



ATSSB NEWSLETTER

Official Publication of the Association of Texas Small School Bands
Volume VIII, Number 2
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PLEASE NOTE
our address!

ATSSB
401 Hampton Court
Longview, TX 75605-4736
(903) 753-1573

President's Column

by Ronnie Page

I hope each of you is enjoying a renewed spirit as you go about the tasks involving teaching a love and appreciation for music in young lives. Fall is always an exciting time as we face new challenges with a demanding performance schedule.



Just remember that the Christmas break is only 10-16 halftimes, two or three organizational contests, and two or three regional auditions away. If you are not too tired just thinking about what is ahead, read on. There are important issues discussed in each column in this newsletter.

First, let me remind each of you of the importance of reading and following all instructions from your coordinators throughout the audition processes. We have added individual region pages to the ATSSB web site at <http://www.atssb.org>. Just look for the link on the home page. Hopefully by the time you read this column every region will have a page and you will have a source of helpful information. There are more details in this regard elsewhere in this newsletter.

We had both a great state board and general membership meeting during the TBA convention in San Antonio. It was exciting to see such good attendance at the general membership meeting. TMEA leadership was well represented with President Barbara Perkins, President-elect Robert Henry, Past-President Tom SoRelle, and Executive Secretary Robert Floyd in attendance. The OPS taping sessions went very smoothly with Don's organization. The tapes were really great with all sessions well attended. Congratulations to all who had tapes involved in the process.

In addition to all of the other good things that have come about recently, the president and executive secretary of ATSSB were invited to sit at the head table at the TBA active members luncheon. Kenneth and I felt honored and flattered to be a part of the elite group represented at that table. It was an honor to represent ATSSB in this fashion.

I am sure each of you is aware that our association has a tremendous opportunity emerging with the alignment with TMEA. All issues have been resolved with the exception of TMEA membership. We will include a ballot in the December newsletter that will allow our membership to decide whether or not to require dual membership in ATSSB and TMEA to enter a student in the all-state process. The SBOD has asked that to be adopted the measure receive a 75% majority vote of the membership. Your SBOD favors adoption of the proposal, but will not enter into this agreement unless the membership is overwhelmingly in favor of it.

I would like to reiterate my feelings as I expressed them to the general membership at the meeting in San Antonio. Those things we enjoy with ATSSB, (our autonomy, our own audition list, our OPS series, our commissioned works, our scholarship program, etc., etc.), are what we get for the \$25.00 dues we pay ATSSB. The fact that we have fine arts programs in our schools as part of the regular curriculum we owe to TMEA. Those things we enjoy through ATSSB would be meaningless if our programs were suddenly lost through legislative action. The need for a strong voice in Austin has never been more important than now, and that voice needs to speak for every music educator in the state. Our support of TMEA through our membership is vital to us every day. ATSSB is the "icing on the cake" for the small school director.

I am confident that an overwhelming majority of ATSSB members feel this same way. What concerns me with a mail ballot is getting the ballots back in Kenneth's hands to count! We are all busy, and those things that can be put off often are. I am sure that each of you has an opinion on this matter today, and that opinion in all probability will not change between now and the time you receive your ballot. I am asking each of you to make a commitment right now to watch for that newsletter, retrieve your ballot at the mailbox, mark it and put it back in the mail before you go back to your desk. It will take about 30 seconds of your time, but the benefits to our students may well last forever!

We also discussed a three-fold plan for recruiting and assisting students interested in becoming music educators. All ATSSB past-presidents met with Kenneth, George and I before we left San Antonio and began the planning process for this

(continued on p. 2)

(President's Column, Continued from p. 1):

task. Louis Thornton has agreed to work on developing a statewide mentoring program for beginning directors, or directors new to an area or Texas. Chuck Harris will work with Louis to find ways to identify and contact those directors who may need a mentor. Mike Marsh is going to work on plans for developing a "music education" camp on a college or university campus. This camp will help prepare high school juniors for life as a freshman music major, giving them some training in theory, classroom piano, music pedagogy and literature that they might not have an opportunity to receive in a small rural school setting.

I will work on the cost and particulars pertaining to the production of a video that could be used to recruit students from small schools. It would be aimed at the life of a small school director stressing the positive aspects of being "Mr. Music" in a small town.

ATSSB's future is bright and full of opportunity. We must seize the opportunity to expand and nurture our mission, which is "to promote, encourage participation in and maintain small school bands in the state of Texas". Our constitution states also that "The organization shall maintain cooperative relationships with other agencies and organizations, which have as their purpose the development of music education in Texas public schools". Our mission statement is explicit and our eyes are focused on two projects that expand upon the vision of our founding members. What an exciting place to be. I look forward with renewed enthusiasm.

Ronnie Page

President-Elect's Column

by George Strickland

A very important decision is to be made by our membership with the forthcoming ballot in your December Newsletter. Your Executive Board, the TMEA Executive Board, and the TMEA/ATSSB Joint Committee have ironed out all policies and procedures to bring about a reunited band division of our state music educators. Our association owes a great debt of gratitude to the founding members whose vision seven years ago has provided opportunities and strengthened students involved with small school bands. As directors of small school bands we have improved our programs because of the organization and its leaders Mike Marsh, Fred Pankratz, Don Stockton, Ronnie Page, and Kenneth Griffin.



We, the Association of Texas Small School Bands, have everything to gain and nothing to give up with an affiliation with TMEA. We will keep our two successful all-state bands, our tryout procedure, our Outstanding Performance Series format, and our scholarship program. For our students we gain entrance to the exhibit hall without fees, equal recognition with TMEA all-state members which will heighten opportunities for college recruitment, and the Southwestern Musician magazine sent to their homes. For our organization we will gain the protection of the "legal umbrella" of TMEA. As pointed out to our state board of directors during our meeting in July, all it would take is one lawsuit and we, ATSSB, could be dissolved. The requirement that each of us will have to be approved members of both organizations before our students may participate in the region-level auditions is necessary for this legal protection.

I encourage the members of ATSSB to consider the overall benefits of "affiliation" with TMEA. Most of all, I urge you to please respond by returning your ballot through the mail as soon as you receive it.

The audition process for the 1999 All-State bands will begin soon. Current errata for the audition material is listed in this edition of the Newsletter. If you locate other mistakes, please inform me. Also, please review the percussion tryout guidelines again. This will save you and your students embarrassment during auditions.

The current members of the SARC will meet once more in February 1999. The purpose of that meeting will be to review this year's tryout procedures and material. If you have recommendations, please mail them to me or the committee members. SARC members are: Fred Pankratz, Canadian; Tom Burns, Wink; Rebecca Allen, Poteet; David Smith, Banquete; Scott Stephenson, Ballinger; and Gary Wells, Hampshire-Fannett.

This is a busy time of year for each of us that is actively involved in educating young people. I keep reminding myself that my actions and reactions can influence a young student each day. Let us all strive to be a positive role model for each and every student. The life you influence may be one of your future fellow educators. Let's encourage them!!

Have a successful fall season.

George Strickland

ATSSB Prescribed Audition List Year C Errata

FLUTE: p. 8, E Minor: 7th line, 4th measure, the A after the eighth rest should be a natural.

CLARINET: p. 59, No. 13: Play from the beginning through measure 24.

TRUMPET/TREBLE CLEF BARITONE: p. 8: In the cadenza on line 10, the G in the second group of 32nd notes should be a G natural and the F after the low D fermata should be an F natural.

TROMBONE: "To be performed on a tenor slide trombone"; also, the slow etude was intended to be different from trumpet, baritone and tuba because it addresses slide technique whereas the other etude addresses valve technique.

BASS CLEF BARITONE/TUBA: p. 6 (Adagio cantabile by DUHEM): Measure 2, line 9, the F in the second group of 32nd notes should be an F natural; also, measure 1, line 10, the E after the low C fermata should be E flat.

SNARE DRUM RUDIMENTAL ETUDE: measure 15, beat 3 sticking should be L R L.

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE SERIES

by Don Thoede, State Chair



We completed the State taping session at TBA in July and our State winners for the 1998 Outstanding Performance Series have been selected. The results of the competition are listed below. The schools that are listed in bold type will be put on the 1998 OPS compact disc.

CLASS C MARCH: 1. **Crane MS, Daniel Todd, Dir.;** 2. Orange Grove JH, Gary White, Dir.; 3. Canadian MS, Jennifer Willison, Dir.; 4. Krum MS, Carol Turner, Dir.; 5. East Bernard MS, Mike Henderson, Dir.; 6. Jim Ned MS, Ralph Zamarippa, Jr., Dir.; 7. Eldorado MS, Gina Muela, Dir.; 8. Hamilton MS, Tim Edins, Dir.

CLASS C CONCERT: 1. **Crane MS, Daniel Todd, Dir.;** 2. **Crane MS, Daniel Todd, Dir.;** 3. Whitesboro MS, Brian Weatherman, Dir.; 4. Canadian MS, Jennifer Willison, Dir.; 5. Orange Grove JH, Gary White, Dir.; 6. Whitesboro MS, Brian Weatherman, Dir.; 7. Orange Grove JH, Gary White, Dir.; 8. Liberty Hill MS,

Karen Dyre, Dir.; 9. Karnes City JH, Sandy Brown, Dir.; 10. Krum MS, Carol Turner, Dir.; 11. Eldorado MS, Gina Muela, Dir.; 12. Clifton MS, Keith Zuehlke, Dir.

CLASS CC MARCH: 1. **Pittsburg MS, Sherry Poteet, Dir.;** 2. Green MS, Byron Engle, Dir.; 3. Staley MS, Gina Badgett, Dir.; 4. Rusk MS, John Canfield, Dir.; 5. James Brooks MS(Midland), Aaron Lovely, Dir.; 6. Perryton MS, Kay Nance, Dir.; 7. Rio Hondo JH, Joseph Figarelli, Dir.; 8. LaGrange MS, Ed Lowes, Dir.

CLASS CC CONCERT: 1. **Rio Hondo JH, Joseph Figarelli, Dir.;** 2. **Rusk MS, John Canfield, Dir.;** 3. Pittsburg MS, Sherry Poteet, Dir.; 4. Green MS, Byron Engle, Dir.; 5. Green MS, Byron Engle, Dir.; 6. Staley MS, Gina Badgett, Dir.; 7. Perryton MS, Kay Nance, Dir.; 8. Staley MS, Gina Badgett, Dir.; 9. Pittsburg MS, Sherry Poteet, Dir.; 10. Perryton MS, Kay Nance, Dir.; 11. LaGrange MS, Ed Lowes, Dir.; LaGrange MS, Ed Lowes, Dir.

CLASS A MARCH: 1. **Throckmorton HS, Bill Rotter, Dir.;** 2. Happy HS, Shannon Dow, Dir.; 3. Munday HS, Rodney D. Bennett, Dir.; 4. Overton HS, Glenn Wells, Dir.; 5. O'Donnell HS, Gary M. Beach, Dir.; 6. Wortham HS, Steve Wright, Dir.; 7. Thrall HS, Elizabeth A. Morrison, Dir.

CLASS A CONCERT: 1. **Petrolia HS, Everett Hodges, Dir.;** 2. **Wink HS, Tom Burns, Dir.;** 3. Munday HS, Rodney D. Bennett, Dir.; 4. Overton HS, Glenn Wells, Dir.; 5. Overton HS, Glenn Wells, Dir.; 6. Happy HS, Shannon Dow, Dir.; 7. Lake Country Christian School, Pam Adams, Dir.; 8. Wink HS, Tom Burns, Dir.; 9. Thrall HS, Elizabeth A. Morrison, Dir.; 10. Thrall HS, Elizabeth A. Morrison, Dir.; 11. Wortham HS, Steve Wright, Dir.

(continued on p. 4)

(OPS, continued from p. 3):

CLASS AA MARCH: 1. **Industrial HS, Jeff DuBose, Dir.;** 2. Timpson HS, Danny Burns, Dir.; 3. Howe HS, Elmer Schenk, Dir.; 4. Elkhart HS, Darin Jolly, Dir.; 5. Holliday HS, Mike Lunney, Dir.; 6. Canadian HS, Fred Pankratz, Dir.; 7. Ore City HS, Don F. Carnathan, Dir.; 8. Lexington HS, Stacy G. Gist, Dir.; 9. Randolph HS, Richard Wilson, Dir.; 10. Forsan HS, Jim Rhodes, Dir.

CLASS AA CONCERT: 1. **Howe HS, Elmer Schenk, Dir.;** 2. **Timpson HS, Danny Burns, Dir.;** 3. Industrial HS, Jeff DuBose, Dir.; 4. Timpson HS, Danny Burns, Dir.; 5. Holliday HS, Mike Lunney, Dir.; 6. Industrial HS, Jeff DuBose, Dir.; 7. Forsan HS, Jim Rhodes, Dir.; 8. Forsan HS, Jim Rhodes, Dir.; 9. East Chambers HS, Kevin Heckaman, Dir.; 10. Somerville HS, Carl Idlebird, Dir.; 11. Tom Bean HS, Gualberto Besinaiz, Dir.; 12. East Bernard HS, Mike Henderson, Dir.; 13. Canadian HS, Fred Pankratz, Dir.; 14. Centerville HS, Collin Anderson, Dir.; 15. Somerville HS, Carl Idlebird, Dir.

CLASS AAA MARCH: 1. **New Boston HS, James Coffman, Dir.;** 2. Monahans HS, Tony Gibbs, Dir.; 3. Canton HS, Rob Toups, Dir.; 4. Crane HS, Jesse Lotspeich, Dir.; 5. Pittsburg HS, Greg Rose, Dir.; 6. Van HS, Rick Parker, Dir.; 7. Robinson HS, Tony Clines, Dir.; 8. Gatesville HS, Tom English, Dir.; 9. La Feria HS, Thomas D. Stirzaker, Dir.; 10. Rio Hondo HS, Robert Garza, Dir.

CLASS AAA CONCERT: 1. **Crane HS, Jesse Lotspeich, Dir.;** 2. **New Boston HS, James Coffman, Dir.;** 3. Monahans HS, Tony Gibbs, Dir.; 4. Aledo HS, Tom Hall, Dir.; 5. Taft HS, Roy Hinojosa, Dir.; 6. Rio Hondo HS, Robert Garza, Dir.; 7. Hampshire-Fannett HS, Gary Wells, Dir.; 8. Aledo HS, Tom Hall, Dir.; 9. Pittsburg HS, Greg Rose, Dir.; 10. Canton HS, Rob Toups, Dir.; 11. Crane HS, Jesse Lotspeich, Dir.; 12. Clifton HS, Bryan Ferrell, Dir.; 13. Liberty Hill HS, Sharon Plemons, Dir.; 14. Rio Hondo HS, Robert Garza, Dir.; 15. Robinson HS, Tony Clines, Dir.

These band directors, and the students who played in these very fine bands, are to be congratulated for a job well done! They have represented themselves, their schools, their communities, and ATSSB in a manner in which we can all be proud. It is obvious to me that there is some excellent teaching being done in the small schools in Texas, and because of that, ATSSB and the Outstanding Performance Series will continue to flourish.

You will be glad to know that we had 271 songs entered in the OPS competition this year compared to 175 songs last year. The increase of 96 songs indicates to me that the ATSSB directors like the format of the OPS and enjoy the friendly competition.

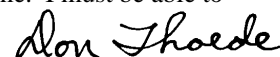
It is most appropriate that we thank all of the members who took part in making this another very successful year. Unfortunately, I can't list everyone's name here, but be sure you thank your Region and Area Coordinators the next time you see them. In addition, over one hundred directors gave their time, in the summer, to judge at the Region, Area, and State levels. The success that the Outstanding Performance Series has enjoyed in just a little over a year would not be a reality if those directors had not given their time to help!

The directors who judged at the State taping session were **CLASS C BANDS:** Danny Norris, Littlefield Jr. High, Area A; Aaron Lewis, Colorado City High School, Area B; Don Carnathan, Ore City High School, Area C (Chairman); Carl Idlebird, Somerville High School, Area D; Lewis Zepeda, Taft High School, Area E; Gary Beach, O'Donnell High School, Monitor. **CLASS CC BANDS:** Shannon Dow, Happy High School, Area A; Mike Marsh, Howe Middle School, Area B (Chairman); Neal Sutton, Atlanta High School, Area C; Collin Anderson, Centerville High School, Area D; Ron Welborn, Ingleside High School, Area E; Greg Rose, Pittsburg High School, Monitor. **CLASS A BANDS:** Jennifer Willison, Canadian Middle School, Area A; Pat Autry, Whitesboro High School, Area B; Mike Kellogg, Rusk High School, Area C; Berry Crudginton, Brady High School, Area D (Chairman); Tom Stirzaker, La Feria High School, Area E; James Coffman, New Boston High School, Monitor. **CLASS AA BANDS:** Tony Gibbs, Monahans High School, Area A; Greg Miller, Iowa Park High School, Area B; Don Stockton, Warren High School, Area C (Chairman); Tommy Ray, West High School, Area D; Eric Winterbottom, Orange Grove High School, Area E; Robert Garza, Rio Hondo High School, Monitor. **CLASS AAA BANDS:** David Fortenberry, Greenwood High School, Area A; Kyle Maxwell, Breckenridge High School, Area B; Rusty Baldwin, Anahuac High School, Area C; Ed Lowes, La Grange High School, Area D (Chairman); Dan Frels, Cuero Jr. High, Area E; Dennis Teasdale, Stamford High School, Monitor.

If all goes well, the CD should be available for purchase in November. I will put the information on the web site when I know the exact date.

I hope you all have a very successful fall semester, and I am looking forward to seeing you in February at the convention. I will send a letter in February to those directors who will be receiving an award in San Antonio at the General Session of ATSSB. If you change schools or your mailing address changes, please contact me. I must be able to communicate with you.

Thank you for all you do for ATSSB and the Outstanding Performance Series.



Executive Secretary's Column

by Kenneth L. Griffin



Please look over any materials you receive from your Region Coordinators regarding auditions. The region auditions determine the Area Candidates from each of the regions in the state. Be sure you are aware of eligibility requirements and that you have taken care of all of the necessary paperwork (ATSSB membership, region entry fees, forms completed, etc.) in advance of auditions. While there is no alignment with TMEA this year regarding auditions for All-State Band membership, we have several new wrinkles to the audition process in place this year in anticipation of an alignment which could happen in the 1999-2000 school year. Important changes include five-person judging panels and screens are to be used in auditions which could lead to membership in the All-State Band. See the official rules and regulations in the Prescribed Audition List Update you received for 1998-99. Please see the updated ATSSB Officers and Organizers listed elsewhere in this Newsletter.

If you have students who are selected to audition at the ATSSB Area auditions January 11, make sure each one brings Form 11 and Form 15 properly completed and signed to the audition. Otherwise, they will not be allowed to audition at the Area level. These forms will be given you either at the Region audition or sent to those involved by the Area Coordinator when sending Area audition information.

Hotel space is at a premium of course in San Antonio, so make sure that you fill out Form 14 at Area securing space in the Ramada Emily Morgan Hotel for the clinic in San Antonio if you have a student selected for All-State. You may use Form 14 at Area to reserve a room for you (and others if you wish to share) at the same hotel as long as the rooms last. There are also a limited number of rooms with King or Queen beds for directors who would like a room at the Emily Morgan.

Our ATSSB 4-Year All-State Scholarship is doing well now as contributions are continuing to come in. We were able to fund all four of last year's scholarships with donations, late membership fees, and Licensee royalties. Since the scholarship fund was initiated, we have received donations from Regions 1, 2, 3&20, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 13, 14, 16, and 17&19 along with a donation from an individual band (Reagan County High School Owl Band). We have added \$7525 to the fund from 301 members joining after October 1 (I wonder if some or many of these are purposely waiting until then so they can contribute to the scholarship!?!). We have also added \$1841.51 to the fund from royalties paid by Licensees (business using the ATSSB name or logos for their products like Jordan Sound Productions, Probst Audio, Southwest Specialties, etc.). If your region has any discretionary funds - or if any individuals would like to contribute to this tax-exempt scholarship fund, please send your checks to me at the state office with the designation on the check that it is for the "ATSSB 4-Year All-State Band Scholarship Fund". We only have one student eligible to receive this scholarship this coming year (assuming the student makes it again!), but in coming years the number should increase with larger numbers selected to All-State. So please keep the scholarship in mind each year as you end up with any fund balances your region feels it can contribute to this worthy cause.

Best wishes for a successful marching season.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kenneth L. Griffin".

WANT A FREE ROOM IN SAN ANTONIO?

Boy, have we got a deal for you! Sign up to be a Floor Monitor - it is that easy. ATSSB will provide you with a free room for three nights at the Ramada Emily Morgan Hotel. All that is required is that the assigned floors be monitored to make sure the All-State Band students are safe and secure. Specific duties will be outlined to those of you expressing an interest in this free offer. You would be responsible for all three nights - but you could share the room with two others and trade out nights or times.

If interested, give our All-State Housing Coordinator Jennifer Willison a call at (806) 323-8617 or (806) 323-5608 or email her at Jennifew@tenet.edu - but hurry! This offer will expire at midnight tomorrow night!

(Seriously, act quickly to take advantage of this opportunity to not only help with the All-State process, but also enjoy free lodging in San Antonio during the clinic.)

1998-99 ATSSB Officers and Organizers

Officers

Ronnie Page, Overton High School	President 1997-99
George Strickland, Glen Rose High School	President-Elect 1997-99
Kenneth Griffin*, Longview (Retired)	Executive Secretary (appt.) 1997-99
John Canfield, Rusk Junior High School	Class C/CC Representative 1998-99
Shannon Dow, Happy High School	Class A Representative 1998-2000
Eric Wharton, Teague High School	Class AA Representative 1998-99
Wayne Smith, White Oak High School	Class AAA Representative 1998-2000

Region Coordinators

1 James Nance, Perryton HS	11 Daniel Aleman, Pearsall HS
2 Greg Miller, Iowa Park HS	12 Sandy Brown, Karnes City HS
3/20 Elmer Schenk*, Howe HS	13 Jeff DuBose, Industrial HS
4 Greg Rose, Pittsburg HS	14 Eric Winterbottom, Orange Grove HS
5 Chris Lovejoy, Sanger HS	15 Robert Garza, Rio Hondo HS
6 David Fortenberry, Greenwood HS	16 John Odom, Floydada HS
7 Scott Stephenson, Ballinger HS	17/19 Jim Smith, Tarkington HS
8 Collin Anderson, Centerville HS	18 Ed Lowes, La Grange HS
9/23 Alfred Angerstein, The Kinkaid School	21 Virgil Beene, Troup HS
10 Don Stockton, Warren HS	22 John Ferguson, Presidio HS

The ATSSB State Board of Directors includes Founding Charter Members(*) that are not presently serving as officers: Rick Ball, Mike Bendiksen, Paul Dwayne Bishop, Lonnie Dooley, Michael Marsh, Fred Pankratz, Elmer Schenk, Louis Thornton, and Jennifer Willison

- Area A Coordinator: Britt Gordon, Sundown High School (1,6,16,22) - (806) 229-2511
- Area B Coordinator: Louis Thornton, Abilene Wylie High School (2,3&20,5) - (915) 690-1189
- Area C Coordinator: Mark Melton, Beaumont: Lamar University (4,10,17&19,21) - (409) 880-8148
- Area D Coordinator: Ed Lowes, McLennan County CC (7,8,9&23,18) - (817) 750-3486
- Area E Coordinator: David Smith, Banquete High School (11,12,13,14,15) - (512) 387-8588

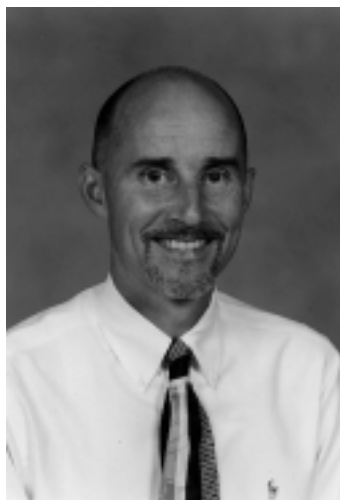
All-State Symphonic Band Organizer	John Standridge, Arp HS
All-State Symphonic Percussion Organizer	Rob Toups, Canton HS
All-State Concert Band Organizer	Shannon Dow, Happy HS
All-State Concert Percussion Organizer	Chris McLellan, Glen Rose MS
All-State Band Seating Tryout Organizer	Scott Stephenson, Ballinger HS
All-State Housing Coordinator	Jennifer Willison, Canadian MS
Outstanding Performance Series State Chair	Don Thoede, Clifton (Retired)

DATES TO REMEMBER

- AREA CERTIFICATION DEADLINE: Saturday, December 12, 1998
- AREA: Saturday, January 9, 1999
- ALL-STATE CLINIC: February 3-6, 1999
 - Lt. Col. Alan Bonner, U.S. Air Force (Ret.), Symphonic Band Clinician
 - John O'Reilly, Concert Band Clinician and commissioned composer
- ALL-STATE CONCERT: Saturday, February 6, 1999 at 11:30 a.m.

Points to Ponder!!

by Wayne Smith, Class AAA Representative to the SBOD



As I attend our region meetings as well as state-level ATSSB meetings, I am once again impressed by the professional and personal quality of my colleagues teaching in our band programs today. These people are not only experts in their field but are the kinds of people who are role models to whom I would want my own children to model. If our schools in Texas have staffs of teachers of the same quality as the band directors whom I observe, then education in the state of Texas has never been in better hands.

As we forge into the mind-numbing grind of the fall semester, I would like to share a few ideas with you that might help us stay focused on why we really do what we do.

*Our students are watching us. Make sure that we model the kinds of behaviors that we expect from them. Be polite. Use good grammar. Dress nicely. Go to church!

*Our band halls should be a refuge. They should be a place which our students can call home, a place where they want to be before and after school, a place where they feel safe, secure, and accepted.

*Make sure that the biggest and most sincere smile and welcome which our students receive all day comes from us. Meet them at the door and greet them enthusiastically. Let them know that the high point of our day and theirs is about to occur when rehearsal begins.

*Stamp out sarcasm for our speech - even in jest. It doesn't work as a classroom management technique, and it humiliates the person on the receiving end.

*Unfortunately, a number of our students lead quite desperate lives at home and at school. Band might just be the only hour of the day when they can be truly successful. Be a beacon of hope and stability in their lives and let them know that you will not allow them to "fall through the cracks."

*A very wise band director once told me that we, as teachers, make our biggest mistakes in underestimating, not overestimating, the potential of our students. We need to set lofty goals, use our intellect and theirs to devise a plan to reach those goals, and then work with a passion toward them.

Each fall, we put our livelihood and professional reputations in the hands of a bunch of teenagers, some who are playing instruments new to them or who have never played one before! We put them on buses and drive untold miles, hoping that they have remembered all twelve parts to their band uniforms, their instruments, and their music. Some will faint from the heat, most will have lost their supper money, and we will have forgotten the halftime script or our desk It's the greatest job in the world, isn't it?!!!!

ATSSB Webmaster Report

by Dr. Wayne Clark

The ATSSB Web site (<http://www.atssb.org>) continues to grow steadily. So far, ATSSB Online has seen over 100,000 hits since August 1! One of the newest features to look for is the ATSSB Region Pages. Region Coordinators are setting up their own Region pages, to keep their members informed of upcoming dates, site changes, and important information. You can access the Region Pages at <http://domino.htcomp.net/atssbreg.nsf> Also, be sure to check the Auditions Page (<http://www.atssb.org/auditions.htm>) for your Year C listings of Region audition music. As soon as we are notified of any official Errata, they are posted immediately on this page.

Although the site has been redesigned, we still have our regular features, including: Online Newsletter, Automatic Home Pages for your band, and an extensive collection of sound clips in Real Audio format.

Finally, with school in full swing, be sure and join other directors from around the state on our weekly ATSSB Live Chat Hour. Guests start arriving around 8:00 p.m. The Live Chat (<http://www.atssb.org/chat-index.htm> - or simply follow the links on the main page). College students interested in Music Education as a career are also welcome.

Be sure to check in often. Important ATSSB announcements are posted on the web as soon as they become available. Using the ATSSB Web is one of the best ways to stay informed of what is happening in our organization. If there are any features you would like to see on ATSSB Online, be sure and email the us at wrclark@atssb.org or edins@atssb.org and we will do whatever we can to make the site as convenient as possible for the membership. We hope you have a successful year, and that we 'see' you online!

Minutes of the ATSSB State Board of Directors

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

Present at the meeting were Region 8 Coordinator Collin Anderson, Region 9 Coordinator Alfred Angerstein, Region 12 Coordinator Sandy Brown, Region 21 Coordinator and Class C/CC Representative John Canfield, Class A Representative Shannon Dow, Region 13 Coordinator Jeff DuBose, Region 6 Coordinator David Fortenberry, Region 15 Coordinator Robert Garza, Executive Secretary Kenneth Griffin, Region 11 Coordinator Mike Hardy, Region 5 Coordinator Chris Lovejoy, Region 18 Coordinator Ed Lowes, Founding Charter Member Mike Marsh, Region 1 Coordinator James Nance, Region 16 Coordinator John Odom, President Ronnie Page, Region 4 Coordinator Greg Rose, Region 3 Coordinator Elmer Schenk, Class AAA Representative Wayne Smith, Region 17 Coordinator James I. Smith, Region 7 Coordinator Scott Stephenson, Region 10 Coordinator Don Stockton, President-Elect George Strickland, Region 2 Coordinator Dennis Teasdale, Founding Charter Member Louis Thornton, Class AA Representative Eric Wharton, Founding Charter Member Jennifer Willison, and Region 14 Coordinator Eric Winterbottom. Attending as guests were TMEA Band Division Vice-President Dick Clardy, Area A Coordinator Britt Gordon, Area C Representative Mark Melton, Area E Coordinator David Smith, Region 11 representative Daniel Stone, OPS State Chair Don Thoede, and Region 21 representative Glenn Wells. Not present were Region 22 Coordinator John Ferguson, and Founding Charter Members Rick Ball, Mike Bendiksen, Dwayne Bishop, Lonnie Dooley, and Fred Pankratz.

After the Board and invited guests enjoyed a buffet breakfast, President Ronnie Page called the meeting to order at 7:17 a.m. and asked Louis Thornton to give the invocation.

The oath of office was administered by Executive Secretary Kenneth Griffin.

The minutes of the SBOD meeting February 12, 1998 were approved as printed in the March Newsletter after a motion by Don Stockton and a second by Dennis Teasdale.

Page introduced TMEA Band Division Vice-President Dick Clardy who reported on TMEA's Symposium 2000 (at which President Page was also in attendance) which detailed where TMEA had been, is at present, and should be going. He reported that there were still over 200 band jobs unfilled and that the majority of the Symposium was spent dealing with this issue. The main thrust of the resulting discussion dealt with mentoring, recruitment, development of the TMEA Website, using surveys to determine needs. He spoke on the proposed ATSSB/TMEA alignment for all-state bands by saying that the proposal speaks for itself. He reported that the TMEA Executive Board was unanimously for alignment, but that timelines for implementation did not coincide, although it will happen as soon as possible.

Page then responded that TMEA President Barbara Perkins had clarified the latest proposal from TMEA, explaining that TMEA no longer listed All-State students in the TMEA Directory. However, after alignment, any listing of All-State students published would include ATSSB All-State students also. Page then reported that the ATSSB Executive Committee had moved that the Association vote by mail ballot (to be included in the December Newsletter) on accepting dual membership with TMEA to align the All-State audition process. The motion was seconded by Don Stockton. Many questions regarding dual memberships were raised, including the necessity for dual membership if students were not seeking a position in the All-State Band (like in junior high auditions) and how to deal with regions that have a "trial run" before region with a district audition or even phase I and II auditions. It was finally suggested that we all give the proposal a positive spin in all of our discussions with the membership. Jennifer Willison suggested the ballot must have a three-fourths approval rate for passage and Don Stockton accepted the amendment to the second. After some more discussion, the question was called and the motion was approved unanimously. More discussion followed with questions regarding procedures, but Page replied that all of these could be addressed with waiver requests. More questions arose regarding orchestra and jazz band auditions and how they would be addressed with alignment, and Page replied that these were issues needing clarification.

There being no old business, Ronnie Page reported that his part would be short and sweet because everything was running so smoothly. The alignment with TMEA was taking most of his attention, but it was quiet otherwise. He thanked all who were involved with making ATSSB run so efficiently, noting that all who were approached to help in any way were quick to respond to the needs of the Association.

In the Executive Secretary's report, Kenneth Griffin asked the Region Coordinators to list the number of patches needed for the coming year on a list being passed around. He reported that there would be a short training session after the SBOD meeting for Area Coordinators and any other interested parties in order to coordinate uniformity in the Area auditions. He mentioned TMAA membership and asked the SBOD to encourage their respective regions to promote the use of ATSSB members on their judging lists, especially those on the Supplemental list needing only judging to become Active Members. He told them that they each had an OPS CD order form which included both 1997 and the upcoming 1998 CD's and that they

(Continued on p. 9)

(SBOD Minutes, Continued from p. 8):

should duplicate the form and distribute copies to their respective region members. He also noted that there was a region survey at their tables that would show the number of students auditioning for all-region by classification. TMEA has requested this information and we would like Region Coordinators to report ATSSB numbers as the information becomes available.

George Strickland then gave a report on the SARC. He said that they did not meet this summer, but took care of errata in the February meeting. He noted that there was a minor sticking error in the percussion rudimental etude that would be listed in the September Newsletter. He also noted that there was still some concern being expressed regarding bass trombone audition material, but that would be addressed in February.

Jennifer Willison gave a report as Housing Coordinator. She said that Charles Sander from Yoakum had volunteered to be State Housing Coordinator-In-Training. She discussed the number of Floor Monitors that might be needed... After input from the SBOD, it was determined that 9 rooms of Floor Monitors would be sufficient.

Don Thoede gave a report on the Outstanding Performance Series. He announced the winners and runners-up in each classification. He reported that the OPS Steering Committee had met regarding the suggestion that OPS participants must play off their respective lists, but said the committee decided to leave the policy as it is. HE said the process is still going smoothly even though several points in the process do not meet deadlines. After a long discussion regarding the possibility of making each deadline 10 days or so earlier, it was decided that the first deadline (for tapes to be entered at the region level) would be May 25. The second (for tapes to be submitted to Designated Region Coordinators) would be June 5, and that the third (for tapes to be submitted to Designated Area Coordinators) would be June 20. A discussion regarding how and if to return tapes that do not advance was met by the SBOD suggesting that no tapes would be returned. The problem of playback equipment quality was also addressed by Thoede. He said that measures would be taken to insure quality playback equipment in the future.

There was only one bid submitted for producing the OPS CD and only one for recording the All-State Band concerts. Wayne Smith moved that we accept the respective bids and Don Stockton seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Kenneth Griffin moved and Chris Lovejoy seconded that we pay an honorarium of \$200 to John Canfield for his hosting the ATSSB-sponsored TBA clinic. Canfield asked that the honorarium be split equally with Sherry Poteet. Griffin amended his motion to include payment of a \$200 to Poteet, also. Lovejoy accepted the amendment and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Griffin asked for suggestions to consider future clinicians and commissions. After a short discussion, it was decided that we would approach Robert W. Smith to be the Concert Band clinician for the 2002 clinic (he is already under contract to write a grade 2+ piece for the 2002 Concert Band) and Anthony Maiello of George Mason University to repeat as Symphonic clinician in 2002.

Page reported that he had polled the Executive Committee regarding paying the expenses not covered by their respective school districts of the Executive Secretary and the OPS State Chair to the TBA convention and the expenses of the Executive Secretary to the TMEA convention.

Greg Rose moved and Jim Smith seconded that the SBOD move in General Session for the acceptance of the proposed Constitutional amendments regarding Honorary Life Membership. Motion passed unanimously.

Louis Thornton thought it was time for the SBOD to consider helping the Executive Committee meet ATSSB-related expenses (telephone bills, travel, etc.) He also thought that since the OPS was faring so well financially, it might be time to consider honoraria, expenses, etc. for judges, especially at Area since it was in the summer. After a short discussion, he moved that the Executive Committee study the feasibility of assisting the Executive Committee with expenses for ATSSB-related activities. Scott Stephenson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Page appointed George Stickland chair of the committee to make the study and report to the SBOD.

Regarding the proposed TMEA/ATSSB alignment, David Smith asked if ATSSB had to follow the Constitution of TMEA or ATSSB. Page reminded the SBOD that the proposed alignment left ATSSB completely autonomous, so all aspects of the Association would continue as it has in the past. The only changes would be: 1)Appeals in the audition process would not end with the SBOD; they could go one more step - to the TMEA Presidents Committee; 2)Five-judge panels would be required; 3)Screens at Area would be required; 4)Students must select the track to state they will take and may not change that selection after it is made.

Page then talked about how ATSSB had an opportunity to make a difference in music education in Texas. As a result of the TMEA Symposium 2000, he proposed that ATSSB look into a three-pronged approach to the problems addressed by the Symposium: 1)Produce a professional video featuring a small-school band director "A Day In The Life" which would include getting funding for the production and distribution of the video; 2)Establish a Music Education Summer Camp which would include securing commitments from colleges and universities to host a summer music camp for high school juniors

(Continued on p. 10)

(SBOD Minutes, Continued from p. 9):

interested in becoming a band director; this would included funding, curriculum, etc. and could be tuition free on recommendations from the 20 ATSSB Region Coordinators (a process of application and approval would be needed); this camp would focus on music theory, music literature and history, class room piano, pedagogy, etc. to get the student ready for the rigorous college curriculum he or she might face); and 3)Establish a Mentoring Program where established, experienced directors would make themselves available one-on-one with new directors in small schools that wanted it to help with filling out forms, preparing for UIL, methods for dealing with uniform distribution, parent and administrator relationships, etc. Page would like a committee composed of ATSSB Past-Presidents to oversee this program. He asked for SBOD blessing to go ahead with the program.. Jennifer Willison moved and James Nance seconded that Page go ahead with his proposal and the motion passed unanimously.

Region reports then were heard:

- 1 Jennifer Willison reported that her region was concerned about the jazz band situation as it relates to the UIL. They would like to see a state-wide jazz band competition. Jazz Bands could not advance to TSSEC because they did not have an approved list from which to select music and the IAJE would not come up with one because the music changed so frequently. She thought they could come up with a concept of and Area jazz band competition to advance to TSSEC and asked that the SBOD talk to their respective region representatives to support the concept.
- 2 No report.
- 3/20 They had 4 ATSSB All-Region bands (2 JH and 2 HS) and 2 ATSSB All-Region Jazz Bands.
- 4 No report.
- 5 No report.
- 6 No report.
- 7 No report.
- 8 No report.
- 9/23 No report.
- 10 No report.
- 11 No report.
- 12 No report.
- 13 They have 3 new bands this year who had moved down from AAAA.
- 14 They appreciated the \$1000 4-Year All-State Band scholarship that a student from their region received.
- 15 No report.
- 16 No report.
- 17/19 Reported that the 5-judge panel would present a problem in their region since they only had six schools in the combined region (17 and 19). George Strickland suggested using college guys and even junior and senior music education students to help. Page mentioned the possibility of ATSSB looking into helping with hiring some judges in regions strapped for numbers
- 18 No report.
- 21 No report.
- 22 No report (Region Coordinator absent).

Area reports then were heard:

- A No report.
- B Even though Thornton was not at Abilene Wylie, the Area B auditions would still be held there.
- C Melton was unsure where auditions would be held at this time (subsequent to this report, Lamar University in Beaumont was selected as the site for Area C auditions)..
- D Lowes stated that auditions would probably continue to be held in Waco.
- E Smith reported that all was going well. He liked the ATSSB Website but would like the membership database more accessible.

There being no further business, Mr. Page adjourned the meeting at 9:50 a.m.



Minutes of the July ATSSB General Session

The General Session of ATSSB met in the Convention Center Room 102 on Monday, July 17, 1998 at 2:00 PM. The meeting was called to order by President Ronnie Page. The invocation was given by Gary Robbins, Rusk HS.

Ronnie Page introduced Barbara Perkins, TMEA President; Dr. Bob Henry, TMEA President-Elect; Mr. Tom SoRelle, TMEA Past President; Mr. Richard Floyd, UIL Music Secretary; Mr. Bob Floyd, TMEA Executive Director; and Mr. Dick Clardy, TMEA Band Division Chairman.

Ron Garza made a motion to accept the minutes as printed in the March Newsletter. No corrections. Jesse Lotspeich seconded. Motion passed.

Bill Large made a motion to accept the Financial Report as printed and passed out at the meeting. Rick Parker seconded. Motion passed.

Tom SoRelle and Barbara Perkins made comments on the TMEA/ATSSB Alignment process and the TMEA 2000 Strategic Planning Conference. Mr. SoRelle commented that the problems are being worked out. Ms. Perkins commented that the two organizations' timelines are a little different. Ms. Perkins also announced that the \$5 fee that ATSSB has been charged for ATSSB All-State students to visit the convention floor will be waived from now on and that these students will receive the Southwestern Musician.

Ronnie Page thanked them for their comments and for attending the meeting.

Ronnie Page read George Strickland's SARC committee report. There were no requests or changes so all rules stand as printed in the 1998-99 PAL.

Don Thoede presented the Outstanding Performance Series Report. 271 tapes were submitted in the competition.

Winning schools and directors were:

Class C March:	Crane MS, Daniel Todd
Class C Concert:	Crane MS, Daniel Todd
	Crane MS, Daniel Todd
Class CC March:	Pittsburg MS, Sherry Poteet
Class CC Concert:	Rio Hondo MS, Joseph Figarelli
	Rusk MS, John Canfield
Class A March:	Throckmorton HS, Bill Rotter
Class A Concert:	Petrolia HS, Everett Hodges
	Wink HS, Tom Burns
Class AA March:	Industrial HS, Jeff DuBose
Class AA Concert:	Howe HS, Elmer Schenk
	Timpson HS, Danny Burns
Class AAA March:	New Boston HS, James Coffman
Class AAA Concert:	Crane HS, Jesse Lotspeich
	New Boston HS, James Coffman

Ronnie Page thanked Don Thoede for all his work and contributions to the OPS process.

Mr. Brian Harris of the UT San Antonio announced All-State music clinics. Flyers are at the booth.

Ronnie Page thanked Tim Edins and Dr. Wayne Clark for their work on the website.

Mr. Richard Floyd reaffirmed his support of ATSSB and dedicated UIL to further involvement with ATSSB.

Announced that the winners of the UIL/Southwestern Bell Outstanding Sponsor Awards in band this year both went to small school directors: Fred Pankratz of Canadian High School and Bob Carnathan of Ore City High School. George Strickland was the ATSSB representative on the UIL PML Committee.

Ronnie Page thanked Mr. Floyd for all his efforts.

A motion was made by the State Board of Directors to accept a change in the constitution regarding Honorary Life Membership. It was seconded by Tony Clines and passed as presented.

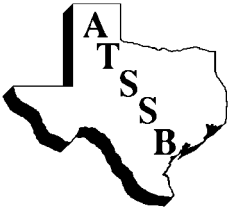
Ronnie Page announced Charles and Debbie Sander of Yoakum High as the Housing Coordinators-In-Training and announced the continuing need for Floor Coordinators. Contact Jennifer Willison at Canadian High School if interested.

Ronnie Page commented on his ideas after attending the TMEA 2000 Strategic Planning Conference. We must grow our own small school band directors. He announced a committee made of the Past Presidents of ATSSB to study ideas like a promotional videotape, a summer music education camp for high school juniors, and a mentor program.

Ronnie Page asked if there was any new business. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 2:51 PM.

Minutes submitted by Jennifer Willison in place of Executive Secretary Kenneth Griffin who had to attend a TMAA workshop scheduled at the same time as the General Session.

Here is your copy of the September
issue of the ATSSB Newsletter



**ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS
SMALL SCHOOL BANDS
401 Hampton Court
Longview, Texas 75605-4736**

