

ATSSB NEWSLETTER



Volume XVIII, No. 1, June 2008

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ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS
Beginning our 18th year of service to small school bands in Texas

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President's Column

by Rob Toups



Greetings to all and a happy end of another great school year! Is it the end, isn't it? Or is it the beginning of another year to come? Although we are turning in grade books and instruments, I know many of us are also passing out music, calendars, schedules and the like. There really never seems to be an end of the year for our band programs. Before the last bell of the last day rings, we are already engaged in planning and preparation for next year's marching band. The next several weeks will require many of you to spend countless hours working with students, preparing rehearsal

facilities, updating inventory, ordering equipment and music, etc. Although these are the necessary toils of our business, do try to take a break from it all. Our productivity next fall will be greatly enhanced following a sustained period of R&R.

I must extend my congratulations to all from our membership who played a role in this challenging yet highly successful school year. Even with major changes in venues, our All-State band students had a great educational experience and performed beautifully. As always, my sincere thanks go out to our Executive Secretary, Kenneth Griffin, for his untiring effort and guidance on ATSSB's behalf.

Region and area coordinators and your computer gurus should have been contacted concerning the upcoming workshop to be held on the Saturday before TBA. Hopefully, all of you have indicated you will attend this very important session. Kenneth is formulating the day's agenda and schedule, and I am certain much will be gained via this workshop.

I am proud to be a part of the Association of Texas Small School Bands and especially proud to be your colleague. I wish you a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing many of you at TBA.

Yours In Music,

President Elect's Column

by Bob Vetter



WOW! What a great year! Seems like only yesterday we were starting Summer Band. State Marching was fantastic! Our All State Concerts were incredible! This was just a great year!

As things start to slow down, take time to get away from the band hall and rest. Make plans for the family and try to take a trip where you don't have a large group (the band) with you.

Hopefully everyone will be able to attend TBA. The TBA leadership goes to great lengths to put on clinics that will benefit ALL band directors. They are especially sensitive to ATSSB concerns and allow us to sponsor clinics each year. Try to make TBA part of your summer plans.

If there are any concerns for auditions, please bring them to our attention. The SARC will meet at TBA and discuss any suggestions the membership might have.

On a final note, I will start a new chapter in my life. After twenty-five years in Reagan County, I am changing schools. I will be moving to Robinson to assume the duties of Director of Bands. My wife will be teaching fifth grade and our son will be entering the fifth grade. We are extremely excited about this new opportunity. Robinson is a tremendous place for "Band." We look forward to the challenges and want to thank everyone for their words of encouragement.

Good luck to all who enter OPS and I wish all a safe, restful summer!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Vetter".

Executive Secretary's Column by

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kenneth L. Griffin".

Your membership for 2007-08 expires on September 1. Please take a minute to look over your data as posted in the Directory online: <http://www.atssb.org/execsec/Directory.08.htm>. Make a note of any corrections, especially if it says "NONE GIVEN" 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 begins - or go ahead and send in the check now while you are thinking about it. Dues remain \$35, but remember that after October 1, the dues increase to \$60 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). Those of you who have already paid your dues for next year are listed as follows: <http://www.atssb.org/execsec/Directory.09.htm>. If I missed one, just check for information changes and email them to me. 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 Band 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.



In your fall region meetings, you need to nominate a President-Elect and a Class C/CC and AA Representative to the State Board of Directors. The election will be held at the General Session February 12, 2009. After nominees have accepted their nominations, their pictures and biographies (if submitted) will appear in the online December

(continued on Page 3):

(Griffin, continued from Page 2):

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 C) should be available online soon:
<http://www.atssb.org/execsec/YearCUpdate.09.pdf>.

We no longer mail a copy of the Update to all high school band directors and members with the September Newsletter as we have in the past. The September Newsletter will be mailed, but only to include a free copy of the 2008 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, John Whitwell (Michigan State University) will be the clinician for the Symphonic Band. Mike Vax (International Artist for the Yamaha Corporation of America) will be the clinician for the Jazz Ensemble. Dr. William Wakefield (University of Oklahoma) will be the Concert Band clinician. ATSSB has commissioned Philip Sparke to compose a grade 2+ piece for the Concert Band. The winner of the ATSSB Composition Competition will have the work premiered by the 2010 ATSSB All-State Concert Band, so ATSSB will not be commissioning a piece for that year.

Speaking of the Composition Competition, the deadline for submissions is fast approaching. See the details at <http://www.atssb.org/CompComp.htm>.

ATSSB is sponsoring a Training Session for Region and Area Coordinators before TBA in July. Region and Area Coordinators or their designates and region audition hosts are meeting to coordinate the audition process to make sure we are all on the same page regarding entries and audition rules and procedures. Frank Coachman will be explaining the FileMaker Pro files for running the auditions and how online entries are set up (which all must do this year - even in Jazz auditions). Tim Edins will be on hand to help with web page design and maintenance so Region and Area pages can be kept up to date and useful to members.

There will be an ATSSB State Board of Directors meeting at 7:30 a.m. in the Renaissance Room of the Menger Hotel on Monday, July 28. 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 1:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 29 in the Convention Center. Check the convention program for the location. 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. 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).

The ATSSB Newsletter is the official publication of the Association of Texas Small School Bands. Articles may be submitted for consideration as well as letters to the editor (you may remain anonymous if requested) to the Editor by mail to 2117 Morse Street; Houston, Texas 77019, or by email to:

atssb@att.net.

Be sure to visit the ATSSB Website at **<http://www.atssb.org>**.

Future ATSSB All-State Band Clinicians and Composers

Feb. 11-14, 2009 John Whitwell from Michigan State University - SYMPHONIC BAND
Mike Vax, International Artist for the Getzen Company - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
Dr. William K. Wakefield from the University of Oklahoma - CONCERT BAND
Philip Sparke has been commissioned to write a grade 2+ piece for the Concert Band

If you have suggestions for future clinicians or composers, contact Rod Rodriguez, Chair of the Clinician/Commission Committee, at rrodriguez@stafford.msd.esc4.net or by his home telephone (281) 265-9515.

FYI, ATSSB at TBA

Saturday, July 26

9:00 am-5:00 pm Region and Area Coordinator Training Session, Menger Ballroom A

Sunday, July 27

10:00 am-5:00 pm ATSSB table open in Registration area (closes at 5:00 for Dialogue Committee meeting)

1:00-5:00 pm

ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series

Class C followed by Class AA - CC005

Class CC followed by Class A - CC004

Class AAA followed by SARC Meeting and Clinician/Commission Committee meeting- CC006

ATSSB Office - CC1067

Monday, July 28

7:30-9:30 am State Board of Directors meeting - Menger Renaissance Room

9:30 am-5:00 pm ATSSB table open in Registration area

Tuesday, July 29

7:30 am.-2:00 pm ATSSB table open in Registration area

1:30 pm **ATSSB General Session** (see convention program for location)

2:00-6:00 pm ATSSB table open in Registration area (will not be open on Wednesday)

All-State Band Floor Monitors Needed

Volunteer now to be a Floor Monitor for the 2008 All-State Band!
You get a free room at the Emily Morgan Hotel for three nights during the Clinic.

Email Charles Sander (csander@harper.txed.net) or give him a call at
(830) 864-4044, XT235 for details or to reserve your spot.

Do it NOW!

Outstanding Performance Series



By now all CDs have been received by Designated Region Coordinators and will soon, if not already, be adjudicated. I want to remind all Region and Area Coordinators that only ATSSB-member directors may serve as judges. (The exception to that rule may be found on page three of the OPS Purpose and Procedure on the ATSSB website.) You might also want to refer to page three to review the procedure for honoraria that may be given to judges and to the Region and Area Coordinators. Just be sure that you familiarize yourselves with all of the procedures before you start asking for reimbursements. We have had some Region Coordinators in the past spend money for things that were not authorized, and then they expected to be reimbursed. I am sure they were not happy

when they were told that they would not get all of their expenditures refunded.

If you are a Designated Area Coordinator you should know which regions are sending CDs to you. Be sure you have the CDs from all of the regions before you start your adjudication. If you do not receive CDs of one of those regions by the deadline, please check with that Region Coordinator(s). Maybe CDs were shipped, but you never received them. We have had that happen in the past and we would like that not to happen again. Also, remember that Designated Region Coordinators must have the adjudication and mail all advancing CDs to the Designated Area Coordinators on or before, and preferably before, June 12.

The Designated Area Coordinators will forward all advancing CDs to the OPS State Chair (Don Thoede, 2502 White Street, Clifton, TX 76634, 254-675-6789) on or before, and preferably before, June 26.

After each level of competition, the official in charge shall immediately mail a copy, or email a copy, of Page 14 showing a complete list of results to the OPS State Chair and to each director who entered a CD. This is very important, so please do this immediately after the adjudication!

Very soon after June 26 I will be calling directors to serve as judges at the State adjudication. I have to find five judges and one monitor for each of the five classifications, so if I leave a message on your home phone about judging at the State level, please return my call as soon as possible.

This is our 12th year of the ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series and every year has gone more smoothly than the previous year. I am convinced it is because our Region and Area Coordinators have done a marvelous job of following the guidelines and are working very hard for the directors in their regions and areas. We all owe them our gratitude for their efforts. Thank you, Region and Area Coordinators.

As always, if I can help you in any way, please don't hesitate to call me. Please remember this—I make changes annually in the procedure that is used for the Outstanding Performance Series, and almost every time I get asked a question about how something is done, I have to get out my book and read the instructions! I don't carry all of that information around in my head. The point is, you are not expected to know all of the answers either, but you are expected to go to the website and read the guidelines. If we will all do that, the 2008 OPS will be the best yet. Have a great summer, and I will see you at TBA!

Don Thoede

ATSSB Official Licensees

Music T's

Craig Johnson
1031 Eastgate Drive
Midlothian, Texas 76065
(877) 899-1919
www.music-ts.com

Stephen Henry

Smart Music Consultant
P.O. Box 25
Vanderbilt, Texas 77991
(361) 284-3226, XT1220
srhenry@tisd.net

Probst Audio

Scott Probst
210 W. Belknap
Ennis, Texas 75119
(972) 878-6018
info@ProbstAudio.com

Mattei Music Services

Buddy Mattei
202 Covey Lane
McKinney, Texas 75071
(972) 838-2443
matteimusic@attwb.net

Jordan Sound Productions

Gary Jordan
601 Ralson Street
Bullard, Texas 75757
(903) 894-7320
JordanSP@aol.com

Audio Refinery

Carlos Casso
2600 Paramount Blvd., Ste. G5
Amarillo, Texas 79109
(806) 355-0072
www.audiorefinery.net

California T's

L. Steve Taylor
1611 University
Lubbock, Texas 79401
(800) 763-1071

Cauble Sportswear, Inc.

Rick Cauble
3209 Commercial Drive
Midland, Texas 79701
(800) 299-8325
far103flyer@yahoo.com

ON SITE DIGITAL

Randy Bryant
1303 Darter Lane
Austin, Texas 78746

Royal Design

2806 Avenue A
Lubbock, Texas 79404
(877) 744-8701
info@royaldesignusa.com

Copy or cut the application below and share it with your neighbors or assistants as you make preparations for next year's activities (or for your junior high head director to join if planning to enter this year's OPS competition).

ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS Membership Application

Please type or LEGIBLY print! We want to have accurate information for our Directory and mailing list.

NAME _____ SS# _____ - _____ - _____
 SCHOOL _____ CLASS _____ REGION # _____
 TITLE _____ SCHOOL PHONE () _____ Best time to call _____
 Are you the only band director for both high school and junior high in your district? _____ If there are others in your district, please list their names: _____ Are you 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 \$35* 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 \$35 is considered a fully-deductible contribution.

***NOTE:** The membership year runs from September 1 to August 31. After October 1, Regular Member dues increase to \$60 (the additional \$25 is deposited into the ATSSB All-State Band Scholarship Fund). A membership card and receipt will be returned to you. Associate Member dues are \$35 all year, so anyone may join as an Associate Member after October 1 for \$35. 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 being a current Regular Member of ATSSB. Retired Members dues are \$10. Only ATSSB Regular 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.

Copy or cut the application below and give it to your graduating senior bandmen who might wish to consider a career in band directing.

ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS College Division Membership Application

Please type or LEGIBLY print! We want to have accurate information for our Directory and mailing list.

NAME _____ SS# _____ - _____ - _____
 COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY _____ Anticipated Graduation Date _____
 SCHOOL ADDRESS _____ SCHOOL PHONE () _____
 CITY & ZIP CODE _____ SCHOOL EMAIL _____
 PERMANENT ADDRESS _____ TELEPHONE () _____
 CITY & ZIP CODE _____ HOME EMAIL _____
 MAJOR INSTRUMENT(S) _____

Email address to which you want **Newsletter** notifications sent: _____ School _____ Home

Mail this completed form and \$10 for dues to:

ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS

Kenneth L. Griffin, Executive Secretary
 2117 Morse Street
 Houston, Texas 77019-6807

Make checks payable to ATSSB

NOTE: College Division Membership entitles you to have your name listed in the ATSSB Directory. You will also be listed in the region, area and state database for selection to judging panels for ATSSB auditions. Only Regular Members may vote or hold office in ATSSB.

2008-09 State Jazz Auditions **By Bob McClure**

Greetings fellow directors, my name is Bob McClure, Assistant Band Director at Princeton High School. I have the distinct privilege of serving you in the capacity of State Jazz Coordinator for 2008-09. This is an endeavor that I am very excited to be a part of, and I look forward to helping any and all have a successful and smooth jazz audition process. "Set C" is the current audition set for the 2008-2009 school year. This music can be ordered from <http://www.matteimusicsservices.com>. One of the key points I would like to present to you is that you don't have to have a jazz band class or even a jazz band to enter students into the audition process. The auditions pieces are written as songs, not etudes. They work great for students to get together, on their own, and practice as a small group or practice by themselves with the audition CD. I look forward to working with you in the jazz auditions this year. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to email me at bmcclure@princetonisd.net. Be sure to check the Jazz Ensemble Audition Rules for detailed instructions (or the Jazz Webpage at <http://www.atssb.org/jazz.asp>). If you have a student selected to advance from region auditions next fall (who records a CD), you will send the CDs to the following Designated Region Coordinators:

Set 1 (Alto Saxophone):

Brandon Brewer, 319 West Fern Street (residence), Anna 75409, (972) 924-4377

Set 2 (Tenor and Baritone Saxophone):

Byron Alsup, Holliday ISD, 751 S. College Ave., Holliday 76366, (940) 586-1873

Set 3 (Trumpet):

Kyle White, 1015 N. Oleander Street (residence), Grand Saline 75140, (903) 962-4082

Set 4 (Trombone and Bass Trombone):

Daniel Alemán, 404 Margo Drive (residence), Pearsall 78061, (830) 334-3270

Set 5 (Piano, Guitar and Bass Guitar):

Collin Anderson, 302 E. Angeline (residence), Groesbeck 76642, (254) 375-2934

Set 6 (Drums):

Ann Lowes, 328 S. Lester (residence), La Grange 78945, (409) 968-6089

Have a great summer!

Sincerely,

Bob McClure
214-385-5018

