

## **PHS CLASS OF 1955. INC. TO HELP PHS BAND FUND “WINTER BREAK”**

**The Potosi High School Band will participate In the Orange Bowl activities for a “Winter Break”...Sort of a break...**

On November 14, 2003 at a meeting of the PHS Class of 1955, Inc., Planning Committee, elected by the Class nation-wide, there was an intense desire to join with other organizations and persons in the PHS community to give some of the money the Class raised to help the Band defray its expenses on their Orange Bowl trip. The Class has been doing-fund raising to help the students at PHS and/or the school with various activities for the past several years. These included selling T/Sweat shirts headed by Phyllis Ferguson, Thelma Blair, and Lavera Saunders with a beautiful pen and ink drawing of the old high school building by Richard E. Long of St. Louis, a well-known artist.

Individual members of the Class have sold items on the Internet and then donated the money to the Class to raise- money, also. Drawings by Marilyn Cordia and her helpers along with Paul Wilson who helped get a computer, have raised funds successfully. Sharon Hill and Susan Huff have devised a pledge system for class members, some 50+ in number, nation-wide for contributions. Planned for the future, the next fund raising projects include certain mailing items, pictures/photographs, cook books, and computer items.

Net donations and fund raising activities have totaled approximately \$3,900.00. Using some of the funds raised for fees and modest consultant guidance, the Class formed itself into a not-for-profit public corporation under Missouri law and became a tax exempt and tax-deductible organization under the Internal Revenue Code this last spring. Now there is no question that all donations to the PHS Class of 1955 Inc., are tax deductible for the person who gives them. Instead of just giving money, members and the public can designate what they want their tax-deductible donation to do when given. The Class can provide leadership for those areas with which the school needs help. The Class believes this is a great incentive for those who want to help the students and their “old” school. Already, since becoming tax deductible, donated funds have increased. In addition, the Class now pays no tax on its income, or sales, either state or federal, a great saving. The Class goal is \$5,500.00 (by the Class of 55) to be raised to give to PHS by the Class’s 50th Reunion year of 2005. It is projected the Class will more than meet its goal.

The Class keeps its members nation-wide abreast of what is going on by publishing a newsletter, “Trojan Times” and maintaining an Internet web page both managed by Frank McAtee. The current newsletter and its previous editions may be downloaded at its website <http://www.geocities.com/pcteacher55/>. Both of these activities have been instrumental in getting more and more class members interested in what is going on at their “old” school.

The members of the Planning Committee were very pleased. and excited to give the Class’s very first gift to the school, \$1,000.00 to the PHS Band to help defray. expenses for the Orange Bowl activities. Members, of the Committee will be contacting the school, soon with check in hand. ***(NOTE: Check was presented, subsequent to this article, see photo below).***

While the PHS Band has prepared for this activity in depth and looks forward to this exciting

activity, it may or may not be a “Winter Break” depending on whom one talks to. The long trip, the long hours of preparation and the long march may make this more of a “Working Winter Break” for Band members and others who go with them. Yet, the leadership of the PHS Class of 1955 believes this is a great experience for the Band and believes the public should support it, both financially and with good “Trojan Spirit.”

The public is invited to give tax-deductible donations to the Class for this “Winter Break” and future PHS activities as they are announced.

*Note: Article has been edited slightly for clarification.*



Presentation of \$1,000.00 check from Class of '55 for PHS Band. (l to r: Susan Huff, Jeff Singer - Band Director, Phyllis Ferguson, Marilyn Cordia and Thelma Blair.