

ATSSB NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE
ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS

VOL. 3 NO. 1
JULY, 1993



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

MR. FRED PANKRATZ

I hope this issue of the *NEWSLETTER* finds you relaxing and recharging for the coming year. With all the questions facing education and the implications for our band programs, it is easy to have a less than positive attitude about the future. Our students however, are counting on us for positive leadership and inspiration while making music. Take some time and engage in your favorite form of leisure and get those batteries in shape for a super year.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find an agenda for the State Board Meeting on Friday, 7:00 AM, at the Marriot Riverwalk Travis Room. As an individual member, review this agenda and make sure that your region coordinator knows how to vote on each issue. We will also have a general membership meeting on Friday, July 30 in the Convention Center - see your TBA program for the exact room. Your attendance and input are important to our organization. This agenda for the future growth of **ATSSB** is made by you, expressing ideas to your region or state officers. Every idea is discussed and weighed by the State Board. If you have any ideas for

ATSSB talk to one of us.

As a membership, we must do a better job of responding. John Gibson received only 6 responses to the survey sent to 486 members. This is one way we can help you and provide a voice, but we must have more participation to learn and organize information about our programs. Give us some help. Your participation in region meetings and state meetings is also necessary. Come to the TBA and TMEA conventions and show up at your region meetings.

Have a good remainder of summer break. I look forward to seeing and visiting with you at TBA.

Texas
Bandmasters
Association
Convention

JULY 28-31

**SAN
ANTONIO**

VICE- PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

MR. JOHN GIBSON

July 1st. Is it possible that the month of June has already passed? I know many of you are asking yourself the same thing. Am I really sitting here typing this letter to my students announcing plans for summer band '93? Do I believe that preparations for the trip to San Antonio are actually being made? Do you remember saying to yourself, "If I can just make it through the month of May, when summer comes I can recharge"? Well it is time. I hope your annual trek to TBA will be as fruitful as possible, either as that last taste of summer or first taste of the new school year or both.

Please continue to COMMUNICATE with your region coordinator, your State Board, and with your administrators. Remember that your region coordinator is your direct link to making improvements in our association. He/She asked for your input this spring on several items to be discussed and acted on at the State Board meeting during TBA. It is not too late to make contact to express your thoughts. Some of the items will be approved, some will not, but all will be given serious consideration.

Your State Board has undertaken projects which need communication from you as well. In addition to those surveys, feel free to call or write with your concerns, ideas for the member-

ship or just a quick hello now and then.

Communication with administrators is important now more than ever. HB 7 has put most of us in a place of uncertainty. Now would be a good time to put forth your best qualities of patience, cooperation, and concern. Some of us are facing cutbacks, either in staff, budget or both. Your administrators would probably appreciate your "grace under pressure" as we all work through this difficult time.

For those of you with questions on the constitutional amendment concerning the changing of the office of Vice-President to President Elect, here are some thoughts. The change should not go into effect until the current term of Vice-President ends. At that time the membership would choose the President-Elect and a new President. I know there will be several qualified candidates for both positions at that time.

And finally, remember that YOU are the key to success in your program. How do you react to your band students who are TEAM players no matter what the circumstances? Are there students in your band who make teaching worthwhile? Have they sold you on the idea that they can do a great job, no matter how difficult the task? Now would be a good time to be that TEAM player with respect to what we will be asked to do under less than ideal conditions. You might be surprised how your administrators react. Keep up the good work!!

Brass All-State Books

Trumpet and Treble Clef
Baritone - Selected Studies for
Cornet/Trumpet: Voxman/
Rubank

French Horn - Sixty Selected
Studies for French Horn:
Kopprasch/Kalmus

Trombone - Selected Studies
for Trombone: Voxman/
Rubank

Bass Trombone - 20 Etudes for
Bass Trombone: Gillis/South-
ern

Baritone Bass Clef - Selected
Studies for Baritone: Boxman/
Rubank

Tuba - 24 Melodious Etudes for
Tuba: Vasiliev/King

General Membership Meeting

Friday, July 30

2:00 PM

Convention Center

Executive Secretary's Column

Mr. Kenneth Griffin

It has been my pleasure to visit with so many of you over the past two years about your bands - and about how ATSSB has helped each of you in so many different ways. I am always impressed by your suggestions for improvement - we think we are doing things right and accomplishing so much, and then you come up with these really great ways of making them even better! Keep coming up with these suggestions, and give them to your Region Coordinator who can bring them to fruition through the State Board of Directors.

I'd like to take a moment to apologize to John Gibson and Jennifer Willison for the May **Newsletter**. Jennifer usually gets it right, then prints it up for mailing. But I was in such a rush to get the packet which contained it off to the membership that, after I told John I would print it up, I did not look closely at the copy he sent me. He had proofed the draft and sent it to Jennifer for final draft - but I took his copy and printed up the **NEWSLETTER** with it instead of the corrected originals Jennifer sent me later! I hope you were able to get by all of the little marks and that you enjoyed the articles as much as I!

Don't forget to pay your dues before you enter students in ATSSB auditions - the entry will be returned if you do not enclose

a copy of your membership card! Membership renewals for 1994 were sent to you in May. If you needed to wait until this budget year to pay your dues, remember to request payment be sent. If you have lost your renewal form, just cut a check for the dues (\$25) and mail it to me (let me know of any changes in address, etc. - also let me know your major instruments for our database).

This coming year should prove very exciting for ATSSB in that we have commissioned a new work for band by our All-State clinician, Jared Spears! The piece will be premiered at the concert at noon on Saturday, February 12, so make plans to attend!

I hope a lot of you can come by our table at TBA to pick your Prescribed Music List for auditions for 1993-94. The music will be taken for the books that were used last year (see list in this issue). If you don't get a chance to come to TBA, I will mail a copy of the Prescribed Music List to every paid member August 1 that did not pick one up at TBA, and then will a copy with membership cards as directors join during the year. We have our **ATSSB General Session at 2:00 PM on Friday, July 30 in the Convention Center** (see program for specific meeting rooms). **Please make plans to attend if you will be at TBA.**

I hope to be able to visit with many of you at TBA. 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!).

Woodwind and Percussion All-State Books

Flute - Selected Studies for Flute:
Voxman/Rubank

Oboe - 48 Famous Studies: Ferling,
revised Albert Andraud/Southern
Music Co.

Bassoon - Studies for Bassoon:
Weissenborn, edited by Kovar/
International

Bb Clarinet - Artistic Studies, Book I
from the French School: Hite/
Southern

Eb Alto, Bb Bass, Eb Contra and Bb
Contra Clarinet - Advanced Studies
for the Works of Julius Weissenborn:
Adapted by William Rhodes/Southern
Music Co.

Saxophones - 48 Famous Studies:
Ferling, revised Albert Andraud/
Southern Music Co.

Percussion I Snare Drum - Recital
Solos for Snare Drum: Garwood
Whaley/Merideth Music Co.

Percussion II Mallets - Modern
School for Sylophone, Marimba and
Vibraphone: Morris Goldenberg/
Chappell

Timpani - Modern Method for
Timpani: Garwood Whaley/Merideth
Music Co.

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An adult asks questions
because he wants to
do something with
the answers;
children ask questions
and want to know just
because they want
to know.

--M. Dale Baughman

STATE BOARD MEETING AGENDA

- I. Invocation
- II. Reading and approval of minutes
- III. President's report
- IV. Executive Secretary's Report
- V. Old Business

- A. Constitution Changes

- 1. Change active membership to include Junior High and Middle School Directors who feed A, AA, and AAA high schools.

Article III - Active - A current director, assistant director of a class A, AA, or AAA high school or current director of a Junior High/Middle School whose students feed a class A, AA, or AAA High School in Texas as defined by the University Interscholastic League.

- 2. Change the office of Vice-President to President Elect with no change in duties

Article V - The President Elect shall assume office in the manner prescribed in the bylaws. The President Elect shall be an active member. The President Elect shall be in charge of formulating, editing, printing and distributing the ATSSB NEWSLETTER, the official publication of the Association.

- 3. Add to the State Government an At-Large representative for each High School classification elected by the members of that class.

Article V - Section 5 - One active member from each High School Class (A,AA,AAA) shall be elected by the members who are directors in that class to serve as an At-Large Representative of that class to the State Board.

By-Laws - The At-Large Representative shall serve a two year term. The term shall begin immediately upon election and last until a successor is elected. The general membership of each class shall elect an At-Large Representative for that class to serve on the State Board. This election shall be held in even numbered years.

- VI. Items for Discussion

- A. Paid position for Executive Secretary
- B. Paid position for Newsletter Editor
- C. Sponsor Clinics at TMEA?
- D. Sponsor Clinics at TBA?
- E. Scheduled exhibit time for All-State Band. Use All-State clinician for a workshop?
- F. Eliminate taping at the Area Level?
- G. Take 2 to All-State of those instruments where only 1 from each area is selected?
- H. All-State Jazz Group?

- VII. Items being addressed

- A. Check-in procedures at the Emily Morgan
- B. Print rehearsal schedule in the Newsletter
- C. More rooms - panels for seating auditions
- D. CD's of the concert

FROM THE EDITOR: Fred Pankratz and I first came to know Fran Kick while at Band Camp at Southwestern Oklahoma State University in Weatherford, OK. The camp was looking for something to present to the students in the way of "good attitude" training and, as we all know, Dr. Tim Lützenhiser is booked for the next century. Dr. Tim recommended Fran Kick to the camp and he has done sessions at the camp for the last two years. He is great with kids and we all need a little different way of looking at things sometimes. Fran has agreed to be a contributing author to our newsletter and I hope you enjoy his series of articles. If you have any further ideas for articles or contributing authors, let me know!!!!, and send them to Jennifer Willison, 800 Hillside, Canadian, TX, 79014. Thanks!!!

Giving Positive Attention in a Negative World!

Watering the flowers instead of the weeds! By: Fran Kick

If I offered you \$2000.00 to open a classroom door, would you do it? YOU BET! and you would probably come back and offer to open a window for \$500.00! But what if I pulled out a gun and told you to open the door or I'd blow your brains out, would you do it? YOU BET! except you would probably leave the room very fast and not come back.

Positive vs. negative attention. In this scenario there is no contest as to which is better. We can argue which is more immediate, depending on the individual. We could debate which will last longer, depending on the frequency of its use. However the one thing we could most definitely agree on is that there are more examples of negative attention given in our world today than positive. Supposedly in 1990, the three major networks covered more murders on national news than any other year in the history of television. In 1991 we had more murders than any other year in the history of the U.S.! Could it be that the more attention we give the negative, the more negative we get?

In her book, "DON'T SHOOT THE DOG!", Karen Pryor talks about reinforcing behavior with attention. She states that, "reinforcement is anything which, occurring in conjunction with an act, tends to increase the probability that the act will occur again." If that is the case then we are positively reinforcing negative behavior to occur again with attention!

At an early age in life, we get lots of attention for positive things. Babies are hard to be negative with because we say they're "so cute, isn't she precious, good baby, what a beautiful baby,..." But as we get older the world starts generating more attention for negative things upon us. In a class, Sally Smith, just paying attention, doing her work quietly, not disturbing, very polite, etc., do we give her any attention for her behavior? NO. Now, if John Smith throws a spit wad in class and just misses the teacher, will he get attention? YES! In fact, in some classes he would get a standing ovation from his peers - the ultimate of attention getting. And the teacher will probably publicly announce his name very loudly (so everyone will know who did it) and give him exactly what he wanted in the first place - an excuse to leave the class.

That attention to John Smith is very reinforcing and the punishment (leaving the class) is actually a reward for John. We tend to give more attention to the negative things in our classroom, our schools, our world, and our lives; than we do to the positive things; and wonder why more positive things don't happen than negative things. We are watering the weeds instead of the flowers. We need to be watering the flowers instead of the weeds.

ATSSB SURVEY RESULTS
June, 1993

The information reported below is the AVERAGE of all responses, separated by class of school. Unfortunately, there were only 52 responses from our 491 schools, so read the information with that in mind. It might at least give you some idea of how you compare with those other schools in your class

	CLASS A	CLASS AA	CLASS AAA
DIRECTOR'S YEARS EXPERIENCE	15	18	17
CAREER LADDER LEVEL (if on it)	2.0	2.3	2.5
# DAYS BEFORE SCHOOL OF SUMMER BAND	10	9	12
TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN HS	112	206	477
NUMBER IN HS MARCHING BAND	71	66	86
# TWIRLERS (if used)	2	4	3
# FLAGS (if used)	7	8	11
# RIFLES (if used)	0	6	6
# IN TOP CONCERT BAND	71	60	75
# IN CONCERT BAND #2 (if used)	0	65	58
TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN JH	78	105	303
NUMBER IN JH BAND #1	47	48	55
NUMBER IN JH BAND #2 (if used)	0	41	61
# IN INTERMEDIATE BAND (if used)	44	42	73
GRADE OF BEGINNERS	5.3	5.5	5.8
NUMBER IN BEGINNER BAND	36	45	73
NUMBER OF BAND DIRECTORS	1.3	1.4	2.2
NUMBER OF CHOIR DIRECTORS	0	.75	.95
NUMBER OF ELEMENTARY MUSIC TEACHERS	1	1.25	1.56
AMOUNT RAISED BY BOOSTER CLUB	\$3918	\$4443	\$8789
AMOUNT RAISED BY STUDENTS	\$2700	\$2880	\$4563
LOCAL SUPPLEMENT	\$3173	\$1697	\$1455
HS BAND SUPPLEMENT (above local)	\$4969	\$4086	\$5914
ASST BAND SUPPLEMENT (above local)	\$2400	\$2471	\$2428
3RD DIR. SUPPLEMENT (if used)	D	0	\$2538
TOTAL BAND BUDGET	\$25786	\$24538	\$38236
CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$9286	\$11275	\$12068
REPAIR	\$4888	\$3736	\$6258
SUPPLIES	\$6750	\$3486	\$6288