



1991-2001

## ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS Celebrating 10 years of service to small school bands in Texas

15310 Amesbury Lane Sugar Land, Texas 77478 (281) 494-2151

# ATSSB NEWSLETTER

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### ATSSB Executive Committee

George Strickland, President 1999-2001  
Glen Rose High School  
Box 2129  
Glen Rose, Texas 76043  
(254) 897-4383  
email: pres@atssb.org

Gary Robbins, President-Elect 1999-2001  
Rusk High School  
203 E. 7th  
Rusk, Texas 75785  
(903) 683-5533  
email: preselect@atssb.org

Ronnie Page, Immediate Past-President  
Overton High School  
Box 130  
Overton, Texas 75684  
(903) 834-6143  
email: ppres@atssb.org

Kenneth L. Griffin, Executive Secretary  
Association of Texas Small School Bands  
15310 Amesbury Lane  
Sugar Land, Texas 77478  
(281) 494-2151  
FAX: (281) 494-2151  
email: execsec@atssb.org

Sherry Poteet, Class C/CC Representative 1999-2001  
Gilmer Junior High School  
P.O. Box 40  
Gilmer, Texas 75644  
(903) 843-3051  
email: msrep@atssb.org

Rodney Bennett, Class A Representative 2000-02  
Munday High School  
P.O. Box 300  
Munday, Texas 76371  
(940) 422-4478  
email: arep@atssb.org

Darin Jolly, Class AA Representative 1999-2001  
Coleman High School  
201 W. 15th Street  
Coleman, Texas 76834  
(915) 625-2156  
email: aarep@atssb.org

Rob Toups, Class AAA Representative 2000-02  
Canton High School  
1100 West Hwy 243  
Canton, Texas 75103  
(903) 567-6561  
email: aaarep@atssb.org

### President's Column

by George Strickland



Several events in the past few weeks have provided the opportunity to consider the blessings of a twenty-eight-year teaching career in small school bands. As I write this last article as President of ATSSB, I must say a very big "Thank you!" Thank you for allowing me to serve you and our organization as President these past two years. Although there are many personal experiences for members of the Executive Board, we recognize that we are really representing you. Therefore, please enjoy and take credit for your part in these special encounters and accomplishments that I now share.

In representing ATSSB, I have seen first hand how our state music organizations work together to bring out the best for all of our students. I have observed our All-Staters when they arrive in San Antonio, many on their first city visit. (One such student entered the Emily Morgan elevator and asked which button to push; he had never stayed in a multi-floor hotel!) I have met several of you at various places for meetings or meals, but none so different--so unique--as that one barbecue place out in the middle of nowhere, east of Tyler and north of Overton. The experience of conducting an All-State band during its concert is one that I wish I could share with each of you. We have all observed conductors such as Dr. Tim Lautzenhiser and David Holsinger pull students together from many small school programs to perform concerts that are "equivalent to any all-state performance" (Richard Crain, Spring ISD Retired Music Supervisor). Most of all, however, the opportunity to have seen firsthand the amount of respect and credibility that ATSSB has gained during the past ten years is a continuing credit to the founders of our organization.

Serving on the Executive Board is quite an educational experience. On a personal note, let me say thank you to Ronnie Page for recommending me to serve on the UIL PML Band Music Selection Committee, an experience that has been a major boost to my teaching career. Listening for many hours to submitted tapes and CD's and studying countless scores have enhanced my understanding of literature for all bands. We do have many quality compositions to share with our students. In addition, opportunities to conduct clinics for and judge so many of our outstanding band programs at festivals

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(President's Column, continued from Page 1):

and contests have helped me to develop better listening and rehearsal skills. As ATSSB Executive Secretary, Kenneth Griffin has taught me much about details. I have learned a great deal from him and how he truly knows all the ins and outs of organizing ATSSB.

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I mentioned in a previous article how thrilling it was to see a totally new band program compete in its very first festival and make a Division I rating. I have enjoyed seeing students and hearing their shouts as they react to the posting of audition results. Developing friendships across our state and engaging in the constant telephone conversations and e-mail messages from our members has been rewarding. Most enjoyable has been the opportunity to sit in on many TMEA, UIL, and TBA meetings and share what our organization and you are doing to better the band programs in our state.

During the next two years I will serve as Immediate Past-President and will chair the Past-Presidents' Committee. There will be opportunities to advise our organization as we continue to boost recruitment of music educators to small-school programs, to encourage mentoring, and to help develop our college division membership. I look forward to visiting many of our state's university campuses to share with instrumental music education majors the positive experiences that can be gained by teaching in the small schools.

A complete list of thank yous would be too long for you to read. However, I must mention a few anyway. Thank you to my fellow directors in Region VII for your support and assistance. A special thank you to the directors in the East Zone of the region for your individual support and help with so many ATSSB matters. To Tom Sorelle, Robert Henry, Dick Clardy, Bob Floyd, Frank Coachman, Jeff Laird, Barry Tally, the office crew, and the Executive board of TMEA goes a big thank you for all of your assistance, openness, and understanding. To Dick Floyd, Cindy Bullock, and my fellow UIL PML Committee members, thank you for your cooperation and the learning experiences.

During the past two years many fellow educators have stepped forward and assisted ATSSB and myself. A personal thank you to each Region Coordinator, Area Coordinator, All-State Band Organizer, All-State Percussion Organizer, All-State Auditions Chairs, our Past Presidents, and fellow Executive Committee members. It has been a pleasure to serve with you.

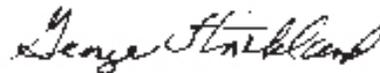
Support from our staff at Glen Rose ISD has been unquestionable. Previous directors Ron Finley and Tina Parr and current directors Valerie Kizlyk and Chris McLellan shared in taking up the slack to keep our own band program going when attention to ATSSB matters took precedence. Thanks to each of you, especially you, Chris, for your continued understanding and help.

To Louis Thornton, Greg Miller, Chris Lovejoy, Darin Jolly, and Chris McLellan a thank you for listening, advising, and supporting in a special way these past two years. Without reservation, each of you is not only a fellow educator but also a true and trusted friend.

And to my wife Melinda and son Jeremy, both of whom have supported me in so many ways, my most sincere thank you for sharing these two years with me in such a wonderful way. I appreciate and love you both very much.

As we music educators carry the ATSSB banner into this new century, let us each continue to be a professional, caring example for the students whose lives we touch daily. May each of us strive to improve and strengthen our students' abilities, our staff relations, and our public image as music educators. May we, the Association of Texas Small School Bands, continue to work together with all other music education associations in our state to showcase the bands in Texas as the best in the United States.

Happy Tenth Anniversary, ATSSB! I hope to see all of you in San Antonio in February.



## President Elect's Column

by Gary Robbins



It seems like only yesterday that you afforded me the privilege of being your President-Elect, and here it is only two months before the end of my term. The time has been wonderful for me as well as rewarding. I have learned so much from our present as well as past leaders. It never ceases to amaze me the knowledge that we have in our organization. I am so proud of being part of this great group.

I am really looking forward to our convention in February. I am so excited about the ten-year anniversary plans. You need to make yourself available for every meeting and concert to see how far we have come in ten years. I can not wait to hear and see some of our past leaders be recognized. I look for it to be a rewarding experience for them as well as us.

Now that marching season is over, marching percussion put away in storage, and our sousaphones stored safely away; we can settle into concert season. Concert season is my favorite time of year. The band does not have to worry about having to sit out in those cold, rainy, Friday night games. We can settle into our comfortable climate-controlled band hall. No more bus rides every other Friday night. Ah, this is the life.

While I am writing this article, I am preparing to host the Middle School and High School region tryouts at Rusk. It is a lot of work preparing for this competition. If you have the opportunity, thank the person that hosts your regional contest. Sometimes we go to the contests and complain how things could have been done better. I say to those people, "Try hosting one of these events for yourself." If every director had the opportunity to host a contest, there would be far less complaining about the way it was managed. It takes hours and days of preparation to host a contest. I hope that everything goes smoothly for us.

By the time you receive this newsletter, you will be done with your region tryouts. I hope they went well. If you noticed any errata in the music that has not already been posted, please let me know. I have received some errors that will take effect the next time we use "Year E" music. Fortunately, most of the errors have been reported or found before the music reached the tryout room. I know that there will be some mistakes left to report. If you would write or email me, I will be happy to report them to SARC and get them fixed before the next rotation.

It has been such a learning experience serving as your President-Elect. I would really like to thank George and Kenneth for their patience. I have enjoyed serving you in this office and look forward to serving you as your President.

Thank you for your support,

*Gary M. Robbins*

## Executive Secretary's Column

by Kenneth L. Griffin



You should find an enamel lapel pin stapled to the front of this Newsletter. It commemorates ten years of ATSSB presence in the instrumental music world in Texas.

I hope the ATSSB audition process went well for all of you at the region level and that you are looking forward to Area January 6. Be sure when you go to Area that all forms are properly signed and completed - and that after Area you make reservations for your students that were selected for the All-State Bands - and also that you have housing plans yourself.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Sherry Poteet and Darin Jolly for their two years of service to ATSSB as Class C/CC and Class AA Representatives to the State Board of Directors. It is a time-consuming but necessary role that they played as the Executive Committee of which they are a part has tried to accommodate the needs of students and their directors over the past two years. I would also like to thank George Strickland for his leadership, guidance, counsel, and friendship as he completes four years of service to ATSSB and moves on to other things as Immediate Past President. Most people do not realize the six-year commitment he has made to serving ATSSB. It is a thankless task, but one he has served well. He has worked very hard to keep ATSSB at the front edge of professionalism in everything associated with its activities. Thank you, lady and gentlemen, for your dedication to small schools in Texas with your service.

Our 4-Year All-State Band Scholarship Fund stands at \$31,481.98. This increase is from the 169 members who joined after October 1 paying an additional \$25 in dues which went into this fund and from royalties paid by our Licensees. Many thanks to those 169 for their contributions! But please make an effort to not only thank our Licensees for their support, but also to use their services. These companies have paid a fee and are under contract to use the ATSSB logo and marks on their products. They pay a portion of their receipts to the ATSSB 4-Year All-State Band Scholarship. Please consider using them before any other companies offering their products: Southwest Specialties (Freddy Butlar - Midlothian) = T-shirts, caps, plaques,

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(Executive Secretary's column, continued from Page 3):

etc.; Probst Audio (Scott Probst - Ennis) = recordings of concerts on tape or CD; Concertronics (William Collins - Victoria) = recording of concerts on tape or CD; Jordan Sound Productions (Gary Jordan - Bullard) = recording of concerts on tapes or CD and ATSSB Area etude performance tapes; Made To Order (Larry Wood - Lorenzo) = T-shirts, caps, plaques, etc.; California T's (L. Steve Taylor - Lubbock) = T-shirts, caps, plaques, etc.; Rehearsal Solutions (Robert McElroy - Bellville) = ATSSB Area etude performance sequence files.

**A reminder about piccolo and E $\flat$  clarinet:** If your flute or clarinet player makes the All-State Band at the Area auditions January 8 and would like to play piccolo (flutes) or E $\flat$  Soprano Clarinet (clarinets), have them bring their piccs/effers to San Antonio. After regular chair auditions are completed for flute/clarinet, we will hold separate auditions for these two instruments for each band from among those students interested in it that were selected for their respective bands. One piccolo and one soprano clarinet may be selected from among the Symphonic flutes and clarinets; also, one piccolo and one soprano clarinet may be selected from among the Concert flutes and clarinets. If no one auditions on these instruments from one, either, or both bands, then the instrument will not be used. A notice concerning this policy will be placed in the flute and clarinet packets they will receive at Area this year if they are selected for the All-State Band.

We will continue our **hotel reservation practice**. Each student that wishes to stay in ATSSB housing must pay a \$100 housing fee directly to ATSSB (the address will be on the housing form they complete at Area). ATSSB will then pay one check for the hotel rooms up front. If directors are able to reserve a room using ATSSB housing forms, they must pay for the room in one check directly to ATSSB in the amount of \$333 (split any way you can among directors sharing the room with you). Make sure you include the student name and school (or director's name and school). Remember to take care of this before January 27 or you will lose your reservation.

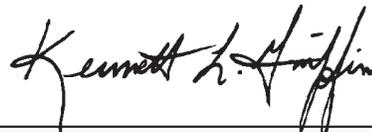
We plan to hold our **ATSSB Business Session** in the Scottish Rite Auditorium at 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, February 8. Elections for President-Elect and Class C/CC and Class AA Representatives to the State Board of Directors will be held at this meeting. I hope you can make plans to attend during the busy activities in San Antonio at that time of year to attend. Remember that proxies are not allowed in these elections. A short biographical sketch of each candidate for state office can be found in this Newsletter beginning on page 6.

When you get a chance, be sure to thank our Region and Area Coordinators for their efforts in securing audition sites, hosts, audition chairmen, computer equipment and logistics, etc. Also, let's not forget to thank our State Chair Audition Coordinator (Scott Stephenson of Ballinger), State Chair Audition Office Manager (Louis Thornton of Abilene Christian High School), and all of their helpers and judging panels in advance of the work facing them as the two bands are seated. Our All-State Symphonic Band Organizer (Mike Lewis of Burnet), All-State Percussion Organizer (Chris McLellan of Glen Rose), and All-State Concert Band Organizer (Darin Jolly of Coleman) still have a job ahead of them. The convention-clinic and concerts will take a LOT of preparation, advanced planning and organization. Rooms have been booked for you and your students, the Scottish Rite Auditorium has been reserved and liability insurance purchased for the time we will occupy it. Arrangements for police security in the auditorium have been made, stands and percussion equipment have to be provided before chair auditions begin on Wednesday night, programs have to be completed, badges for the students have to be made and personalized, entertainment for All-State students prior to the general meeting arranged -- not to mention many other activities taking place in the background as we prepare for the clinic. All of the people involved give so much of their time to make it a success. It would not be possible if it weren't for their dedication to the profession and the students in the All-State Bands who benefit from their efforts.

Since this will be our last communication before San Antonio, let me address those of you who will have students in the **All-State Band**. Please remember that many are in the "big city" for the first time. They will need frequent contact with you to allay their fears and keep them focused on their role as they represent not only ATSSB, but also their home bands, school, and community. Drop by rehearsals often, especially at breaks, to see that they have a place to go and that they know what they may do in their free time. It also helps to have directors observing rehearsals at all times. Not only do we learn good rehearsal techniques from our fine clinicians, but also we can act as a restraining presence to students who might otherwise allow their attention to drift during rehearsals. There is certainly nothing wrong with leaning over a student with a cap on and quietly asking him or her to remove it -- or watching a section and noticing a student talking in a distracting manner and quietly asking them to stop. Our Organizers are with the band almost constantly, but we cannot expect them to be there every minute nor expect them to see every infraction of rehearsal protocol. Try to drop by and give a listen -- and a hand.

Our corporate supporters are so consistent in their desire to help. Caldwell Music has provided our All-State programs every year since inception. This is a considerable expense, but they are quick to reply that they would like to continue to provide this service when asked. Fruhauf Uniforms also is continuing to provide the All-State shoulder patch each year. Pender's Music Company is the source from which we purchase our All-State music (at a discount, I might add); they also copy and collate the Area folders and State Chair Audition judges' folders. Bill McMath and Richard Gore are gracious in their help and professional in their service. Several fund-raiser companies provide refreshments for the students during their breaks and some companies provide "survival kits" at times (coupons, pencils, notebooks, etc.); they will be recognized along with Caldwell Music, Fruhauf Uniforms, and Pender's Music in the programs. I just wanted to say an additional "Thank You" to these three for their contributions to the continued success of the ATSSB All-State Band.

See you in San Antonio!



## 2000 Outstanding Performance Series

by Don Thoede, State Chair

The competition for the 2000 Outstanding Performance Series is over and all winners have been announced. The compact disc is in the process of being made and should go on sale sometime in late December. Congratulations again to all the winners. If you want to purchase a CD, you should contact Avant Recordings at P.O. Box 1513, Forney, Texas 75126. The telephone number is 972-564-3287. The cost is \$15.00 for the two CD set. A CD of the 2000 ATSSB All-State Symphonic and All-State Concert Bands is included in the purchase price.

I want to remind the winners and runners-up of the 2000 OPS that your presence at the General Session of ATSSB on Thursday, February 8, 2001 is strongly encouraged. A very prestigious award will be presented to you at that time. If you can't attend, please contact me a few days before the meeting. If you want to designate someone to accept the award on your behalf, that will be fine, but please let me know in advance. Hope to see you there!

The Band Directors who will be presented with an award are Blanca Tovar, Keith Zuehlke, Danny Norris, Jimmy Wiggins, Byron Engle, Sherry Poteet, Perry Dornbusch, Edward Segreto, Bill Rotter, David Hernandez, Rodney D. Bennett, Carrie Faulkner, Scott Rhame, Dennis Syring, Richard Wilson, Carl Idlebird, Wayne McBee, Jonathan Kelly, Richard Lovelace, Tony Gibbs, and John Pritchett.

The new 2001 OPS packets will be given to the ATSSB State Board members at the State Board meeting on Thursday, February 8. Every Region Coordinator is asked to copy and mail in early March all pertinent information to every director in his/her region. Any director who does not receive entry forms by March 15, 2001, should contact his/her Region Coordinator. Any director who enters must have entry forms postmarked on or before May 20. Look for more information in the March Newsletter.

Please remember that all recordings for the 2001 Outstanding Performance Series will be on compact disc. Cassette tapes will not be accepted! If you enter one song, you must submit two CDs. If you enter three songs, you must submit six CDs with one song only on each CD! Any CD that will not play on the CD player provided by the Designated Region Coordinator, or the official in charge, at any level of competition will be disqualified. It is the responsibility of the director to be absolutely sure that each CD will play in virtually any type of CD player. It is strongly recommended that you have the CDs professionally made. Beware of CD writers that come with computers! Some CD players will not read CDs made on computers. Be sure you play the CDs that someone makes for you before they are entered, and allow plenty of time to have them made again, if necessary. Look for more instructions about the CDs in the March Newsletter.

We have just finished the fourth year of the Outstanding Performance Series. It does not seem possible. I have said before, and I must say again, that this program has been so successful because of the leadership, dedication, and commitment made by the Region and Area Coordinators, and because of the numerous directors that have given their time to serve as judges at the Region, Area, and State levels. Without their help, the Outstanding Performance Series would not be possible. I thank all of you for your tremendous support. I am looking forward to the 2001 OPS.

I hope all of you have a wonderful and safe holiday season and a joyous New Year!



*Don Thoede*

## ELECTION

President-Elect and Class C/CC and Class AA Representatives to the State Board of Directors for 2001-03 will be elected in the ATSSB General Session on Thursday, February 8, 2010 at 11:30 a.m. in the Scottish Rite Auditorium. Biographies of the nominees follow on page 6. All Active members may vote for President-Elect, but members may only vote on the candidates for the class schools in which they are actively involved. For example, if a member is at a class AA high school, then he or she may only vote for the class AA Representative. Directors at C/CC may vote for the Class AA Representative if their school feeds a Class AA school. Class AAA and C/CC schools that feed A or AAA high schools may only vote for President-Elect.

Mr. Lowes was recognized for leadership and positively influencing the character of hundreds of young people while taking part in various church and civic activities by the La Grange Rotary Club. He is the recipient of the 1996-97 UIL Denius Sponsor Excellence Award by La Grange High School. The high school bands at La Grange have recently earned superior first division ratings eight out of the last nine years, earned 8 Sweepstakes Awards, advanced to the area marching finals 5 times and placed in the top three positions at the Blinn College Marching Festival for the past ten years. His 1998 concert band placed 3rd at TMEA area honor band competitions. His concert bands have also placed in the ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series. He has served at numerous TMAA concert band-judging events in the State of Texas.



Mr. Lowes has served Region XVIII as band division secretary, A, 2A, 3A UIL organizer, TMEA region band organizer from the early 80's and continued as ATSSB region coordinator and area central coordinator. He has assisted in selecting and acquiring all the UIL marching, concert & sight-reading judges for Class C/CC/A/AA/AAA bands in region eighteen as well as all the clinicians for the middle school and high school region bands. Under his sponsorship, the region bands have had nationally known composers and conductors.

Mr. Lowes's wife, Ann was the assistant band director at La Grange High School for twenty years and currently assists at Bastrop ISD. She is currently the region eighteen-band division secretary. Ed and his wife Ann have been married for twenty-seven years and have four children. Harold is a trombone music major at Southwest Texas State University. Harold was an ATSSB as well as a TMEA All-State Band performer. Harold was selected as the TSSEC outstanding performer twice, while his dad performed the piano accompaniments. His daughter Catherine was also an ATSSB All-State Band French horn performer. His second son, Christopher is a freshman tuba student at Blinn College and was an ATSSB All-State Tuba performer. All three children have earned first division awards at region or TSSEC while performing with their dad at the piano. Donnie, their last child, is currently a freshman trombonist in the La Grange High School Marching Band following the goals of his brothers and sister.

Mr. Lowes holds a Bachelor of Music Degree in Piano Performance from Southwest Texas State University in 1972. He also earned a Master of Music degree from SWT in 1986. He was a student of Ken Turner at Highlands High School in San Antonio from 1963-67.

"It has been a pleasure serving the students and community of La Grange for the past twenty-six years. I have enjoyed working with directors and students at all classifications in our region as well as across our area central and state."

"My position with our teacher organizations has helped me develop leadership skills while assisting staff with educational issues. My association with ATSSB has developed friendship and responsibility by organizing hundreds of band directors and thousands of students as they pursue their goals of excellence in a small school music environment. I look forward with continued service, promoting educational goals, and appreciation of the fine arts programs in the small schools in the State of Texas as your President-Elect to the Association of Texas Small School Bands."



## Class C/CC Representative

Marilyn Bennett is the band director at Munday Middle School and is the Associate Director of the Munday High School Bands. She also serves as Elementary Music Specialist for Munday ISD. She is completing her eleventh year in Munday having previously taught in Holliday and Dalhart as an assistant band director.

Mrs. Bennett holds Bachelor and Master of Music Education degrees from Midwestern State University (Wichita Falls). She is a member of ATSSB, TMEA, TBA, NBA, MENC, Women Band Directors International, Pi Kappa Lambda, Mu Phi Epsilon, North Texas Church Orchestra, and the North Texas Band Directors Band. She is also a life member of Tau Beta Sigma.

Mrs. Bennett has been a member of the TMEA State Board of Directors since 1991, currently serving as Region II Secretary, Region II North Zone Secretary, and as secretary to the TMEA Region II Band Division Chairman and Region II ATSSB Coordinator. She is on the Marching Band Supplemental List for TMAA. She is the Treasurer for the Wichita Falls Chapter of Mu Phi Epsilon and has served as South Central 3 District Director and Province Governor for that organization. She currently serves as Co-Chairman of the Spirit Committee at Munday High School, is a member of the Gifted and Talented Committee at Munday Elementary School and has served as a member of the Munday High School Campus Improvement Team.

Honors include Who's Who in Mu Phi Epsilon, Outstanding Young Women in America, Notable Women of Texas, Who's Who Among America's Teachers (1998), TEA Class A Honor Band Director (1994, 2000), and National Band Association Citation of Excellence. Mrs. Bennett was named Co-Citizen of the Year in 1993 by the Munday Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture.

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(Nominee biographies, continued from Page 6):

## President-Elect

Rodney Bennett is completing his nineteenth year as Director of Bands for Munday ISD. He holds a Bachelor of Music and Music Education degrees from Midwestern State University in Wichita Falls and a Master of Music degree from Eastern New Mexico University (Portales).



He is a member of ATSSB, TMEA, TBA, ASBDA, NBA, Phi Beta Mu, TMAA, Music Teachers National Association, the North Texas Church Orchestra, the North Texas "Hallelujah" Band, Big Band Bone (trombone choir), and the North Texas Directors Band. He is a life member of Kappa Kappa Psi and is a former member of the United States Marine Corps.

Mr. Bennett has previously served on the ATSSB State Board of Directors as Class A Representative (1994-96) and is currently serving on the Board in the same capacity. He is the current TMEA Region II Band Chairman, having served since 1994. He has also served as TMEA Region II North Zone A-AA-AAA District Band Chairman. He is a member of the UIL State Marching Band Contest Revision Committee as the Class A representative. He has been a member of the Munday High School Campus Improvement Team since 1994 and has also served on the Munday ISD District Committee.

Mr. Bennett has been named to the Who's Who in American Education (1996-97), Who's Who Among American's Teachers (1992, 1998), TMEA Class A Honor Band Director (1994, 2000), and was named Co-Citizen of the Year in 1993 by the Munday Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture. He was honored in 1994 and 2000 by the National Band Association with a Citation of Excellence. He was a 1996 recipient of the TMEA Scholarship for Graduate Study. He will serve as a panelist and clinician for a clinic on small school bands sponsored by Phi Beta Mu for the 2000 Midwest International Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago in December, 2000.

Under his direction, Munday High School Bands have received seventeen consecutive first divisions in marching, fourteen Sweepstakes Awards, was named the 1994 and 2000 TMEA Class A Honor Band, were finalists in the ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series since 1997 (first place awards in 1999 and 2000), and has been a UIL State Marching Band finalist seven times since 1987.

Mr. Bennett resides in Munday with his wife, Marilyn. They have one son, Ronnie, a certified professional trainer and nutritional adviser. He resides in Wichita Falls with his two-year-old daughter, Emma Grace.

Darin Jolly is the band director at Coleman High School, a class AA school in Region VII. As an ATSSB member, he is the current ATSSB AA State Representative and All-State Concert Band Organizer. Other memberships include: TMEA, TBA, TMAA, and Kappa Kappa Psi Life Membership. His wife Cara is an Assistant Director/Flag Instructor at Coleman High School and they have two children: six-year-old Elizabeth and four-year-old Aaron. He is an alumnus of Howard Payne University and was the 1998 TMEA Graduate Scholarship Winner. He will graduate from Stephen F. Austin State University this month with a Master of Music in Conducting. He has taught in regions XXI, VIII, and VII. Before moving to Coleman, Jolly's Elkhart High School Bands succeeded in TMEA Honor Band Competitions, UIL State Marching Contests, and ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series Competitions. He is the Summer Band Camp Administrator for Howard Payne's Marching-Band Leadership Camp in Brownwood. This March he will be an adjudicator for the Columbine Band Festival in Littleton, Colorado.

"I believe in the future of ATSSB! As we celebrate ten fabulous years of ATSSB, let us all set high goals for the next ten years. Our outstanding organization has made a tremendous impact in Texas for fellowship, union and opportunity for small school bands. However, the future will bring new challenges that will have to be addressed. Bombarded with major issues such as test scores, block scheduling, broken homes, drugs and violence, students everywhere have many opportunities to be distracted in their education adventure. Our influence as band directors is great even when our pay scale is not. Another issue at hand now is the shortage of music educators in our state. Realistic goals may need to be set for ATSSB to enhance music advocacy in our public schools, helping maintain small school band programs and establish band programs in schools without bands. Fortunately, we have membership opportunities for organizations like ATSSB and TMEA that are lifelines of support to us as music educators. It would be my goal as President-Elect to seek unity among these organizations to promote the best for bands in Texas."



Ed Lowes is in his twenty-eighth year teaching music and marching band. He has spent the last twenty-six years at La Grange High School, a class AAA school in Region XVIII in central Texas. He is a member of ATSSB, TMEA, TBA, TMAA, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia and TSTA. He is also the Emergency "ham radio" Communications Officer for the city of La Grange and Fayette County. He has served as organist for 15 years at St. Paul Lutheran Church in La Grange and now is the sub organist at Swiss Alp Lutheran Church.

(Continued on Page 8)

(Nominee biographies, continued from Page 7):

Ms. Poteet served as middle school director in Pittsburg for 15 years where she was named "Teacher of the Year" in 1999. She is currently in her first year as band director at Gilmer Junior High School. She is a member of ATSSB, TMEA, TBA, and TMAA.

Ms. Poteet is an active clinician and adjudicator and currently serves ATSSB as the Class C/CC Representative to the State Board of Directors and serves on the Outstanding Performance Series Steering Committee.

Her bands at Pittsburg received numerous first division in both concert and sightreading. They also received first place and runner-up awards in both the Concert and March categories of the ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series and advanced to TMEA Area in Honor Band competitions.



Daniel Todd is the band director at Crane Middle School, a Class C middle school in Region VI. He is in his eighth year of teaching, all of which have been at Crane, Texas. He served one year as the assistant to both the middle school and high school, then the past seven years as the head middle school director.

He holds a Bachelor of Music Education from New Mexico State University in Las Cruces. He is a member of ATSSB, TBA, and TMEA.

Over the past seven years, Mr. Todd's bands have all earned Sweepstakes in UIL Concert-Sightreading Contest. They placed as 2nd runner-up in TMEA Honor Band in 1996, won all three class C categories in the 1998 ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series, advanced to the state finals in the 1999 and 2000 ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series, and was named the 1998-99 Class C TMEA Honor Band.

His wife Deborah holds a Bachelor and Masters Degree in Flute Performance as well as a Masters Degree in Elementary Education. She currently teaches elementary music for Crane ISD, is the worship leader for First Baptist Church of Crane, and has a private flute studio.

"I consider the nomination for Class C/CC Representative to the ATSSB State Board of Directors quite an honor. If elected, I will do my best to represent middle school directors at the state level."

### **Class C/CC Representative**

Lonnie Baker is in his fifth year as the band director at Callisburg ISD, a class AA school in Region 5. His 17-year career began as assistant band director to Robert Garza at Myra Green Middle School in Raymondville. He also taught four years at Santa Anna ISD, a class A school in Region 7, and seven years at Quanah ISD, a class AA school in Region 2.

Mr. Baker has served as ATSSB Assistant Region Coordinator and is currently ATSSB Region Coordinator for Region 5. He is an active UIL adjudicator, clinician, and Chairman of the North Texas Honor Bands. With a history of building successful small school band programs, Lonnie believes his greatest accomplishment is the number of his students who continue with music after high school and those who have chosen music education as their career.

"I am deeply honored by this nomination. It has been my pleasure to serve the directors and students in my region and I would be thrilled to have the privilege of representing the AA schools as a member of the State Board of our exceptional organization."



Gualberto Besinaiz is the band director at Tom Bean, a class A school in Region 3. He was raised in Corpus Christi and graduated from Calallen High School in 1974. After graduation, he served in the U.S. Army until 1977 and attended the Army Element School of Music in Norfolk, Virginia and served as a trumpet player in the First Cavalry Division Band in Fort Hood. After the military, he attended Del Mar College in Corpus Christi and received a Bachelor of Music education from Corpus Christi State University and a Masters Degree from the University of North Texas.

Mr. Besinaiz previously taught at Central Middle School in the Edcouch-Elsa ISD, Proper ISD, and the E. Merle Smith Middle School in Sinton ISD. He has completed eight years a what which he was the only director for his first three and one-half years. Under his direction, the Tom Bean High School Band has earned its first UIL Marching first division, its first UIL Concert first division, and the first Sweepstakes in the school's history. They have received a Sweepstakes for the past five consecutive years. Mr. Besinaiz served as the

ATSSB Region 3/20 Jazz Chairman.

"I feel honored and privileged to be nominated for Class AA Representative. If elected to this position, I will do my very best to uphold the duties and responsibilities of this position to the best of my abilities."

(Continued on Page 9)

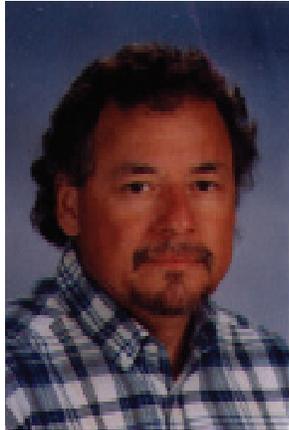
(Nominee biographies, continued from Page 8):

Under her leadership, the Munday Middle School Band was named a finalist in the Class C ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series. They were also a participant in the TMEA Class C Honor Band competition at the state level in 1997, and has earned superior and excellent ratings in UIL Concert and Sightreading contests and has consistently earned superior ratings in concert and sightreading at numerous festivals.

Mrs. Bennett has been married to Rodney Bennett for twenty-two years. They have a son, Ronnie, a certified professional trainer and nutrition adviser and a two-year-old granddaughter, Emma Grace.

Dan Francis is the band director at Irma Marsh Middle School, a class CC middle school in Fort Worth which feeds Castleberry High School.

Chris McLellan is in his eighth year as the band director at Glen Rose Middle School, a class CC middle school. He directs the middle school band program, high school jazz ensemble and assists with the intermediate and high school bands. Under his direction, the middle school band has earned four consecutive Sweepstakes Awards in UIL competition and was a state finalist in the ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series in 2000. His jazz ensemble has won many awards including four consecutive first division ratings at UIL Solo & Ensemble and three first division ratings, including Best in Class, at the Tarleton State University Jazz Competition.



In addition to his responsibilities in Glen Rose, Mr. McLellan has served in many leadership roles in state and region organizations. He is currently serving as TMEA Region Jazz Chairman in Region VII, a position he has held for the past three years. Under his leadership, Region VII has developed a successful region jazz ensemble. He is also serving in his third year as a Percussion Organizer for the ATSSB All-State Bands. Mr. McLellan composed the ATSSB Rudimental Etude now required of all Area Percussion I candidates and has judged state chair auditions.

Mr. McLellan and his wife Mary reside in Fort Worth where Mary teaches algebra for Castleberry ISD. She also has a degree in piano from TCU and has a private piano studio. "Music is a great part of my life and I would enjoy the opportunity to serve the students and band directors of Texas as Class C/CC Representative to the ATSSB State Board of Directors."

Sherry Poteet is a native of Clarksville, Texas. She received a Bachelor of Music Education and a Master of Music from East Texas State University (now Texas A&M-Commerce).



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## ATSSB Members who are listed as TMAA Members

Please suggest from among the following ATSSB members for your judging panels for this coming spring and for 2001-02, especially those on the Supplemental List. Under the membership TYPE below, the following abbreviations are used: RM-Regular Member; AM-Associate Member; CM-Charter Member; FCM-Founding Charter Member; HL-Honorary Life. Under TMAA, the asterisk (\*) indicates the member is on the Supplemental List, lacking only judging experience for placement on the Active List: CB-Concert Band, MB-Marching Band, O-Orchestra. Be sure to check with the member listed before securing them as a judge to insure accurate TMAA membership since the information below is gleaned from information provided by the members and has not been verified through the TMAA office.

TYPE	NAME	SCHOOL	CLASS	REG.	TMAA	SCHOOL ADDRESS	SCHOOL CITY & ZIP	TELEPHONE
RM	Daniel Alemán	Pearsall HS	AAA	11	CB, MB	522 E. Florida	Pearsall, TX 78061	(830) 334-5055
RM	Bonnie F. Anderson	Littlefield HS	AAA	16	CB	1100 Waylon Jennings	Littlefield, TX 79339	(806) 385-5683
RM	Christy Anderson	Burnet MS	CC	18	CB*	1201 N. Main	Burnet, TX 78611	(512) 756-4587
CM	Pat Autry	Whitesboro HS	AAA	5	CB, MB	115 4th Street	Whitesboro, TX 76273	(903) 564-4229
RM	Rusty Baldwin	Anahuac HS	AA	19	CB*, MB*	P.O. Box 1560	Anahuac, TX 77514	(409) 267-3197
RM	Jerry Barker	Coahoma HS	AA	2	MB	P.O. Box 110	Coahoma, TX 79511	(915) 394-4367
RM	Jerry Bartley	New Deal HS	AA	16	CB, MB	P.O. Box 250	New Deal, TX 79350	(806) 746-5519
RM	Virgil Beene	Troup HS	AA	21	CB	P.O. Box 578	Troup, TX 75789	(903) 842-3065
RM	Marilyn K. Bennett	Munday MS	C	2	MB*	P.O. Box 300	Munday, TX 76371	(940) 422-4478
RM	Rodney D. Bennett	Munday HS	A	2	CB, MB	P.O. Box 300	Munday, TX 76371	(940) 422-4478
RM	Larry Breashears	Queen City HS	AAA	4	CB*	P.O. Box 128	Queen City, TX 75572	(903) 796-7954
RM	Brandon Brewer	Princeton HS	AAA	3	CB*, MB*	321 Panther Pkwy	Princeton, TX 75407	(972) 734-2443
RM	Anne R. Broadus	Robinson HS	AAA	8	CB, MB	500 W. Lyndale	Robinson, TX 76706	(254) 662-3840
RM	Waymon Bullock	Hemphill HS	AA	21	CB, MB	P.O. Box 1950	Hemphill, TX 75948	(409) 787-3371
RM	Marilyn Burgess	Rotan HS	A	2	MB	102 N. McKinley Ave.	Rotan, TX 79546	(915) 735-3041
RM	Frank Burrows	Mt. Enterprise HS	A	21	CB	300 W. 3rd Street N	Mt. Enterprise, TX 75681	(903) 822-3721
RM	Lowell Clark	Goodrich HS	A	10	CB, MB	P.O. Box 789	Goodrich, TX 77335	(409) 365-2747
RM	Bob Clarke	Boling HS	AA	13	MB*	P.O. Drawer 119	Boling, TX 77420	(979) 657-4674
RM	Tony Clines	Robinson HS	AAA	8	CB, MB	500 W. Lyndale	Robinson, TX 76706	(254) 662-4088
RM	Michael Cole	Ore City HS	AA	4	CB*	P.O. Box 100	Ore City, TX 75683	(903) 968-3300
RM	Jeff Comp	Jarrell HS	AA	18	CB, MB	P.O. Box 9	Jarrell, TX 76537	(512) 746-2124
RM	Johnnie Cotton	Stamford HS	AA	2	CB, MB*	507 S. Orient	Stamford, TX 79553	(915) 773-5041
RM	Berry C. Crudgington	Brady HS	AAA	7	CB*	100 W. Main	Brady, TX 76825	(915) 597-9271
RM	Mike Cudd	O.H. Herman MS	C	13	MB	302 4th Street	Van Vleck, TX 77482	(979) 245-6401
RM	Jim Cude	Breckenridge HS	AAA	2	CB*, MB*	500 W. Lindsey	Breckenridge, TX 76424	(254) 559-6015
RM	David Daniel	Castleberry HS	AAA	5	MB*	215 Churchill Road	River Oaks, TX 76114	(817) 252-2066
RM	Blake Edmondson	Childress HS	AAA	1	CB*	800 Avenue J NW	Childress, TX 79201	(940) 937-6131
RM	Tom English	Gatesville HS	AAA	8	CB*	311 S. Lovers Lane	Gatesville, TX 76528	(254) 865-8281
RM	Jeff Estes	Cisco HS	AA	2	CB*	P.O. Box 1645	Cisco, TX 76437	(254) 442-3051
RM	Gerald D. Fagan	Corrigan-Camden HS	AA	21	CB	504 S. Home Street	Corrigan, TX 75359	(936) 398-5044
RM	Michael W. Farmer	Prosper HS	AA	3	CB, MB	P.O. Box 490	Prosper, TX 75078	(972) 346-2455
RM	David Fortenberry	Greenwood HS	AAA	6	CB	2700 FM 1379	Midland, TX 79706	(915) 685-7811
RM	Dan L. Francis	Irma Marsh MS	CC	5	CB	415 Hagg Drive	Ft. Worth, TX 76101	(817) 252-2209
RM	Dan H. Freis	Cuero JH	CC	13	CB, MB	8874 N. US Hwy 183	Cuero, TX 77954	(361) 275-2772
RM	Paul Fullerton	James Bowie HS	A	4	CB	P.O. Box 9	Simms, TX 75574	(903) 543-2219
RM	Stacy Gist	Lexington HS	AA	18	CB, MB	P.O. Box 248	Lexington, TX 78947	(979) 773-2255
FCM	Kenneth Griffin	Houston Christian HS	AA	9	CB, MB	2700 W Sam Houston Pkwy N	Houston, TX 77043	(713) 580-6000
RM	Charles Grissom	McCamey HS	AA	6	CB, MB	P.O. Box 1069	McCamey, TX 79752	(915) 652-4200
RM	Forrester Halamicek	Llano HS	C	7	CB, MB	1400 E. Oatman	Llano, TX 78643	(915) 247-4187
RM	Rob Hartman	Anson HS	AA	2	CB*	1509 S. Commercial	Anson, TX 79501	(915) 823-4417
RM	Mike Henderson	East Bernard HS	AA	13	CB, MB*	727 Fitzgerald	East Bernard, TX 77435	(979) 935-7519
AM	Robert E. Henry	TX Tech	N/A		CB	School of Music, Box 42033	Lubbock, TX 79409-2033	(806) 742-2270
RM	Richard Herrera	Brownfield HS	AAA	16	CB, MB	701 N. Cub	Brownfield, TX 79316	(806) 637-4523
RM	Roy Hinojosa	Taft HS	AAA	14	CB, MB	502 Rincon RD	Taft, TX 78390	(361) 528-2559
RM	Ben L. Hoaldrige	Bowie HS	AAA	2	CB, O, MB	800 N. Mill Street	Bowie, TX 76230	(940) 872-3601
RM	Travis Hobson	Wall HS	AA	7	CB	8065 South US Hwy 87	Wall, TX 76957	(915) 651-7521
RM	Dan Huck	Sweetwater HS	AAA	2	CB	1205 Ragland	Sweetwater, TX 79556	(915) 235-4371
RM	Lynette Huck	Sweetwater MS	CC	2	CB*	305 Lamar	Sweetwater, TX 79556	(915) 236-6303
RM	Jasper Huff, Jr.	Van JH	CC	3	CB*	P.O. Box 697	Van, TX 75790	(903) 963-8321
RM	Carl E. Idlebird	Somerville HS	AA	18	CB, MB*	523 Eighth Street	Somerville, TX 77879	(409) 596-1534
RM	John H. Ivie, Jr.	Collinsville HS	A	3	CB, MB*	P.O. Box 49	Collinsville, TX 76233	(903) 429-6164
RM	Darin Jolly	Coleman HS	AA	7	CB, MB*	201 W. 15th Street	Coleman, TX 76834	(915) 625-2156
RM	Bruce Kenner	Sealy HS	AAA	9	CB, MB	939 Tiger Lane	Sealy, TX 77474	(979) 885-2114
RM	Ricky Kyker	Hawley HS	AA	2	CB*, MB*	P.O. Box 440	Hawley, TX 79525	(915) 537-2722
RM	David Lambert	Bosqueville HS	A	8	CB*, MB*	7636 Rocky Creek Road	Waco, TX 76708	(254) 752-8513
RM	Merle E. Lenfest, Jr.	Rankin HS	A	6	CB	P.O. Box 90	Rankin, TX 79778	(915) 693-2397
RM	Aaron K. Lewis	Comfort HS	AA	11	CB*, MB*	143 Hwy 87	Comfort, TX 78013	(830) 634-2983
RM	Mike E. Lewis	Burnet HS	AAA	18	CB, MB*	1401 N. Main	Burnet, TX 78611	(512) 756-4587
AM	Robert Littlefield	Cypress Creek HS	AAAAA	9	CB, MB*	9815 Grant Road	Houston, TX 77070	(281) 897-4248
RM	Ed Lowes	La Grange HS	AAA	18	CB, MB*	P.O. Box 100	La Grange, TX 78945	(979) 968-8961
RM	James Marioneaux	Barbers Hill HS	AAA	19	CB, MB	P.O. Box 1108	Mont Belvieu, TX 77580	(281) 576-2221
HL/FCM	Michael G. Marsh	Howe MS	C	3	CB, MB	300 Beatrice Street	Howe, TX 75459	(903) 532-6013
RM	Manuel Martinez	Alvarado HS	AAA	7	CB, MB*	P.O. Box 387	Alvarado, TX 76009	(817) 783-6947
RM	Wayne McBee, Jr.	Van Vleck HS	AA	13	MB	P.O. Box 649	Van Vleck, TX 77482	(409) 245-0667
AM	Robert McElroy	Associate Member	N/A		CB, MB	P.O. Box 1098	Bellville, TX 77418	(979) 865-1282
RM	Chris McLellan	Glen Rose JH	CC	7	CB*	P.O. Box 2129	Glen Rose, TX 76043	(254) 897-4442
RM	Mark Melton	Union Grove HS	AA	4	CB	P.O. Box 1447	Gladewater, TX 75647	(903) 845-5506
RM	Joseph R. Michel	ATSSB			CB*	103 Byron Lane	Victoria, TX 77901-3647	(361) 579-0898

(Continued on Page 11)

(TMAA Members, continued from Page 10):

RM	Greg Miller	Iowa Park HS	AAA	2	CB, MB*	1513 W. Hwy.	Iowa Park, TX 76367	(940) 592-2411
RM	Perry Morris	Giddings HS	AAA	18	CB*, MB*	P.O. Box 389	Giddings, TX 78942	(409) 542-3954
RM	Danny Norris	Littlefield JH	C	16	CB, MB	105 Lake Avenue	Littlefield, TX 79339	(806) 385-3922
RM	Virginia Olsovsky	Hallettsville HS	AAA	18	CB, MB*	P.O. Box 368	Hallettsville, TX 77964	(512) 798-9926
HL	Ronnie Page	Overton HS	A	21	CB, MB	Box 130	Overton, TX 75684	(903) 834-6145
HL/FCM	Fred Pankratz	Canadian HS	AA	1	CB, MB	800 Hillside	Canadian, TX 79014	(806) 323-8617
RM	Rick Parker	Van HS	AAA	3	CB	P.O. Box 697	Van, TX 75790	(903) 963-5841
RM	Clay Pope	Yoakum HS	AAA	13	CB	P.O. Box 737	Yoakum, TX 77995	(361) 293-2191
RM	Sherry Poteet	Gilmer JH	CC	4	CB	P.O. Box 40	Gilmer, TX 75644	(903) 843-3051
RM	Jim Powell	Ingleside HS	AAA	14	CB*	2807 Mustang Drive	Ingleside, TX 78362	(361) 776-2595
RM	Tommy Ray	West HS	AAA	8	CB	1008 Jessy Mashek Drive	West, TX 76691	(254) 826-7507
RM	Scott Rhame	Carlisle HS	A	21	CB	P.O. Box 187	Price, TX 75687	(903) 861-3812
RM	Jim Rhodes	Forsan HS	AA	6	CB	P.O. Drawer A	Forsan, TX 79733	(915) 457-2223
RM	Bobby Richardson	Sabine HS	AAA	4	CB, MB	Route 1, Box 189	Gladewater, TX 75647	(903) 984-8587
FCM	Elmer Schenk	Howe HS	AA	3	CB, MB	20 E. Ponderosa	Howe, TX 75459	(903) 532-5222
RM	Richard D. Smiley	Thompson MS	CC	3	CB	423 Panther Path	Quinlan, TX 75474	(903) 356-2154
AM	Mitchell D. Smith	Kilgore HS	AAAA	4	CB	301 N. Kilgore	Kilgore, TX 75662	(903) 983-2211
RM	Steve Smith	Florence HS	AA	18	MB*	P.O. Box 489	Florence, TX 76527	(254) 793-2504
RM	Daniel Solis	West Campus HS	AAA	11	CB, MB	5622 Ray Ellison	San Antonio, TX 78242	(210) 623-1811
RM	John Standridge	Arp HS	AA	21	CB*	P.O. Drawer 70	Arp, TX 75750	(903) 859-2421
RM	Scott Stephenson	Ballinger HS	AAA	7	CB, MB	Box 231	Ballinger, TX 76821	(915) 365-3547
HL/CM	Don Stockton	ATSSB			CB, MB	Box 333	Village Mills, TX 77663	(409) 834-2992
RM	George Strickland	Glen Rose HS	AAA	7	CB, MB	Box 2129	Glen Rose, TX 76043	(254) 897-4383
RM	Al Sulak	Brazos HS	AA	13	MB*	Box 458	Wallis, TX 77485	(409) 478-6832
RM	Neal Sutton	Atlanta HS	AAA	4	CB, MB*	705 Rabbit Blvd.	Atlanta, TX 75551	(903) 799-1032
RM	Jo Ann Syring	Honey Grove HS	AA	4	CB, MB	400 N. 6th Street	Honey Grove, TX 75446	(903) 378-7142
RM	Dennis Teasdale	Quanah HS	AA	2	CB, MB*	P.O. Box 150	Quanah, TX 79252	(940) 663-2791
RM	Don Thode	ATSSB			CB, MB	2502 White	Clifton, TX 76634	(254) 675-6789
FCM	Louis Thornton	Abilene Christian HS	A	2	CB, MB	2550 N. Judge Ely Blvd.	Abilene, TX 79601	(915) 672-6200
RM	Rob Toups	Canton HS	AAA	3	CB, MB*	1100 West Hwy 243	Canton, TX 75103	(903) 567-6561
AM	Dr. Daryl Trent	Frisco HS	AAAA	3	CB, MB	6401 Parkwood	Frisco, TX 75034	(972) 335-6040
RM	Darrington E. White	Winters HS	AA	2	MB	603 N. Heights	Winters, TX 79567	(915) 754-5516
RM	Scott Williams	New Diana HS	AA	4	CB*	P.O. Box 26	Diana, TX 75640	(903) 663-8004
FCM	Jennifer Willison	Clarendon MS	C	1	CB*	P.O. Box 610	Clarendon, TX 79226	(806) 874-2562
RM	Larry Wolf	ATSSB			CB	110 E. Sarah	Cuero, TX 77954	(361) 275-6593
RM	Ralph Zamarippa, Jr.	Jim Ned MS	C	2	CB, MB	P.O. Box 9	Tuscola, TX 79562	(915) 554-7870
RM	Luis A. Zepeda	Taft JH	C	14	CB*	502 Rincon Road	Taft, TX 78390	(361) 528-2559

### ATSSB Four-Year All-State Band Scholarship Update

We have \$ 31,481.98 in our Scholarship Fund as of December 1 2000. Donors to date include:

Region 1	\$ 2,000.00	Region 11	\$ 250.00	Licensee royalty	\$ 10,811.15
Region 2	\$ 250.00	Region 13	\$ 750.00	Interest to 11-27-99	\$ 1,686.73
Region 3/20	\$ 1,100.00	Region 14	\$ 500.00	1996-97 late dues	\$ 4,050.00
Region 4	\$ 1,000.00	Region 16	\$ 300.00	1997-98 late dues	\$ 3,475.00
Region 5	\$ 2,000.00	Region 17/19	\$ 250.00	1998-99 late dues	\$ 4,850.00
Region 6	\$ 1,000.00	Region 21	\$ 2,000.00	1999-2000 late dues	\$ 3,950.00
Region 7	\$ 2,500.00	Individuals	\$ 70.00	2000-01 late dues	\$ 4,225.00
				Total deposited ----->	<b>\$ 47,017.88</b>

#### EXPENDITURES:

Account search fee					\$ 2.00
Plaques purchased					\$ 533.90
Scholarships paid:					
1995	Sarah Boehm (Sacred Heart trombone) to St. Thomas University				\$ 1,000.00
	Oscar Diaz, Jr. (Ingleside trombone) to Texas A&M, Kingsville				\$ 1,000.00
	Molly Lehrmann (Mathis clarinet) to Texas A&M				\$ 1,000.00
1996	Leslie Hunter (Eldorado clarinet) to Baylor University				\$ 1,000.00
1997	Sarah Smith (White Oak clarinet) to Northeast State University				\$ 1,000.00
1998	Nick Garcia (Orange Grove flute) to Texas A&M, Kingsville				\$ 1,000.00
	Gerardo Loya (Muleshoe clarinet) to Angelo State University				\$ 1,000.00
	Tavia Lee (Cisco bass clarinet) to West Texas A&M University				\$ 1,000.00
	Jesse Lotspeich (Crane tuba) to Howard Payne University				\$ 1,000.00
1999	Rustin Horner Tom Bean trombone) to Southern Nazarene University				\$ 1,000.00
2000	Paula Adams Lake Country bass clarinet) to Tarrant County JC				\$ 1,000.00
	Alex Autry (Aledo trumpet) to Texas Tech University				\$ 1,000.00
	James Bigham (Ingram Tom Moore tuba) to North Texas State				\$ 1,000.00
	Cody Goetz (Reagan County bass trombone) to Texas Tech				\$ 1,000.00
	Morgan Weber (Yoakum trumpet) to Baylor University				\$ 1,000.00
				Total expenditures	<b>\$ 15,535.90</b>
Total in account as of 12-1-00					<b>\$ 31,481.98</b>

This balance includes \$1,000 encumbered for 2000 Rehuth Sheth (Kinkaid bassoon) who has not redeemed the scholarship yet.

## Minutes of the State Board of Directors Breakfast Meeting

The State Board of Directors of the Association of Texas Small School Bands met for breakfast at 7:00 a.m. in the Majestic Room of the San Antonio Ramada Emily Morgan Hotel.

Present at the meeting were Region 11 Coordinator Daniel Alemán, Region 9/23 Coordinator Alfred Angerstein, Region 5 Coordinator Lonnie Baker, Founding Charter Member Rick Ball, Region 21 Coordinator Virgil Beene, Class A Representative Rodney Bennett, Region 12 Coordinator Sandy Brown, Region 8 Coordinator John Canfield, Region 22 Coordinator John Ferguson, Region 6 Coordinator David Fortenberry, Region 15 Coordinator Robert Garza, Region 4 Coordinator Eric Gray, Executive Secretary Kenneth Griffin, Class AA Representative Darin Jolly, Region 18 Coordinator Ed Lowes, Region 17/19 Coordinator James Marioneaux, Founding Charter Member Mike Marsh, Region 13 Coordinator Wayne McBee, Region 2 Coordinator Greg Miller, Region 1 Coordinator James Nance, Region 16 Coordinator John Odom, Immediate Past President Ronnie Page, Founding Charter Member Fred Pankratz, Class C/CC Representative Sherry Poteet, President-Elect Gary Robbins, Region 3 Coordinator Elmer Schenk, Region 7 Coordinator Scott Stephenson, Region 10 Coordinator Don Stockton, President George Strickland, Founding Charter Member Louis Thornton, Class AAA Representative Rob Toups, Founding Charter Member Jennifer Willison, and Region 14 Coordinator Eric Winterbottom. Attending as guests were Area West Coordinator Mike Glaze, Area South Coordinator David Smith, OPS State Chair Don Thoede, and Committee Chair Chris Lovejoy. Not present were Founding Charter Member Mike Bendiksen, Founding Charter Member Lonnie Dooley, and Founding Charter Member Fred Pankratz.

As the Board and invited guests were enjoying a buffet breakfast, President George Strickland called the meeting to order at 7:17 a.m. and asked Ronnie Page to give the invocation.

The oath of office was administered by Executive Secretary Kenneth Griffin.

The minutes of the SBOD meeting February 10, 2000 were approved as printed in the March Newsletter after a motion by John Odom and a second by James Marioneaux.

The Presidential appointment of Rodney Bennett to fill the unexpired term of Class A Representative was approved after a motion by Jennifer Willison and a second by Mike Marsh.

Sherry Poteet thanked her committee studying private middle school participation in ATSSB activities: Daniel Aleman, Fred Angerstein, Stacy Gist, and Mike Marsh. Her committee moved to allow all private school students to participate in ATSSB auditions regardless of the size of the high school they are to attend the following year so long as the total enrollment of the middle school does not exceed UIL C/CC standards. Virgil Beene seconded the motion. After a lengthy debate, the question was called and the motion passed. Mr. Strickland noted that this change will require a constitutional amendment which will be presented to the general membership for consideration at the February General Session.

Ms. Poteet reported that the committee she chairs looking into a Suggested Audition List for middle schools would have a report for the SBOD by February. This list would be provided as a guide for regions to use for middle school region band auditions and would not be a required list. Regions would be free to use the suggested etudes, cuts from them, or not use them at their discretion.

Chris Lovejoy's committee studying homeschooler participation in ATSSB included David Stamp, Michael Cropland and Elmer Schenk. They moved that homeschoolers may participate in ATSSB activities so long as the student's parents or private teacher is a member of ATSSB and TMEA and accepts responsibility for the student's entry and eligibility requirements. Greg Miller seconded and a lively debate ensued. After a lengthy debate, the question was called and a vote taken. Motion failed.

Gary Robbins then gave a report on the SARC. He noted that there were two errata reported to him that were approved by The committee: The Gatti etude for trumpet, trombone, baritone, and tuba for Year E: measure 26, second note should be a concert F. Also Year E Percussion I should read p. 9, #VII.

Don Thoede, OPS State Chair, thanked all Region and Area Coordinators for their help with this year's OPS and announced the respective OPS winners and runners-up. His committee made the following recommendations:

Beginning in the spring of 2001, directors will submit CDs, not cassette tapes, for competition.

Example: If a director wants to enter all three songs, he/she must submit a total of 6 CDs (one song on each CD). Motion was made by Jennifer Willison, seconded by Don Stockton. Motion carried.

The "Procedure" section of the OPS guidelines states: "Any class C or CC middle school, A, AA, or AAA high school band may enter a tape provided the Head Director is a current regular member of ATSSB". Change it to read: "Any class C or CC middle school, A, AA, or AAA high school band may enter a CD provided the band director of the school entering is a current regular member of ATSSB. Motion was made by Kenneth Griffin, seconded by Virgil Beene. Motion carried.

Continue to use Crystal Clear Sound, Dallas, Texas, for production of OPS CDs. Motion was made by Ronnie Page, seconded by Rodney Bennett. Motion carried.

Mr. Thoede asked entering directors, Region, Designated Region and Designated Area Coordinators to carefully read and follow all guidelines and entry deadlines.

In the President's report, George Strickland read a letter from TMEA Band Division Vice-President Jeff Laird thanking ATSSB for an invitation to the SBOD meeting, but expressed regrets that he had a prior commitment. Mr. Strickland also noted that at the TMEA Region Band Chair meeting, there was open a agreeable dialogue between TMEA and ATSSB at all times. He

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urged everyone to attend the ATSSB-sponsored clinic with Bill Biskup entitled "Crisis Recovery in the Band Room". He noted that this year will mark the tenth anniversary of ATSSB's beginnings and he had invited John Gibson (ATSSB Founder) to conduct the Star-Spangled Banner. Other activities are being planned and would be announced as they are finalized.

In the Executive Secretary's report, Kenneth Griffin noted that the original printing of the Prescribed Audition List had been distributed and a new printing had been completed which incorporates all known errata. He noted that the packet of audition forms were sent to home addresses but all forms were now available on-line in pdf format. He asked Region Coordinators to turn in their patch orders before September 15. He went over the packet items and asked for input regarding former SBOD members so he could verify archival data. He reported that the Executive Committee had approved selling the PAL to members requesting replacement for \$5 to cover the cost of printing and mailing, but that PALs would continue to be given to new directors and current members on request if they have moved to a new school.

#### Under Old Business:

Ronnie Page reported that the Past-President Committee met and moved as a committee that we create a College Division membership to encourage instrumental music education majors who are enrolled in a college/university music program and to inform them of the rewards of working in a small school band program. Dues would be \$10 per student, per year. Benefits for students would include an ATSSB College Division Membership Card, a subscription to the ATSSB Newsletter, a listing of availability for judging ATSSB auditions, and a listing for availability to teach private lessons. The motion was seconded by Virgil Beene. Motion carried. Mr. Strickland noted that this would require a constitutional amendment that would be presented to the membership for consideration in February.

Mr. Page announced that his committee had also selected Overton High School, Glen Wells, Director, as the subject for the recruitment video that is going to be filmed in 2000-01.

Scott Stephenson reported that the Music Education Camp at Angelo State University did not make again due to lack of prior advertisement of the camp's availability and that they were going to give it one more try with better publicity. Ronnie Page asked how many regions would sponsor one or two students to this type of camp and about eight immediately responded affirmatively.

#### Under New Business:

Lonnie Baker moved and Virgil Beene seconded that the board make the motion in the General Session to accept the proposed constitutional amendments being presented. The motion passed unanimously.

The bid for recording the All-State concerts from Probst Audio was accepted after a motion by Ronnie Page and a second by James Nance. James Nance moved and Ronnie Page seconded that we accept Probst's suggestion that no cassette tapes would be offered, only CDs. Motion carried.

Jennifer Willison moved and Sandy Brown seconded that we accept the proposal from Pender's Music Company to provide copying services and discounted music for Area packets and All-State Band music. The motion passed unanimously.

It was decided by straw vote to invite James Barnes to be the 2003 Concert Band clinician and to commission Mr. Barnes to write a piece for the 2003 Concert Band.

Mr. Griffin asked if he could give the finance report once a year in February which would encompass the fiscal year (September 1-August 31) so it would be easier to see annual expenditures and income. The board agreed that would be acceptable.

Kenneth Griffin moved that the Past President Committee be a standing committee responsible for recruitment, mentoring, and member welfare. After a second by Don Stockton, the motion carried. Mr. Strickland noted that this would require a constitutional amendment which would be presented to the membership in February.

Mr. Griffin noted that we could possibly accept Visa and Mastercard on-line or over the telephone, but it would cost 83 cents per \$25 membership. Scott Stephenson moved and Virgil Beene seconded that we make application and use the service for a year to see if it is beneficial to the membership.

Don Stockton moved and Ronnie Page seconded that we accept Avant Recordings' recommendation to charge \$15 for the 2000 OPS 2-CD set with \$5 of each sale going into the Scholarship Fund. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Griffin asked if we should continue the student survey and the consensus was that it should be continued with additional information requested. He asked for input regarding the makeup of the survey.

Mr. Strickland announced that the region realignment was going forward and that members should be encouraged to keep an eye on the UIL and TMEA websites to see that their schools are ending up where they wished. Rodney Bennett noted that in whatever region schools participated in 2000-01 is where they will be for the new realignment in 2001-02 because he was told that there would be no transfers allowed for the first year of the new realignment. Mr. Strickland also announced that the small school state marching contest would be held in Waco this year.

Daniel Aleman asked if any regions gave scholarships to their seniors who made the All-State Band. Several regions replied in the affirmative and he asked to see them after the meeting.

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(SBOD Minutes, continued from Page 13):

Region reports then were heard:

- I No report.
- II No report.
- III No report.
- IV No report.
- V No report.
- VI No report.
- VII No report.
- VIII Howard Payne University and Region 7 were offering a clinic on the All-State Music with invited guest clinicians and food for participants.
- IX No report.
- X No report.
- XI No report.
- XII No report.
- XIII No report.
- XIV No report.
- XV No report.
- XVI No report.
- XVII No report.
- XVIII Dr. Jack Stamp will be the clinician for the All-Region Band this year.
- XXI No report.
- XXII No report.

Area reports then were heard:

- Area West No report.
- Area North No report.
- Area East Don Stockton reported that Area East audition would be hosted by Robinson High School.
- Area Central No report.
- Area South David Smith reported that one school which entered the OPS this year had the wrong recording on its backup tape.

Mr. Strickland reminded the Board that Class C/CC and AA Representatives and President-Elect needed to be nominated at the fall Region meetings. He advised all Region and Area Coordinators to visit the ATSSB website and, if they do not have a presence yet, make one and use it.

Don Thoede reminded those present that he OPS entrants would need access to their original DAT recordings for the CD should they be selected as winners. He also noted that Holsie Music in Waco, which had provided complimentary tape players for past OPS state finals, could not get the machines in time for use this year, so we had to rent the equipment.

Mr. Strickland asked for funds to make the tenth anniversary a special occasion. James Marioneaux moved and John Odom seconded that we spend the necessary funds to make it special pending Executive Committee approval. Motion carried. There being no further business, Mr. Strickland adjourned the meeting after a motion by Louis Thornton at 10:06 a.m.

## **Minutes of the July ATSSB General Session**

The General Session of ATSSB met in the Convention Center 207 A-B on Tuesday, July 25, 2000 at 1:38 p.m. There was a standing room only in the double room. The meeting was called to order by President George Strickland. The invocation was given by Louis Thornton.

George Strickland introduced the head table: Executive Secretary Kenneth Griffin, President-Elect Gary Robbins, Class AAA Representative Rob Toups, Class AA Representative Darin Jolly, Class A Representative Rodney Bennett, Class C/CC Representative Sherry Poteet, and Immediate Past President Ronnie Page. He also recognized Bill Biskup from Columbine High School in Colorado and TMEA Past President Bob Henry in the audience.

Mac Macinerney made a motion to accept the minutes as printed in the March Newsletter. Tom English seconded. Motion passed.

Pat Autry made a motion to accept the Financial Report as printed and passed out at the meeting. Aaron Lewis seconded. Motion passed.

Gary Robbins reported that the SARC had accepted two errata for Year E: trombone, baritone, and tuba Gatti etude, mea-

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(General Session Minutes, continued from Page 14):

sure 26, second note should be F concert; Percussion I should read p. 9, #VII.

Don Thoede presented the Outstanding Performance Series Report. 351 tapes were submitted in the competition. Winning schools and directors were:

Class C March: Orange Grove MS, Blanca Tovar  
Class C Concert: Littlefield JH, Danny Norris  
Littlefield JH, Danny Norris  
Class CC March: Green MS (La Feria), Byron Engle  
Class CC Concert: Pittsburg MS, Sherry Poteet  
Diaz MS (Hidalgo), Perry Dornbush  
Class A March: Throckmorton HS, Bill Rotter  
Class A Concert: Munday HS, Rodney Bennett  
Meridian HS, Carrie Faulkner  
Class AA March: Honey Grove HS, Dennis Syring  
Class AA Concert: Somerville HS, Carl Idlebird  
Van Vleck HS, Wayne McBee  
Class AAA March: Hidalgo HS, Perry Dornbush  
Class AAA Concert: New Boston HS, Richard Lovelace  
Monahans HS, Tony Gibbs

George Strickland thanked Don Thoede for all his work and contributions to the OPS process.

Mr. Strickland then introduced Richard Crain, retired Supervisor of Music for Spring ISD, who spoke about the positive effect ATSSB has had on music education in Texas over the past ten years. He was well-received and accepted a standing ovation after his speech.

Mr. Strickland then reported on action taken by the State Board of Directors:  
Approved private middle school participation in ATSSB activities. This will require a constitutional amendment.

Sherry Poteet reported that a committee will have a Suggested Audition List available for middle schools to use on an optional basis. This list will be presented in February and, if approved by the SBOD, will be available on-line and in print to regions wishing guidance in selecting audition etudes for their all-region band auditions.

Approved the creation of a College Division Membership category. This will require a constitutional amendment.

Heard the Past President Committee report that Overton High School and its director Glen Wells will be the subject of the recruitment video ATSSB is producing through 2000-01.

Accepted the bid of Crystal Clear Sound to produce the 1999 OPS CDs.

Accepted the bid of Omni Video to produce and sell videotapes of the All-State concerts.

Agreed to price the 2000 2-CD set of OPS CDs at \$15 with \$5 of each sale to go to the Scholarship Fund.

Selected Pender's Music Company to supply copies, packets, and from whom we would purchase the All-State music.

Voted to make the Past President Committee a standing committee. This will require a constitutional amendment.

Voted to accept MC and VISA on-line and by mail and telephone on a trial basis for a year.

Under new business, the set of constitutional amendments were presented to the membership as a motion for acceptance from the SBOD. After a second by Florencio Lara from Lytle High School, the motion passed.

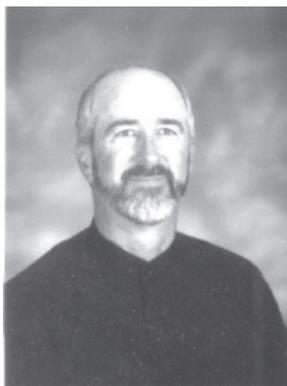
Mr. Strickland announced the ATSSB-sponsored clinic by Bill Biskup entitled "Crisis Recovery in the Band Room" and congratulated Jonathan Kelly and the Cleveland High School Band for its selection as Class AAA Honor Band. He mentioned that plans were being made to celebrate ATSSB's tenth anniversary at the 2001 clinic. He asked everyone to read all directions and instructions carefully this coming audition year to avoid errors and missing deadlines.

Mr. Strickland asked if there was any other new business. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

The ATSSB Newsletter is the official publication of the Association of Texas Small School Bands. Articles of interest to small school band directors will be published as room permits. Letters to the Editor from members will be published if signed, although writers may remain anonymous by request. Send all inquiries to: ATSSB; 15310 Amesbury Lane; Sugar Land, TX 77478-4180, fax them to (281) 494-2151, or email them with appropriate attachments to [execsec@atssb.org](mailto:execsec@atssb.org).

## Letter to the Editor

by John Gibson



As I put fingers to computer keyboard to begin this letter, it is difficult to accept that it has been ten years since that eventful and emotional vote in the band division of TMEA when the proposal to implement a small school all-state band was defeated. The meeting which was usually held in the Fiesta rooms of the convention center with modest attendance was moved to the Lila Cockrell Theatre to accommodate the huge crowd that showed up, many only to cast a vote. In fact, I sat next to a longtime friend and colleague who I still respect to this day who told me up front that he was there only to vote against the small school proposition. There are those in the profession today who still feel strongly that the vote went the right way and that the purity of the all-state process has been diluted.

At that meeting, which was full of confusion and controversy, there were several small school directors who voiced the thoughts which most of us accepted as our own. There was a real need for an all-state organization made up of small school band students. The previous attempts to bring about such a performing group had been ignored, conveniently lost in the "idea box" or just outright not taken seriously. The competition statewide was staggering and the small, mostly country school students were not on a "level playing field" with the urban students due to the accessibility of private lessons and the huge staffs of the bigger schools. When TMEA was first organized and the first all-state band came into being, the opportunities of all students was about the same. Nearly all bands whether in the urban areas or small towns had one director. Budgets, quality of instruments, and many other factors were equal. The directors who attended those early conventions brought their "best" students to form the all-state ensembles. They took a risk to enrich the lives of their students and we owe them a tremendous debt of gratitude.

In the ensuing years the process had evolved into a cutthroat competition with lawsuits, hard feelings, pain and mental anguish. While the experience for the students who were selected to perform at convention was great, the groups were constantly composed of mostly students from the urban schools with only a handful from 1A, 2A, or 3A. Not only were private lessons a must, but "which teacher" sometimes determined whether the student was interpreting the music in the correct way and therefore selected. My best students, who took privately and practiced diligently, were no match as were most of the other small school students. One of my flute players, a wonderful and talented girl, had a gold lip plate, which bore the shape of her bottom lip from the many hours of practice. The closest she ever came was 5 chairs below the cutoff.

When that TMEA meeting ended and we all went back to our schools to continue the "status quo", it dawned on me that there were several hundred directors who had voted for a small school band and that if we could organize with only 100 of them, we could make a go of it. I got on the phone, sent letters and took the chance and set up a meeting in Abilene. Thanks to Louis Thornton for letting us use his band hall even though he had some serious reservations about what I had planned at the time. In attendance were 15 directors from across the state who made the trip at their own expense and at the risk of being branded as troublemakers, who listened to my proposals, asked the right questions, added ideas from their own experience and ATSSB was born. Some had boosters donate and some paid right out of their own pockets \$100 each as operating capital to get the word out, design and print membership forms, and any of a multitude of needs to get started.

Officers were elected: Mike Marsh-president, Fred Pankratz-vice president and Kenneth Griffin-executive secretary. Those three men put their well respected names and reputations on the line and went out and (with the help of those other 12) did the legwork to secure a place to rehearse and lodging for the first ATSSB all-state band, as well as the other details necessary for TEA accreditation. We owe them all a huge thank you and our undying respect for keeping a professional demeanor in the face of obstacles most of us would find impossible to overcome. It is my strong conviction that they are the real heroes in this story. They had help from many others, but Mike, Fred and Kenneth made ATSSB a reality.

In the ten years since then, ATSSB has touched the lives of so many students. Many ideas ATSSB used, some out of necessity, some out of the sheer brilliance of the membership, have found their way into the "status quo" of TMEA. Two that come to mind are the Prescribed List of books for all-state etudes and the taping process now used in the 4A TMEA auditions. I challenge you all to keep the spirit of those early days in mind when you work to make ATSSB a stronger organization. Keep an open mind when discussing policies and needs of the group statewide. ATSSB was founded on the idea that small school directors know what is best for students in the small schools and that each of us has something useful to donate to the cause. I will always have you in my thoughts as you prepare those wonderful students in your bands for life as doctors, manual laborers, lawyers, nurses, teachers, engineers, short order cooks, construction workers, farmers, school board members, parents and voters in the real world. Can you think of a nobler calling?

*(Ed. Note: John is considered our "Founding Father" for calling the original meeting and laying the first groundwork for the*