

Raider Band News, February 2006 edition.

Football season is over and our winter concert is behind us, but there is much left to be done for the band and the band parents. With the year only half over, we have lots of needs in fundraising and volunteer support.

We have the annual needs, like solo and ensemble and the golf tournament, but take a few minutes and look over the new activities like the donation drive, the garage sale and the concession stand, pick out what you want to do and sign up today.

We are also currently in the middle of a big donation drive, where you have the opportunity to win an ipod Nano, an Xbox 360 or four platinum level tickets to your choice of a Mavericks of Stars home game. The drawing will be held at our potato supper.

You can help us out by printing off the donation form from nghsband.org and taking donations at your work or church.

While it seems like we are always raising money, the truth is we need to in order to keep the Raider Band moving forward. We still need to raise a little over \$10,000 to make our budget for the year. With scholarships on the line and adjunct staff to pay, it is critical that we make our goal. Please do your part and help us out by participating in one or more of these efforts.

Upcoming Events and Volunteer Opportunities (use the web volunteer page or telephone 972-272-8599)

Feb. 12, Special Events Center
Run concession stands for event

Needs:

- Two volunteer shifts
Parents and students

Feb. 25 UIL Solo and Ensemble Competition @ NGHS

Needs:

- Candy, drink and chip donations
- Judges' lunch food and servers
- Concession Stand workers
- Hall monitors

March 2, 5:30-9:30, NGHS Cafeteria
Potato Supper and Silent Auction

**** 9 pm drawing for the Ipod Nano, Stars/Mavs tickets, and Xbox 360 ****

NEEDS:

- Silent Auction Donations
- Silent Auction Coordinator
- Kitchen help

March 4, Special Events Center
Run Concession stands for event

Needs:

- Two volunteer shifts
Parents and students

March 21, Required Pre-trip parent meeting - 7pm,
band hall

Trip and spring event information

March 23, Pre-UIL performance
Richardson HS

Come and cheer on our students

March 25, 8am-1pm, Garage Sale

Needs:

- DONATIONS! (save your "treasures and bring to band hall on Friday, March 24th -donation receipts provided
- Workers - Friday night and Saturday
- Trucks for large item donations
- Contact:

April 6, UIL performance
Richardson HS

Come and cheer on our students

April 7-10, Band Trip to Corpus

Needs:

- Parent chaperones
- Fees paid

April 29, Golf Tournament

1 pm, Woodbridge Golf Club

Needs: GOLFERS

- Committee Coordinator
- Committee Members
- Prize donations
- Tee and Green sponsors
- Check-in and course volunteers

Questions and Answers about the Raider Band

Q. Who were the Raider band students who qualified for All-Region band?

A Micah Brooks - Bb Clarinet (also Area)
Drew Bramlett - Tuba
Robert Hackett - Horn
Jordan Huckabee - Trombone
Leila Mekias - Flute
Justin Penington - Trumpet
Kaylee Sumrall - Eb Clarinet
Nathan Sumrall - Trombone

Q. Why is the Raider Band always so concerned about fund raising?

A. The Raider Band, like all GISD bands, is dependent on parents and the community to help raise funds to build the band program. The money raised goes to provide monetary support for our brass and flag directors. The money is also used to update or replace school instruments. All the students benefit directly from these expenditures as the quality of the music and performance improves.

With the band needing to raise about \$10,000 this spring, we are very excited about the Ipod Nano, platinum Mavs/Stars tickets, or Xbox 360 drawing that is coming on March 2nd. For only \$5, you can get one chance to win each of the prizes. If you haven't heard about this from your child, ask them directly about this cool opportunity. With great support from our students, parents, friends and co-workers, we could make this fund-raiser a huge success for the band.

Many other opportunities are listed in this newsletter and on the band web site (nghsband.org). If you have stuff around your house that no longer fits or doesn't get used anymore, the band will give you a donation receipt and sell it at the March 25th garage sale. All students will need to donate at least 5 items. If you golf, get your golfing friends involved in the April 29th tournament at Woodbridge Golf Club. Sponsorships need to be sold, prizes collected and golfers recruited. It is a challenging course and sure to be a fun afternoon.

Q. I thought band directors were GISD teachers. Why do we need money to pay some directors?

A. Mr. Toney, Mr. Lira and Ms. LeDeux are GISD employees. Mr. Reed and Mr. Tucker are supplemental contract employees of the band and paid directly by funds raised by the band.

Q. Doesn't GISD provide school instruments?

A. When a school is first opened, large or specialty instruments (i.e. tubas, tympani, drums, Contra Bass clarinets, etc.) are included in the opening budget. GISD provides a small budget for each school in the successive years to help buy music, marching shows, and replace instruments, but it is never enough. The Raider band has a 1938 Sousaphone that needs to be replaced. Cost: \$5500.

Q. Are parents allowed to attend the UIL band performances?

A. Yes. Come and support our kids!

Q. Are parents important to the Raider Band?

A. Without a doubt! Mr. Toney, Mr. Lira, and Ms. LeDeux would be unable to run the program without parents and community support. The countless volunteer hours and donations made by parents and friends of the band are critical to the survival of the band program.

Thanks for your support of the Raider Band!