 Editor's note: This is one in a series of feature stories concerning organizations that benefit the Imperial area. Volunteering in a community, through organizations, is a way to pay back for the benefits that the community offers an individual.

By Carolyn Lee

The Imperial Republican

Although the members of POM POMs are composed of parents of students involved in the Chase County Schools music programs, the community can also support the organization. After all, the name stands for Parents of Musicians, Promoters of Music.

The purpose of the organization is "to support the music program at Chase County Schools above what the school does financially, to provide the opportunity for students to experience more musical opportunities," according to Merinda Kahle, the concession stands manager.

All funds raised by POM POMs is done through items sold at concession stands at athletic and academic events.

Kahle said that the junior varsity and varsity football, basketball and volleyball game concession stands need three shifts of volunteers with about six persons on each shift.

Less volunteers are needed at other events. "We figured out that if every member would volunteer two to three times a year we would cover all the shifts," she commented.

Persons who don't have children in the school's music programs are welcome to volunteer to pull a shift, she noted.

In the immediate past, POM POMs has helped send the 9th Street Singers to Branson, Mo. The last two years the three music teachers—elementary vocal, secondary vocal and secondary instrumental—have each received $4,000 to spend "how they see fit," Kahle said.

Those expenditures have included new music stands and instruments.

POM POMs has also purchased instruments and new elementary school music folders.

About $6,235 was recently donated toward the purchase of a new baby grand piano for the school, which can be recorded upon.

Scholarships have also been awarded to high school students attending summer music camps.

An endowment fund has just been established to create two $500 scholarships for seniors planning to major in music in college.

Officers are President Patty Lueth, Vice President Kathy Christensen, Secretary Sue Knobbe and Treasurer Lynn Luhrs.