



1991-2007

ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS

Celebrating 16 years of service to small school bands in Texas

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ATSSB NEWSLETTER

Volume XV, Number 3

December, 2006

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President's Column

by Jim Jones



I hope this December newsletter finds each of you enjoying the sounds and scenes of a joyous season. With the holidays upon us, time seems to speed up and before long the New Year will be here. Region auditions are complete and students are looking forward to area auditions and their chance to become a part of the All State Band. This is truly one of the more exciting times of the entire year.

As the convention approaches, many of our volunteers are making plans to make this All State experience and convention the best it can possibly be. Without the time and effort extended by the Region and Area Coordinators, this All-State experience could not be accomplished. A special thank you goes to our band and percussion organizers, All State Floor Monitor Coordinator, and clinicians for their hard work in making the All-State experience memorable.

We are so very fortunate to have outstanding clinicians for the 2007 All State Bands. Jerry Junkin from the University of Texas at Austin will be our All State Symphonic Clinician, Bill Brent from Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, Louisiana, will be the clinician for our All State Concert Band, and Jeff Hellmer from the University of Texas at Austin will be our All State Jazz Ensemble Clinician. David Hollisinger has been commissioned to write a piece for this year's All State Concert Band. The title is **ON THE OVERLAND STAGE TO EL PASO**.

This year's ATSSB All-State students will be able to attend the presentation by Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser given to the assembled all-state students. The All-State Jazz band will no longer have to change rehearsal site because of TMEA's offer to utilize the Menger Ballroom site.

(Continued on Page 2)

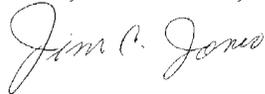
(President Pro Tem's Column, continued from Page 1):

TMEA has graciously added two ATSSB clinics for the small school director. I encourage each small school director to attend the clinics hosted by John Mize on Thursday at 3:15 p.m. and Don Thoede on Friday at 6:30 p.m. These clinics will be informative and beneficial to each small school director as well as showing support to our fellow members.

I encourage each region to consider a donation to the Scholarship Fund. Since the Scholarship Fund was started, we have awarded over \$90,000 to our small school students. This can only be continued with region and director support.

In closing, we all put many hours into our performance at marching contest and concert and sight-reading contest. This benefits our entire ensemble and program stability. However, please keep in mind that each student needs special time allocated. Encourage your students to try out for all region and solo and ensemble contest. This valuable time given to students, one on one, adds to the musicianship of each student. The time shared with a student helps the individual as well as the entire program.

It has been my honor and privilege to serve this outstanding organization and as my tenure comes to a close, I am indeed fortunate in working with and learning from, some of the most dedicated and knowledgeable associates in our field. A sincere thank you goes to Kenneth Griffin for all the help he shows new officers, coordinators, and the entire organization. Thank you again for giving me the opportunity to serve.



President-Elect's Column

by Rob Toups

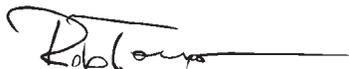


Now that marching season is overfor most of us, it is time for Christmas and Winter concerts, parades and all region auditions. ATSSB continues to offer an outstanding musical experience for our students via the all region, all area and all state process and I am certain many of you are diligently teaching and helping students prepare for a successful audition.

As teachers and mentors we must remind our students that taking part in this process, whether selected to a band or not, is so very important to the overall musical development of each and every young musician we help prepare. Commitment, courage and tenacity are a few of the many positive traits, which are nurtured and strengthened in all who participate. I, like many of you, am excited and anxious to attend the region clinics and concerts. These events are terrific opportunities to watch outstanding clinicians and learn more about instrument pedagogy as well as the literature being rehearsed and performed. Good luck to all of our students as they prepare for region and area tryouts.

I also wish to congratulate the outstanding 3A/5A bands and directors who recently advanced to UIL Area and State Marching Contests. It takes many rehearsal hours and a profound commitment to excellence from students and staff to compete at the highest level. Each of these fine band programs makes us all proud to be a part of ATSSB, TMEA and the Texas UIL.

On behalf of the Association of Texas Small School Bands, I sincerely wish our membership a happy and blessed holiday season. Use your time off for much needed R&R and let's start the new year with an even greater commitment to providing the student musicians we teach the best educational experience possible.



Executive Secretary's Column

by Kenneth L. Griffin



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 notarized**) and completed, that you make hotel reservations for your students that make the All-State Band, and that you make housing plans yourself.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank **Sherry Poteet** for her service to ATSSB for the last ten years as Class C/CC Representative to the ATSSB State Board of Directors. Although she was nominated by several regions to be reelected to that office, she has declined the nomination, wanting others to serve. She noted "It's been a blessing to serve with all of you wonderful guys but it's time for new ideas and a fresh perspective." Therefore, nominations for the office of Class C/CC Representative to the ATSSB State Board will be taken from the floor at the General

Session in February. **David Rollins** also completes his two-year term as Class AA Representative to the ATSSB State Board of Directors. It is a time-consuming but necessary role that they played on the Executive Committee as it has tried to accommodate the needs of students and their directors.

I would also like to thank **Jim Jones** for his service to ATSSB as President Pro Tem this past year. Jim was elected by the State Board to fill the office after Steven Moore resigned when his school was reclassified as 4A. It is not easy having to fill all the leadership vacancies that occur, find and name chairs of committees, find and name organizers and facilitators for the various all-state ensembles we host, and a myriad other things he is called upon to do (many at the last minute). Thank you, Jim, for giving of your time and expertise so selflessly this past year. We look forward to your continued involvement with ATSSB as Immediate Past-President.

Please make an effort not only to 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 All-State Band Scholarship. Please consider using them before any other companies offering the same or similar products: Southwest Specialties (Paul Proctor - Midlothian) = T-shirts, caps, plaques, etc.; Probst Audio (Scott Probst - Ennis) = audio recordings of concerts on 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 CDs; Made To Order (Dick Nye - Lubbock) = T-shirts, caps, plaques, etc.; California T's (L. Steve Taylor - Lubbock) = T-shirts, caps, plaques, etc.; On Site Digital (Randy Bryant - Austin) - recording of concerts on tapes or CD; and Stephen Henry Smart Music Consultant (Stephen Henry - Vanderbilt).

A reminder about **piccolo** and **E \flat clarinet**: If your flute or clarinet player makes the All-State Band at the Area auditions January 6 and would like to play piccolo (flutes) or E \flat Soprano Clarinet (clarinets), have them bring these instruments 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 \$135 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 \$408 (split any way you can among directors sharing the room with you). Make sure you include the student name

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

and school (or director's name and school). Remember to take care of this before January 12, 2007, or you will lose your reservation. One new item for 2007: **Each payment for housing MUST include a signed hotel tax exemption from from the school.**

We plan to hold our ATSSB **Business Session** in CC1 of the Convention Center at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, February 15. **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. Remember that proxies are not allowed in these elections. A short biographical sketch and picture of each candidate for state office can be found in this Newsletter (if a biography and/or a picture was submitted).

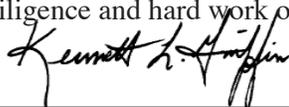
When you get a chance, be sure to thank our **Region and Area Coordinators** for their efforts in securing audition sites, hosts, audition chairmen, computer equipment and logistics, etc. Also, let's not forget to thank our **State Chair Audition Coordinator** (Eric Gray of Gilmer) and all of his helpers and judging panels in advance of the work facing them as the two bands are seated; also Rami Purdum from Harmony and Mark Melton from Union Grove are serving as **State Chair Auditions Office Co-Managers** this year. Our All-State **Symphonic Band Organizer** (David DeLuca of La Grange), All-State **Symphonic Band Percussion Organizer** (Bob McClure of Princeton), All-State **Concert Band Organizer** (Karen Dyre of Liberty Hill), All-State **Concert Band Percussion Organizer** (Gary Frock of Hutto), and All-State **Jazz Ensemble Organizer** (Tim Schodowski of Quitman) 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 secured and sorted, 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 for the first time. 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 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 provide shoulder patches and "breakout" refreshments for the all-state students. They will be recognized in the all-state programs, but I just wanted to say an additional "Thank You" to them in advance for their contributions to the continued success of the ATSSB All-State Band. Also new this year, the Schenk Family Trust has made a donation to ATSSB to provide the all-state programs in the future. The donation has been invested and the interest will be used to provide the programs in the future. Thank you, Founding Charter Member Elmer Schenk, for your thoughtful gift to ATSSB.

Be sure to visit with your Region Coordinators about issues you wish addressed at the State Board meeting coming up. Make your opinions about issues confronting ATSSB known to your representatives to the State Board so they can be discussed with a consensus from the membership.

Thank all of you for your continued diligence and hard work on behalf of the students in our small school programs. Keep up the great work.



Outstanding Performance Series

by Don Thoede, State Chair



I want to remind the 2006 OPS winners and runners-up that the presentation of awards will be at the ATSSB General Session on Thursday, February 15, 2007, at 12:30 PM in the San Antonio convention center. Please make every attempt to attend that important session.

Be sure you read the 2007 March Newsletter very carefully! You should all know by now that you will be sending your CDs, at the Region level, to different Designated Region Coordinators. The entry deadline at each level will not change.

I want to remind the Region and Area Coordinators that if there are any changes in mailing addresses, or phone numbers, please contact Kenneth Griffin and me immediately. All Coordinators names, addresses, and phone numbers will be listed in the March Newsletter, so accuracy is of the utmost importance. It would really be good if Region Coordinators and Area Coordinators held those positions until June 26th, which is the deadline for all CDs to be mailed to the OPS State Chair.

I hope all of you have a wonderful Christmas season and a joyous New Year! I will see you at TMEA in February.

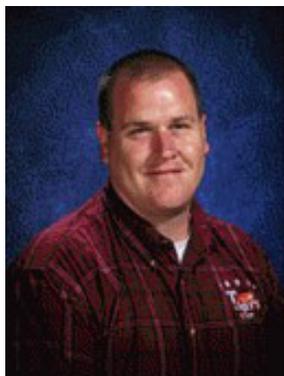
Don Thoede

ELECTION

President-Elect and Class C/CC and Class AA Representatives to the State Board of Directors for 2007-09 will be elected in the ATSSB General Session on Thursday, February 15, 2007 at 12:30 in Ballroom C1 of the Convention Center. Nominees who accepted their nomination and who submitted a biography and/or picture by publication follow below. All Active Members may vote for President-Elect, but only Active Members actively involved in Class C or CC or Class AA may vote on these representatives.

Should nominees send biographies and/or pictures, they will be added as soon as possible and this Newsletter updated online.

Class AA Representative



Gehrig Blankenship is the director of the Troup High School Band in Troup, a class AA school in Region 21. He has taught band in Texas for 8 years, the last 5 at Troup. Gehrig is married (Erin) and has a boy (Matthew). Erin is the Middle School Choir Director in Jacksonville.

Gehrig and Erin are active at Central Baptist Church in Jacksonville, Texas. Gehrig also serves as secretary for ATSSB in Region 21.

Gehrig received his Bachelor of Music Education from Stephen F. Austin State University in 1999. Gehrig is a graduate of South Garland High School in Garland, Texas and former student of Randy Bartlett.

Before coming to Troup, Gehrig taught for three years in Jacksonville, Texas with Mike Bullock as the Assistant High School Director. After Jacksonville, Gehrig came to Troup. Since he arrived in Troup, his bands have received numerous 1st division ratings and have been very successful at solo and ensemble and at state solo and ensemble.

While at Stephen F. Austin State University, he studied saxophone with Dr. John Goodall and was under the direction of Fred

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(Class Nominees, continued from Page 5):

J. Allen and Brian Britt. Gehrig was also a member of the Swinging Axes at SFA. Gehrig was awarded the Outstanding Music Graduate Award in 1999, Outstanding Jazz Band Member, received the Charles Hill music scholarship, was inducted into Pi Kappa Lambda (music honor fraternity), and graduated Summa Cum Laude. Gehrig was also on the Dean's List for 3 years and was awarded the Who's Who Outstanding College Student in 1998.

"As 2A representative, I would like to be voice for all the 2A directors in the state as ATSSB works to help students of small schools achieve to their fullest potential."



Stephen Krupicka is currently the band director for Tidehaven ISD in Region 13. Prior to arriving at Tidehaven this Fall, he was the band director for Shiner ISD, a class A district now in Region 18, for three years.

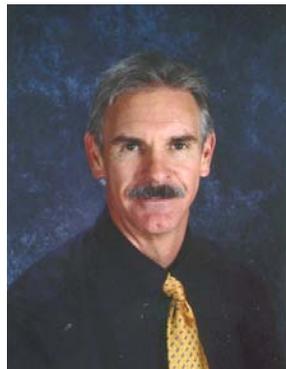
Mr. Krupicka received his Bachelor of Music degree from Texas Tech University in 2003. He is graduate of Georgetown High School where he returned to complete his student teaching under the supervision of Rodney Klett in 2003.

Bands under Mr. Krupicka's direction have performed well at UIL contests. During his three year career in Shiner, notable achievements included three consecutive Sweepstakes awards, attending the Area Marching Contest in 2003 and 2005, and attending the State Marching Contest in 2005 placing 9th in State. The Shiner High School Band was awarded as a TMEA State Honor Band Finalist in 2005 placing 3rd in State, and was awarded as an ATSSB State OPS Finalist in 2004 and 2005 placing as high as 5th in State. Currently, the Tidehaven High School band just completed a *First Division* marching performance at UIL this Fall. Mr. Krupicka has also guided students in individual performances having several students placed as high as the ATSSB All-State Bands and the UIL State Solo & Ensemble Contest.

Mr. Krupicka is a member of the Texas Music Educators Association, the Association of Texas Small School Bands and the Texas Bandmasters Association. He served as a State OPS Judge for the Class AA recordings in 2005. He has also served as a region band coordinator for Region 13 at the Junior High and High School level. In 2005, Mr. Krupicka was named to *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*.

"It is an honor to be nominated for the office of Class AA Representative for the ATSSB State Board. I have greatly enjoyed my career as a small school band director which would not have been possible without the positive support of ATSSB and all it has done for myself and my students. If elected, I will work hard to represent all small schools in a manner that will help them grow stronger in the art of music."

Mr. Krupicka and his wife, Kelly, are the proud parents of two sons; Colby, 3, and Zachary, 2.



David Rollins is seeking the office of AA State Board Representative. He has served as the AA State Board Representative for the last term. He is married to Christy and has two daughters, Dana, a senior trumpet player and past All State Band member, and a freshman

Alto Saxophone player named Carly. He is a graduate of Texas Tech University. He is currently in his 29th year as a Band Director at Denver City. He was the Middle School director for 25 years and has been the head High School Director for the last 4 years. His middle school band received consistent Sweepstakes awards and the High school has continued in its Sweepstakes tradition. In the last 29 years, Denver City Has won the State Marching Contest in AAA four times, Runner up twice and third once. They have won the Texas State Solo Ensemble award in AAA, and have been participants in Honor Band and OPS. Mr. Rollins is a member of ATSSB, TMEA, TBA,

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(Class Nominees, continued from Page 6):

TMAA, Kappa, Kappa Psi, and Phi Beta Mu.

“ I have really enjoyed been a member of this fine organization through the years and hope to continue serving as the AA State Representative. I would appreciate your support.”

President-Elect



Brandon Brewer

is the director of bands at Princeton High School. He and his wife, Lia, have two children, 3-year-old Robert Travis and 18-month-old Sara Elizabeth. He received his B.M.E. Cum Laude from Henderson State University in Arkadelphia, Arkansas in 1993 and has

taught band for thirteen years. His first job was as assistant director in Magnolia, Arkansas, then as head junior high director in Canton for three years, then as director of bands in Grand Saline for two years, followed by his last seven years in Princeton.

His professional affiliations include ATSSB, TMEA, TMAA, NBA, and ATPE. He has served as an ATSSB Region Coordinator for the past six years and was the first ATSSB State Jazz Ensemble Coordinator. He also serves on the Region 25 UIL Executive Committee.

He has been listed in Who's Who Among American Teachers in 2000, 2002, 2004, 2005, and 2006. His Canton junior high band earned that school's first ever Sweepstakes Award and he assisted Canton High School Band in its first trip to the State Marching Contest. His Grand Saline Band also won that school's first ever Sweepstakes Award. His Princeton bands were first runner-up for the 2002 TMEA 3A Honor Band and his bands have placed 7th and 10th at the UIL State Marching Contest in 2002 and 2004.

“During my 14 year career, I have developed many musicians into strong competitors at the region and state levels. My experiences in Princeton have also afforded me the opportunity to manage a large staff, budget, and develop policies to run such a demanding band program on three campuses. My four assistants and I work as a team to present to students and the community, a curriculum and band program that is well grounded in dignity, integrity, discipline, and the ability to work as one organization.

As the ATSSB Region 5 (formerly Region 3/20 Coordinator before 2006 UIL realignment), ATSSB All State Jazz Coordinator, and UIL Region 5 Executive Committee member, I have been able to facilitate communication with peers and administrators. This communication has been necessary to successfully integrate new and standing programs into existing school operations across the region and state. I believe my experience and my work with ATSSB and UIL at the region and state levels qualify me for consideration as your ATSSB President-Elect.”



Paul Nájera is in his sixteenth year as a music educator and currently serves as Director of Instrumental Music for the Carthage Independent School District. Mr. Nájera attended Lamar University where he earned a B.M.Ed. While at Lamar, he was fortunate to have many unique performance

opportunities such as, a performance with the Lamar Trumpet Ensemble, directed by Dr. Raul Ornelas, at the International Trumpet Guild Conference. Another was with the Lamar University Symphonic Band, under the direction of Dr. Barry Johnson, at the College Band Directors

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(President-Elect Nominees, continued from Page 7):

National Association Convention (CBDNA).

Beginning band in the sixth grade under the devoted guidance of Mr. August Haufler, Mr. Nájera gained an immediate respect for the teaching profession. Due to Mr. Haufler's diligence and patience, the goal of becoming a band director was realized. His high school band directors, Mr. Albert Sandoval and Mr. Larry Zoller, were also instrumental in demanding the best from him as a high school student, especially during his two years as Drum Major. Towards the end of completing his degree, Mr. Nájera was blessed with the opportunity to student teach in the Hardin-Jefferson School District, under the direction of Miss. Diane Baker and Mr. Ross Boothman. Miss. Baker's realistic approaches to teaching, as well as her professional relationship with her students were especially influential to Mr. Nájera and his goals. Both in college and still currently, Mr. Waymon Bullock continues to be an invaluable source of support and "mentorship" to Mr. Nájera.

Mr. Nájera's bands have consistently earned First Division ratings and Sweepstakes Awards at UIL Marching and Concert/Sightreading Contests. They have also competed in the Area levels of UIL Marching Contest, TMEA Honor Band Competition, and ATSSB OPS Competition. His students are also been competitive in TMEA & ATSSB tryouts on the Region, Area, and All-State levels. Along with these events, Mr. Nájera's students have also been successful at UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest throughout the years.

In his years at Lufkin High School, his bands traveled, performed, and competed in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, Orlando, Florida, The Bahamas, Nassau, and New York City. This spring, his Carthage Band will compete onboard a cruise ship on the way to Cozumel, Mexico.

Mr. Nájera has been selected twice for the National "Who's Who Among American Teachers" publication. He is currently in his fifth year as Vice-President for Region 21 and also serves on the State Board for the Texas Music Educators Association. He serves as President-Elect for the National Association of Military Marching Bands. One of Mr. Nájera's proudest professional moments was when he was honored in February of 2006 and was inducted into Phi Beta Mu, an International Honorary Bandmasters Fraternity.

Mr. Nájera's professional affiliations include TMEA, TBA, ATSSB, NAMMB, ATPE, and Phi Beta Mu.

Mr. Nájera has taught in the Kirbyville, Longview, Lufkin, and Carthage School Districts. He has been happily married for fifteen years to his beautiful wife Johjania, Principal at Carthage Primary. They have two sons, Adiel, 10, and Johniel, 4. They are members of the St. Williams Catholic Church in Carthage.

"ATSSB is such an extraordinary organization. I am humbled to be nominated for the position of President-Elect. It is thrilling to be involved in an organization that continues to make progress while honoring and learning from its modest beginnings. For us to keep ATSSB in the forefront of music education in Texas, I look forward to continuing to work with the many talented band directors of ATSSB. Both our experienced and younger directors all have much to offer our association at all levels. I am anxious to work with both equally.

Once again, I respectfully thank you for the honor of this nomination. To our current and past ATSSB officers, thank you for your tireless efforts. As with our bands, it takes courageous leadership to succeed. Together we can continue to focus on what is best for our students."



Robert "Bob" Vetter is in his twenty-eighth year of Texas band directing. For the past twenty-four years, he has been Director of Bands for Reagan County Independent School District in Big Lake. He holds a Bachelor of Music and a Master of Music Education

from the University of North Texas. Prior to 1983, he taught for four years at White Deer High School.

Under his direction, the Reagan County Bands have consistently received top ratings in UIL Music Competition. The Reagan County High School Band has appeared at the Texas UIL State

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(President-Elect Nominees, continued from Page 8):

Marching Contest on three different occasions. In 2001, they placed fourth in the finals in class 2-A. The RC Band has been a finalist for the TMEA Honor Band Competition and has had several tunes make it to the State Level in the Outstanding Performance Series. During Robert's tenure, the RC Band has performed at the UIL State Wind Ensemble numerous times and has had several students named "Outstanding Soloist."

Throughout the history of ATSSB, the Reagan County HS Band has had thirty students earn All State Honors. Robert has had one student earn All State four years and two students who earned the honor three years. This year Reagan County has another student eligible for the four-year award and another eligible for the three-year award.

For the past six years, Robert served as the ATSSB Region 7 Coordinator and for the past five years, he served as the Area Central Coordinator. He no longer serves in these capacities because UIL has realigned Reagan County into Region 6.

Robert is a member of the Texas Music Educators Association, the Texas Bandmasters

Association, Phi Beta Mu, the Texas Music Adjudicators Association, and he is a Charter Member of the Association of Texas Small School Bands. He is an active member and deacon of First Baptist Church, Big Lake. Robert is a Past-President of the Reagan County Lions Club. In 2002, he was selected as the Outstanding UIL Sponsor for Reagan County High School. Currently, Robert plays trombone in the West Texas Jazz Orchestra, a group that includes several area band directors. The WTJO performs for different occasions throughout the year. Robert loves the outdoors. He and his family have made numerous camping trips to such destinations as Yellowstone National Park and the Grand Canyon. He also loves to hunt and to ride bikes.

Robert is married to Leeann Vetter who teaches third grade in Big Lake. Robert and Leeann are the parents of twin daughters, Allison and Ashton, age seventeen, both members of the ATSSB All State Band. They also have a son, Austin, who is eight years old and a future member of the ATSSB All State Band!

Would you like a **free room**

for three nights at the Emily Morgan Hotel during the All-State clinic?
Contact Mike Barnes at Spring Hill High School at (903) 323-7735 or email him at

mbarnes@springhill.esc7.net

All you have to do is monitor one or two floors to see that our all-state students are safe in the hotel. Your days are free to enjoy the exhibits, clinics and concerts
You can share the room (and duty) with others if you wish.

So give Mike a call or email as soon as possible.

ATSSB at TMEA

Wednesday, February 14, 2007

*All-State student meeting 6:30 PM at Scottish Rite

Thursday, February 15, 2007

*ATSSB State Board of Directors meeting at 7:30 AM in the Menger Renaissance Room

*ATSSB General Session and officer election 12:30 PM - Convention Center CC1

*ATSSB-sponsored clinic by John Mize

“Dealing With Administrators and Budgets in Small Schools” at 3:15 PM in the Convention Center

Friday, February 16, 2007

ATSSB-sponsored clinic by Don Thoede

“Common Sense: How to Make a Better-sounding Band” at 6:30 PM in the Convention Center

Saturday, February 17, 2007

ATSSB All-State Concert beginning at 11:00 AM (open to the public with no admission charge)

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These companies have paid a fee and contribute a portion of their proceeds to the Scholarship Fund

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