



ATSSB NEWSLETTER

Official Publication of the Association of Texas Small School Bands
Volume V, Number 1
July, 1995

President's Column by Don Stockton

No matter how down we get, we must remember how fortunate that we are as Texas Bandmasters. Not long ago, I participated in the Sousa Foundation National Honors Band. My students were complaining that the level of musicianship in the band was low compared to other honor bands in which they have participated. I got to see a cross section of American high school musicians and have come to the conclusion that we in Texas are very fortunate to have the support to be able to produce such fine musicians. TMEA, TBA and ATSSB surely have their place in helping generate this support. Our music organizations have one common goal in mind - to encourage the quality of music education available to the children of our state. Your support and involvement in ATSSB is a contribution to that end. Keep up the marvelous work.

Summer is here and it is time to do a little planning. After taking inventory, making a budget and doing those endless details in order to get ready for fall, I would like to suggest a strategy that works for me. If you are not incorporating a methodical approach to teaching individuals, start asking questions and find one that fits your personality. I am referring to some type of program that gauges each student's individual progress as he matures in band. Many years ago I was faced with justifying grades in Band class. I wanted this grade to be as objective as possible knowing we are working in a very subjective climate. I did not feel comfortable with giving grades based on attendance as we did in college. I first tried using the outline published for the Fussell Exercises for Ensemble Drill. I used this outline on which to base part of the grade. It also gave me a real good idea of who was practicing and who was not. Later, Jim Hudgins told me about the Prescott system. I realized that this was much better than

the Fussell book. I have taken this method and modified it to suit my own personality and situation. I am not trying to say that Prescott is the method that is best for everyone, it just works for me. If you do not have a system to verify the individual improvement of students, consider finding one this summer.

Speaking of dramatic results, I would like to encourage you to attend the clinic that ATSSB is sponsoring at TBA. The title of this clinic is "Panel Discussion With Texas State Solo-Ensemble Contest Sweepstakes Winners". Robert Littlefield, Jesse Lotspeich and Manuel Martinez are the panelists and each has won this UIL state championship award in class A, AA or AAA. Visit this clinic and I will assure you that you will pick up some interesting tidbits on better preparing musicians in your band. The clinic is Monday, July 24, at 3:30 p.m. in Room 108 of the convention center. I'm sure that some did not know that the state solo contest awards a (GREAT BIG) trophy for the one school in each class which scores the most points. Come to our clinic for more details.

Each region in the fall meetings needs to nominate representatives at large to serve on the State Board of Directors. Our present representatives are Rodney Bennett (Munday, class A), Elmer Schenk (Howe, class AA), and Ben Hoaldrige (Graham, class AAA). Your region's nominations can be from any other region and the deadline for nominations to reach the Executive Secretary is October 1. The membership will vote by class for these representatives at the General Session in February (class A directors will vote for class A Representative, class AA directors will vote for class AA Representative, and class AAA directors will vote for class AAA Representative).

I hope you all find a winning combination for next year and will see you at TBA.



President-Elect's Column
by Ronnie Page

Placing a modern portable electronic device in a charger to replenish the energy in the nicad battery is the equivalent of putting a teacher on summer leave. Without the "recharge" neither would be fit for use! I hope each of you has had the opportunity to spin the opposite direction for a few weeks to unwind those tense nerves wound tighter and tighter since this prior August. If you have not done this - stop and enjoy the world. You, your family, and your students this fall will all be rewarded.

The largest responsibility of the Vice-President has been to chair the SARC (State Audition Review Committee). This has fallen to the President-Elect now that the office of Vice-President no longer exists.

By mandate of the State Board of Directors, we are to develop a five-year list of audition etudes. The SARC will be working to finalize that list to present at the State Board meeting in February for implementation in 1996-97. The SARC, under the capable leadership of Bryant Harris, provided us with a fifth complete year of tryout material for 1995-96.

We will now scrutinize all five sets of music to equalize the material for each instrument as to length and difficulty year to year. Any known concerns with any of the etudes used in the past will be addressed. Our goal is to provide adequate material for all five years from the

same book, and where possible assign the same etude to several different instruments for group teaching. Both of these are concerns to small schools with limited budgets and staff.

Kenneth Griffin has generated a good list of known errata for the first four years' selections. Each of you will undoubtedly discover some in this year's tryout material. Please help us by notifying me, Kenneth, or any member of the committee as soon as you spot something. We will attempt to publish a complete and unblemished prescribed list for permanent use, accompanied by a complete listing of errata.

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Known errata for the 1995-96
Prescribed Music List:

LOW CLARINETS

p. 1, #2. 3rd line, 4th measure, 3rd note **G** should be **A**; 3rd line, 5th measure, 3rd note **F** should be **E**.

TROMBONE

p. 14. 7th line, 1st measure, 2nd note **E_f** should be **F**.

BARITONE TREBLE CLEF

p. 19 (F minor by Gatti) should be p. 17 (F minor by Gatti).

TUBA

(name of book is *24 Melodious Studies for Tuba*). p. 21, #4 should be p. 21, #14.

SARC Committee members for 1995-96 are listed below. If you would like to send Ronnie Page a message on-line (rpage@tenet.edu), feel free to do so. Please look up telephones and addresses of the committee below in your Directory:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>INSTRUMENT</u>
Ronnie Page	Overton HS	flute
Rodney Bennett	Munday HS	oboe/bassoon
George Strickland	Glen Rose HS	clarinet
Dennis Teasdale	Jim Ned HS	low clarinet
Gary Wells	Hamshire-Fannett HS	saxophone
Mark Melton	Union Grove HS	trumpet
Fred Pankratz	Canadian HS	french horn
David Smith	Banquete HS	trombone/bass trombone
Bryant Harris	Sundown HS	baritone
John Canfield	Rusk JH	tuba
Robert Garza	Rio Hondo HS	percussion



Executive Secretary's Column
by Kenneth L. Griffin

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 1996 are enclosed with this Newsletter (note the additional information requested: your email address on TENET and/or any of the networks like America On Line or CompuServe. If you lose this 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 and your email address for our database).

Enclosed you should find a copy of the Prescribed Music List for auditions for 1995-96 along with the July **Newsletter**. We will of course still have some copies available for new members at our table at TBA, so plan to stop by and pay dues, pick up a PML or just visit a while. The music is taken from the same books that were used last year. If you don't get a chance to come to TBA, I will mail a copy of the Prescribed Music List to everyone who joins as a *new* member after that time. I will be glad to send you another copy if you misplace yours after TBA - just call or drop me a note and I will respond as soon as possible. Please understand that I had a lot of students collating, stapling and stacking these PML's, so it is **very possible** that an error was made - a page left out, facing the wrong way, stapled wrong, etc. (**your** kids don't make mistakes like that, do they?). Let me know if you find an error and I will send you a replacement.

This coming year should prove very exciting for ATSSB in that we have commissioned a new work for band by our All-State clinician, Robert Foster. The piece will be premiered at the concert, so make plans to attend. We have also commissioned a piece from each clinician in 1998 (Ed Huckleby) and 1999 (John O'Reilly).

There will be an ATSSB State Board of Directors breakfast meeting at 7:00 a.m. in the Marriott Riverwalk Hotel's Travis Room. Your board includes all elected state officers,

all Region Coordinators, all Founding Members, 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 2:00 p.m. on Monday, July 24 in the Convention Center (CC Room 108). Please make plans to attend if you will be at TBA. After the General Session, be sure to attend the clinic ATSSB is sponsoring on how to win the TSSEC Sweepstakes Award (it is going to be held at 3:30 in the same room - 108).

All of you who ordered a CD at the concert should have received the 2-disk set of all four years' all-state concerts by now. If not, contact John Hoover at Educational Recording Service; 115 Live Oak; Ozona, TX 76943 or call him at (915) 392-3617. I am sure you will be just as pleased with the CD's as I am. If you missed out, you can still buy one from John or from us at the TBA table (we will have a few available for sale).

Please take a minute and look over the 1995-96 Membership Renewal form enclosed. Mark any corrections, fill out all the blanks (especially if it says "NONE GIVEN") and put it in a safe place to be paid when your school budget year begins (or go ahead and send in the check now while you are thinking about it!).

I hope to be able to visit with a lot of you at TBA. Remember that TBA is essentially over on Tuesday, so we will in all likelihood close down the table that afternoon. So make plans to drop by before then if you can. 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!).

I can be reached on-line at KL2000G@aol.com or klgriff@tenet.edu so feel free to email me at any time.



The following list amends the new Directory regarding the TMAA status of the listed members. We apologize for any errors or omissions, but printed what we had in our data base. The list below amends the Directory according to the new TMAA Directory and conversations with Melva Sebesta, the TMAA Executive Secretary. Refer to your Directory for complete addresses and numbers. Please take a moment to update your Directory as noted below:

Almany, Hubert Lindale HS, AAA, 21 CB, MB*	Harris, Bryant Sundown HS, AA, 16 CB	Morris, Perry Hallettsville HS, AAA, 18 CB*, MB*
Almany, Travis Lindale HS, AAA, 21 (delete CB)	Herrera, Richard Brownfield HS, AAA, 16 CB, MB	Rose, Greg Pittsburg HS, AAA, 4 CB*, MB*
Clark, Lowell Goodrich HS, A, 10 CB, MB	Hobizal, Marcel R. Columbus JH, CC, 18 CB*	Sides, Ralph Sterling City HS, A, 7 MB*
Fortenberry, David Greenwood HS, AAA, 6 MB*	Hobson, Travis Wall HS, AA, 7 (delete CB)	Syring, Dennis McCamey HS, AA, 6 CB*, MB*
Frels, Dan H. Cuero HS, AAA, 13 CB, MB	Lenfest, Jr., Merel E. Yorktown HS, AA, 13 CB*	Thornton, Louis Wylie HS, AA, 2 CB, MB*

State Board of Directors
Breakfast Meeting
7:00 a.m.
February 9, 1995
Ramada Emily Morgan Hotel

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

Present at the meeting were Rodney Bennett, John Canfield, Robert Garza, Kenneth Griffin, Tom Hall, Mike Hardy, Bryant Harris, Richard Herrera, Ben Hoaldrige, Craig Hunt, Jesse Lotspeich, Ed Lowes, Mike Marsh, Fred Pankratz, Elmer Schenk, James Smith, Scott Stephenson, Don Stockton, Neal Sutton, Dennis Teasdale, Louis Thornton, Darryl Trent, Ron Welborn, Jennifer Willison, and Tim Youree. Also in attendance as guests were Ronnie Page (State Chair Audition Coordinator), Mark Melton (non-voting proxy for Lonnie Dooley), George Strickland (State Taping Coordinator), Perry Forrest (proxy for George Siewert), and Area E Coordinator David Smith. Not present were Region 9 Coordinator Mike Bendiksen; Founding Charter Members Dwayne Bishop and Lonnie Dooley; Region 8 Coordinator Jeff Comp; Region 13 Coordinator Clay Pope; and Region 22 Coordinator Gregory Siewert.

President Fred Pankratz called the meeting to order. Louis Thornton gave the invocation.

The minutes of the State Board of Directors meeting July 26, 1994 were approved after a motion by Jennifer Willison and a second by Dennis Teasdale to accept them as printed in the January *Newsletter*.

Mr. Pankratz asked the board to look over the minutes of a called Executive Committee meeting concerning Area B protests.

In the President's report, Mr. Pankratz asked Region Coordinators to stay after the concert to assist in moving stands to the loading elevator. He then asked them to assist in passing out and collecting ballots at the general session. He reported on several regions missing a day of school for their all-region band clinics and that he had been asked what our policy is regarding this practice. His reply to them was that the Association had permission from the TEA for students to miss school for the All-State Band clinic, but region clinics were not addressed in that permission. He reported that we were looking into sponsoring clinics at TBA and perhaps TMEA and asked for input regarding these activities. He reported that Robert Foster was under contract for the 1996 clinic and that Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser had us "penciled in" for 1997.

Mr. Pankratz asked for board approval for Dr. Lautzenheiser as clinician and, after a motion by Jennifer Willison and a second by Bryant Harris, the board voted to secure Dr. Lautzenheiser's services as clinician for the 1997 All-State Band. **Motion passed.**

Mr. Pankratz asked for more input regarding future clinicians. Richard Herrera moved and David Smith seconded that we secure Arnold Gabriel for a future clinician. **Motion passed.**

After a short discussion about commissions, Don Stockton moved and David Smith seconded that we commission a new piece for each year so long as it was financially feasible and the Executive Committee approve each contract. Motion carried unanimously. After a lengthy discussion regarding proxy voting, Jennifer Willison moved and Mike Hardy seconded that we amend the Constitution to allow voting by proxy only at State Board of Director meetings. **Motion passed unanimously.**

In the Executive Secretary's report, Mr. Griffin reported that ATSSB was gaining complete acceptance not only statewide, but also nationally. He cautioned that with acceptance would come problems and challenges and warned that we should be careful and consistent in all of our dealings. It is also important that we keep a paper trail of everything we do because with increased acceptance comes increased numbers of participants, and the possibility of increased errors and omissions. He asked for direction regarding the acceptance of Purchase Orders for memberships and the possibility of going to a postcard-printed membership card to lessen paperwork. He reported the changes in the TMEA convention dates for 1999 and 2002 and reported that the Form 17's would be different next year - numbered and non-copied - because of some places copying the forms for unauthorized distribution.

The first item of business was a report from Bryant Harris, chairman of the State Audition Review Committee (SARC). Members of the committee included Richard Shanks, David Smith, George Strickland, and Dennis Teasdale. He reported that each issue given any member of the committee over the past six months had been addressed by the committee as a whole in its work. After much discussion and study, the committee brought the following recommendations to the State Board for action:

1. A physical list should be given each Area Coordinator to read to judges before auditions, listing audition procedures, the music to be heard and the order in which to hear it, the scales to be heard and the order in which they are to be played. Another physical list should be given monitors and judges with an admonition that they are to keep their comments inside the room and not discuss anything said or done in the room once they leave. **Motion passed.**
2. Low clarinets are to play their written A scale two octaves. **Motion passed.**
3. The warm-up allowed in each room is to be the Bb Concert Major scale and the first note of the etude to be performed. **Motion passed.**
4. The committee voted to ask the State Board to approach TMEA about being allowed access to the TMEA's etudes before TBA. After much discussion, the Board voted to write a letter to TMEA asking that a dialogue be opened between the two Associations regarding ATSSB having access to TMEA's etudes in enough time before TBA to select cuts and have them printed for distribution at TBA - with the understanding that ATSSB might use only some - or none (if not all) of the etudes from year to year. **Motion passed (14-9).**
5. Increase the number of oboes to 3. **Motion failed.**
6. Increase the number of bassoons to five, with one selected from each Area. **Motion failed.**
7. Taping instruments are to be sequestered until their tape has been made. Instruments which must tape at Area will have results posted stating: "Time posted: _____. Those instruments selected to tape must report to the sequestering area within 30 minutes. You will be sequestered until you have made your tape." **Motion passed.**

Region reports then were heard:

- 1 Dr. Gary Garner was the clinician for the All-Region Band. 1100 students auditioned.
- 2 They would like Area B auditions to be held in Abilene or Eastland.
- 3 No report.
- 4 They had a middle school and high school band this year and are adding a 7th grade band next year. Neal Sutton moved that we pay the All-State Band Organizer \$200 . After a second by Jennifer Willison, **motion passed**. Neal Sutton moved that we pay \$200 to the All-State Percussion Organizer. After a second by Jennifer Willison, **motion passed**. He asked that we look into securing Wenger shells for the All-State rehearsals and performance.
- 5 Expressed thanks to the SARC for its work and stated they had some extra patches if anyone needs them.
- 6 They had a large number of junior high students auditioning. He reported that they hired a clinician for the first band, but the region directors took turns working the second band and it was very successful.
- 7 Asked that we print what Area expenses will be reimbursed by the state. He was told that the state will pay for professionally recording the taping students, postage to area directors, postage to ship the tapes to the State Taping Coordinator, and miscellaneous expenses necessary at the host school (maintenance, cleanup, etc.), but not mileage, meals, lodging, or honorariums for either host or judges.
- 8 No report (RC absent).
- 9 No report (RC absent).
- 10 Suggested sending all old patches to the executive secretary for distribution or archiving. Suggested dropping the memory requirement from scales (referred to SARC). Discussed a pilot program they are using for judges' sheets. He will bring a complete report when it is completed.
- 11 Make sure judges consider metronome markings.
- 12 This was their first year for a band to meet and play with Dr. Harris from UTSA conducting. Their region is interested in ATSSB sponsoring a marching contest, a concert contest, and a sightreading contest.
- 13 No report (RC absent).
- 14 No report.
- 15 No report.
- 16 This was their first year with a region band, using Keith Bearden. They would like to see us keep region auditions as close to area auditions as possible.
- 17 Reported schools involved for the first time in their region and that competition was stiffer each year.
- 18 They were excited about ATSSB this year. Used ATSSB exclusively and ended up with \$1000 in the bank.
- 21 His region very excited, too. They had over 2000 auditioning for four bands, 2 junior high and 2 high school. The quality of each band was great.
- 22 This was their second year to have a band. Ralph Zamariippa was the clinician.

In Area reports:

- A He commended the directors of Area A. Everything went well.
- B Asked that participation by blind students be investigated.
- C Everything was fine.
- D All was well.
- E All went great. They had directors without kids there helping to judge. Asked that region auditions not be too late because it delays Area information letters.

After a short discussion, David Smith moved and Jim Smith seconded that we require that Area Candidates must be certified no later than the second week in December. **Motion passed**.

Under new business, Jennifer Willison suggested we do something special for our fifth anniversary next year. Louis Thornton wanted us to get all the rules out to the membership better.

There being no further business, Mr. Pankratz adjourned the meeting at 9:38 a.m.



FINANCIAL REPORT
 Association of Texas Small School Bands
 June 30, 1995

Amount in checking account 12-31-94 \$ 6,724.62

RECEIPTS:

Dues, refunds \$ 11,119.56
 Certificate of Deposit \$ 10,391.80

AVAILABLE FUNDS \$ 28,235.98

EXPENSES:

Duplication \$ 349.66
 Office supplies \$ 521.83
 Postage \$ 405.66
 Patches \$ 4,304.45

Area Expenses:

Area Teleconference ... \$ 241.99
 Area A \$ 185.50
 Area B \$ 231.27
 Area C \$ 0.00
 Area D \$ 266.06
 Area E \$ 150.00

Total Area expenses \$ 1,217.82
 Executive Committee teleconference \$ 173.70
 State Taping expenses \$ 164.33
 Refund \$ 10.00
 Auditorium expenses \$ 2,064.53
 All-State expenses \$ 772.72
 Clinician honorarium and expenses \$ 1,531.00
 Executive Secretary stipend \$ 3,000.00
 All-State Band Organizer \$ 200.00
 All-State Percussion Organizer \$ 200.00
 State Board of Directors expenses \$ 246.51
 Ad in TBA Program \$ 259.00

TOTAL EXPENSES \$ 15,421.21

BALANCE:

Amount in checking account 6-30-94 \$ 2,422.97

Amount in Certificate of Deposit \$ 10,391.80

Total amount available 6-30 95 \$ 12,814.77