

**GRISSOM BAND PARENTS ASSOCIATION, INC.**

# **NEWSLETTER**

## **Aug/Sep 2007**

**Grissom High School**



**Directors: Bill Connell and Theo Vernon  
881-1075 (Band Room)**

**Web site: <http://www.grissomband.org/>  
Charms: <https://www.charmsmusic.com/>**

## **President's Message**

Hello everyone,

School has started, the band and the guard are in full swing and the activities will be ramping up over the next few weeks. To get us started this month a couple of notes on upcoming events and dates:

- Evening practices have begun. Please be especially aware of students walking in the parking lots of the school when you drop off and pick up your student.

If you would like to volunteer to chaperone any away games or marching competitions please contact Jennifer Sherman at [chaperones@grissomband.org](mailto:chaperones@grissomband.org) or myself.

- Speaking of football, we still need a volunteer to lead the stadium setup/water committee. This person is basically responsible for collecting water

donations, seeing that the seat covers get rolled out for the band and that the students get water at halftime of our games.

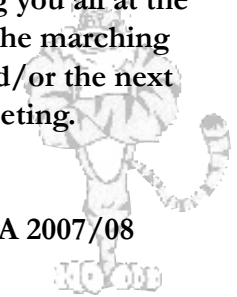
- The first full band parents meeting of the year was Aug. 27. I hope you were able to attend. There was news on the Expo and Philadelphia trip at that meeting. Please be sure to attend the next meeting on Sep. 24. As always we will do our best to keep the meeting to one hour in length.
- We will be going to Philadelphia. If you haven't registered and would like for your student to attend please get that taken care of as soon as possible. If you have registered please make sure that you stay alert for information on a final cost and trip plans.
- There are still openings for committee leads for the Expo. I know that Jeff Brewer is still

looking for someone to lead the Band Logistics, Facilities and Equipment committees. If you can help out in any of these areas it will be greatly appreciated. You can contact Jeff at [expo@grissomband.org](mailto:expo@grissomband.org).

On a closing note we finally got some help from the city getting some of the lights in the parking lot fixed. According to the city schools those lights are going to be replaced, I certainly hope they wait until next summer to do it.

Thank you for your continued support, and I am looking forward to seeing you all at the football games, the marching competitions and/or the next band parents meeting.

Jay Simcox  
President – GBPA 2007/08



## Executive Board: 2007-2008

**President:** Jay Simcox —

[President@grissomband.org](mailto:President@grissomband.org)

**1st VP:** Luann Holloway — [vp1@grissomband.org](mailto:vp1@grissomband.org)

**2nd VP:** Dan Peek — [vp2@grissomband.org](mailto:vp2@grissomband.org)

**Secretary:** Teresa Montgomery —

[secretary@grissomband.org](mailto:secretary@grissomband.org)

**Treasurers:** Julie Ashcraft & Penny Irelan —

[treasurers@grissomband.org](mailto:treasurers@grissomband.org)

### Committees:

**Marching Exposition:** Jeff Brewer —

[expo@grissomband.org](mailto:expo@grissomband.org)

**Chaperones:** Jennifer Sherman —

[chaperones@grissomband.org](mailto:chaperones@grissomband.org)

**Publicity:** Teri Mitchell — [publicity@grissomband.org](mailto:publicity@grissomband.org)

**Color Guard:** Margaret Haack —

[colorguard@grissomband.org](mailto:colorguard@grissomband.org)

**Stadium Set-up:** *Position Vacant*

**Spirit:** Ramona Braswell — [spirit@grissomband.org](mailto:spirit@grissomband.org)

**Concerts:** Sharon Keffer; Karen Allison & Kathy Odell —

[concerts@grissomband.org](mailto:concerts@grissomband.org)

**Transportation:** Paula Dickerhoff —

[transportation@grissomband.org](mailto:transportation@grissomband.org)

**Fruit Sales:** Jim & Sheila Kirsch —

[fruitsales@grissomband.org](mailto:fruitsales@grissomband.org)

**Scrip:** Lynn & Joy Stuckey — [scrip@grissomband.org](mailto:scrip@grissomband.org)

**Trucks:** Jim Kirsch — [trucks@grissomband.org](mailto:trucks@grissomband.org)

**Vipers/VBC Coordinator:** Mary Fountain & Liz Potter —

[vbc@grissomband.org](mailto:vbc@grissomband.org)

**Uniforms:** Patti Preston — [uniforms@grissomband.org](mailto:uniforms@grissomband.org)

**Historian:** Dave Montgomery —

[historian@grissomband.org](mailto:historian@grissomband.org)

**Ways and Means:** Becky Lash —

[waysmeans@grissomband.org](mailto:waysmeans@grissomband.org)

**Hospitality:** Becky Brown — [hospitality@grissomband.org](mailto:hospitality@grissomband.org)

**Webmaster:** Rex Simmons —

[webmaster@grissomband.org](mailto:webmaster@grissomband.org)

**Newsletter:** Becky Proaps & Jana Moody —

[newsletter@grissomband.org](mailto:newsletter@grissomband.org)

**Band Banquet Chair:** *Position Vacant*

**We need volunteers to fill the following positions. We would also like assistants for all the positions listed.**

- Stadium Set-up
- Fruit Sale Coordinator Trainees
- Band Banquet Chair

**Please send address corrections to  
Becky Proaps or Jana Moody at  
[newsletter@grissomband.org](mailto:newsletter@grissomband.org)**

## General Information

√ The locations for the marching competitions have been selected. On Sept. 22 the marching band will be going to Columbia, Tenn. and on Sept. 29 to Gadsden, Ala. Watch your e-mail and check the Web site for the directions to both locations along with the latest information.

√ The Max Hammond Memorial Concert will be Saturday, Sept. 8. All three concert bands will perform. The concert will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium. There will be a dress rehearsal Thursday, Sept. 6 from 3:30 - 4:15 p.m. for everyone in all three bands. The regularly scheduled marching band practice will be from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Report times on the day of the concert will be announced within the next few days.

√ If you haven't signed up for the Philadelphia/New York trip in November, there is still time to do so - there are some spaces left. It will be a great experience for the band and an event that will be remembered for many years to come. Don't miss out. Sign up today.

√ The uniform for the first games is khaki shorts, white socks, white tennis shoes and the "From Russia with Love" t-shirt handed out a couple weeks ago. The band is scheduled to start wearing the regular marching uniforms Sept. 14. Patti Preston needs volunteers to help her hand out/take back plumes before/after each halftime performance. She also needs volunteers to help her check the uniforms after they have been worn each time. Starting Monday, Sept. 17 at 9 a.m., she will be in the band room checking each uniform for cleanliness and any needed repairs. If you are available to help, she would love to have you. Contact Patti for more information.

√ Mary Fountain is the new VBC/Vipers coordinator. Remember you can earn \$5 an hour toward your student's account for every hour you work. Students 16 years old and over can work. Watch your e-mail for opportunities to work and help pay some of your band fees. It's fun; you meet other band parents; and most of all, you are needed.

# Schedule for September

(Be sure to check Charms and the Grissom Band Web site on a regular basis for any updates or schedule changes.)

- **Friday - Sept. 7** — Football game against Florence in Florence  
- **A pep band only will be going to this game**

- **Saturday - Sept. 8** — Max Hammond Memorial Concert

- **Friday - Sept. 14** — Football game against Sparkman at Milton Frank Stadium

- We will probably wear full uniforms for the first time at this game.
- When we have games in Huntsville, we meet at the stadium.
- Each student is responsible for their own transportation.
- We have trucks that will take the large instruments and equipment (percussion, sousaphones, guard 'stuff' and uniforms) but everyone else is responsible for bringing their instruments.
- Meet at the stadium at 6 p.m. unless we have a tailgate get-together. If we tailgate we will meet at 5:30 p.m. (Check your e-mail and the Web site for more information.) We need parents to pick up their children at approximately 9:30 p.m. after the game.



The weeks we have Thursday night games, we will rehearse with the Contest Band on Wednesday after school from 3:30-5:30 p.m. This is due to missing Thursday evening rehearsal for the game.

- **Friday - Sept. 21** — Football game against Buckhorn at Milton Frank Stadium

- The band will do a complete run through of the half-time show at the conclusion of the football game in preparation for the competition the next day in Columbia, Tenn.

- **Saturday - Sept. 22** — Marching competition in Columbia, Tenn.



Check band Web site and your e-mail for latest information on performance times and driving directions as it gets closer to the date. It's a fantastic event - not to be missed. Come out and support your child and the Grissom Band.

- **Wed - Sept. 26** — Contest Band Rehearsal from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Because the football game is on Thursday night, rehearsal is on Wed. after school.

- **Thurs - Sept. 27** — Football game against Johnson at Milton Frank Stadium

- **Saturday - Sept. 29** — Marching competition in Gadsden, Ala.

Check band Web site and your e-mail for latest information on performance times and driving directions as it gets closer to the date. Don't miss it. It's worth the time and effort. Come out and support your child and the Grissom Band.



- **Thurs - Oct. 4** — Football game against Huntsville at Milton Frank Stadium

- **Friday - Oct. 5** — Set-up and preparations for Marching Exposition at Milton Frank Stadium

- **Saturday - Oct. 6** — **EXPO !!! EXPO !!!! EXPO !!! EXPO !!!! EXPO !!! EXPO !!!!**

Sign up now. Find more information on page 5.

# Charms Music Office Assistant

We need everyone's help to update your information in Charms so we can be sure you receive all pertinent information and newsletters. Inputting your own personal information (address, phone numbers, parents' names) guarantees accuracy and means one person does not have to do it all. It is very simple!

This site is **VERY SECURE** and no information is kept "out there" on a Web site. All information is **encrypted** and kept in a database and cannot be accessed by anyone except you and the band directors.

You will log-in with the following to access and update your own personal information:

1. Go to <https://www.charmsmusic.com/>
2. Click in the Parent/Student Login
3. School Code: **grissomhsb**
4. Enter Student Password: this will be the same login you have used in the past. 9th grade freshmen will use the same login you used in middle school.
5. Click on Student Info to add the information requested.
6. **BE SURE TO CLICK UPDATE** when finished.
7. Click Exit or Main Screen to explore what all you can do here.

## Let's party before ball games

We need one or two parent volunteers to be points of contact for each section at the tailgates before home football games. Please e-mail [ramonabraswell@comcast.net](mailto:ramonabraswell@comcast.net) ASAP if you can do this.



## Support your head, band at same time

The Grissom Tiger Pillows are here. Contact Vanessa Poole (880-6453) to purchase yours for \$15 each. Make checks payable to Grissom Band or GBPA. We are accepting credit cards as well. Remember, if you are a BAND student, you can sell 15 pillows and get one free for yourself!



## Recycle, recycle, recycle



Don't forget to recycle old cell phones and ink jet printer cartridges. The band makes money for every cell phone and printer cartridge recycled. Drop yours off in the band room today.

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### Max Hammond Memorial Concert

**Sept. 8**

7:30 p.m., Grissom Auditorium

### Marching Competitions

**Sept. 22**

Columbia High School, Columbia, Tenn.

**Sept. 29**

Mid-South Marching Band Festival

Gadsden High School, Gadsden, Ala.



# Grissom High School Marching Band Exposition 2007

Preparations for this year's Expo are going full speed now with little over a month to go to the big date (**Oct. 6**). There are still a couple of committees that don't have leads, so if you can take either of these, please let me know. The ones currently without leads are:

- Equipment
- Band Logistics

Even if you don't want to lead a committee, most of the committees can still use some help, so let me know if you want to help out with some of the planning and we'll find you a spot to pitch in!!!!

The big thing to focus on now is the Day-Of shift work assignments. The Expo Web site is now ready to accept sign-ups so check it out!

Web site: [www.grissommarchingexpo.org](http://www.grissommarchingexpo.org)

How to sign up:

Once on the Web site, click the "**Volunteer**" button.

- Sign in – User name: **volunteer**  
Password: **ghsneedsme**
- Click on the "**Event Day**" button. (You can also sign up for pre-event committee help here by clicking the "Pre-Event" button)
- Follow the instructions on the Web page to select the area and time slot you wish to work. You will be required to enter your name and e-mail address to confirm your sign-up.

Please sign up to work as many of the shifts as you can. This is a BIG event with a lot of volunteer help needed! Also, please know that **this sign-up is for adults only. Student sign-up will be at a later date!!!!**

Thanks!

Jeff Brewer, Chairman, GHS Marching Expo  
880-9754, [expo@grissomband.org](mailto:expo@grissomband.org)

## Show your spirit!! Order your 2007 t-shirt today

Show your Grissom Band support by wearing Spirit apparel. To see the many items available go to the Grissom Band Web site and click on Spirit Apparel. There are many items available. Also be sure to order your 2007 t-shirt. No spirit item orders can be placed unless we have six orders for the same item. However, we have a



FEW sample items available. Please e-mail us at [spirit@grissomband.org](mailto:spirit@grissomband.org) if you would like more information.

Since we have to pay for the Spirit items when we order them, we will need your payment in advance.

Please make a check out to "Grissom Band" and note "Spirit order" along with your band student's name on the memo line of

your check. Please place the check in an envelope marked "Spirit" and turn it in to the treasurers or place it in the band box in the band room. Once we know the delivery date, we'll let you know. We will schedule and announce by e-mail (or phone) the pickup times at the band room at times to coincide with marching practice.

Thanks for supporting Grissom Band!

# Scrip for Sale! Buy your Scrip now!!

**S**crip is a term that means “substitute money”.

The new school year is beginning, so now is the time to make plans to help the band and earn credits for your student account. The basic idea is to use Scrip for things you'll be buying anyway. When you purchase Scrip, you're purchasing negotiable gift certificates that are used just like cash. The Scrip is issued by the national and local retailers where we already shop. These merchants want to support non-profit organizations, and in return ask you to support them by shopping with Scrip at their stores.

You, your friends and family members can use Scrip to purchase everyday expenses like food, clothing, and other essentials, and with every purchase, you earn revenue for the band and your student's account. As you know, we keep a limited selection of Scrip “on hand” but check the band Web site at [www.grissomband.org](http://www.grissomband.org) to see the full list of Scrip merchants that we can order from. The next order date will continue to be posted on the band Web site or we can make special orders based on your needs. To order, contact the Stuckeys at [scrip@grissomband.org](mailto:scrip@grissomband.org).

Here are a few ideas for how to use Scrip for your family:

1. Buy Scrip for your favorite restaurants you visit on a regular basis
  2. Use Scrip to purchase school supplies
  3. Use the rechargeable Kroger card to buy pharmacy items
  4. Ask family and friends to use the rechargeable Kroger card and just designate your student's account when you buy the card for them. The original card only has \$5 value, so you can mail it without much worry and let them recharge it before they begin to use it.
  5. Kroger sells some gift cards that we cannot get from our supplier – you can buy these using your rechargeable card.
  6. Do you have a college student? You can purchase Scrip for their favorite restaurant or store and give them a nice surprise!
  7. Use Scrip to buy holiday gifts (order enough to cover the entire amount)
  8. Use Scrip for online orders – your favorite bookstores, outdoor clothing, and department stores, specialty stores, kitchen stores, you name it – we probably can get it!
- If you have any questions, just let us know!

## **Thanks for all the donated Guard jerseys!**

The Color Guard put out a cry for help when the white Guard jerseys for our 11 new members were held up by manufacturing problems. Grissom Band Guard Girl Alumni answered the call immediately (as former band kids do!). We ended up with more jerseys than we needed and even had girls offer to mail them back to us from their colleges. In the end, we had 13 jerseys representing '05, '06 and '07 graduates. Each girl was given information on the history of her particular jersey and “Alumni Jersey Night” may have been born. Thanks again to all the band parents and kids for spreading the word and to all the Guard Alumni that responded.

## **We want your e-mail address**

Are you getting e-mails from Jay Simcox, Grissom Band Parents Association president, with the latest and greatest news and information?

If not, send him your e-mail address and he will add you to his list.

It is another way to stay up-to-date with all the band's activities.

Send your e-mail address to [President@grissomband.org](mailto:President@grissomband.org).

You'll be glad you did!

## Be sure to pick up your Concert Season Tickets for 2007 - 2008

**One ticket (per band student) with eight punches will be issued this year and can be used at the Fall, Winter and Spring concerts. Parents must sign for the complimentary ticket and be up-to-date with fees. Lost tickets will not be replaced. We need volunteers to work in the lobby before each concert. It's fun; it's easy. Please contact Sharon Keffer for more info.**

## Treasurer's Message

Dues for band are as follows:

<b>Marching/Football band</b>	<b>\$500</b>
<b>Concert Band only</b>	<b>\$445</b>
<b>Color Guard only</b>	<b>\$370</b>
<b>Jazz Band only</b>	<b>\$150</b>

**The cash portion of dues is now due.**

For Marching/Football band, \$300; for Concert band only, \$245; for Color Guard only, \$270; and for Jazz band, \$150 was due at uniform fitting in July. Payment was due then whether or not your child was fitted for a marching uniform. Because the majority of our expenses are incurred during marching season, prompt payment of dues is crucial to the band program. A 20% penalty will be applied to unpaid

dues not received by Sept. 1. Students who are exempt from school fees based on family income are also exempt from band dues but not from other charges (marching shoes, instrument rentals, etc.). Payments may be placed in the treasurer's box in the band room (**checks only-NO CASH**) or mailed to Grissom Band Parents, P.O. Box 4335, Huntsville, AL 35815.

Instrument rental fees are \$50 per semester. Summer rental fees are due now. Fall rental fees were due Aug. 8. Spring rental fees are due Jan. 9.

The cash or equivalent credits portion of dues can either be paid with cash or credits earned at eligible

fundraisers (fruit sales, VBC, etc.) or through purchasing Scrip. For Marching/Football and Concert bands, \$100 is due by Nov. 1 and the other \$100 by March 31. For Color Guard, \$100 is due by Nov. 1.

There will be a \$30 charge for returned checks. Payment of the check amount, plus the returned check charge must be made by cashier's check, money order or cash. Cash payments should be delivered directly to one of the treasurers.

Should you have any questions, the treasurers will be happy to help you.

**Julie Ashcraft**  
**Penny Irelan**  
[treasurers@grissomband.org](mailto:treasurers@grissomband.org)

GRISSOM HIGH SCHOOL  
GRISSOM BAND PARENTS ASSOCIATION  
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HUNTSVILLE, AL 35815

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NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
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**Next Band Parents  
Meeting Sep. 24,  
7 p.m.  
Don't miss it!!  
Get all the latest  
news.**



# **Grissom High School Tiger Band Newsletter**