

ATSSB NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE
ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS
VOL. 2 NO. 2
OCT, 1992

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

BY: MIKE MARSH

Plans for the *ATSSB* All-State Clinic/Concert are well underway and this year promises to be even more successful than last. Membership numbers, Kenneth says, are up, and I believe they will continue to increase as *ATSSB* proves its value as a voice for the small school teacher.

I have been informed by Dan Hanna that the balloting at the region meetings this fall was overwhelmingly in favor of allowing *ATSSB* students into the TMEA exhibits and clinics, and as a result, the TMEA State Executive Board has ruled that our students will be permitted entrance.

The conductor for this year's All-State Band will be Dr. Myron Welch, Director of Bands at the University of Iowa. The program chosen will include Procession of the Nobles, Rimsky-Korsakov/Leidzen; The Tides Rises, The Tide Falls, an as yet unpublished manuscript by Frank Erickson, The Standard of St. George, Kenneth Alford; and Celebrations, by John Zdechlik.

Region Coordinators are reminded that the cutoff date for certification from Region to Area is December 18. Be sure to mail the list of students certified to the home address of your Area Host so that it doesn't get locked up with the school mail over the Christmas holidays. Area Hosts are as follows:

- Area A** Bryant Harris -
Sundown
- Area B** Neil Sutton -
Bridgeport
- Area C** Dan English -
Diboll
- Area D** Jim Childers -
Fredericksburg
- Area E** David Smith -
Banquete

Following is a list of the errata for the tryout music:

Bb Clarinet - pg. 51, #5 - old editions have b natural for the last note of the third line. Newer editions have c, which is correct.

Low Clarinet - pg. 3 #5 - the last measure of line three, the final two eighth notes should be tongued.

Saxophone - pg. 15, #30 -

measure 20, the f natural in the third group of sixteenth notes should be f sharp

French Horn - pg. 37, #50 - measure 25, the g natural on the second triplet should be g sharp. pg. 37, #50, 5th line, second measure (measure 17) - both b flats should be b naturals.

Trombone Bass Clef should be amended to read **Trombone - Baritone Bass Clef**

Tuba - the study on page 19, #13, Allegro Commodo is in Gb Major, not Bb Major as listed.

NOTE: All scales are to be tongued up and slurred down. Also, the percussion II (Mallet) scales are the same as those listed for oboe. Remember that all scales are to be memorized for Area Tryouts.



EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S COLUMN

BY: KENNETH GRIFFIN

ATSSB is approximately 33% ahead of where we were last year at this time in paid memberships - and last year was such a surprisingly (at least to SOME people!) enthusiastic year for us !.

You will find elsewhere in the **Newsletter** the errata for the Prescribed Music List and the site locations and hosts for Area auditions.

You might want to encourage your fellow A, AA and AAA directors to join soon if they plan to have students participate in the auditions leading to membership in the *ATSSB* All-State Band. On November 1, I will send an updated roster to each Region Coordinator so they will know who is eligible to enter students in our auditions. There will undoubtedly be a few directors who wait until the last minute to join, causing some frantic last-minute calls for verification of membership status between the Region Coordinators/Audition Chairmen and the Executive Secretary. As you have been told, you will not even be allowed to ENTER students into competition for membership in an *ATSSB* organization UNLESS THE HEAD DIRECTOR OF THE STUDENT'S SCHOOL IS A

CURRENT MEMBER OF *ATSSB* !! This means that your Region Coordinators have been instructed to RETURN entries that are not accompanied by a copy of the director's membership card.

You will probably notice the inclusion of a few *ATSSB* forms in your entry packets. Please look them over carefully. We have done a lot of planning for the All-State Clinic/Concert and will need your cooperation in the securing of adequate hotel space in San Antonio, providing for the security of our students and making sure all bills are paid. If you have students who are selected to compete at the *ATSSB* Area auditions January 9, please make sure each student brings **Forms 14 (or 14T), 15 and 16 - PROPERLY COMPLETED AND SIGNED** - to the auditions. Otherwise, they will not be allowed to audition at the Area level (this actually happened this past January, so please don't think it can't happen to you!). If you have a student selected for membership in the All-State Band, he should be ready to pay the \$20 fee at that time (including naming the Designated Chaperone - usually you!) - AND ATTACH A \$25 ROOM DEPOSIT CHECK **AND ATTACH YOUR SCHOOL'S TAX-EXEMPTION CERTIFICATE!** Color instruments who are selected to tape at the Area Auditions January 4 (oboe,

bassoon, alto clarinet, contrabass clarinet, bass trombone, mallets, and timpani) should be prepared to attach two checks to their forms before they can tape - one for \$20 for the All-State Band fee and one for \$25 for a hotel deposit if selected in the taped auditions the following week for membership in the All-State band (students not selected will have their checks returned to them at their home addresses).

We are now designated as a non-profit tax-exempt foundation by the Internal Revenue Service and the Texas State Comptroller. Your dues have always been deductible, but now any contributions to the Association are additionally deductible (so you might want to consider rewriting your will !!!!!).

As I have been receiving applications for membership, I have been returning with their membership cards and receipts a copy of the Prescribed Music List for 1992-93 if the applicant did not pick up his/her copy at TBA. This is a considerable expense to the Association, but necessary for everyone to be on equal footing in the audition process. We need all of you to be vigorous in your reminding fellow directors to join as soon as they can - and by passing your copy of the *ATSSB NEWSLETTER* around after you are finished with it. If you did not get a copy of the PML at TBA and I neglect to send you one when you join, please

let me know as soon as possible and I will put one in the mail to you immediately.

Elsewhere in this edition of the **NEWSLETTER** you will find a list of the current Region Coordinators. Give them a call if they can be of assistance in your region - or give any of your officers a call if we can help in any way at any time!

You will also find the minutes of the State Board of Directors meeting and the General Membership Meeting we had at TBA. Note the changes the State Board of Directors passed regarding the certification of instruments to Area from Region tryouts. It is more easily understood if we simply state that each region may certify to Area one more than will be certified from each Area with the exception of taping instruments (which remains unchanged), but that the number certified to state will remain unchanged. You should receive further clarifications from your Region Coordinators in the audition packets.

REGION COORDINATORS

REGION 1

Rick Ball
West Texas High School
Boy Y
Stimett, TX 79083
(806) 787-2457

REGION 2

Louis Thornton
Wylie High School
4010 Beltway South
Abilene, TX 79606
(915) 695-1910/6870

REGION 3 & 20

Elmer Schenk
Howe High School
Box 130
Howe, TX 75059
(903) 532-5222 ext. 127

REGION 4

Lomnie Dootley
Hawkins High School
PO Box L
Hawkins, TX 75765
(903) 769-3917

REGION 5

Neal Sutton
Bridgeport High School
702 17th Street
Bridgeport, TX 76426
(817) 683-4064

REGION 6

Jesse Lotspeich
Crane High School
511 W. 8th Street
Crane, TX 79731
(915) 997-7551

REGION 7

Jim Childers
Fredericksburg High School
202 W. Texas
Fredericksburg, TX 78624
(512) 997-7551

REGION 8

Jeff Comp
Academy High School
PO Box 548
Little River, TX 76554
(817) 982-4201

REGION 9

Mike Bendiksen
Montgomery High School
PO Box 1475
Montgomery, TX 77356
(409) 597-4344

REGION 10

Don Stockton
Warren High School
Box 190
Warren, TX 77664
(409) 547-3503

REGION 11

Gordon Schultz
Divine High School
1225 Hwy 173 W.
Divine, TX 78016
(512) 663-2864

REGION 12

Craig Hunt
Kames City High School
110 West Southline
Kames City, TX 78118
(512) 780-2437

REGION 13

Dan H. Freis
Cuero High School
410 Park Hts. Drive
Cuero, TX 77954
(512) 387-8588

REGION 14

David G. Smith
Banquete High School
Box 369
Banquete, TX 78339
(512) 387-8588

REGION 15

Robert Garza
Rio Hondo High School
PO Box 220
Rio Hondo, TX 78583
(512) 748-3798

REGION 16

Bernie Tackitt
Shallowater High School
Box 220
Shallowater, TX 79363
(806) 832-4535

REGION 18

Paul Fellows
Lampasas High School
902 s. Broad
Lampasas, TX 77836
(512) 556-3614

REGION 19 & 17

Jim Smith
Tarkington High School
Route 6, Box 130
Cleveland, TX 77327
(713) 592-7739

REGION 21

Ronnie Page
Overton High School
Drawer 130
Overton, TX 75684
(903) 834-6143

REGION 22

Gregory J. Siewert
Clint High School
PO Box 779
Clint, TX 79836
(915) 851-2344

STATE BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S
BREAKFAST MEETING
7:00 a.m.
JULY 28, 1992
TRAVIS ROOM, MARRIOTT RIVERWALK, SAN ANTONIO

The State Board of Directors of the Association of Texas Small School Bands met for breakfast at 7:00 a.m. in the Travis Room of the San Antonio Marriott Riverwalk.

Present at the meeting were Pat Autry, Rick Ball, Mike Bendiksen, Jim Childers, Jeff Comp, Kenny Goodson (proxy for Lonnie Dooley), Paul Fellows, Dan Frels, Robert Garza, Jim Gibson, John Gibson, Kenneth Griffin, Mike Hardy, Jesse Lotspeich, Mike Marsh, Ronnie Page, Fred Pankratz, Elmer Schenk, Gordon Shultz, Greg Siewert, David Smith, Royce Creech (proxy for Jim Smith), Don Stockton, Neal Sutton, Louis Thornton, and Jennifer Willison. Also in attendance as guests were Wayne Smith, speaker for a proposal before the board; Dan English, Area C Coordinator; and Bryant Harris, Area A Coordinator. Not present was founding member Dwayne Bishop and Region XII Coordinator Craig Hunt.

After enjoying a continental breakfast, President Mike Marsh called the meeting to order at 7:19 a.m. Louis Thornton gave the invocation.

The minutes of the SBOD meeting June 8, 1991 were approved after a motion by Don Stockton and a second by Jennifer Willison to accept them as printed.

The oath of office was administered to all new members of the board and reaffirmed by all returning members.

The first item of business concerned a proposal by Region IV regarding instrumentation of the *ATSSB* All-State Band and the number of instruments advancing to Area from Region (see attached). Wayne Smith was a guest of the SBOD so he could speak for the proposal.

After discussion of several alternatives regarding instrumentation of the All-State Band Kenny Goodson moved and Dan Frels seconded that piccolo be added to the All-State Band as an auditioned instrument. Motion failed.

Don Stockton moved and Jennifer Willison seconded that each region send to Area one more than will be taken in the All-State Band with the exception of taping instruments (i.e. 4 flutes may be certified to Area from each Region, but only flutes will be certified to State from Area). Motion carried.

Jessie Lotspeich moved and Kenny Goodson seconded that each Region certify two baritones to Area, with one baritone certified to State from each Area and one certified to tape - with two baritones selected in the tape auditions for State, giving All-State Band a total of seven baritones. Motion failed.

Don Stockton moved and David Smith seconded that two baritones be certified to Area from each Region, but only one baritone is to be certified to the All-State Band from each Area. Motion carried.

Mr. Marsh then introduced Area Coordinators for 1992-93:

- Area A: Bryant Harris, Sundown
- Area B: Neal Sutton, Bridgeport (to be held in Southlake Carroll)
- Area C: Dan English, Diboll
- Area D: Jeff Comp, Academy
- Area E: David Smith, Banquete

It was requested that the names of Region and Area Coordinators be put in the **NEWSLETTER**. Mr. Griffin agreed to add them to his column.

Mr. Marsh reported on the change in the 19-year rule in UIL. Jeff Comp moved and Jennifer Willison seconded that we change the wording of the *ATSSB* Eligibility Statement to read that the age limit for participation shall conform to current UIL eligibility rules. Motion carried.

Mr. Marsh then reminded the board that the membership must go through a nomination-election for state officers beginning with the Fall meetings. Nominations are to be made in the regions, with notification sent to the Executive Secretary. The candidates will then be notified and biographies printed in the **NEWSLETTER** in time for the election to be held at the General Session in San Antonio during the All-State Band clinic.

Mr. Marsh then went over the results of the "After-Action" Surveys he received regarding the process of selection and the clinic for the All-State Band.

(SBOD minutes continued)

Etude length was discussed and the board was reminded that we are in the process of developing a four-year rotating Prescribed Music List. The list used in 1991-92 will be used again in 1995-96, so any concerns about the list used last year should be addressed as soon as possible so adjustments can be made before the list is used again.

All-State patch size was discussed (the *ATSSB* patch was about one inch larger than TMEA) and the board was told that Don Stockton was in the process of getting the cost of a large generic *ATSSB* All-State Band patch that students could buy (including past year's members).

The lack of enough programs and good lights were addressed and will be rectified for the next clinic. The programs will be completed after chair auditions so students will be listed in chair order in the programs.

The programs will request that flash photographs be taken before or after the concert (or at a photo opportunity in the middle), not while the band is playing.

Specialists on each panel for chair auditions will be easier to select this year, since each member's major instrument will be added to the database.

Check-in and check-out procedures will be altered this next year to make it easier to get in and out of the Emily Morgan Hotel.

Mr. Marsh then reported that the TMEA Band Division will vote at the separate fall meetings by ballot whether or not to allow *ATSSB* All-State students access to TMEA exhibits and clinics with the payment of a small fee. He encouraged the board to get *ATSSB* members to attend the meeting so their voice can be heard.

In new business, David Smith moved that at the second audition step at Area, the students be ranked, then heard from weakest to strongest. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Region reports then were heard:

Region 1: No report

Region 2: No report

Region 3: No report. Elmer Schenk would like someone to talk with Dick Floyd about having small school representation on the PML committees.

Region 4: No report. Wayne Smith reported that they were going to attempt to have an *ATSSB* Junior High All-Region Band. Mr. Griffin replied that he would see about getting patches available.

Region 5: No report.

Region 6: Jessie Lotspeich asked if the metronome markings on the required scales were a requirement. After discussion, it was decided that the markings were minimums.

Region 7: Jim Childers asked about *ATSSB* hosting a State Solo/Ensemble Contest. Mike Hardy moved, John Gibson seconded, that we poll the membership in the General Session as to who would be in favor of pursuing a small-school state solo and ensemble contest through the UIL. Motion carried.

Region 8: No report

Region 9: No report

Region 10: No report

Region 11: No report

Region 12: No report

Region 13: Dan Frels asked if any other Region's District Music Executive committee were asking for input regarding *ATSSB*, TMEA activities (7 and 13 replied)

Region 14: No report

Region 15: No report

Region 16: John Gibson reminded the board that *ATSSB* had achieved a great deal by being professional and honest in dealing with directors and students and that we must continue to cooperate with TMEA in order to continue to grow in strength and stature.

Region 17: No report

Region 18: Paul Fellows moved, Mike Bendiksen seconded, that we poll the membership in the General Session as to who would be in favor of *ATSSB* sponsoring a state marching contest in the years that UIL did not. Motion carried.

Region 21: Ronnie Page reported good cooperation and support for our cause from large schools in his region.

Region 22: No report

(SBOD minutes continued)

Jennifer Willison then requested more input from the membership for the **NEWSLETTER**. She reported that the **NEWSLETTER** would print biographies of band directors from schools finishing in the top five of the TMEA Honor Band competitions, biographies of Region Coordinators, etc., and that questionnaires would be forthcoming.

After a request by Mr. Marsh regarding region alignment, Ronnie Page moved and John Gibson seconded that the SBOD delegate the authority to approve region transfers to the **ATSSB** Executive Committee (President, Vice-President and Executive Secretary). Motion carried.

Mr. Marsh then proposed that **ATSSB** commission a composer to write a piece for the 1994 All-State Band. Don Stockton moved and Jennifer Willison seconded that Mr. Marsh appoint a committee to investigate the possibilities of commissioning a grade III work and report to the SBOD. Motion carried.

There being no further business, Mr. Marsh adjourned the meeting at 8:46 a.m.

GENERAL SESSION
ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS
2:00 p.m.
JULY 28, 1992
ROOM 101, SAN ANTONIO CONVENTION CENTER

The meeting was called to order by President Michael Marsh with a full room and approximately 50 in the hall unable to get in. Louis Thomson gave the invocation.

The minutes and financial report were approved as printed in the July **NEWSLETTER** on a motion by Ben Hoaldrige and a second by Bryant Harris.

Mr. Marsh then introduced Region coordinators and Area Coordinators who were in attendance and the 1993 All-State Band Organizer, Kenny Goodson from Atlanta.

Don Stockton moved and Russell Fuller seconded that the By-Laws be amended as presented in the July **NEWSLETTER**, making the election of Vice-President occur in odd years instead of even. Motion carried.

Mr. Marsh then reported on action of the State Board of Directors:

Regions will now be able to advance one more instrument to Area with the exception of tapping instruments, but the number certified to state remains the same (i.e., each region may certify four flutes to Area, but each Area may only certify three flutes to State).

Information will be available soon regarding a large patch for students to purchase at state.

Each student who tapes at Area will be notified of their final ranking.

Flash photography during the All-State concert is discouraged. Opportunities for pictures will be provided before, after and perhaps in the middle of the program.

Percussion chair audition music will be more specific next year.

Chair audition judges will be more specialty-oriented next year since we are getting member's major instruments on the database.

Hotel check-in and check-out procedures are in the process of negotiations and improvement is coming.

Mr. Marsh then informed the membership about the upcoming vote by TMEA in Band Division Region Meetings this Fall. Each director will be given a ballot to vote whether or not to allow **ATSSB** All-State students access to TMEA exhibits and clinics by paying a small fee (which **ATSSB** would pay). These ballots will be distributed at the TMEA Band Division Fall Meeting, marked, then taken up and mailed that day to Don Hanna for tabulation by a committee. Mr. Marsh stressed the importance of attending the Fall TMEA meetings so our voice can be heard.

(General Session Minutes cont'd)

Mr. Marsh then informed the membership about the nomination/election process for state officers. Nominations will be made at the Fall Region Meetings. The nominations are to be reported to the Executive Secretary who will contact the nominees for verification of acceptance and to request a biography for publication in the **NEWSLETTER** before February. Elections will be held in the General Session - tentatively scheduled for Thursday, February 11, 1993, at 9:00 a.m. in the Scottish Rite Auditorium Banquet Hall.

Mr. Marsh then informed the membership about the 1993 clinician, Myron Welch, from the University of Iowa. He has selected a program to include "Procession of the Nobles", by Rimsky-Korsakov/Leidzen; "The Tide Rises, The Tide Falls", a manuscript by Frank Erickson; "Standard of St. George", by Kenneth J. Alford; and "Celebrations", by John Zdechlik.

Two polls of the members were taken:

Who would be in favor of approaching the UIL about sponsoring a separate A, AA, AAA Texas State Solo/Ensemble Contest? There were approximately 60 in favor and 30 opposed to the idea.

Who would be in favor of *ATSSB* sponsoring a state marching contest in the years that UIL does not? There were approximately 20 in favor and 80 opposed to the idea.

Mr. Marsh then reported that the State Board of Directors had approved a committee that will commission a grade III piece for the 1994 All-State Band.

Mr. Marsh then read off known errors in the PML: scales are to be slurred down; the TROMBONE BASS CLEF list should read TROMBONE - BARIOTONE BASS CLEF. He stressed that the only official errata is that appearing in the **NEWSLETTER**.

After a question regarding mallet scales, Mr. Marsh told the membership that mallet scales would be published in the **NEWSLETTER**.

There being no further business, Mr. Marsh adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

NOMINATION REPORT

Nominations are in from all regions. Nominated for President is Fred Pankratz from Canadian High School. Nominees for Vice-President are: Jim Childers from Fredericksburg High School, Lonnie Dooley from Hawkins High School, John Gibson from New Deal High School, Elmer Schenk from Howe High School, and Don Stockton from Warren High School. The nominee for Executive Secretary is Kenneth Griffin from Van High School.

Biographical information on all these candidates will be published in the **NEWSLETTER** before the convention. These names will be listed on a ballot, which will be distributed at the February convention. Members will also have the opportunity to nominate from the floor for write-in candidates. Be there to cast your vote.

This article was contributed by John Gibson and used with permission of the Editor of the Abilene Reporter News. Originally printed August 28, 1988.

Band Directors Must Create Order From Chaos

by Wes Floehr

Having dated a band director for awhile, I was given the opportunity to see what goes on behind the scenes in this hectic world in which they live. They seem to take a chaos of tunes and looney tunes and orchestrate them into that wonderful halftime show that all of us untrained critics watch during the Friday night football game.

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to attend a high school football game without a band? When the band strikes up in one accord, so do the fans, their school spirit flaring and bringing the stadium alive, triggered by the onset of the game.

Where did all of this begin? The ordinary person must know that this just doesn't happen by itself. Behind every band there is a director. The directors' summer break is only six weeks long, if they're lucky. No sooner than school is out for the summer, they find themselves at one of the numerous summer band camps teaching various clinics and learning flag corps routines. Long days of numerous activities and policing curfews end with a trip to convention for a little relaxation, some celebration and a

lot of idea sharing in preparation for the swiftly approaching band season.

Convention is over and contracts say, "You will report to work on August 1st." A whirlwind of activities begins in the band hall in preparation for two-a-days. Instruments are prepared, drills are charted, meetings are scheduled, orders are shipped, equipment checked, budgets wondered over and aspirin bottles refilled. Two-a-days begin, blisters are worn and the work day extends long into the night.

The next few months are spent adding to and polishing the halftime show that will be presented at marching contest. In the meantime the director is driving the band to games, performing at pep rallies, playing at fund raisers, performing for school functions, tutoring, counseling kids and teaching--teaching kids to read music, which is a language of its own, teaching them to play their instruments, and teaching them unity and teamwork. They are grading, placing, shuffling, cleaning, repairing and evaluating. They are also being evaluated--by evaluators, parents and school board members, who may know little or nothing about music or the process of teaching music.

It's no wonder so many band directors are losing their hair. I would too if I thought my job could depend on the performance of a 16-year-old student, the number of contests

won and UIL competition ratings.

Football season is finally over and it's time to prepare for the Christmas program, Follies and the Spring Concert. Along with these activities, the Jazz Band and soloists and ensembles are being tuned for competition. Of course there are more fund raisers to help fund the band trip which winds down the year. Let's not forget all the weekend meetings to plan the next year, which, before you know, is already here.

As an outsider looking in, I have seen that this special breed of people, who call themselves band directors, have an inspired love for their job. They deal almost daily with pressures from all directions. Next time you see your band directors, add one more pressure to their life--the pressure of your handshake as you tell them what a good job they are doing.

NOTE: WHENEVER YOU FIND THIS KIND OF ARTICLE, PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO COPY IT, TELL US WHERE IT ORIGINATED, AND MAIL IT TO ATSSB NEWSLETTER, JENNIFER WILLISON, 800 HILLSIDE, CANADIAN, TX 79014. WHETHER THE SUBJECT IS MUSIC IN SCHOOLS, POSITIVE ATTITUDE, ETC., WE ALL NEED TO READ THIS KIND OF THING.

THE NEWSLETTER NEEDS YOU!!!!!!

ATSSB was begun with the idea of promoting small school bands, This is a special organization. Promoting small school bands is very difficult to do when small school band directors are typically humble, don't blow your own horn type people; unless it comes to their students or their bands. In order to promote ourselves, we need to share information with each other. This information could help established directors see things in different light or give new teachers at small schools insight in how to solve small school band's very special problems. Small School Band Director's are very creative people. You all have your own ways of dealing with every aspect of your program. This is what makes you special. Please fill out the form below and share your successes and creativity. These will be published in the **NEWSLETTER** as space permits.

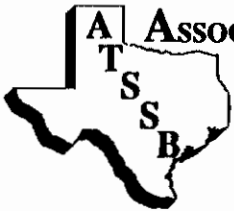
Name _____

School _____

Class _____ # of students in Band Program _____

Short History of your Band _____

One special attribute of your program, community, or band _____



ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS

P.O. Drawer 1508

Van, Texas 75790