



Building a Foundation for Musical Excellence

Jan/Feb 2010

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Next submission due date: Friday, February 12th



FROM THE PODIUM

As we prepare for 2010, I would like to take the time to thank all the parent volunteers and leaders who comprise the Pioneer Band Association. Without your guidance, assistance, and generosity, what Nancy and I do each and every day with your children would not be possible. If you have not yet volunteered to be part of the Pioneer Band Association, today is the day. During these uncertain times, it is the common causes that bring us together. Additionally, while we work to support these fine young musicians, we each can benefit from the supportive environment, providing assistance and inspiration to 'weather the storm' together. There are many changes on the horizon in education in Michigan and more importantly here in Ann Arbor. Being part of a grass roots organization is the best way to get the information first, offer suggestions to solve a problem and make certain that our young musicians of today have the same opportunities and experiences that generations of Pioneer musicians have enjoyed in the past.

Many of the current Board members, newsletter editor, and volunteer chairs will be retiring at the end of the year when their children graduate in June, and the Pioneer Band Association desperately needs those crucial posts filled. Having prospective replacements step up at the end of the first semester offers continuity as the current officers and chairs can use the second semester to 'show them the ropes' rather then explaining it after the fact. It's never too late to be a part of your child's life. Supporting their decision to be part of any organization requires you to be part of it as well.

I can tell you first hand that as my children selected activities, Mary and I, as parents have had the joy of helping their group/team/cast by volunteering our time each step of the way. Yes, we have worked in concession stands and presided as organization Presidents. Yes we have sold magazines, and candy (even Pioneer Band candy!), and cooked a few meals over the past several years. In addition to the work, we have met some of the most amazing parents, uncles, aunts, and even a few grandparents along the journey, and it is at those meetings, meets, concerts that bring us closer to our children's colleagues, friends and families and ultimately our children. Please don't pass up on this chance to learn about your child's positive choices. Before you know it, they will be asking you to meet them at the stage to watch your grandchildren play "Hot Cross Buns" as your own children did just a few short years ago. Here's wishing you and your family a healthy, safe, and joyous holiday season, together!

All the best,

David A. Leach Director of Bands



FROM THE PODIUM

Our first full rehearsal for the Varsity Band was extremely productive. Each half of the Varsity Band has worked diligently to perfect their part of the pieces that we are performing. We only have three evening rehearsals to put both sections of the band together before our February concert. This first rehearsal is one of my favorite events of the year. It is so much fun to see the looks on the faces of all students when they hear how great they sound. It was extra fun this year to have members of the Symphony Band assist with this rehearsal. I can't wait for you to hear them!

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 27th and Wednesday, February 3rd.

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, both inside and out. 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 email (waring@aaps.k12.mi.us) or use the link on the www.aapioneerbands.org webpage.

Thank you all for your continued support!

Nancy Waving Associate Director of Bands



PTO THRIFT SHOP NEWS

The Pioneer Bands will be hosting "Music and Munchies" at the Thrift Shop on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Students will be asked to sign up for a 1 hour time slot in which to perform (instrumental/vocal). A keyboard will be available. It is a great opportunity for a group to sign up together, play some ensemble pieces, and then individually play solo pieces. There will be 6 time slots starting at 10am. Watch for the sign up sheet in the band room following winter break. There will also be a sign up for cookies and drinks. The band receives a nice payout for full participation. Please encourage your student to gather a group of friends and have a fun time.

The shop also has a new program called "Show Your Support". Every 2 weeks, 3 school groups are chosen by lottery to participate. Each group displays a poster which is accompanied by a token jar. When customers make a purchase, they are given a token for each \$5 spent. The customer chooses which jar to place their tokens in. At the end of the 2 weeks, the group with the most tokens receives \$500, the 2nd group receives \$350, and the 3rd group receives \$250. Watch the band website to see when the band is featured. Then do your best to shop and support them!

Due to the major decrease in volunteers at the shop, there will no longer be orientation sessions, and thus no new volunteers. Any volunteers who have completed orientation and have volunteered are welcome to continue. If you are interested, please stop in and sign up for a shift. They are readily available as the shop is lucky if they have one volunteer a day. Volunteering continues to be an easy way to earn money for the band, especially in these economic times. As always, please remember to donate and shop!

Ann Arbor PTO Thrift Shop

2280 S. Industrial M-F 9-6, Sat 9-6, Sun 11-5 A2ptothriftshop.org/734-996-9155

Questions? Email Mary Topham at marytopham@comcast.net



PBA Notes have gone GREEN!!!

Our goal is to reduce our paper output and reduce the cost of mailing PBA Notes newsletter. You will find our 4 color bi-monthly newslettler on our website www.aapioneerbands.org.

IF YOU WISH TO CONTINUE YOUR MAIL SUBSCRIPTION please contact:
Gloria Wilson, President: 734-975-0081 or president@aapioneerbands.org
or Kathy Toy-Nao, PBA Editor: 734-904-7225 or newsletter@aapionerbands.org





Psssst... all you guys and dolls...spread the word!

Polish your spats and find your flapper beads! You are cordially invited to the Bump Note Speakeasy, the 6th Annual Pioneer Band Gala & Auction and one of our largest fundraisers of the year.

The Cavern Club, at 210 S. First Street in Downtown Ann Arbor, began its life as a brewery in the 19th century. And the story is that it operated as a "speakeasy" during Prohibition, serving private label "hooch" to mavens of the Jazz Age! With it's brick barrel-vaulted ceilings, flickering candlelight, and Gershwin tunes playing in the background, it's easy to imagine Ann Arbor's own versions of Zelda and Scott Fitzgerald offering up the secret password at this unique venue.

We won't be breaking any laws, but our modern-day speakeasy will be so much fun it ought to be illegal! The evening will feature a buffet of hors d'oeuvres and decadent desserts, cash bar, raffle, live and silent auctions, and of course the jazz beat of our own Pioneer Band members.

INTRODUCING ONLINE BIDDING! Made up of donations from local merchants and our own generous PBA families, the Silent Auction has always been the cornerstone of the Gala. Bidding is enthusiastic and many guests go home with some great deals. New this year, all the items of the Silent Auction will be available for early ONLINE bidding a week before the event. Just like eBay, you'll be able to see photos and descriptions and enter bids on items that catch your eye. Plus friend s and family who are unable to attend the Speakeasy can bid, too! For details as they develop, watch the Online Auction webpage at http://aapioneerbands.org/?p=551.

"INSTANT WINE CELLAR" BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND! One of the biggest successes at the last Gala was the new, improved Raffle, which alone raised over \$3,500! With the grand prize of an "Instant Wine Cellar" comprised of over 70 bottles of white and red wine donated by our PBA families, Raffle tickets will once again be available prior to the event and sell for \$5/ticket or five for \$20.

LOWER COST! In a challenging economy we know family budgets are under pressure, so we've lowered the price this year to \$25 per person. Reservations must be purchased in advance by February 2, via easy credit card order at the webpage at http://aapioneerbands.org/?page_id=540.

A "bump note" is the strong, emphatic note sometimes played at the end of a musical piece. We hope you'll join us for fun and fundraising at the Bump Note Speakeasy as we lend our emphatic support to the best high school band program in the country!

Questions? Check out the Gala & Silent Auction webpage at http://aapioneerbands.org/?page_id=71 Or contact the Bump Note Bouncers (also known as the Gala and Auction Co-Chairs): Janene Centurione danjan22@hotmail.com
Ann Curtis accurtis1@gmail.com

The Pioneer Band Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation and your auction purchases and donations may offer you tax advantages.

Donating items for the Pioneer Band Gala and Silent Auction is optional. However, we encourage all families to get involved since it's a great way to work together, be creative, and help us raise funds for the Pioneer Bands!

Donating Is As Easy as 1-2-3!

The raffle, with its "Instant Wine Cellar" grand prize, was a big success last year. And it's so easy! We simply ask every Pioneer Band family to **donate a bottle of wine**. It can be any type, pulled from your own shelf or purchased from a local purveyor.

Donate a **merchant gift card** – of ANY VALUE! We suggest you support our local merchants by donating gift cards from their businesses, but we'll TAKE ANYTHING. You might even consider "re-gifting" a few of those cards you may receive over the holidays. Or perhaps you could purchase a "voucher" for lesson time from your child's private teacher to donate to the Gala. And don't forget to involve the whole family - you could even ask your student to craft a "voucher" for babysitting or snow-shoveling time.

A fun, creative way to donate is to assemble a "Family Basket" for the Silent Auction. Go with a little Roaring Twenties flair or pick a theme that reflects your family's personal interests. And don't limit your package to a "basket" – think outside the box with your packaging and items. Join other families, or band sections, and work as a team to assemble theme baskets. Sports tickets, electronics, items signed by celebrities (books, baseballs, hockey sticks, etc.), and photography all go great in baskets. Anything purple or musical to evoke Pioneer pride, too. Theatre/concert tickets and dinners are often best sellers, and "experiences" are very popular – a gourmet cooking lesson, for instance. But remember, all items should be new, non-perishable, and attractively packaged using clear wrapping material.



The hard work and talent of our students have brought them many honors and opportunities, but the success of our band program is not possible without family support. So whether you're "crafty" and enjoy the creativity of putting together a basket, or feeling time-crunched and would simply like to donate a gift card or a bottle of wine, we are grateful to our wonderful band families for their continued support. Thank you!

Delívery Instructions

- •Wine bottles, gift cards, and baskets can be dropped off at the Bertram Swanson household at 3632 Wagner Ridge Court. Please contact Holli Bertram at 734/649-7937 or hebertram@umich.edu to arrange a time.
- •Gift cards can be mailed to school, care of the Pioneer Band Association Attn: Band Gala, at 601 W. Stadium Blvd, Ann Arbor MI, 48103. Your student can also bring gift cards to school and deliver to Mr. Leach or Ms. Waring.
- •Or you can bring your wine bottles, gift cards, and baskets to the January 9th Band bowling party at Colonial Lanes.

Phone:
Band:

2010 PIONEER BANDS CALENDAR

BE AWARE THAT CHANGES WILL PROBABLY OCCUR.

DATE CHANGES WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN CLASS AND POSTED ON THE WEBSITE & NEWSLETTER.
SB= SYMPHONY BAND CB= CONCERT BAND VB= VARSITY BAND JB= JAZZ BAND PBA= PIONEER BAND ASSOCIATION

		JANUARY 2010		
DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	GROUP
3 Mon		SCHOOL RESUMES		
4 Mon	7-9 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	SB
9 Sat	1-3 pm	BOWLING PARTY Colonial Lanes		ALL BANDS
12 Tue	7:30-8:30 pm	Pioneer Band Association Meeting	B-126	All Band Parents
	1st / 3rd hours	Concert Uniform Distribution	B-126	VB, PBA Uniform Team
12 Tue	4-5:30 pm	Jazz Band Rehearsal	B-126	JB
13 Wed	7:30 pm	JAZZ BAND CONCERT	Little Theatre	JB
15 Fri	2nd Hour	MLK Assembly	SCHREIBER	JB
16 SAT	ALL DAY	DISTRICT SOLO & ENSEMBLE FESTIVAL	LIVONIA	ALL BANDS
			FRANKLIN HS	
18 Mon		NO SCHOOL – MLK Day		
18 Mon	7-9 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	SB
19 Tue	ALL DAY	State Solo & Ensemble Festival	B-126	ALL PARTICIPANTS
		Forms and Fees due	21 Thu –	
23 Sat		Michigan Music Conference	Grand Rapids	All-State Band &
				Orchestra participants
26 Tue	7:30 pm	Mandatory TOUR Meeting	B-126	All Participants & Parents
27 Wed	6-8 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	VB
		FEBRUARY 2010		
	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	GROUP
	ALL DAY	No school for secondary students		
1 Mon	7-9 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	SB
2 Tue	7-9 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	CB
3 Wed	6-8 pm	Band Rehearsal	B-126	VB
4 THU	7 PM	WINTER BAND CONCERT	SCHREIBER	SB, CB, JB, VB
		ALL BANDS		RECITALISTS
7 Sun	5 – 8:30 pm	PIONEER BAND GALA & AUCTION	TBA	JB, PBA GALA TEAM
				ALL BAND FAMILIES
9 Tue	7:30-8:30 pm	Pioneer Band Association Meeting	B-126	All Band Parents
		& Board Nominations for 2010-11		
13 Sat	TBA	UM Jazz Ensemble Festival	UM	JB
15 Mon		NO SCHOOL – President's Day		
18 Thu	7 pm	Orchestra Night @ Hill	Hill Auditorium	Orchestra Winds
19 Fri		Winter Break begins at End of Day		

DISTRICT XII BAND FESTIVAL on Saturday, March 6, 2010

The Pioneer Bands and PBA will host the District XII Band Festival at Pioneer High School at Schreiber Auditorium on Saturday, March 6, 2010, from 8am to 5pm. This Festival features performances from bands and orchestras across southeast Michigan, including our own Concert and Symphony Bands. PBA volunteer parents help set up/clean up the concession at the cafeteria, and serve breakfast and lunch to the judges and directors.

We are looking for parents interested in taking our places for next year because our students are 2010 graduates.

For more information, please contact Nair Matsuo (nairmatsuo@sbcglobal.net), Uyen Tonnule (uyen.tonnule@gmail.com) or Nina Yamakado (nina.yamakado@comcast.net)



CONGRATULATIONS TO MSBOA All-State Invitees:

Karen Matsuo, Skye Huerta, Julia Pakela, Gina Son & Michael Sullivant

Changes to PBA Bookkeeping Operations

A year ago, PBA hired Daryl Hurst to organize the books and bring PBA into compliance with the IRS by filing back tax forms. In that year, he has worked hard to create a bookkeeping record that is complete and up to date, add features such as online credit-card payments to make it easier for PBA members, and file our past tax forms.

At this point, we are ready to move back to bookkeeping done primarily by volunteers. Starting Dec. 1st, Paulette Schonsheck and Carol Flannagan, the PBA co-Treasurers, took over the day-to-day bookkeeping. Paulette is serving as the primary bookkeeper, and Carol is taking on responsibility for communication, reporting, and bookkeeping backup. However, you can contact either co-Treasurer about any issue and get an answer.

Fortunately, Daryl has agreed to stay on in an auditor/trainer role for very reasonable fees on a year-to-year contract basis. Daryl's contract will be reviewed at the end of each fiscal year by the PBA Board and then renewed for a one-year term if Daryl and the PBA Board both agree that it should be. For more details about Daryl's contract, please feel welcome to contact Gloria Wilson, PBA President, or David Baum, PBA co-Vice President.

Daryl's responsibilities include: providing training to future Treasurers to ensure smooth transitions; reconciling and auditing the books regularly; filing all tax forms; and consulting with the current co-Treasures for on an as-needed basis.

To help provide a seamless transition, we are organizing email addresses as follows:

Bookkeeper@aapioneerbands.org will continue to work and will go to Daryl, Paulette, and Carol. In a year or two, this email address will disappear, since it is redundant.

Treasurer@aapioneerbands.org will go to both Paulette and Carol.

If you want to contact Daryl directly, he can be emailed at **darylhurst@comcast.net**.

Our goal is to be sure that the PBA's books are up to date and transparent. More importantly, we want to be sure that PBA members can get financial questions answered and issues resolved quickly. Please let us know if you have any questions, problems, issues, concerns, etc.

We are also deeply grateful to Daryl for all of his work over the past year in bringing us into compliance with the IRS and streamlining our bookkeeping system. His guidance and stewardship has been invaluable.

Sincerely, Carol Flannagan & Paulette Schonsheck, PBA co-Treasurers David Baum, PBA co-Vice President



2009-2010 Pioneer Band Apparel Order Form

Show the world how proud you are to be associated with the **Pioneer Bands**!! Band-themed apparel makes a terrific holiday gift, and fits comfortably on almost any budget. You can pay by cash, check or credit card (please include the attached **Payment Form** with your order.) Orders processed by **Friday**, **December 18**, will be available for pickup in time for the holidays.



Student Name	Band		
Home Phone Number	Email		

Item	Size	Color	Price	Qty	Due
SILK-SCREENED ITEMS:					
Men's Short Sleeve T-Shirts	S M L XL	White with Purple Writing	\$10		
		Black with White Writing			
		Black with Purple Writing			
		Purple with White Writing			
		Purple Camouflage\White Writing			
Men's Short Sleeve T-Shirt	S M L XL	Tie Dye	\$12		
Ladies' Short Sleeve T-Shirts	S M L	Violet with Black Writing	\$10		
		Black with Purple Writing			
		White with Purple Writing			
Long Sleeve T-Shirts	S M L XL	Black with White Writing	\$12		
Hooded Sweat Shirts	S M L XL	Black with White Writing	\$25		
		Black with Purple Writing			
		Purple with White Writing			
Boxers	S M L XL	Black Shorts	\$15		
	S M L XL	Black Pants	\$22		
	S M L XL XXL	Plaid Shorts	\$12		
	S M L XL XXL	Plaid Pants	\$18		
EMBROIDERED ITEMS:					
Men's Polo Shirts	S M L XL	Purple with Embroidery	\$22		
		White with Embroidery			
		Black with Embroidery			
Women's Polo Shirts	S M L	White with Embroidery	\$22		
		Black with Embroidery			
Zippered Hoodie Sweat	S M L XL	Black with Embroidery	\$25		
Shirts		Grey with Embroidery			
Quarter Zipped Fleece Jacket	S M L XL	Black with Embroidery	\$35		
Pullover Windbreaker	S M L XL	Black with Embroidery	\$30		
OTHER ITEMS:					
Beanie Hats (NEW!)	One size	Purple or Black	\$11		
Flip Flops	S M L		\$5		
Black Tote Bags			\$8		
-	1			<u> </u>	

**Please circle your choices, complete and total your order.

TOTAL =



This form may be used for all band program fees, activities, fundraising and donations.

Make checks payable to Pioneer Band Association.

Student Name	<u> </u>				
Telephone					
Payment for					_
Amount	\$_		☐ Cash	☐ Check	☐ Debit/Credit Card
VISA	Del	oit/Credit Card#			
	Exp	oiration: month		year	
MasterCard	Sec	eurity Code (3 or 4 di	gits on back of	of card)	
DISCOVER NOVUS	Sig	nature			
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E-mail add	lress				
E-mail add	lress		debit/credit c	ard information li	sted above to keep on file to pay



Building a Foundation for Musical Excellence

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

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

Come and Get Involved!

Pioneer Band Association is looking for an *Editor* to produce the 'Pioneer Band Association Notes' newsletter in 2010/2011. If interested, please contact:

> Kathy Toy-Nao, Editor 2009/2010 734-904-7225

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The Pioneer Band Association cordially invites all Pioneer Bands students to the

PIONEER BAND ANNUAL BOWLING PARTY! SATURDAY JANUARY 9, 2010

1:00—3:00 pm @ COLONIAL LANES 1950 South Industrial Hwy., Ann Arbor, MI 48104 Phone: (734) 665-4473

THIS EVENT IS FREE TO VARSITY BAND MEMBERS (\$2 PER PERSON FOR CONCERT AND SYMPHONY BANDS) (PAY AT THE DOOR)

Includes pizza, salad pop, shoes, and bowling! Questions? Contact Gloria Wilson, PBA President 734-975-0081, president@aapioneerbands.org

Please sign up for the event on the 'bulletin board' outside of the band room