)

1. Sickness – must have signed note from parent/guardian
2. Death in the family
3. Pre-arranged conflict -- must be cleared in advance (**at least 2 weeks**)
4. Emergency doctor's appointment.

Unexcused absences include the following reasons: (Cannot be made up)

1. Skipping
2. Forgetting
3. Employment conflict
4. Babysitting
5. Birthday
6. Club meeting
7. Make-up test that could be scheduled at a different time
8. Doctor and other appointments that could be scheduled at a different time
9. Trip made in disregard of band commitment
10. Any other conflict not cleared in advance with the band director
11. Any conflict that is not school related



HELP WANTED: Trucks needs drivers and equipment assistants. A fun-filled job that gets you where the action is out with the students and down on the field. Contact Rick Cornelius at 256-683-6479 (c) or rhc@knology.net

\$\$\$ TREASURER'S BOX \$\$\$

Reminder - Your full \$300 cash portion must be paid by uniform fitting (July 27 -28) for your student to be assigned a uniform or be issued a marching T-shirt. Please be sure and write your child's name on your check when paying. You can make any necessary payments the nights of uniform fitting. There will be mandatory paperwork that only you can fill out and sign. We will be on hand to assist you with questions.

Band fees remain unchanged again for the 2005-2006 school year. We encourage ALL PARENTS to begin making payments on the 2005-2006 Band Dues IMMEDIATELY. It is frequently easier and less painful to make a few smaller payments over the summer and be done with it than to be hit with that one big bill at the end of July. You may choose to make a lump sum payment or spread payments out over the summer months.

BAND FEES FOR THE 2005 – 2006 SCHOOL YEAR

	CASH PORTION	CASH OR EARNED CREDITS	TOTAL BAND DUES
MARCHING	\$300.	\$200.	\$500.
Concert only	\$245.	\$200.	\$445.
Guard only	\$270.	\$100.	\$370.
Jazz only	\$150.	0	\$150.

TO SUMMARIZE:

If your student marches, total band dues are \$500. \$300 must be paid by July 28, 2005. With the remaining \$200, you have the option to pay in cash or pay with earned credits. Half of this amount is due in December, half in March. Because a majority of the band's expenses are incurred during marching season, prompt payment of your dues is crucial to the band program! A 20% penalty will be applied to the unpaid fees if not received by September 1st.

If your student rents an instrument from the band or uses the band's equipment as part of the pit or percussion section, you will pay a rental fee of \$45 per semester. A summer rental fee of \$45 is also charged to percussion students and to those who use a band instrument over the summer. Rental fees may be mailed to the post office box or dropped in the Treasurer's Box at school, as are all payments.

Scrip is an excellent way to earn credit to pay that "CASH OR EQUIVALENT CREDITS" portion. We all spend hundreds of dollars at the grocery store. Those credits really add up fast. (Call Karen Parker for details.) Credits for scrip will continue to be posted to your account throughout the summer.

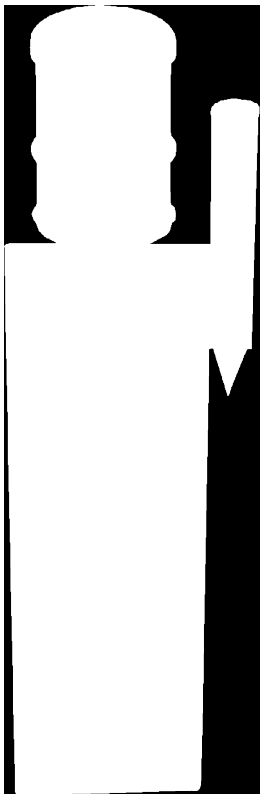
All checks are to be made out to **Grissom Band Parents Association – or GBPA.**

Mail them to:
Grissom Band Parents Assoc.
P.O. Box 4335
Huntsville, Al 35815

Have a joyful summer, and begin making those payments soon!

Mary Setzer
880-2862
TubaJrsMom@hotmail.com

Teresa Montgomery
881-9387
tdmont@hiwaay.net



Water Contribution and Stadium Setup Committee

Hey folks! Yes...it's that time of year again! School starts soon -- time to shift gears.

Water:

We will have a table at the uniform fittings. EVERY BAND MEMBER is asked to contribution one case of water or to make a monetary contribution for the purchase of water. We provide water to the band at all games (home and away) and at competitions. You can also drop off cases of water at the uniform fitting or at practice. Just leave them in the band room. Last year we used over 225 cases of water during marching season.

Stadium Setup:

We are looking for volunteers...as always. This is the easiest committee to work (in my opinion) and it only lasts for marching season. What do we do? Two things....

- 1) We collect and distribute water at the games (about 5-6 volunteers)
- 2) We roll out and take up the black seat covers on the benches to protect the uniforms (audience participation requested - i.e., everyone able to help).

Water distribution will start right away. Seat cover distribution will begin once the students start wearing the uniforms. If you come to games early, please help roll the covers out Many hands make light work.

Thanks so very much for volunteering your time and I look forward to seeing you.

Go Tigers!
 Jim Krenn (h: 883-7811 c: 682-1042)

Hello Band Friends!

We in the uniform committee are getting excited and ready to go for this year, and we hope you are too. Let's get down to the important stuff, so here it goes:

Since it will be very hot, pick your clothes accordingly. But don't forget a big requirement of wearing **WHITE** tennis shoes!

Now for the fitting schedule

** Please note we are starting fittings **one day before** Pre-Camp this year!*

Tuesday, July 26 : 5:30 - 7:30

Seniors & Juniors

Wednesday, July 27 : 5:30 - 7:30

Sophomores & *MAKE-UPS*

Thursday, July 28 : 5:30 - 7:30

Freshmen

| While you are picking just the right place to
| volunteer (they are all a lot of fun!), and filling
| the various Band Parent forms during your child's fitting:
*It would really help us in choosing the
best uniform for your child if you could
make sure that your child knows their
approximate Height & Waist size.*

Your child will be fitted for both Marching Uniforms & Shoes during this time. The shoes are a separate charge of approximately \$32. It's going to be a great year with such a big band, but this also means it will be **very important** to stick to your fitting schedule! We know that family emergencies can arise, if that happens on the spur of the moment and you are unable to make any of the scheduled fittings - - - please call. The uniform committee thanks you very much for your cooperation with this schedule.

If you have any questions at all, or any time that you are available to help, please feel free to call me. As you may note, we do a lot more than sew!

Give us a call:

Tiffeny Hubbard
Uniform Chairperson
(h) 880-3669 (cell) 651-8606

Linda Craft
Uniform Co-Chair
656-5600

Medical Forms Required! / Chaperones Wanted

Welcome Back to another Great Band Year!


I will be at Uniform Fitting to have you sign up for chaperoning this year.

You can also turn in your Medical Release form and Insurance Information form for 2005-2006 at that time if you have not done this. The Insurance Information Form is new this year and requires a copy of your insurance card. You can download these forms from the Charms website. There will be a notary available at the uniform fitting to notarize the Medical Release. **IMPORTANT!** The students are required to have new forms yearly and we must have them before they can ride on the bus.

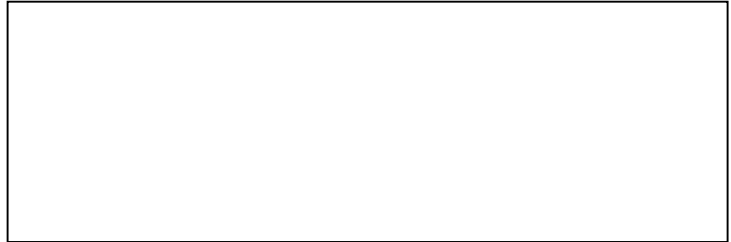
Looking forward to seeing everyone!
Debbie Krenn (883-7811)

GRISSOM HIGH SCHOOL
GRISSOM BAND PARENTS ASSOCIATION
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HUNTSVILLE, AL 35815

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See inside and
check the
website for
Upcoming News!



GHS TIGER BAND NEWSLETTER

Grissom Band Member Information

Listed below are important reminders for all Grissom Band Members. If you ever have any questions, please call the band room at 881-1075 or email the band directors:

Mr. Connell lennoc1@aol.com or Mr. Vernon jtvjazz@knology.net

***Grissom Band Website**, a plethora of information. Check it often! www.grissomband.org

***Grissom Band Handbook** posted soon on the website for downloading. Revisions are being made this summer. **Please read this handbook.** It will answer many of your questions about the Grissom Band Program.

