

Pioneer Band Association

NOTES

Building a Foundation for Musical Excellence



FROM THE PODIUM

Happy New Year! I hope that this newsletter finds you and your family in good health and well rested.

A few years back an interesting conversation occurred that I wish to share with all of you... about midway through the marching season a Pioneer student teacher asked, "It slows down after marching band, huh?" Both Nancy Waring and I chuckled and indicated "...no, actually it gets much busier after we stop marching." That sentiment was true then and is very much true this coming year. Although this is not a tour year, we have decided to make our bi-annual spectacular fund raiser "**Gala**", annual! We have invited some special guests to come in and work with the Jazz, Concert and Symphony Bands, as well as the usual fare of concerts festivals, and performances. We have lots of exciting things happening with this year's Pioneer Bands!

A bit about "**Gala**": When I first arrived at Pioneer as director of the Bands, lots (I mean, lots) of parents indicated that they would like us to have fund raisers that were more relevant, and less about hawking someone else's goods (especially chocolates). Perhaps develop a fund raiser that is more about showing off our strengths. After about a year, I introduced the concept of having a fund raiser that was a community event, as a way to generate much needed funds. This "**Gala**" would showcase our program, generate funds, all while involving community movers and shakers in order to encourage them see the public school (Pioneer Music Department in particular) in a different light. "**Gala**" is the antithesis of this new direction. This exciting evening features performance of several of our most notable small ensembles. While guests walk around and silently bid on some fantastic family affair baskets... a feature performance by Pioneer's small and large Jazz Ensemble, a Woodwind quintet, followed by a spirited live auction of some amazing items, experiences, artworks all donated by local merchants, family and friends of the Pioneer Bands. This is an evening not to miss. Please attend and bring some friends, I am sure that none will be disappointed. A special thanks to Karen and John Field "Co-chairs" of this (and last) year's "**Gala**"!

After that comes the **Pioneer Bands Winter Concert** followed by **District Solo & Ensembles** the first week of February, and it continues with a fast push to graduation in the spring.

If you have not already done so, please check the PHS Bands calendar and block off in your family calendar for your child's evening rehearsals and concerts. Both are mandatory for your child, and the performance attendance is required for all in the family!

All the best,

David A. Leach Director of Bands

Updated calendars are available on the web site and in the band room. Please make sure you check and change your home calendars!!! Please continue to watch for changes/additions to the band calendar.

January/February 2007

PBA Contacts

David A. Leach

Director of Bands

734-996-3210

director@aapioneerbands.org

Nancy Waring

Associate Director of Bands

734-996-3210

asstdirector@aapioneerbands.org

2006-07 OFFICERS

Gail Ferguson Stout

President

734-663-7634

president@aapioneerbands.org

Denise Johnson

Vice President

734-663-0028

vicepresident@aapioneerbands.org

Meena Khankari

Treasurer

734-327-4079

treasurer@aapioneerbands.org

Karen Smith-Krass

Secretary

734-214-9042

secretary@aapioneerbands.org

Daryl Hurst

Past-President & Webmaster

734-663-6306

webmaster@aapioneerbands.org

PBA NOTES

Kathy Toy-Nao

Newsletter Editor

newsletter@aapioneerbands.org

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



FROM THE PODIUM

Our first full rehearsal for the Varsity Band was quite productive. I've said many times that it is so much fun to watch the expressions on their faces when the woodwind class hears the brass/percussion for the first time. It was also really fun to watch the 42 members of the brass/percussion class when they add in the other "half" of their band, 95 woodwinds!

We have only two more evening rehearsals before our Winter Concert. It is crucial that all students plan to attend the upcoming rehearsals from 6 to 8 PM on Wednesday January 16th and January 31st.

Auditions for Concert and Symphony Bands are the first week of March. The music has been available since August. It is not something that we rehearse during class so students need to be working on that on their own during their nightly half hour of practice.

Reminder that all students need to have their names on their instruments. Luggage tags work well for this, even if they are using one of our school instruments. 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, the foundation of our program, 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 e-mail (waring@aaps.k12.mi.us) or use the link on the www.aapioneerbands.org webpage.

Thank you all for your continued support!

Nancy Waring Associate Director of Bands

PIONEER BANDS VOLUNTEER AT THE PTSO THRIFT SHOP

Pioneer Bands students and their parents can earn money for the Pioneer Band program and can also offset the cost of Band Camp and Band trips by working at the PTSO Thrift Shop!

How? Sign up to work 2-hour shifts at the Thrift Shop. The first 4 hours' earnings will be donated to the Bands program at the Thrift Shop pay-out time, usually in March of each year. (This year, there was also a pay-out in September.) Any hours over the first 4 can be used to offset the cost of Band Camp (or band trip). Generally, the Thrift Shop "pays out" \$7 to \$8 per hour, depending on how business has been going for them. You can even get reimbursed for money you have already paid to the PBA for trips or Band Camp! When you sign in for your shift, you pick the sheet under "Pioneer" that corresponds to what you want to work toward: "General Band programs," "Band Camp," etc.

When? The first Saturday of each month begins the sign-up process for the next month. Thrift Shop hours are 9am – 7pm, Monday – Friday, 9am – 6pm on Saturday, and 11am – 5pm on Sunday. You may sign up for a total of 2 shifts per week: one on the weekend and one during the week, or two during the week.

What do you do there? You do all kinds of fun things like accept donations, tag and hang clothing, straighten up the displays, recycle cardboard, test electronics, and plain old help at whatever is needed. After your shift, the manager will initial your sign-in sheet.

Where? The PTSO Thrift Shop is located at 2280 S. Industrial Highway, almost directly across the street from where Jewett meets S. Industrial. (In fact, workers park their cars on S. Industrial.)

Want more information? The Thrift Shop phone number is 996-9155. The Pioneer Bands liaison person is **Denise Held**, 971-0746, or deniseheld@aol.com.

PIONEER “BAND GALA” & AUCTION TICKETS NOW ON SALE_____

We are busily preparing for our third annual Pioneer Band Gala & Auction, gathering donations and finalizing details, and excitement for the event is building. The Pioneer Band Gala & Auction will take place Sunday, February 11, 2007, 5:30-9:00 p.m., at the Four Points Sheraton, Ann Arbor. The evening will include a buffet-style hors d'oeuvre reception, a cash bar, live and silent auctions, and a special concert representing our Grammy Award-Winning Band Program. The live and silent auctions will feature many terrific items donated by area businesses, as well as our “Family Affair” themed baskets.

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 have set an ambitious fund raising goal of \$35,000 for this event, but we can make it. Our success depends on a full house and a successful auction. We are sending invitations to local VIP's, band alumni, and AAPS and Pioneer staff, but YOU are critically important.

We are asking each band family to sell or purchase at least two tickets. This event is open to the public. We strongly encourage you to invite friends, family, neighbors, and colleagues to this delightful evening of excellent food, socializing, music and SHOPPING. The Gala and Auction is not only a fundraiser, but also an opportunity to showcase a part of our amazing program to the larger community.

Tickets are only \$25 each, and need to be purchased in advanced by February 4, 2007. Reservation cards will be mailed out and are available on our website “<http://www.aapioneerbands.org>” www.aapioneerbands.org. If you have any questions about tickets or need additional reservation cards, please contact **Karen Field** or **John Field** at (734) 769-1060 or by e-mail at “mailto:klfield14@aol.com”.

We know we can count on you to help make this a sell-out event and a huge success for the Pioneer Bands. Thank you.

JUST A REMINDER . . . Family Affair Baskets for the “Band Gala”_____

All Family Affair Packages and Auction Items for the Band Gala and Auction are due by January 6, 2007.

Packages may be dropped off at the **Field's** (2339 Sun Valley Drive – 769-1060) or the **Johnson's** (4019 Ramsgate Court – 663-0028). Just call first to make sure we are at home. If you plan to make a donation, or would like your Family Affair package picked up, or if you have any questions regarding this program, please contact **Karen or John Field** at 769-1060 or by e-mail at “mailto:klfield14@aol.com”.

PICNIC POPS - MAY 19TH, 2007_____

Please note that the Picnic Pops May 19th, 2007 committee is making plans and have three people as the contacts: **Chris Campbell (Ella)**, **Ilyse Diamond (Ilana)** and **Janice Doyle(Patton)**.

You will find us in the Concert or Symphony Band and Jazz Band directory. We will be asking for help and support from new volunteers and past volunteers. So please mark the date on your calender and be ready to have some fun!

PIONEER JAZZ BAND CONCERT

PIONEER JAZZ BAND CONCERT Wednesday, January 17 @ 7:30 pm Schreiber Auditorium Featuring the Pioneer Jazz Band Conducted by **David A. Leach**

PIONEER BANDS WINTER CONCERT & WHAT'S ON THE PROGRAM?

Our Winter Concert will be on Thursday, February 1 @ 7:00 pm Schreiber Auditorium. Featuring small ensembles and the Pioneer Jazz, Symphony, Concert, & Varsity Bands conducted by **David A. Leach** and **Nancy Waring**.

REPERTOIRE FOR THE WINTER CONCERT:

Jazz Band: Unknown

Symphony Band:

Purple Carnival - **Harry L. Alford**

Rocky Point Holiday - **Ron Nelson**

Symphony in Bb (Mvt. I) - **Paul Hindemith**

Concert Band:

Sea Songs - **Ralph Vaughn Williams**

Pageant - **Vincent Persichetti**

Trail of Tears - **James Barnes**

Varsity Band:

On The Tramp March - **John Philip Sousa**, adapted for Concert Band by **Harold Gore**

Lakeland Portrait - **Pierre LaPlante**

Africana - **Jaroslav Holesovsky**

BOWLING PARTY

BAND STUDENTS: DON'T MISS THE JANUARY 13TH BOWLING PARTY! FREE for VARSITY BAND MEMBERS; \$2 for CONCERT & SYMPHONY BAND MEMBERS! Saturday, January 13 from 1:00—3:00 pm, at BelMark Lanes on Jackson Road near Quality 16 Theatre. Sponsored by the PBA & hosted by **Mr. Leach**. Pizza & pop will be served and bowling shoes & balls provided (or bring your own). Sign up on the list that will be posted in the band room on January 8th!

PIONEER BANDS STUDENTS SELECTED TO COLLEGE HONORS BANDS

Congratulations to the following members of the Pioneer Symphony Band Class of 2007 who have been selected as members of The University of Michigan Marching Band High School Honors Band and who performed with the Michigan Marching Band on Sunday, December 10th in concert at Crisler Arena: **Louis Barry**, Percussion; **Tova Berg**, Clarinet; **Lauren Stout**, Trumpet.

FUNDRAISING

The PBA is having an INCREDIBLE fundraising year as we look to next year's 2007-08 Spring Tour. The PBA has traditionally planned to earn \$20,000 each year for a total of \$40,000 raised over two years to have it available for Spring Tour expenses. The 2006-07 Candy Sale, in just two weeks, earned nearly \$15,000.00; and our Car Wash raised a HIGHEST EVER nearly \$17,500.00, for an annual total well over our \$20,000.00 goal. We need to keep this trend moving upwards as we approach February and our Pioneer Band Gala & Auction. **Mr. Leach** has promised that if we can raise \$30,000 at the February event, then there WILL BE NO CANDY SALE in fall 2007. (read that again – he means it!). This means that every band family needs to continue their incredible level of fundraising participation when it comes to acquiring auction items, selling tickets to the Gala & Auction, making Family Affair Baskets for auction, and supporting the Pioneer Bands.

DISTRICT SOLO & ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL

District Solo & Ensemble Festival Saturday, FEBRUARY 3, 2007 see page 32 of the Pioneer Bands Handbook for further information. Solo and Ensemble Festival is February 3, 2007. Make sure you know your District Festival performance and warm-up room numbers for EACH EVENT (room numbers are distributed by Mr. Leach and Ms. Waring approximately 1 week to 10 days prior to the festival). Plan to arrive AT LEAST ONE HOUR BEFORE YOUR SCHEDULED PERFORMANCE TIME. All events will be called from the warm-up room approximately 30 minutes before their scheduled playing time.

Those who are awarded a First Division Rating (I) at District Festival will have the option of performing at the MSBOA State Solo & Ensemble Festival, to be held on March 25, 2006. (This is also the date of the Saturday Bands In Review Concert @7:30 pm in Schreiber) At the State level, 10th through 12th grade soloists will be required to play scales and a sight-reading piece in ADDITION to their prepared solo. All grade level Ensembles and ALL 9th graders play ONLY their prepared piece. State Solo & Ensemble Registration Deadline: Forms and Fees are due Wednesday, February 7 (with a check payable to PBA).







INFORMATION AND DIRECTIONS:

MSBOA "<http://www.msboa.org>".

Livonia Franklin High School <http://www.livonia.k12.mi.us/schools/high/franklin/index.html>

Livonia Franklin HS is located at 31000 Joy Road; Livonia, 48150.

Driving Directions:

- ☐  Take M-14 Eastbound.
- ☐  M-14 E becomes I-96 East
- ☐  Stay straight on SCHOOLCRAFT RD Exit
- ☐  Turn RIGHT onto MERRIMAN RD
- ☐  Turn LEFT onto JOY RD.
- ☐  LIVONIA FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL is on the left. There will be attendants to help you find a parking spot.

District XII Band Festival Saturday, March 10, 2007 see page 21 of the 2006-07 Pioneer Bands Handbook for more information.

Pioneer Band Families need to mark Saturday, March 10 on their calendars. That's the day Pioneer hosts the MSBOA District XII Band Festival, a day to hear great music, watch sight reading, and help run a concession stand! We provide the space and the food to feed 7 or 8 hungry bands. Our PBA parents staff the concession, selling beverages, bagels, sweets & pizza. We will be calling folks on the PBA Volunteer List to set up 2-hour shifts of workers. Be sure to work, and listen to YOUR Pioneer Band Student play! Flyers will go about 10 days before to solicit the beverages & snacks for sale (Rice Krispie Treats are GREAT sellers and are so easy!!). (Middle School-aged siblings can be great workers too, and it is a wonderful experience for them if they plan to be in the Pioneer Bands!). Festival Concessions Contact: **Karen Smith-Krass**; HYPERLINK "<mailto:secretary@aapioneerbands.org>" secretary@aapioneerbands.org

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Pioneer Symphony Band Seniors **Allie Simpson** (bassoon) and **Sam Swanson** (trumpet) who were named as Pioneer Concerto Finalists. They auditioned before a panel of music educators and adjudicators. Their performances, accompanied by the Pioneer Symphony Orchestra, will be on Thursday, March 29th, 7:30 pm in Schreiber Auditorium.

UPCOMING PBA MEETINGS & 2007 PIONEER BANDS CALENDAR

(BE AWARE THAT CHANGES WILL PROBABLY OCCUR. WATCH THE WEBSITE, NEWSLETTER, AND CLASSROOM ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DATE CHANGES.)

PBA MEETINGS Our January PBA Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 9th, 2007 at 7:30 pm in the Pioneer Band Room (B-126), and the February PBA Meeting takes place on Tuesday, February 13th, 2007 at 7:30 pm in B-126. Meetings are a wonderful place to hear all of the “inside information”, ask questions of the directors, hear updates about what’s happening in the classroom, and find out all that your student doesn’t tell you!

DATE / TIME / EVENT / LOCATION / GROUP :

*** JANUARY 2007 ***

- 6th** DEADLINE GALA AUCTION ITEMS & BASKETS DUE DROP OFF POINTS/ALL BAND FAMILIES
- 9th** 9-11 am/Uniform Team pulls VB Uniforms/Band Room/Uniform Team
- 9th** 7:30-8:30 pm/PIONEER BAND ASSOCIATION MEETING/Band Room/All Band Parents
- 13th** 1-3 PM/BAND BOWLING PARTY/Bel Mark Lanes/ALL BANDS
- 16th** 1st/3rd hours/Concert Uniform Distribution/Band Room/Varsity Band
- 16th** 4-5:30 pm/Band Rehearsal/Band Room/Jazz Band
- 16th** 6-8 pm/Band Rehearsal/Band Room/Varsity Band
- 17th** 7:30 pm/JAZZ BAND CONCERT/SCHREIBER/JAZZ BAND
- 25-27th** ALL DAY/Michigan Music Conference/Grand Rapids/All-State Members
- 29th** 7-9 pm/Band Rehearsal/Band Room/Symphony Band
- 30th** 7-9 pm/Band Rehearsal/Band Room/Concert Band
- 31st** 6-8 pm/Band Rehearsal/Band Room/Varsity Band

*** FEBRUARY 2007 ***

- 1st** 7 PM/WINTER BAND CONCERT/SCHREIBER/ALL BANDS
- 2nd** DEADLINE/Final GALA TICKET RESERVATIONS/Band Room/ALL Band Families
- 3rd** ALL DAY DISTRICT SOLO/ENSEMBLE/Livonia/All Band Students
- 6th** DEADLINE/STATE S/E FEES & FORMS DUE/Band Room/ALL PARTICIPANTS
- 10th** ALL DAY/UM JAZZ ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL/UM/JAZZ BAND
- 11th** 6-9:30 pm/PIONEER BAND GALA & AUCTION/Sheraton/ALL BAND FAMILIES
- 13th** 7:30-8:30 pm/PIONEER BAND ASSOCIATION MEETING/BAND ROOM/ALL BAND PARENTS
- 22nd** 7:30 pm/ORCHESTRA NIGHT/Hill Auditorium/Orchestra Winds
- 23rd** LAST DAY OF SCHOOL – MID WINTER BREAK

*** MARCH 2007 ***

5th SCHOOL RESUMES

5th 7-9 pm/Band Rehearsal/Band Room/Symphony Band

6th 7-9 pm/Band Rehearsal/Band Room/Concert Band

7th 6-8 pm/Band Rehearsal/Band Room/Varsity Band

10th ALL DAY/DISTRICT BAND FESTIVAL PIONEER/ SB/CB BANDS CONCESSION

13th 7:30-8:30 pm/PIONEER BAND ASSOCIATION/Band Room/All Band Parents

19th 7-9 pm/Band Rehearsal/Band Room/Symphony Band

20th 7-9 pm/Band Rehearsal/Band Room/Concert Band

21st 6-8 pm/Band Rehearsal/Band Room/Varsity Band

23rd ALL DAY/BIR Middle School Rehearsals/Schreiber/Middle Schools

24th ALL DAY/STATE SOLO & ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL/CHELSEA HS/ALL PARTICIPANTS

24th ALL DAY/STATE JAZZ COMBO FESTIVAL/TBA/ALL PARTICIPANTS

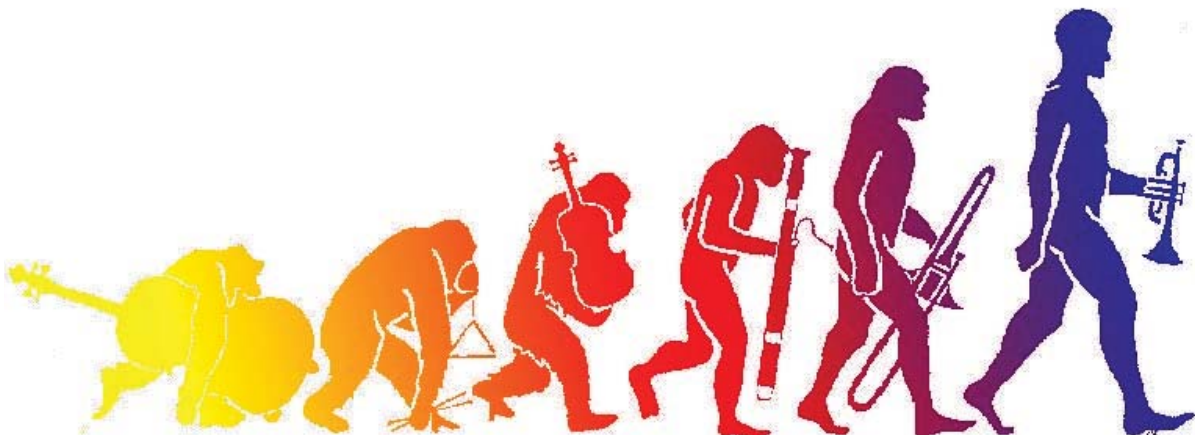
24th 7 pm/BANDS IN REVIEW (BIR EAST SIDE) SCHREIBER/SYMPHONY BAND

25th 3 PM BANDS IN REVIEW (BIR WEST SIDE)/SCHREIBER/ALL BANDS

25th 4:30 pm/9TH GRADE BAND ORIENTATION/SCHREIBER/ALL PARTICIPANTS

26th 7-9 pm/Band Rehearsal/Band Room/Symphony Band

27th DEADLINE/BANDS IN REVIEW TICKET \$\$ DUE/BAND ROOM/ALL BANDS





Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 230
ANN ARBOR, MI

Building a Foundation for Musical Excellence

**PIONEER BAND ASSOCIATION
PIONEER HIGH SCHOOL
601 WEST STADIUM BOULEVARD
ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48103
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

TO:

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

webmaster@aapioneerbands.org



**PIONEER BAND FAMILIES - BE CREATIVE
HAVE FUN AND SUPPORT THE BANDS, ALL AT THE SAME TIME!**

The Pioneer Band Gala & Auction is set for Sunday February 11, 2007, at the Four Points Sheraton, Ann Arbor. This enjoyable evening will include a buffet-style hors d'oeuvre reception, live and silent auctions and special performances representing our Grammy Award-Winning Band Program.

Please participate with donating a family basket. We would like families to select a theme and put together a "Family Affair Basket". All participating families will be recognized in the program brochure and listed on the auction item itself.

If you would like your Family Affair basket picked up or if you have any questions regarding this program, please contact Karen or John Field at 769-1060 or by email at klfield14@aol.com.