

ATSSB NEWSLETTER



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ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS
Beginning our 24th year of service to small school bands in Texas
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President's Column

by John Young



Another year has come to an end and I hope that after you have had time to step back from it, you have found that you had many successful moments to be proud of. Not just ratings or awards but that you were able to touch a child's life and make a difference. You were able to grow as an educator and if needed reignite that passion to teach. I encourage you to take some time for you and your family to get away from the band hall and rest. The time to reflect will give you an understanding of what you accomplished personally and as a program. Look for ways to make rehearsals better and work smarter.

Some of you are moving to new positions. We hope that you are staying in our organization but if you're moving on to a 5A or 6A then we wish you the best of luck. We hope that you will keep in touch with ATSSB. Your focus on our "small school bands" has made us stronger than ever and thank you. If you are retiring then congratulations! I wish I was.

Please make plans to attend TBA in July. They have a great line-up of clinics, concerts and exhibits. The leadership of TBA is especially sensitive to ATSSB concerns and allows us to sponsor clinics as we can. Try to make TBA a part of your summer plans.

A special "Thanks" goes out to all who helped make this year a success. ATSSB is strong because of the great members we have. I am always reminded how great our membership is for when I ask for someone to serve, they always say yes! We have tremendous support from all across the State! TMEA especially has been so generous and supportive in our relationship. We look forward to the future with great support from TMEA and its leadership.

I hope you have a great summer for August will be here sooner than you think.

Sincerely,

President-Elect's Column

by Jim Cude

As I write this I am awaiting my students results at the Texas State Solo & Ensemble Contest at Hendrickson High School. It is an amazing showcase of musical talent in our great state. Thanks to Brad Kent, George Strickland, Patty Esfandiari, and Melinda Strickland for hosting our students and staff during this annual event. It is truly a monumental task and they make it look easy. It is so encouraging to see how strong music programs are in Texas. This is evident by the sheer numbers of students participating in these contests and it is so great to hear the literature that is being played by the students. This contest was the last thing to check off my list of things to finish up the school year. Yes of course I have grades to turn in, inventory to check, and a show to finalize, but this was the final performance for my band this year. The performances have ended for this group of students. All that is left is paperwork to finish this year and begin another. I plan on taking time this week to reflect on the times these students and I enjoyed making music this year. I have had some wonderful experiences in leading and learning from my students this year. I will also miss those students that are graduating, they have given so much to our band program. They have exemplified a great virtue in life, the ability to finish an activity they started seven years ago. In fact they gave me a picture of their class and under the picture it reads "we finished strong". This week as I finish the necessary paperwork, I plan on reflecting on my students and the performances that we enjoyed.



I encourage you to reflect on your year and think about what worked and what didn't, the wonderful musical moments and the wonderful students that you had in your band hall this year. I am so thankful for the blessings of these students and look forward to what the coming year brings. Have a great summer and take some time to do nothing!

Executive Secretary's Column

by Kenneth L. Griffin



Your membership expires on September 1. Please take a minute to look over your data as posted in the Directory online: <http://www.atssb.org>. and click on the DIRECTORY 2014-15 link in the left sidebar. If your STATUS is CURRENT, you are paid for 2014-15. Make a note of any corrections - especially if a category is blank - and fill out the application in this Newsletter with the changes (you need only list name and school and any changes - we already have the other posted data in the database) and put it aside for payment when your school budget year

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(Griffin, continued from Page 3):

begins - or go ahead and send in the check now while you are thinking about it. The State Board voted to increase dues to \$50 beginning this next year, but remember that after October 1, the dues increase to \$75 unless you are joining as an Associate Member or College Division Member (everything is the same, you just cannot run for office, vote, or enter students in any ATSSB competition). Retirees who retire as an Active Member retain their Active Membership but dues are reduced to \$25 per year. A cover page showing your ATSSB and TMEA membership card must be sent with the initial entry forms for the first audition entered (ATSSB or TMEA). Don't forget that if you enter students in the Jazz Ensemble competitions that audition deadlines are EARLY, so get your ATSSB and TMEA dues taken care of as soon as possible. I email a copy of your card as soon as I receive payment of dues, so be sure we have an accurate email address for you and that your school does not block mail from this office (attachments trigger spamguards, so make sure we are allowed). Don't forget, most schools have new classifications this year due to the UIL renaming Classes 2A-5A to Class 3A-6A (Class 1A was split into 1A and 2A). Check the classification by your school name to be sure it is accurate. If there is a discrepancy, be sure to let us know as soon as possible.

In your fall region meetings, you need to nominate a Class 3A Representative to the State Board of Directors and a President-Elect. The election will be held at the General Session tentatively scheduled for Thursday, February 12, 2015, at 3:30 p.m. in Room 202 of the Convention Center. After nominees have accepted their nominations, their pictures and biographies (if submitted) will appear in the online December Newsletter, so keep an eye out for that issue. Please get involved in the district, region, and area activities of ATSSB - and seek state office if you would like to serve at that level. It is a lot of work, requires a lot of time and effort, and entails constant contact with fellow officers, but the end results are very worthwhile (and obviously beneficial to our students and ATSSB in general).

The Prescribed Audition List Update (Use Year D) is now available online: <http://www.atssb.org/execsec/YearDUpdate.15.pdf>. We do not mail a copy of the Update to all high school band directors and members with the September Newsletter (the ATSSB Website is the official document of ATSSB). The September Newsletter will be mailed, but only to include a free copy of the 2014 OPS winners CD as a reference tool for our directors. All Newsletters are now available online as a pdf file. If you have lost or misplaced your PAL, you will have to download the page(s) you need from the Website.

This coming year, Michael Haitcock (University of Michigan) will be the clinician for the Symphonic Band. The Symphonic Band will premier a piece by Randall Standridge, commissioned by ATSSB. Robert Washut (Professor of Jazz Studies at the University of Northern Iowa) will be the clinician for the Jazz Ensemble. Dr. Eric Hammer (University of the Pacific at Stockton, California) will be the Concert Band clinician.

Fred Angerstien of the Kinkaid School has secured instructors for short clinics regarding the ATSSB audition etudes at TBA. These clinics will be given on Monday, July 28:

CC Room 210

9:00 a.m.

Percussion - Clinician: John Rice, Professional Musician

9:30 a.m.

Flute - Clinician: Kathy Daniel, Sam Houston State University

10:00 a.m.

Clarinet - Clinician: Tricia Card, Sam Houston State University

10:30 a.m.

Bassoon - Clinician: Nathan Koch, Sam Houston State University

CC Room 212

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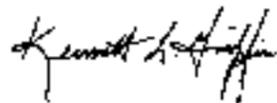
(Griffin, continued from Page 3):

10:30 a.m. Oboe - Clinician: Serena Rowe, Sam Houston State University
CC Room 213
10:30 a.m. Bass Clarinet - Clinician: Nancy Angerstein, Lee College
CC Room: 210
1:00 p.m. Saxophone - Clinician: Dr. Scott Plugge, Sam Houston State
1:30 p.m. Trombone - Clinician: Ben Osborne, Sam Houston State
2:00 p.m. Euphonium/Tuba - Clinician: Robert Daniel, Sam Houston State
2:30 p.m. French Horn - Clinician: Peggy DeMers, Sam Houston State
CC Room 213
2:30 p.m. Trumpet - Clinician: Randy Adams, Sam Houston State

There will be an ATSSB State Board of Directors meeting at 12:30 p.m. in the Minuet Room of the Menger Hotel on Monday, July 28. Your board includes all elected state officers, all Region Coordinators, all Founding Charter Members, Past-Presidents, and invited guests. If you would like to have input on matters relating to ATSSB State Board of Director activities, I would suggest calling or writing your Region Coordinator (or any state officer) and telling them of your concerns so they can advise the full Board.

We will have our ATSSB General Session at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 29 in the Convention Center (tentatively scheduled for CC210). Please make plans to attend if you will be at TBA. This will be an informational meeting at which issues impacting ATSSB will be discussed.

I hope to be able to visit with a lot of you at TBA at the ATSSB table in the Registration Area. Please note the times the ATSSB table will be open for you to stop by. Good luck as you begin another year with your students, especially if you are at a new school (be sure to let us know your new address).



Class 3A Representative's Column by Russ Rutherford



Greetings to ATSSB members and supporters. I would like to thank the membership for allowing me this wonderful opportunity to serve our great organization. I have always been proud of ATSSB, and the fact that we strive so diligently to keep our focus where it needs to be – on our students. I was just visiting a few weeks ago with a director who moved from a larger school into a small school, and was given his first opportunity to participate in ATSSB. After a few years, his new school grew to the point where they were no longer an ATSSB school. It wonderful to hear his testimony about the fact that although he enjoyed where he was, he missed the ATSSB atmosphere, both among the students, and especially among the directors.

I truly hope to do my part in both maintaining the best parts of what makes ATSSB what it is, and exploring ways to help to move it forward in such a rapidly changing age. I stand ready at any time to be of assistance where I can.

Have a great summer, everyone, and let's charge forward. Brandon, I think there are some largemouth bass and some sandies that need the opportunity to get into the boat with us!



Outstanding Performance Series

by Don Thoede, OPS State Chair

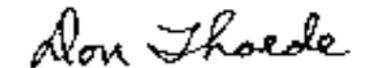


I have received information from several Designated Region Coordinators listing the bands that have advanced from Region to Area. In a few days, all Designated Region Coordinators should have shipped all advancing CDs to the Designated Area Coordinators. I want to congratulate the directors of those schools who have advanced and wish all of you good luck at the Area and State levels of the 2014 OPS competition.

It appears that the schedule and room assignments for the 2014 OPS State Adjudication at TBA will be the same as last year. We will begin with a judges and monitors meeting at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday, July 27, 2014, in room CC212. The adjudication sessions will begin in all rooms at 8:30 a.m. The Class C and AA bands will be heard in room CC004, beginning with Class C and the AA bands immediately following. The Class CC and

Class A bands will be heard in room CC005, and the Class AAA bands will be heard in room CC212. The SARC Committee meeting will immediately follow the Class AAA band adjudication session in room CC212. The OPS office will be in room CC1067. The sessions are open to the public, and I strongly encourage the ATSSB membership to attend. Programs will be provided. You will hear some very fine performances of our UIL literature by some very fine ATSSB bands. I hope to see you there!

As in past years, immediately after the Area adjudications, I will be calling band directors to ask them to serve as judges or monitors at the State adjudication at TBA. We will use five panels of five judges each with one monitor for each panel. All judges and monitors will receive a \$75.00 honorarium. I hope you all have a nice summer, and I hope to see you in July at TBA.

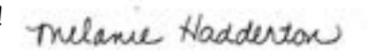


Class 2A Representative's Column by Mel Hadderton

It is hard to believe that another year has already past, but summer here we come! In looking back over this year one of the highlights for our 2A students (soon to be 3A students) was undoubtedly the 1A-2A All State Band. I'm certain you all felt the same pride that I did when not only hearing their performance, but watching them during their rehearsals. It was a fantastic beginning to what will be yet another fine all-state ensemble. Thanks to all of you for encouraging your students to audition for our Region bands and I look forward to record numbers next year!

The next few weeks give us a much needed opportunity to recharge our drained batteries! Do yourself, your students and your families a favor.... LEAVE THE BAND HALL!! Make you and your families the only priority at least for a little while. In doing so, everyone will benefit, most of all YOU.

It is a pleasure to serve my fellow 2A directors. Please know that I am available to you at all times and enjoy doing what I can to protect the most wonderful organization I have been a part of - ATSSB. Have a relaxing summer and let's look forward to great things next year!



Class 1A Representative's Column

by Carroll Rhodes



Well, congratulations, you have survived another exciting year as a 1A-2A director. There is nothing quite like being a director in a small town where literally "everyone knows your name." Most of the time, it is a blessing, but there may have been times when it would be nice if they did not. Having taught 19 years at the same school, I can say truthfully say that it has been a blessing in so many positive ways. I am now privileged to teach the kids of my kids.

If you are a "piler" like I am, it is time to go through those piles and throw away 90 % of it and file what is left. Do it now so that you have a clean, organized office to come back to in July. After you have cleaned the Mt. Everest of piles and left the office "clean," take a vacation away from the band hall. I know there are summer ms and hs band camps, but after you have completed those you need to get away and have some "me time." That is the only way you can come back refreshed and excited about the new coming year. I am preaching to myself here as well as I live at the band hall.

Your students and mine deserve to have a vibrant, enthusiastic teacher this fall.

We are all eagerly awaiting to see what UIL is going to recommend for small school marching bands. The committee that Dr. Kent has organized to look at UIL marching contests and the resolutions that have come from the regions offer a wide possibility of exciting possibilities. I appreciate Dr. Kent's openness to take a new look a good system and see about making it even better. Let the state UIL music know what you want to happen.

Now go home, put on those shorts, sunglasses, crocs, and RELAX!

Carroll Rhodes

ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS 2014-15 Membership Application

Please type or LEGIBLY print! We want to have accurate information for our Directory and mailing list.
If this is a membership renewal, only enter name and school and ANYTHING THAT HAS CHANGED.

NAME _____ Last four SS# _____
 SCHOOL _____ CLASS _____ REGION # _____
 TITLE _____ SCHOOL PHONE () _____ Best time to call _____
 If a public middle or junior high school, what high school does your school feed? _____
 How many directors are on the band staff in your ISD? _____ New to this region? _____
 SCHOOL ADDRESS _____ FAX # () _____
 CITY & ZIP CODE _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____
 HOME ADDRESS _____ PHONE () _____
 CITY & ZIP CODE (if different from school) _____ CELL # () _____
 MAJOR INSTRUMENT(S) _____

Until October 1, mail this completed form and \$50* for dues to:

ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS
 Kenneth L. Griffin, Executive Secretary
 2117 Morse Street
 Houston, Texas 77019

Are you a judge listed with the Texas Music Adjudicators Association? If so, please circle your area of certification:
 CB MB O (add * if supplemental)

I would also like to donate \$_____ to the ATSSB All-State Band Scholarship Fund.

Dues may not be deductible, but any amount over \$50 is considered a fully-deductible contribution.

I would also like to donate \$_____ to the Bruce Kenner Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Donations to this scholarship are fully deductible.

***NOTE:** The membership year runs from September 1 to August 31. After October 1, Regular Member dues increase to \$75 (the additional \$25 is deposited into the ATSSB All-State Band Scholarship Fund). A membership card and receipt will be returned to you via email, so make sure you have a valid email address. Associate Member dues are \$50 all year, so anyone may join as an Associate Member after October 1 for \$50. To enter students into competition leading to membership in an ATSSB All-State Band, you must be a current Active Member of the Texas Music Educators Association in addition to ATSSB. Retired Members dues are \$25. Only ATSSB Active Members may vote or hold office in ATSSB and submit entries in the Outstanding Performance Series. ATSSB membership is held on an individual basis and is nontransferable.

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