

# Pope Band Notes

www.popeband.com

3001 Hembree Rd. Marietta GA 30062

## Anyone For Some Easy Money??

Got your attention didn't we? Every program in every high school across this nation; athletics, humanities, robotics... they all have one thing in common. They all need money to operate. We are lucky to have some very dedicated members of our parent community who are willing to find ways to help our program make the money it needs to thrive. Tauna Cooper is one of those dedicated folks.

Ms Cooper heads up our "Easy Money" division. These are fundraising opportunities that cost you nothing, require little effort on your part and earn money for the band program....they can even help you pad that student account to pay for upcoming trips or fees.... "Easy Money" indeed.

We've got three programs that fit easily into your life:



This year we're on track to double the revenue from Scrip already, and we're only in our second month!!! The Publix Partners program alone has earned over \$20,000 for the band program since we started using it a few years back. These programs are so easy to use and so beneficial to our band... for the kids.

To find out how these programs work and how you can be part of these great opportunities to earn money for the Pope Band program just visit the band website (at [www.PopeBand.com](http://www.PopeBand.com)), select the "Support Us" tab and you'll see the pull down menus for all of the above programs. Then get to doin what you do everyday; your weekly grocery shopping at Publix, picking up a new pair of jeans for your growing kids at Old Navy with Scrip, grab a cuppa coffee and sit down at the computer and order Gran that birthday gift at AmazonSmile - it's all what you're doing already. When you do it with these great programs it's a win/win for you and for the band.

Thanks in advance for your support.

## RECYCLE

## POPE

SATURDAY

SEPTEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>

9am – 4pm

It's become an annual event for the Pope Band to host a Recycle Weekend. Clear out the clutter in your office, attic, basement and garage. We'll be recycling all types of metal, paint, shredding papers and ready to take those electronics you don't use anymore off your hands. You can even get rid of those outdated, bulky televisions and CRT monitors. To find more information and the fees for these services go to the band website and select "Support Us". There you'll find our Recycle page.

We need manpower all day long, so grab your gloves and come on out and join in on the fun.

## WE'RE LOOKING FOR A CHAIR-IN-TRAINING FOR VERIZON

Train now to be a chair for the 2015 season! If you can add, subtract, multiply and divide you're qualified. Invest in your kids! Have fun with parents and students. Enjoy great concerts. Contact Jill Warbington for more information at [DANNYNJILL@bellsouth.net](mailto:DANNYNJILL@bellsouth.net).

## A letter from our Band President, Hangil Ryu:

*In August band president, Hangil Ryu started writing a blog which is featured on the band website in it's entirety. ("News" > "Directors' Blog" > "Student Band President Blog") We encourage you to go to the website and read his eloquent observances. We are featuring an abridged version here for your enjoyment.*

### **AUGUST:**

"Progress is impossible without change, and those who cannot change their minds cannot change anything."

– George Bernard Shaw

It is quite a risky endeavor to use the word cannot or impossible, but in this case, one has no pretense to deny its truth. Perhaps this quote describes in greatest detail the focus of marching band. We cannot progress as a band without first changing—changing our marching style, changing our playing style, changing whatever needs to change to advance as a band—and we cannot change any of those matters until we first commit to our mental faculties the idea of "I will make myself better". That's progress, after all.

I do not stand alone when I say that I witnessed this band improve. I remember thinking during warm-ups in a particular summer rehearsal about the amount of progress we as a band made simply from the beginning to the near end of the warm ups. Yet compared to the progress made thus far, to hear the band improve its sound, to see people improve their marching technique!—it's to put everything else in the shadow! Be proud of yourselves! You've learned the entirety of Movement One in Band Camp, you've created friendships and bonds with your section and band, and you've become greater marchers and musicians overall!

Progress is not congratulating yourself, progress is not looking back on how much you have improved, progress is not complimenting yourself on how much you have learned, progress is not patting yourselves on the back for learning all of Movement One in band camp—looking back and being proud of what you've accomplished or looking back and understanding what could be made better is certainly important, but nevertheless, progress is looking forward and going where you look. To look back and reminisce about the great accomplishments and feats are wonderful, and by all means, the Pope Marching Band deserves all the praise that it should receive. But that is to look back—we must look forward; we must progress. To look back for too long allows us to lose sight of the future and stagnate on the past. It gives us the option to say that is ok; it gives us the idea that we can be content with what we have so far. But we are not done, the finish line has not yet been crossed, and there is still progress to be made.

### **SEPTEMBER:**

Imagine a mother bird telling her children about the importance of flight—how it will be necessary for attaining food, how it will be necessary for travel, how it will be necessary for the basic life of a bird—and then flying away, letting the children birds to but hope for the best in learning how to fly.

Therefore, this is a blog explaining in the best way that it could be explained on how to fly by a bird who is still trying to learn how to fly.

Methodical Approach: There is, and should be a methodical approach in learning how to march and play better. The two laws are simple: do what you're supposed to do, and do it to perfection. These are the laws that are drilled into every marching band member from the beginning of marching band to the end. Every time an instructor tells someone to have their toes up in a forward march, to have their heels up in a backwards march, to stand at attention the way one would at a performance—they are saying to do what you're supposed to do, and do it to perfection. Whenever a section leader yells out, "Perform it!", they are saying one should do what one is supposed to do to perfection. And rightly so—if everyone did everything that they were supposed to do to the highest degree possible, the Pope High School Marching Band would be the best band in the world. You know not just the importance of flight, but how to fly. Will you open your wings—will you learn to soar?

### **For our band parents:**

As a student, the Saturday Band rehearsal is extremely exciting. The rehearsal will allow the band time to get all of the drill memorized, and if the students have memorized their Movement 3 music prior to the rehearsal, it will also be possible to march and play the entire show. It will be an opportunity for the band to progress even further—we can be completely done in terms of memorizing drill and music by the start of September and use the rest of the time to fine tune and refine the marching and playing aspects.

Although it seems like a very large amount of time to learn and develop the marching band show, the Pope Band practices at a much smaller time frame than even our neighbors. Some of our neighbors have already gone through multiple Saturday rehearsals, and thus, if the Pope Band wants to compete fairly with these fellow bands, it must use the time it has wisely. Because of this, it is imperative that parents not only encourage their children to get ready for the Saturday rehearsal by reminding them to go to sleep early in the days leading up to it, eat a healthy breakfast, and to practice and memorize their music so that they and the Band can start off the Saturday practice running. It is also extremely important that parents help their students see the Saturday rehearsal as less of a "have-to-do" obligation but as an opportunity to develop the band's show. It is true that the mindset of the band will create the direction that the band will follow.

"The desire to succeed is nothing without the will to prepare." - Juma Ikangaa