

Pioneer Band Association

NOTES

Building a Foundation for Musical Excellence

FROM THE PODIUM Camp, fall and beyond!!!

In case you did not attend either Capsule night or the first Pioneer Band Association meeting, you missed my comments about the start of the year. Band Camp was AMAZING!!! Pioneer musicians and percussionists have much to be proud of. We welcomed a new tradition to the performance schedule at camp, Skyline High School ensembles joined the Pioneer Band and Choir, as well as the Huron Band and Choir this year. The most touching moment was when the 11-member Skyline choir walked on stage and received a standing ovation before singing a note (led by the Pioneer Band). If you missed the annual concert at Interlochen, you indeed missed a monumental performance in the life of your child. That having been said, please make plans to attend next summer; you won't want to miss it!! Fall has begun and at Pioneer High School there is a veritable smorgasbord of activities happening in all phases of life here. It is important that, as a family, you keep an eye on all your family/school calendars (especially the Bands calendar) so that your student doesn't miss an important activity, practice, performance, or picnic! Speaking of picnics, please make sure to attend the annual Pioneer Bands picnic (scheduled for Saturday, September 13th from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.) at Al-mendinger Park. This is a great way for you to meet the directors, your children's band-mates and other band parents. It is amazing the things you might find out about just by talking to other parents, things like: not everyone at school has an iPhone, Pioneer dances don't end at 1:30 a.m., a black Lexus is not the class of 2010's official car! So please make the effort to attend the Band Picnic, we would love to see/meet you there!

On Friday, October the 10th, the Pioneer Concert and Symphony Bands will combine and perform a spectacular halftime. As part of that performance, we will be recognizing the band members of the class of 2009 and their parents/guardian (that would be you). If you are the parent or guardian of a band member in the class of '09, please plan on attending this important game. You will be asked to join your student on the football field to be recognized for your support of your child's journey with the Bands of Pioneer.

I look forward to seeing and getting to know you all at the Band Picnic, or at a home Pioneer Football game! Thanks again for encouraging your child to participate in music at Pioneer High School.

All the best,

David A. Leach Director of Bands

The USMC "President's Own"

On Wednesday October 22, @ 7:30 p.m. The USMC "President's Own" is performing at the University of Michigan's Hill Auditorium as part of their National Tour. Tickets are FREE for students and parents. All you need to do is call the League Ticket office @ 764-2538 to place an order. Tickets will then be available at the League ticket office, or at Hill's "Will Call" booth the day of the concert (not recommended).

They are performing **La Fiesta Mexicana** as part of their concert!!!!!!

Pioneer Band Association, Inc. Pioneer High School 601 West Stadium Blvd Ann Arbor, MI 48103



September/October 2008
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PBA NOTES _____

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FROM THE PODIUM

I am really looking forward to working with this year's Varsity Band. I have been very impressed with the students so far. They have wonderful attitudes and are helpful and eager to learn. We're currently working on a brief marching band unit. Although the Varsity Band students won't march in any games I feel that it's important that they get a taste of what they will do if they want to move up to Concert and Symphony Band. It was great to see them supporting the marching band at Wagongate!

While the students are outside marching, our band librarians are preparing their music and folders so we can hit the ground running. We will be starting our inside concert rehearsals soon. Each student should be making sure that they are doing their nightly half hour of practice. They have also been told that they need to have their names on their instruments (both inside and outside), even if they are using one of our school instruments. Luggage tags work well for this. Students have been advised to never leave their instrument in their hall lockers. We have a storage area in the band room for this purpose.

Although I direct the Varsity Band, I also work with every other band group at Pioneer. If you have any questions or concerns along the way, please get in touch with me. The best way is via email:

waring@aaps.k12.mi.us or use the link on the www.aapioneerbands.org webpage

Welcome to the Pioneer Band family!

Nancy Waring Associate Director of Bands



The Latest from the PTO Thrift Shop!

**Looking for a way to earn \$\$\$ toward Band Camp 2009 or for the General Band Fund?
Try volunteering at the PTO Thrift Shop!**

Students or family members may sign up to work a 2 hour shift, with a maximum of 2 shifts per week. Volunteers earn \$7 or \$8 an hour. The shop has a "rolling sign-up" system in place for the following month. Every Monday morning, a new week is added to the sign-up book. Stop by early to get the best selection.

This school year, the payout dates will occur on Sept. 1st, Jan. 1st, and May 1st. This is an increase from 2 dates annually. This means money earned will be applied to your account more often, making it easier to use for your camps or trips.

Also, beginning this year, all students age 14-17 must obtain a work permit to volunteer at the store. This is effective September 1st, 2008. Students can obtain a work permit at the school office. The permit must be taken to the PTO Thrift Shop to be filled out by the store staff. The students will then return the permit to the school office for approval.

Volunteers are always needed and appreciated. If you haven't tried it yet, give it a whirl, you might love it!

Please remember to work, shop, and donate to the PTO Thrift Shop!

**The PTO Thrift Shop is located at 2280 S. Industrial.
Phone: 996-9155, Website: www.a2ptothriftshop.org
Hours: M-F 9-6, Sat 9-6, Sun 11-5**

Questions? Call **Mary Topham**, your Band Thrift Shop liaison at 827-0316 or send an email to MaryTopham@comcast.net.



**Pioneer Band Families – Be Creative, Have Fun and
Support the Bands, *all at the same time!***

Mark your calendars! **The Fifth Annual Pioneer Band Gala & Auction is scheduled for Sunday, February 8, 2009**, at the Four Points Sheraton in Ann Arbor. The Gala & Auction is not only an enjoyable event, but it is also a major fundraiser for the bands. This adult-oriented event features a live auction with a professional auctioneer, a large silent auction, a buffet-style hors d'oeuvre reception, and special performances representing our Award-Winning Band Program.

Last year's event raised over \$21,000, and we have set an ambitious goal of \$25,000 for this year's event, but we can make it. All auction proceeds will help support the band program by providing stipends and scholarships for band camp, tours and competitions; sponsoring guest clinicians; and funding items like sheet music and instruments. We want to ensure the Gala & Auction is a success, with our desire to continue having a quality band program and funding. We need your help!

The Pioneer Band Gala & Auction is a major event, and many hands help make the work lighter. We need volunteers and committee coordinators to help with the Gift Committee (getting auction items), Ticket Sales Committee, Family Basket Committee, Volunteer Coordination, Publicity, and Mailing Team. If you are interested in helping, please contact **Gala Co-Chairs:**

**Janene Centurione at danjan22@hotmail.com or (734) 663-6252, or
Ann Curtis at accurtis1@gmail.com or (734) 975-2922.**

*We are also looking for exciting, interesting and unique items
for the live and silent auctions.*

- Do you have a vacation home or time share that sits empty?
- Do you have tickets to a sporting event or concert series that go unused or access to a corporate stadium box?
- Do you know a Pioneer alumnus, renowned or otherwise, that would be willing to support their alumnae mater?
- Do you have a hobby or skill - such as flying, cooking, or sailing - that you would like to share with others?
- Are you willing to donate your professional services?
- Do you have an idea for an auction item?
- Do you have, or know of, a business that might want to advertise their business in our auction program?
- Would you be willing to contact local businesses for donations?

If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, please contact **Gala Co-chairs: Janene Centurione or Ann Curtis.**

**Janene at danjan22@hotmail.com or by phone (734) 663-6252, and
Ann at accurtis1@gmail.com or by phone (734) 975-2922.**

With your help, we can make the Pioneer Band Gala & Auction a truly successful event! Thank you.

Band Apparel at PBA Meeting!

Attention, parents! Band spiritwear will be available at the September 9 PBA Meeting. If you missed us at Registration, this will be your chance to buy t-shirts, the ever-popular flannel pants and shorts, and more!

Cheryl White, cherwhit@med.umich.edu 332-8967

Picnic Pops is looking for an enthusiastic information coordinator and publicity chairperson.

Work with a great team of experienced volunteers from all of the high schools.

Contact **Jan Culbertson** at jankc@a3c.com
or 645-2101 if you are interested in volunteering.

New this Fall! Billing Solutions: a better way to handle our student accounts

The Pioneer Band Association has used QuickBooks Pro® accounting software since 2001 to manage our general finances. That same year, we began using ServantKeeper® for both our database management (Membership module) and our student account management (Contribution module). While this combination of software programs served us well for many years, there were several inefficiencies that made our logistics and administrative tasks cumbersome. The Executive Board now feels we can benefit greatly by switching over our student account management to our existing QuickBooks Pro® file supplemented with the QuickBooks Billing Solutions program.

We think this will be a win-win change, since it will make simple and secure online payments possible for our members, while streamlining the billing and money handling process for our PBA Co-Treasurers. (They will still have a lot of work to do in this volunteer role, so be sure to thank Jill and Ed when you can!) This system will also relieve our PBA President of a long-standing burdensome task of collecting and processing payments. (Thank Gloria, too, because her plate remains full with other duties!)

We have had a QuickBooks Merchant Account for the past several years, allowing us to process Visa and MasterCard payments (credit or debit cards). Billing Solutions works with our merchant account to bring the power and convenience of online invoicing and payments. Briefly, here's how it works:

We will e-mail invoices to you for all the usual charges such as program fees, band camp fees, tour fees, and apparel purchases. We will also issue credit memos for fundraising earnings and scholarship awards. We will follow up regularly with statements and reminders to help you stay current with you account.

Through a link in our e-mails, you will be able to access a password-protected online Customer Account Center. You will be invited to create a login to gain access to the Customer Account Center where you can view billing history, print invoices, set payment reminders and make credit card payments. You will only be able to see your own account information. You can also send us e-mails right from the Customer Account Center should you have any questions. Help is also automatically provided for general "How do I...?" questions. Obviously, you will have 24/7 access to the Customer Account Center. (If you don't use e-mail or the internet for making payments, we can mail you invoices and include a convenient payment stub and return envelope.)

With one click, our treasurers will be able to download the record of all payments made through Billing Solutions directly into QuickBooks, saving time and ensuring accuracy. All data transmitted to the QuickBooks Billing Solutions' servers uses SSL encryption. The data is protected behind high-security firewalls, regularly backed up, and all servers are monitored around the clock for proper operation.

We will get this new program underway this year. Please be patient as we work through the start up process and all of us go through a learning curve. We will look forward to reaping the benefits of Billing Solutions not only in the 2008-2009 season, but also as we prepare for another tour year in 2009-2010. Feel free to contact me or any of the PBA officers if you have questions or concerns.

Daryl Hurst, PBA Tech Support
734-663-6306
webmaster@aapioneerbands.org

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2008
 BE AWARE THAT CHANGES WILL PROBABLY OCCUR. WATCH THE WEBSITE, NEWSLETTER, AND CLASSROOM
 ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DATE CHANGES.
 (SB=Symphony Band CB=Concert Band VB=Varsity Band JB=Jazz Band PBA=Pioneer Band Association)

-----**SEPTEMBER 2008**-----

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	GROUP
1 Mon		NO SCHOOL LABOR DAY		
2 Tue		FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL		
3 Wed	12:30-2:30 pm	Marching Uniform Distribution	B-126 SB	SB & PBA Uniform Team
3 Wed	3:30-5:30 pm	Marching Drill	Practice Field	SB & PBA Hydration Team
4 Thu	12:30-3 pm	Marching Uniform Distribution	B-126	SB & PBA Uniform Team
4 Thu	3:30-5:30 pm	Marching Drill	Practice Field	SB & PBA Hydration Team
5 Fri	4:30-10 pm	HOME FOOTBALL GAME vs ADRIAN Game Time 7:00 pm WAGONGATE	Practice Field Hollway Field	WAGONGATE SB PBA Escort Team & PBA Uniform Team
9 Tue	7:30 pm	Pioneer Band Association Meeting	Schreiber	ALL BAND PARENTS
13 Sat	1-4 pm	BAND PICNIC	Allmendinger Park	ALL BAND FAMILIES & PBA Picnic Team
17 Wed	3:30-5:30 pm	Marching Drill	Practice Field	SB & PBA Hydration Team
18 Thu	3:30-5:30 pm	Marching Drill	Practice Field	SB & PBA Hydration Team
19 Fri	4:30-10 pm	HOME FOOTBALL GAME vs HOWELL Game Time 7:00 pm HOMECOMING Alumni Band @ Halftime	Practice Field Hollway Field	SB PBA Escort Team PBA Uniform Team Alumni Band
24 Wed	3:30-5:30 pm	Marching Drill	Practice Field	SB & PBA Hydration Team
25 Thu	3:30-5:30 pm	Marching Drill	Practice Field	SB & PBA Hydration Team
26 Fri	4:30-10 pm	HOME FOOTBALL GAME vs. BEDFORD Game Time 7:00 pm	Practice Field Hollway Field	SB PBA Escort Team & PBA Uniform Team
29 Mon	ALL DAY	Deadline for MSBOA All State B/O Applications to State Office	MSBOA State Office	ALL BAND STUDENTS
30 Tue	ALL DAY	Candy Sale Begins	B-126	ALL FAMILIES

-----**OCTOBER 2008**-----

7 Tue	1:30-3 pm	Marching Uniform Distribution	B-126	Concert Band PBA Uniform Team
8 Wed	1:30-3 pm	Marching Uniform Distribution - CB	B125	Concert Band PBA Uniform Team
8 Wed	2-3:30 pm	Marching Drill	Practice Field	SB/CB PBA Hydration Team
9 Thu	3:30-5:30 pm	Marching Drill	Practice Field	SB/ CB PBA Hydration Team
10 Fri	4:30-10 pm	HOME FOOTBALL GAME vs. CHELSEA GAME TIME 7:00 PM SENIOR RECOGNITION NIGHT Senior Presentation@ Halftime	Practice Field Hollway Field	SB/ CB PBA Escort Team PBA Uniform Team SENIOR PARENTS
13 Mon	ALL DAY	MSBOA All State B/O Audition Times Posted on web	www.msboa.org	All students
14 Tue	ALL DAY	Candy Sale Ends	B-126	ALL FAMILIES
14 Tue	7:30 pm	Pioneer Band Association Meeting	B-126	ALL BAND PARENTS
15 Wed	3:30-5:30 pm	Marching Drill (Combined Rehearsal w/ Huron Band) PBA RECEPTION TO FOLLOW	Practice Field	SB PBA Hydration Team PBA Hospitality Team
16 Thu	3:30-5:30 pm	Marching Drill @ HURON Practice Field (Combined Rehearsal with Huron Band)	HURON HS	SB
17 Fri	4:30-10 pm	HOME FOOTBALL GAME vs. HURON GAME TIME 7:00 PM	Practice Field Hollway Field	SB PBA Hydration Team PBA Hospitality Team PBA ESCORT TEAM
18 Sat	ALL DAY	BAND CAR WASH	Pioneer Parking Lot	ALL BAND FAMILIES PBA Car Wash Team
19 Sun	ALL DAY	CAR WASH RAIN DATE	Pioneer Parking Lot	ALL BAND FAMILIES PBA Car Wash Team
30 Thu	ALL DAY	District S/E Forms & Fees Due	B-126	ALL BANDS

-----**NOVEMBER 2008**-----

1-2 Sat/Sun	ALL DAY	MSBOA All State B/O Auditions At several state sites	TBA	All Participants
3 Mon	7-9 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	SB
4 Tue	ALL DAY	NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS		
11 Tue	7:30-8:30 pm	Pioneer Band Association Meeting	B-126	All Band Parents
(24 Mon	7:00-9:30 pm	Michigan Youth Ensembles	HILL	MYE)
26-28 W/T/F		THANKSGIVING BREAK		



Pioneer Band Association

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Building a Foundation for Musical Excellence

PIONEER BAND ASSOCIATION
PIONEER HIGH SCHOOL
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ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48103
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

TO:

We're On The Web!
www.aapioneerbands.org

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PBA Free Car Wash

...is scheduled for **Saturday, October 18.**

(The rain date is the 19th but keep your fingers crossed that won't be necessary.) The way we make money is by students collecting pledges that pay an amount per car washed. It is very important that *students fill out the Pledge Forms* and obtain as many pledges as possible.

The other way we make money is by receiving donations at the car wash itself. The students will sign up to work in their band class but parents are needed too to help coordinate and monitor everything.

Contact:

**Gloria Wilson at president@aapioneerbands.org
or, David Wallner at wallner@aol.com**
to volunteer a couple of hours
to this important event.

Candy Sale begins September 30th

Candy sale ends Oct. 14th. Turn money in during band class (even if student still hasn't sold all of the candy yet). Checks made payable to PBA, \$52 per box. In the memo section, lower left hand corner of your check, clearly write the first and last student name, which band (VB, WW, etc) and "candy".