



GRISSOM BAND PARENTS ASSOCIATION, INC.

NEWSLETTER

July 2006

Editors: Judy Hardwick and Penny Irelan

judhrdwk@knology.net ; wmsghsaumom@comcast.net

(Send address corrections to us!)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents,

I hope everyone had a safe and happy 4th of July and has enjoyed the summer to date. However, July is upon us and that means that the summer is almost over and that for those band members that have not been actively involved in preparations for the upcoming season the time for relaxation will be over shortly. The Guard and Percussion groups have been working for the last couple of weeks and at the end of the month practice for everyone kicks off at pre-camp.

Please be sure to make note of the important dates for the end of this month and the beginning of next. Make up Rookie Camp, Pre-camp, contest band auditions, the DCI trip, uniform fittings, band camp, a cook out at the close of band camp and much more all happen between now and the beginning of the school year. Wow, it's going to be a busy month! All the dates for these events can be found both here in the newsletter and in the CHARMS database. Please make sure you keep track of them so you don't miss anything.

In addition to the events I noted above we have decided that it would be helpful to the newest members of the Grissom Band family, our freshman parents, if we have a band parents meeting. We have decided that we will have this meeting Monday, July 31st at 7 PM in the auditorium. We will be there to answer any questions you may have and to explain how we operate throughout the year. If you are the parent of a freshman please make plans to attend.

And finally, our largest and most important event of the year has begun the planning stages. Take a few minutes and read the notes from Jeff Brewer the Chairman of the GHS Marching Exposition for ways you can help and be a part of one of the most exciting times of the year. I promise you that despite all the hard work involved you will be amazed at how much fun it will be and how proud you will be of the competition we put on.

Once again, please make sure you track the dates of our upcoming events on your calendar or in CHARMS and I will see you all soon. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to give me a call or email me.

Jay Simcox

President 2006-2007

256-883-9078 cjsimcox@comcast.net

Executive Board, 2005-06

Pres Jay Simcox cjsimcox@comcast.net

1st VP Jim Gatherer hsvjim@yahoo.com

2nd VP Becky Lash beckylash@epictrends.com

Secretary: Mary Setzer

mary.setzer@comcast.net

Treasurers: Julie Ashcraft julie12@ashcraft.net

Tonya Hayes tonya.hayes@knology.net

Committees:

Marching Exposition: Jeff Brewer

jigbrew@knology.net

Chaperones: Debbie Krenn

dlkrenn@comcast.net

Publicity: Kristi Fugit kristi.fugit@ngc.com

Color Guard: Alice Searcy searcy@hiwaay.net

and Margaret Haack Haack05@comcast.net

Stadium Setup: Jim Krenn

jdkrenn@comcast.net.

Spirit: Avi Swain AMadanSwain@peds.uab.edu

Concerts: Sharon Keffer and TBA

sharonkeffer@knology.net

Transportation: Paula Dickerhoff and Valerie

Anderson dickerhoff@knology.net

Fruit Sales: Jim and Sheila Kirsch

jckirsch@knology.net; Jan Baker, Manpower

Scheduling, janqueenbee1@knology.net 650-

0915

Script: Nelson and Karen Parker

parker23@knology.net

Trucks: Jim Kirsch jckirsch@knology.net

Vipers: Cherry Hovik cjhovik@comcast.net

Jerry and Liz Potter jpotter@knology.net

Uniforms: Tiffeny Hubbard

uniformfairy@msn.com

Historian:

Ways and Means: Karen Parker

parker23@knology.net

Hospitality:

Webmaster: Rex Simmons

webmaster@grissomband.org

Newsletter: Judy Hardwick

judhrdwk@knology.net; and Penny Irelan

wmsghsaumom@comcast.net

Bill Connell and Theo Vernon, Directors

881-1075 (band room)

*** Mark Your Calendar for Uniform Fittings! *** July 25 – 27th!

Every Marching Band member must get fitted for a uniform !

- July 25 : SENIOR 5:00-6:00 p.m.
 JUNIOR 6:00-7:00 p.m.
 SOPHOMORE 7:00-8:00 p.m.

- July 26 : FRESHMEN
 A – L 5:00-6:30 p.m.
 M – Z 6:30-8:00 p.m.

- July 27 : Any Member WITHOUT a Uniform @ 6:00-7:30 p.m. !

Please make sure you are there on your night, it will be greatly appreciated. However, if an emergency situation arises . . . please use the July 27th makeup date.

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. Color Guard have been measured for your uniforms and are aware of all your extra parts including shoes.

Band Camp : White Tennis Shoes are required. Nothing fancy, just white! A tip from my past experience: GET YOUR KHAKI SHORTS EARLY, since they all tend to run out of the "true" khaki color rather quickly. Please Note – the khaki shorts will be the "uniform" pants for the first few football games only. (Not for use at Band Camp!)

I know for many of you, this will be a lot to process at the startup of a new school year. If you have any questions at all, please feel free to give me a call anytime. . .

Tiffeny Hubbard
 880-3669

P.S: If you would like to help, we are always looking for people

.....

FROM THE TREASURER'S CORNER

DUES REMINDER: Band fees are \$500.00.

The \$300.00 CASH PORTION of your student's fees is due at uniform fitting the week of July 24-28.

The "CASH OR EQUIVALENT CREDITS" portion of the fees (\$200) can either be paid with cash OR it can be paid by credit earned by working at certain eligible fundraisers (i.e., fruit sales, VIPERS, flower sale, rummage sale) or buy buying scrip. \$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

For those who chose to do monthly payments, the balance is due at uniform fitting. If you have any questions, the treasurers will be happy to assist you.

RETURNED CHECK FEE – There is a \$30 fee for checks returned by your bank. Payment of the check amount plus the returned check charge must be made by cashier's check, money order or cash. Cash payments must be hand delivered directly to one of the treasurers. NO CASH IN TREASURER'S BOX PLEASE. Cashier's checks or money orders can be dropped in the treasurer's box in the band room or mailed to the post office box. Partial payments cannot be accepted. We regret that we have had to institute this policy but the band can no longer cover bank and collection fees associated with returned items. Thank you for your understanding and insuring funds are available when your check is presented for payment.

Julie Ashcraft julie12@ashcraft.net

Tonya Hayes tonya.hayes@knology.net

Director's Newsletters Info July 2006



The theme for this year's show is "**LATIN FANTASY**". We are excited about the possibilities for this year's theme! Our drill for the performance band and Pre-Game show will be written by Jeff Fackler founder of Creative Solutions. Mr. Bryan Barley and Sean Womack will be our percussion instructors and Mr. Stan Gillispie and Courtney Doering will be our color guard instructors. We look forward to working with all of these fine talented people to help us put together wonderful shows for the fall.

All show music memorization will be done before you come to Pre-Camp July 26th.

Auditions for Performance Band

The auditions for the performance band will take place during Pre-Camp July 26-28. Music WILL BE MEMORIZED!! All of the show music files have been posted www.grissomband.org so you all can start practicing!! The mp3 files for all of the music is also posted on the Band Website and Charms. All of the stand music is posted so you can begin learning it too. You will need the following to access the music. Username: *student* and Password: *bandontherun*. Please download this and print out your parts. Go ahead and practice the part you have been assigned for the Symphonic/Concert Band parts. We will use this part distribution for the Pre-Game show and Football Band music. Once we have auditioned for performance band we will divide those parts equally. Students playing a secondary instrument please choose 2nd or 3rd part depending upon instrument during Pre-Camp and Band Camp. We just want you practicing this music early! Have fun!

PERFORMANCE BAND AUDITION PROCEDURE

As you all know, we are doing marching auditions this year for the contest band. EVERYONE that is planning to be in contest band will audition during Pre-Camp, July 26-28. There will be two parts to the audition. Each part will be demonstrated one time and two if we need to see more.

1. First will be a block drill of 40 counts. It will be a box drill with a lid (8 counts in each direction). Everyone will play in "**One More Time, Chuck Corea**" (one of the half time tunes) from rehearsal number 87 to the end. **Everyone will have this memorized and march the box while playing this music from memory.**
2. The second part of the audition each group of 16 (see more info below) will be in 2 concentric circles- 8 in each circle. You will expand, contract, rotate and float the circles 40 counts while playing "**America**" (Pre-Game tune) from measures 17 to 27. **This too is to be memorized while you march the drill.**

Everyone must go to the Show Music link on the band's website: <http://www.grissomband.org/showmusic.html> Download and print out the music and memorize the 2 sections listed above. There are mp3 files posted of the music to help you memorize. You will need the username and password to access the music and mp3 files. Contact Mr. Connell llenoc1@aol.com or Mr. Vernon jtvi jazz@knology.net for the username and password.

AUDITION GROUP ASSIGNMENT

We will audition in groups of 16 individuals. Each group will include at least one first year marcher. All groups will have at least one instrument from each section in the band. Any saxophone (alto or tenor) will count as one instrument in the group. Likewise anyone from battery percussion (snare, tenor or bass) will count as a person representing that group. In other words, any sax will count as a representative for that section in the group as well as anyone playing a battery percussion instrument.

CHECK OUT THE DRILL!!

The Half-time drill has been uploaded and the Pre-Game show will be soon. You can access from home both drills, your coordinate sheets, drill charts, etc. We will expect everyone to go and see the drill prior to band camp. You will have to download and 3D Java Viewer plus the drill in order to view the animation with music. All of the instructions are included here and on the website you will go to. This is a very cool and exciting part of our new drill company so please take advantage of it. This fall we will give you ONE coordinate sheet to begin with. You will be responsible for keeping up with it all season. If you forget it for a rehearsal you will be charged \$2.00 to get a new one. It would behoove you to print out your own copies and have several to use during the season.

Follow the instructions below to download everything you need to view and access the 2006 Marching Band shows.

1. Go to www.crsolutions.biz
2. Click on **Login** at the top of the screen
3. Enter the username: **grissom** password: **jf062606** and click Submit
4. Follow the instructions on the screen to download your files
5. Be sure to click Log Out at the top of the screen when finished
6. Please note that upon installing the 3D Java Viewer you will be prompted to agree with Pyware's license agreement each time you open the program, as well as notification that the standard tool-set plug in is not installed. Both of these prompts are normal, click Agree and Okay each time you use the Viewer.

Flip Folder

We ask that each playing member of the band, with the exception of the percussion, have a flip folder by Pre-Camp to hold all music for the fall. Please go ahead and print out all of your music for the fall and put it in your flip folder. This included all stand music too!

Get in Shape!!

Be sure you all get out over the summer and have a lot of fun but also **PLEASE GET SOME EXERCISE**. Marching Band is a physical activity. It will be hot so we will have to deal with it just like all the other superior bands. The better shape you are in, the better the band will be. Everyone needs to keep their "chops" in shape too so **PRACTICE** your instrument. **All show music memorization will be done before you come to Pre-Camp July 26th.**

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! Forms can be downloaded from the website at: <http://www.hsv.k12.al.us/dept/forms/Outoftown.doc> You will also need the insurance addendum attached to the back of this form. You can download this form from www.charmsmusic.com site.

Marching Contests and EXPO 2006 – October 21st

We will again be sponsoring a marching contest this fall on October 21 at Milton Frank Stadium. We want to make this a truly positive experience for all participants including us, the Grissom Band Family. We will also participate in two marching contests this fall. The first one will be September 30th and the second one October 7th. Neither of these contests will be an overnight trip. Itineraries will be handed out and posted on Charms a couple of weeks prior to each Saturday. These performances are required for all marching band members and are fabulous opportunities for fun and adventure.

Grissom Band Member Information

Listed below are important dates and 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

BAND CAMP SCHEDULE:

Color Guard Camp	Sabres/Rifles	July 24-27	5-8pm
Uniform Fittings/Fees due	ALL BAND MEMBERS	*July 25-27	5-8pm
	*see schedule for your class on page 2		
Make-Up Rookie Camp	ALL new band members	July 24 & 25	8am-12pm
BAND PRE-CAMP	ALL BAND MEMBERS	July 26-28	8am-12pm
BAND CAMP	Performance Band Members	July 31-Aug 4	
	8am-12pm/1:30-3:30pm/6:30-8:30pm		
BAND CAMP	Color Guard	July 31-Aug 4	
	6am-10:30am/1:30-3:30pm/6:30-8:30pm		

****Football band members will only come to the 8am-12pm session each day during Band Camp***

Freshman Parents Meeting	Parents of new band members	July 31	7pm
*Kick-Off/Cook-Out	ALL BAND FAMILIES	Aug 4 th	6pm

****All band members required to be here. We will do a sneak preview of our shows for your families on the practice field after dinner approx 7:00pm.***

Band Calendar 2006-2007 on Charms Website

Please refer to www.charmsmusic.com for the 2006-2007 Band Calendar of events, which includes rehearsals, football games, competitions, concerts, trips, etc. All of the events posted are required attendance for all members. Login to the Parent/Student Login using school code: *grissomhsb*

Click the Event List icon and you can print out the entire 2006-2007 Band Calendar. There are many other things posted in the hand out section too! We have included in this newsletter information for all Grissom Band members. It would be a good idea for everyone to review this information because it applies to you too.

***Grissom Band Website**, a plethora of information. Check it often! www.grissomband.org Please check the website for all band activities throughout the summer. These are very important rehearsals that will put you behind if you miss

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

***Band Fees and uniform fittings.** Band fees are \$500.00.

The \$300.00 CASH PORTION of your student's fees is due at uniform fitting July 25-27 5-8pm. Each class is assigned a specific night and time for fittings (see schedule on page 2). 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. Color Guard have been measured for your uniforms and are aware of all your extra parts including shoes.

***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. We prefer a **knee length** (or as close to that as possible) Khaki pant for everyone.

***WHITE TENNIS SHOES.** We ask that each member of the marching band wear a pair of **WHITE** tennis shoes to all marching band rehearsals. These do not have to be \$200.00 shoes. Please make sure the color of the shoe is majority **WHITE**. This helps the directors fix many foot problems during the season when they all are close to the same color. Thank you!

***Instrument Rental.** If you are playing a Grissom Band owned instrument, you will pay a per semester rental fee of \$50.00 for summer, fall and spring semesters. The following instruments have a rental fee: Sousaphones/Tubas, all percussionists, Mellophone (marching French Horn), Concert/Marching Baritones, Bass Clarinets, Baritone Saxophone, Tenor Saxophone (as available), piccolos (as available) and Bassoons.

***Marching Band music.** All of the stand music for the marching band is posted on the band's website under Show Music. To access it you must have the username: *student* and password: *bandontherun*. Get a head start on this music by downloading it and practicing it. There are even some sound files that you can listen to. Use the parts assigned with Symphonic/Concert Band auditions to practice and learn this music. All files will be in PDF format. Adobe Acrobat Reader files. Our theme for the show is "**LATIN FANTASY**".

***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

***DCI show at Cookeville, TN.** We are planning a trip to a Drum Corp Show at Tennessee Tech University on Friday, July 28th. We will plan on leaving around 2:00pm and return after midnight close to 2:00am. The cost of a ticket plus transportation is \$35.00. Your section leaders will take your reservation and the **deadline to register is July 1st**. We cannot guarantee your ticket will be seated with the rest of the group if your order after **JULY 1st**.

***Car Washes.**

Our car washes have changed this year. We are doing them at Lee's Magic Tunnel on the parkway across from The Huntsville Times Building. We are planning on doing our next Car Wash towards the end of August and will be finalizing a date within the next week with Mr. Brown at Lee's Magic Tunnel. We should have that date set by the time that band camp comes around and will make sure that the information is sent home with the students. One thing that everyone should be aware of is that we are going to ask that each family sign out and sell 4 tickets for this car wash. We would like to do this at uniform fittings and the picnic at the end of band camp if at all possible. **PLEASE** plan on helping us with these pre-sales! For the quality of service you get at Lee's you cannot beat a price of \$8 and they should be easy to sell. If each student can sell 4 tickets we could make well in excess of \$6,000 in one day.



We will also need lots of volunteers to work these car washes. The planned times will be a Sunday from 11am-5:30pm and we will have 2 shifts 11:00-2:30 and 2:30-5:30 (this is subject to change). We need 30 students per shift and 10-12 adults each shift. We are trying to find fundraisers for the band that can replace or supplement our fruit sales which have not been lucrative the past few years due to the devastating hurricanes in the area of our grower in Florida. The June Car Wash made \$1700 for the band and with everyone's cooperation the next one could be even bigger benefit to our fund raising efforts and would be an excellent supplement to our fruit sales of past years.

Grissom Band Corporate Sponsorship Program

We need to raise \$ 15,000 this year to keep our band dues as low as possible. One way you can personally help is by investing just a few minutes of your time at your place of employment or a local business that you visit regularly. Please encourage these companies to make a tax-deductible donation to the Grissom Band Corporate Sponsorship Program. Companies will get extensive advertising in return.

Please take some time to personally sign the form that can be found on the website. Then, take the form and meet with the person who is responsible for charitable donations at the company. Spend a few minutes explaining the Corporate Sponsorship program.

Important: If a company has already donated to the band this year, please do not approach them about the Corporate Sponsorship program. We don't want to ask companies for money twice.

A few minutes of your time can work wonders in helping to raise money for our band. Thank you for your help. Please contact me if you have any questions: 881-7558 or beckylash@epictrends.com.

Best regards, Becky Lash

MARCHING SEASON VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Marching season is our biggest opportunity to help the band. The work is fun and you get to meet a lot of parents and a lot of the band kids. Jim Kirsch is the chairman of the truck committee and he has a big HELP WANTED sign out for volunteers. The truck committee moves all of the marching equipment and uniforms to and from the football games and competitions. They also work with band members to get the equipment on and off of the field. Please call Jim (880-1162) for more information.

Debbie Krenn is in her second year as chaperone committee chair. She'll have volunteer sign-up sheets at the uniform fitting sessions during pre-camp. Jim Krenn is also doing a second year as stadium setup chair. His message is.... bring in your water! We provide bottled water for both our band and the guest band at all home football games and we ask you all bring in a case for each of your kids in band (we also take donations). Jim will also need help with putting down and taking up the seat covers at all of the football games. He will also have volunteer sign-up during uniform fitting. Jim and Debbie can be reached at 883-7811.

MARCHING EXPO!!!!



The preparation for the 2006 GHS Marching Band Expo continues to pick up steam. There is much work to do and we still need help in several key areas. **The only way for this to work is for everyone to chip in.** Please consider leading one of the following committees:

- *** Facilities
- *** Sponsorship
- *** Programs
- *** Hospitality
- *** Ticketing

If you can't serve in the lead role, we still need help on each committee to get the work done leading up to the Expo. **Please consider simply helping out** on either one of the committees shown above or on one of these committees that already has someone in the lead:

Equipment (Gary Lane)

Band Communication (Teri Mitchell)

Security (Dan Peek)

Publicity (Kristi Fugit)

Concessions (Jennifer Sherman)

Merchandise (Kelley Gattis)

Public Health and Safety (Debbie Krenn)

Parking (Jim Kirsch)

Press Box Logistics (Sharon Keffer)

Band Logistics (Jim Krenn / Rick Cornelius)

Awards (Kathy Lane)

Volunteer Coordination (Jeff Brewer)

If you can help, let me know or contact one of the committee leads directly.

We really need to get these lead positions defined as soon as possible, so if you can lead any one of these committees or want to know the details of responsibilities for any of these committees, please let me know. **Remember, this event has the potential to bring in big bucks for the GHS band (we made \$6000 last year in our first year and with a bare minimum number of bands), so please help out if you can!** Thanks!

Jeff Brewer

Chairman, GHS Marching Expo

880-9754

jjgbrew@knology.net

Scrip Update

~~ Welcome to our new GHS band families!

To earn credits toward your student's band expenses, GHS band offers a program called "Scrip" which can earn money in two ways: (1) buy (from the band) rechargeable grocery "gift" cards for a national grocery chain that provide you with a way to earn a percentage of the money you spend on groceries toward your student's band account by using this card every time you buy groceries or pharmacy items and (2) the opportunity to buy gift certificates for giving as gifts, but **especially** for routine things you'll purchase anyway – things like summer/fall clothes, yard services, movies, hardware, home improvement items, appliances, eating out and summer trips (gas cards, hotels, restaurants). ... the list goes on. We offer gift certificates from over 100 merchants! The idea is just to buy gift certificates (which the band buys at a discount and sells face value) and use them to pay for things and services that you would wind up buying anyway. The money the band makes with this difference is then "split" and 40% of that amount goes directly to the student's band account that you designate the first time you buy scrip. The remainder goes to the band's Max Hammond Memorial Instrument Fund. It's that easy! When you use scrip, both your designated student and the band win!

We sell scrip year-round – if you're interesting in buying scrip or want to learn more, contact us!

Nelson & Karen Parker, Scrip Coordinators parker23@knology.net phone: 883-4622

Grissom High School Ornament

Hand Painted, Limited Edition, Commissioned Pieces



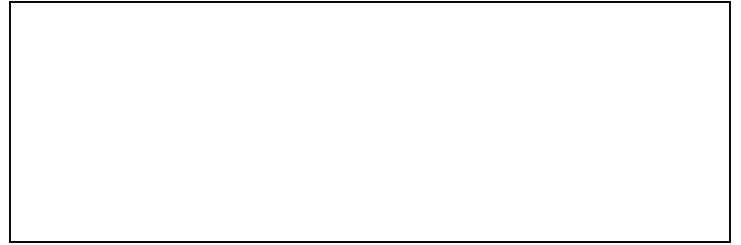
As part of its Huntsville Landmark series, Argosy Gifts and Collectibles (which is no longer in business) commissioned an exclusive hand-painted, resin, 3-dimensional keepsake ornament of GHS to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the school. This limited edition collectible is 4" in diameter and comes in its own gift box with a small display base (that blends perfectly with the landscaping on the ornament) for year-round display for \$25.

This is a unique and very special reminder of all the wonderful memories of Grissom High – a wonderful gift for graduation, birthday or Christmas or as a special memento for alumni and faculty of GHS.

Grissom Band has made special arrangements to sell these ornaments **while supplies last**. Be sure to get yours before we sell out and they are gone forever! To buy an ornament, contact Karen Parker at parker23@knology.net or call 883-4622.

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GRISSOM HIGH SCHOOL
GRISSOM BAND PARENTS ASSOCIATION
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HUNTSVILLE, AL 35815

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GHS TIGER BAND NEWSLETTER