



ATSSB NEWSLETTER

Official Publication of the Association of Texas Small School Bands

Volume V, Number 3

April, 1996



President's Column

by *Don Stockton*

What a great convention! I worked harder than ever and enjoyed this convention with extreme pleasure. It still amazes me how much cooperation we share with each other. Thank you and keep up the great work. Just in case you were not at the convention, I will recap a few of the highlights. The State Board voted to increase our ALL-STATE BAND to TWO ALL-STATE BANDS. Not only will this mean more participation, but it also means NO MORE TAPING at area. Your Region Coordinators will soon have details as to how many in each section are certified to area and how many are certified from area to state. Thanks to our membership, ATSSB is alive and very well.

I am concerned as I know many of you are about the UIL Solo-Ensemble contest. As you are very aware, a student who desires to go to TSSEC must memorize their solo in order to qualify. The memory was brought back (yes, in the old days we memorized) in order to bring the number of TSSEC participants into reason. From what I see, that is exactly what it is doing. My concern, though, is that there may be some students in the small schools that should be going to TSSEC but were prevented because they just did not have the time to spend memorizing because of their participation in other activities such as Speech, Drama, Debate, Basketball, etc. - just to name a few. I have fewer students going to TSSEC this year than last. This is in part due to the memory requirement. However, I am not as concerned about those students who just did not memorize or just did not participate as I am concerned about those students who earned a medal at last year's TSSEC. I would like to know how those students from small schools who received a medal at last year's TSSEC did this year - are they going back? Obviously these are the students we should use as a gauge of participation. If

you have students who earned a TSSEC medal last year and, because of the memory requirement did not qualify this year, would you please drop me a line and explain? Please don't tell me about good ole Susie and how she just could not memorize her solo. I want to know about Susan who received a medal last year but was just too burdened with other activities to memorize her solo. Please send your response to:

Don Stockton
Box 333
Village Mills, Texas 77663

I have been asked by several directors about schedule and who it affects in size and quality. I can only speak from my own experience. There are mainly two concerns that I feel affects band the most - block scheduling and the band director's personal daily schedule of teaching. If either of these is not well organized, the band will suffer. I shall start with the block schedule.

I have taught both regular and block schedules and have found that both have merits. The advantage of the block is that there is more time each period and more can be done in each period. If the block is absolutely two regular class periods combined, then time is gained by however much time it takes to get instruments out and put them up. If this were the case, it would be a great advantage. To me, time with the kids is of the utmost importance. We were on a 45-minute seven period day in the middle school when we converted to an A/B block schedule that meets every other day for 80 minutes. On this schedule, 25 minutes per week is lost. However when I factor in the instrument take out and put up, I don't think that I am losing very much. The problem is

President's Column, continued from page 1:

that 45 minutes is a very short time to begin with. With the longer period, I am able to cover more material and with less interruptions. On regular schedule, the bell seemed to ring just when the lesson began to come together. Care must be taken that time is not wasted in class just because the period is longer. This is probably the largest negative about block scheduling. I thought that the kids would forget so much between meetings that I would be reteaching for a substantial part of class. This is not the case. I think that I cover just as much material as before and with just as good results. Another drawback with the block is when performances are near Pep rallies were not the problem that I at first thought. I have gone to contest during a week that followed a holiday. The band was ready and the layoff was not very much of a factor. Football games would pose a whole different problem. I'm sure that there a lot of directors like myself that do not practice after school and the only time that we see our band is during the regularly scheduled class. If on an A/B block we take pictures (or some other activity interferes with rehearsal) on Tuesday and it rains on Thursday, I would have a difficult time presenting a quality halftime performance. This would be the case especially in the early phases of the season. I don't see how this could work without hurting the quality of performance. I have not done the block in high school but I would have a great concern if we did not meet every day during football season.

As for the band director's personal daily schedule, I have done a variety of schedules both good and bad. In a small school, the band director's personal daily schedule is many times determined by last-minute needs of the school covering study halls, or even teaching in a field outside of band. The band director needs to be in the band hall all day. Any time he is scheduled to teach a class outside of the band hall, the quality of the band will be affected. The ideal schedule for a director in a small school is to have a beginner band class, a middle school band class, and a high school band class. The rest of the day he needs the time to do all of the

organizational and administrative duties that are associated with running a quality band. I cannot check student eligibility if I am tied to a class every minute of the day. Too many times I have to "put out a fire" during my conference period or (in my case) I am on the wrong campus to take care of business. Adding applied music classes to the schedule is not a bad thing to do. This can be a time to work with kids one-on-one and still be available for the telephone occasionally. Administrators like our schedules to be "filled up" because it appears that they are getting more for their money. This is just not so. We have to "administer" a band program and it takes a lot of time. Most of the time I need to be doing this is during school hours. If I need to talk to a teacher about grades, schedule, etc., it must be during the day so that teacher is available and in their working environment. If you are lucky enough to have a really good workable schedule, there is a responsibility that goes along with it - WORK! Don't expect an administrator to fix your schedule if you spend most of your off-class time in the teacher's lounge or (worse) at the local community hangout or coffee shop. I mentioned that I don't have after-school rehearsals. I don't. I do work with individual students who are able to arrange rides after school. I used to waste the class time knowing I was going to see the band after school. When I finally came to my senses and began to work efficiently in class, I realized that we did not need extra practices. After-hours rehearsal is also difficult because of the students we share. When I realized that I was using class time to reteach all of the students that were absent after school, I realized that we were spinning our wheels. The last time I practiced after school we were missing 4 football players, 5 volleyball players, 3 cheerleaders, and 2 drivers education students. Wow - 14 out of 31! I was forced to use every second of class time and be much more organized. We quit the after-school practice and the attitude of all was improved. By the way, that was the year that Warren earned its first Sweepstakes ever. We have not practiced after school hours since.



President-Elect's Column

by *Ronnie Page*

I have read officer's columns for years with statements like the following: "We had not even finished this year's activity before we were planning next year's program". I can say with all naiveté that I really never believed them at heart, but let me assure you it is so! We have some exciting changes next year that required

planning before we left San Antonio. I have outlined each change below, and more information will be forthcoming in the first of our annual updates to the 5-year Prescribed Audition List (PAL), mentioned below.

President-Elect's Column, continued from page 2:

The biggest change will be the two-band format for next year. The SARC (State Audition Review Committee) and the SBOD (State Board of Directors) both felt like the time had come when we could support another all-state organization. We will see a difference from the region level forward when we certify roughly twice as many students to the Area auditions. No student will have to tape an audition, and none of us will have to wait for the tape session and then try to find out how our student has done!

Eight items were presented to the SBOD meeting from the SARC. Each is listed below with the final action taken by the State Board.

1. The proposed five-year rotating audition list was presented in its final form and formally adopted by the SBOD. You received your copy with this Newsletter (Note that it is punched for a three-ring binder; you should secure a folder immediately to hold your PAL). Each July you will receive an update with your Newsletter, printed on colored paper. You will place it in front of your three-ring binder for reference throughout the audition process. This update will contain information on officers, Region and Area Coordinators, audition procedures and processes, Area dates and sites, etc. The following year's update will arrive with the next July Newsletter, printed in a contrasting color. You will discard the previous year's update, preparing your PAL for the current year. You will use the actual list for many years without having to replace it. Student may have the material at any time you want them to have it.

2. The SARC proposed and the SBOD adopted the following percussion warm-up procedure for Area auditions:

Snare Drum - may play 2 measures of eighth notes and 2 measures of long rolls in 4/4 time.

Timpani - The monitor will put each pedal to the floor. Player may tune, then use the same warm-up as the snare drum using one or all timpani for the four measures.

Mallets - May use a 15-second warm-up of their choice.

3. The SARC proposed and the SBOD adopted that mallet percussion will roll whole notes at the end of all scales. This is indicated on the mallet scale sheets in the PAL.

4. The SARC proposed and the SBOD adopted a one-breath warm-up for all wind instruments. They will be allowed to play anything they wish in one breath.

5. The SARC proposed and the SBOD adopted that scales are to be played **exactly as written**, with points deducted for additional or inadequate octaves. The memory requirement for scales was also rescinded, so students may use their own scale sheets in the audition room.

6. The SARC proposed a contingency plan for inclement weather. The SBOD referred this matter to a committee composed of the Area Coordinators for further study.

7. The SARC proposed and the SBOD adopted a plan for a second All-State Band to be implemented for next year.

8. The SARC was prepared to propose changes in the tape audition process; however, this proposal was unnecessary after the adoption of item 7.

This is easily the largest number of changes recommended by any SARC to date. The committee has always thoroughly contemplated suggestions from the membership. However, it has always been reluctant to suggest changes to the SBOD where it was not warranted. I would say that our leadership has always taken a conservative approach to suggested changes.

There was obviously broad support for suggested changes this year. It is my belief that our successes the past five years have led us to this juncture. We have seen an improvement each year in depth and quality in the All-State Band. I have even seen an improvement in my own program at home, as I am sure you have. All of this bolsters my belief that ATSSB is serving the needs of the small school band programs in our state. It is something whose time has come. I point out once again how much we owe those founding fathers (*and mothers, Jennifer! - ed.*) who took the first giant steps to offer what our students and small school programs benefit from today.

President-Elect's Column, continued from page 3:

It will be exciting to see the second band grow in stature and quality from year one forward. Over 100 additional students taking an all-state experience back home and sharing it with their peers should be a very positive force. I look forward to our future plans with great anticipation. I am sure each of you does as well.



• The ATSSB Newsletter is the official publication
• of the Association of Texas Small School Bands.
• All correspondence should be addressed to the
• Association of Texas Small School Bands at
• P.O. Drawer 1508; Van, Texas 75790. You may
• call/fax us at (903) 963-5841 or email us at
• KL2000G@aol.com or klgriff@tenet.edu.

• Letters to the Association are encouraged and
• will be printed if signed, although writers may
• remain anonymous if requested. Content may
• be edited for length.

Executive Secretary's Column

by *Kenneth L. Griffin*

This packet should contain a copy of this Newsletter a copy of the 1996 Membership Directory, and your copy of the 5-year rotating Prescribed Audition List (PAL). Your PAL contains the list of etudes and scales required for audition at ATSSB Area. You will receive cover documents for each audition year in your July Newsletter (or new directors can pick up their PAL and the current year updated cover documents at TBA). The Directory lists all members, Regular and Associate, as of March 11, 1996. In the back of the Directory is an alphabetical listing of the schools so you can determine who is at which school. If you can think of any other way this Directory could be helpful to you, please let me know in time to use your suggestions for next year's Directory (actually, I must apologize to Elmer Schenk who suggested that we use larger print - because I had time, duplication, and slave labor collation problems!). I know I use my Directory all of the time for the calls I make. I hope you use yours to stay in touch with each other.

You will notice that there is not a membership renewal in the packet. I will mail a membership renewal to you with the July Newsletter. Maybe we can all turn in a PO to get our membership dues paid as soon after September 1 as possible this year since the State Board of Directors has voted to *increase dues for Active Members to \$50 if received after October 1!* You may still join the Association at any time during the year for \$25 (like new directors at semester breaks), but you will be an Associate Member after October 1 for the \$25 dues - still receiving all Newsletters and notices, but unable to vote or enter students into ATSSB activities. The SBOD voted to increase the dues to encourage members to get their paperwork done early to avoid

congestion as audition deadlines approach. The additional \$25 will be deposited into the 4-Year ATSSB All-State Band Scholarship Fund.

Interesting facts about the 1996 All-State Band: Sweeny High School had 6 students in the band; Crane High School had 5 students in the band; Greenwood High School and Hamshire-Fannett High School each had 4 students in the band. Three schools had 3 students in the band: Ingleside, Mathis, and Stanton. Fifteen schools had 2 students in the band. Sixty-five other schools had 1 student in the band.

Educational Recording Service in Ozona still has recordings of the 1996 All-State Band available. If you wish to receive a compact disc recording (a 2-CD set) of the 1992, 1993, 1994 and 1995 concerts, they will cost \$17 (for the 2-CD set) and the cassette tape of the 1996 concert is \$10. Each or both of these can be ordered from:

EDUCATIONAL RECORDING SERVICE
P.O. BOX 1188
115 LIVE OAK
OZONA, TEXAS 76943

Interesting fact about the 1996 All-State Band: The membership included 6 freshmen, 26 sophomores, 38 juniors, and 53 seniors.

Make sure you use your contacts at colleges and universities across Texas (and beyond) to ensure that they give scholarships (all expenses paid) to ATSSB

Executive Secretary's Column, continued from page 4:

All-State students and tuition scholarships to ATSSB Area students for their summer band camps. Check out what the camp offers and then encourage your students to go where they are wanted.

Interesting facts about the 1996 All-State Band: The band had 68 females and 55 males.

If you would like to purchase a set of the music used on the concert (ATSSB had to buy it!), we will sell it to you at half-price. We had to purchase two complete sets because of copyright laws. Rolling Thunder (\$25.00); Dance of the Comedians (\$25.00) Symphony Number Three (Slavyanskaya) (\$62.50). Just call to let me know your interest and I will send it to you (if still available) with a bill. We still have a copy of Cajun Folk Songs (\$47.50), Pineapple Poll (\$18.00), Wind Dancer (\$20.00), Burst of Flame (\$9.00), Pustza (includes many extra first parts that we had to buy for inclusion in the Area packets!) (\$40.00); Where Never Lark Or Eagle Flew (\$24.00); Hall To The Fleet (\$12.00); and the march British Eighth (\$4.00) if anyone wants them.

Interesting facts about the 1996 All-State Band: Of the 123 students in the band, 6 were from class A schools (4.9% of the band), 27 from class AA schools (22%), and 90 from class AAA schools (73.1%), all representing 87 different schools (18.8% of all member schools). Our membership breaks down into 463 schools represented (with 645 paid individual High School, Assistant High School, and Middle School members): 93 class A (20.1% of the membership), 173 class AA (37.4% of the membership) and 197 class AAA (42.5% of the membership). We had over 80% of the eligible A, AA, and AAA high schools in Texas join as members this past year.

Please let me know if you need to replace a Region Coordinator in your Spring Meeting because yours moved, etc. I need to have their name as soon as possible for our plans for 1996-97 (call me at 903-963-5841 and leave a message). Your Region Coordinator is your region's representative on the State Board of Directors which makes all of the interim important decisions for you regarding ATSSB matters. Make sure he/she or a proxy attends each SBOD meeting! It would also be nice if each Region Coordinator brought a mandate of opinion from each respective region so votes

could be representative of each region of the state. One other thing: each region needs to be thinking about nominating a President-Elect for 1997-99 as Ronnie Page ascends to the Presidency next February and Don becomes a Past-President. You also need to nominate an Executive Secretary for the same term, 1997-99. These nominations are due by October 1 (you can make them in the spring meeting, but must make them in the August meeting). Nominees will be listed with a short biography if I have received it by then. Please remember that nominees must be current Active Members of the Association before their name can be placed on the ballot.

Interesting facts about the 1996 All-State Band: There was only one senior who had made the All-State Band four consecutive years: Leslie Hunter, clarinetist from Eldorado. She was given a certificate of achievement in a brief ceremony during the concert. She also was presented with the first \$1,000 4-Year ATSSB All-State Band Scholarship by Committee Chair Wayne Smith. Next year there is only one student eligible to receive this scholarship because we only have one junior who has been a member of the band for the last three years. Don't forget to send in your contribution to the scholarship fund. Donors are recognized elsewhere in the scholarship fund report.

We still have the ATSSB enamel lapel pin available for you. We also have the large 10" ATSSB All-State Band patches for the All-State Band members. Send \$2 for each enamel pin and/or \$8 for each 10" patch to: ATSSB; P.O. Drawer 1508; Van, Texas 75790. Be sure to enclose where to send them!

Even though the last five years have been fruitful and exciting, the future is even more promising. We will have two All-State Bands next year (see details elsewhere) and clinicians, dates, and commissions under contract include:

1997 clinician: Dr. Tim Lautzenheizer (Symphonic)
Feb. 12-15 We have commissioned Fred Allen to write a grade 2+ piece for the Concert Band.

1998 clinician: Ed Hucceby
Feb. 11-14 We have also commissioned Mr. Hucceby to compose a grade 3+ work for the 1998 All-State Band)

Executive Secretary's Column, continued from page 5:

1999 clinician: John O'Reilly (we also have
Feb. 3-6 commissioned Mr. O'Reilly to
compose a grade 3+ work for the
1999 All-State Band)

Other clinic dates (in which we already have rooms at
the Ramada Emily Morgan Hotel booked and the
Scottish Rite Auditorium reserved) are:

February 9-12,	2000
February 7-10,	2001
February 20-23,	2002
February 12-15,	2003
February 11-14,	2004
February 9-12,	2005
February 15-18,	2006
February 14-17,	2007
February 13-16,	2008
February 11-14,	2009
February 10-13,	2010.

Interesting facts about the 1996 All-State
Band: Of the 123 members, each of the 20
regions had an average of 6.15 students in
the band (the same as last year). One region
had 13 (the most) and two regions had none
(the least). Each of the five Areas had an
average of 24.6 in the band (the same as last
year). Area A had 24 (up from last year),
Area B had 23 (down from last year), Area C
had 25 (down from last year), Area D had 25
(the same as last year), and Area E had 25
(up from last year).

Yet another note about housing! Our biggest problem
between the hotel and guests using the blocked rooms is
the advance payment. Each year, we have at least one
director who signs up for a room on the Form 17, then
does not prepay *nor* stay in the room. The Association
must pay for these rooms if we cannot get the director to
meet his obligation. We have also had problems with
All-State bandsmen being signed up for a room, then
staying elsewhere - again causing the Association to
have to pay that student's portion of the room if we
cannot get the school to meet its obligation because of
the enrollment on the Form 17. So far, we have only
had to cover one director who refused to pay (he is no
longer a member). We are looking at ways to alleviate
this, perhaps by charging a hotel fee payable at or
immediately after Area by each person wishing lodging
at the Emily Morgan. The Association would then
prepay the hotel with one check for all rooms, allowing
rooms to be released for sale to the public rather than

being charged to us if advanced payment is not received.

We had a few minor infractions of the Student Code of
Conduct this year that required Executive Committee
action. These infractions, although certainly not illegal,
were serious enough that we may also change the way
we chaperone the students in the hotel. More on that in
the October Newsletter (after committee referrals and
SBOD action). Most problems can be averted in
advance by the director going over the Code with each
participating student and stressing compliance - then
checking on their students periodically to see that
everything is going as expected.

I was sent the following job vacancy notifications:

SCHOOL	CONTACT
ALTO High School (AA) Band Director	Neal Harris, Asst. Supt. Route 1, Box 1000 Alto, TX 75925 (409) 858-3355
SUNRAY HS (A) Assistant Director	Beth Cator Box 240 Sunray, Texas 79086 (806) 948-5515 - Band Hall (Rick Ball, Band Director)

After reading Don's column about block scheduling, I
feel compelled to respond. Van High School went to a
modified block schedule after studying and visiting for a
year (yes, I asked to serve on the committee - for
obvious reasons!). The modification is that there is a
50-minute "flex" period stuck between the first two
blocks of each day in which a class meets every day -
this is where my high school band is scheduled.
Therefore, after much agony and soul-searching, my
principal came up with this proposal which allowed the
band to continue to meet each day - which my
experience tells me is a necessity to continue any
activity requiring skill and finesse with any degree of
success (we just received our 18th consecutive
Sweepstakes). So I remained unaffected by block
schedule since my high school band continued to meet
at approximately the same time each day (we did lose 5
minutes of rehearsal time from the 55-minute schedule
we were on the year before, but that was negligible).
My real problem is that Van Junior High, after studying
block scheduling since January with one visit to a junior
high twice the size of ours, has already proposed a block
schedule to the Board which has my 6th grade band
meeting every other day for 85 minutes. They did this
without advance notice that it was going to be proposed

Executive Secretary's Column, continued from page 6:

(except by putting it the agenda letter to board members) - and after I had met repeatedly with the principal and instructional committee made up mostly of current and former band parents I thought would understand and explained how it would negatively impact the band program. The Board (made up entirely of current and former band parents) approved it unanimously!

I would simply ask two questions, both of which you should ask your administrators if you think it will get you anywhere (it didn't me):

1) Do you remember college courses you took and which you hated the most - the M-W-F class that met for an hour, or the T-T class that met for 90 minutes? Apply your feelings to a 6th grader and how he can and will handle 90 minutes in one subject!

2) Is there any documentation that going to a block schedule will improve TAAS scores?

Oh, well!



Scholarship Update

We have \$ 3,342.56 in our Scholarship Fund as of March 11, 1996. \$1,000 of this amount is encumbered for Leslie Hunter's use as the 1996 recipient of the scholarship.

Donors to date include:

Reagan County	
High School Owl Band	\$ 20.00
ATSSB Region 2	\$ 250.00
ATSSB Region 3	\$ 100.00
ATSSB Region 4	\$ 1,000.00
ATSSB Region 5	\$ 1,000.00
ATSSB Region 7	\$ 500.00
ATSSB Region 16	\$ 200.00
ATSSB Region 19	\$ 250.00

Interest to 3-06-96 \$ 22.56

Total in account as of 3-11-96\$ 3,342.56



State Taping Audition Report

by *Craig Hunt*

The last State Taping auditions were held at Karnes City High School January 12 (there will be no taping procedure next year because of the two all-state bands). Auditions began at 4:15 p.m. and were completed at 11:15 p.m. One region sent no basson tapes and one oboe did not play one etude. The following group of directors were present or gave their assistance in these auditions: Larry Barnet of Luling; Kenneth Griffin of Van; Michael Holt of Stockdale; Craig Hunt of Karnes City; Florencio Lara of Lytle; Armando Medina of Kenedy; Melissa Moss of Kenedy; J.C. Neighbors of Nixon-Smiley; Ronnie Page of Overton; Steve Phillipus of Jourdanton; William Pickett of Poteet; Don Stockton of Warren; Annette Unger of Karnes City; Roz Vastano of La Vernia; and Richard Wilson of Randolph. There were no problems nor controversies brought to my attention.

State Chair Audition Report

by *Neal Sutton*

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each one of you who had a part in the All-State Seating Auditions this year. We had 49 people involved in either judging, monitoring, or serving as an alternate. We try to have each area represented on each panel, an effort that requires a great deal of cooperation. I would especially like to thank Chis Roberts from Atlanta and Mark Beatty from Fruitvale for their much-needed help in this process.

With the addition of a second band, we will need more judges for our seating auditions next year. We will continue to use the Emily Morgan Hotel and the Scottish Rite Auditorium for all of the auditions. We will use three additional judging panels. I think we can finish the auditions in approximately the same amount of time as we did this year. If you are interested in helping with the process, please let your Region or Area Coordinator know and we will add your name to the list. You may also contact me directly at (903) 799-1032 or nsutton@tenet.edu to have your name added to the list. As I stated earlier, we try to use a representative from each of the five Areas on each panel when possible.

Again, thanks to everyone for making the auditions run as smoothly as they did. Have a great spring.

TWO ALL-STATE BANDS IN 1997

The 1997 ATSSB All-State Band will be divided in chair auditions into two bands in San Antonio. Each region may send up to - but no more than - the number of instruments indicated below to Area, and each Area may send up to - but no more than - the number of instruments indicated to State:

	SYMPHONIC BAND	CONCERT BAND	NUMBER THAT CAN BE SENT FROM EACH AREA TO STATE	NUMBER THAT CAN BE SENT FROM EACH REGION TO AREA
FLUTE	10	10	4	5
OBOE	2	3	1	2
BASSOON	2	3	1	2
CLARINET	15	15	6	7
ALTO CLARINET	2	3	1	2
BASS CLARINET	5	5	2	3
CONTRABASS	2	3	1	2
ALTO SAX	5	5	2	3
TENOR SAX	2	3	1	2
BARI SAX	2	3	1	2
FRENCH HORN	10	10	4	5
TRUMPET	15	15	6	7
TROMBONE	10	10	4	5
BASS TRB	5	5	2	3
BARITONE	5	5	2	3
TUBA	10	10	4	5
SNARE	5	5	2	3
MALLET	3	2	1	2
TIMP/UTIL*	2	3	1	2
TOTAL	112	118	46	65

* Note that we have a new category - timpani/utility. This person will audition at the State Chair Auditions on timpani and utility percussion instruments (tambourine, triangle, bass drum, cymbals, etc.). The first chair timpanist will play mostly timpani with some auxiliary percussion; the other one will help play mostly auxiliary percussion with some timpani (to be assigned by the Symphonic Percussion Organizer). The other three timpanists will rotate playing timpani and auxiliary percussion as assigned by the Concert Percussion Organizer).

The Symphonic Band will meet and rehearse in the auditorium as usual. The Concert Band will meet in the Banquet Hall downstairs. We realize that there will be some "bleeding" of sound from either group, but we do not think it will be distracting unless one band is deep in concentrated quiet thought about a particular problem while the other is in the finale of the loudest piece they will perform! The bands will have staggered rehearsal times (to accommodate the use of the elevators at the hotel) until Friday evening, when they will both break at the same time so they can trade places for the Saturday rehearsal. The Concert Band will rehearse on stage Saturday morning, then break to dress for an 11:30 concert time. We are in the planning stage at this time for logistics regarding the two concerts, but we think we will have the Concert Band adjourn to the Banquet Hall after its performance so the Symphonic Band can set up and warm up for its concert which is to immediately follow the Concert Band's performance. We will try to set up a reception in the Banquet Hall for each band so parents and students can visit with one another and the clinician, take picture, get autographs, etc.



The Association of Texas Small School Bands
Minutes of the State Board of Directors Meeting

The State Board of Directors of the Association of Texas Small School Bands met for breakfast at 7:00 a.m. on Thursday, February 15, 1996, in the Ramada Emily Morgan Hotel in San Antonio.

Present at the meeting were Fred Angerstein, Rick Bail, Rodney Bennett, John Canfield, John Gibson, Kenneth Griffin, Tom Hall, Michael Hardy, Bill Harrison, Richard Herrera, Craig Hunt, Jesse Lotspeich, Ed Lowes, Ronnie Page, Fred Pankratz, Forrest Perry, Elmer Schenk, Jim Smith, Scott Stephenson, Tim Storzaker, Don Stockton, Neal Sutton, Dennis Teasdale, Louis Thornton, Darryl Trent, Ron Welborn, Jennifer Willison, and Tim Yourea. Guests present included Area C Coordinator Mark Melton, Area A Coordinator Bryant Harris and Area E Coordinator David Smith. Not present were Founding Charter Member Mike Bendiksen, Founding Charter Member Dwayne Bishop, Founding Charter Member Lonnie Dooley, AAA Representative Bern Hoaldridge, and Region VIII Coordinator Jeff Comp.

After enjoying a buffet breakfast, the meeting was called to order by President Don Stockton at 7:13 a.m. Louis Thornton gave the Invocation.

The minutes of the SBOD meeting July 24, 1995 were approved as printed in the October Newsletter after a motion by John Gibson and a second by Jim Smith.

In old business, the Board was reminded that Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser was contracted to be the clinician for 1997, but that Fred Allen had not responded to two letters inviting him to negotiate for a commission for the 1996 All-State Band. A poll was taken of the Directors concerning who to contact for a commission should we be unable to secure Fred Allen's services. It was decided to pursue Fred Allen, but begin a dialogue with Frank Tichelli (with Jan Vanderroost a close second) for a commission in Allen's place.

Under new business, Mr. Stockton appointed John Gibson as chairman of the Election Committee with all Region Coordinators to pass out, collect and count the ballots.

The next item of business was the report of the State Audition Review Committee (SARC) chaired by President-Elect Ronnie Page:

The 5-year rotating Prescribed Audition Music was presented for approval (as a motion and second from committee). After a lengthy discussion, it was approved unanimously.

A set of three proposals were approved unanimously as follows:

Warm-ups in the audition room will be as indicated:

Snare drum - In 4/4 time, the student may play 2 measures of eighth notes and 2 measures of long rolls.

Timpani - Monitor will lower all tuning pedals to the floor when student enters the room.

The student may then tune the timpani, then warm up using the snare drum pattern on one or any combination of timpani.

Mallets - Students may play anything for 15 seconds (timed by Monitor).

Wind instrument players may play anything that can be played in one breath. This will be referred to as the one-breath warm-up.

Mallet percussion will roll all whole notes (which shall be so indicated on scale sheets).

A proposal to require that scales be played exactly as written with points deducted for additional or inadequate octave was passed unanimously.

A proposal to drop the requirement that scales be memorized passed by a margin of 16 for and 6 against.

Elmer Schenk moved and Jesse Lotspeich seconded that no fingerings would be allowed on scale sheets at Area. Motion failed.

A proposed contingency plan for Area auditions to be held at a later date because of inclement weather was referred back to committee for refinement.

A proposed second all-state band submitted to the SARC passed as printed with 26 for and 2 against.

A final proposal regarding the taping process was made moot by the adoption of a second band since there will be no taping procedure under the new procedures at Area.

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The addition of a second band at all-state necessitated the hiring of a second clinician. A poll was taken of the Directors with the following to be contacted in order of appearance: Fred Allen (SFASU), Dr. Gary Garner (WTSU), David Holsinger, and Gary Sousa (SWTSU).

Ronnie Page moved and Mike Hardy seconded that the commissioned piece be written for the second band, not the first band. Motion passed with 17 voting for and 5 against.

The next item of business was a letter from Van Henry of Elgin regarding scholarships being offered to TMEA all-state students only. This letter prompted a lengthy discussion of ways to improve our public relations, including sending complimentary CD's to college directors, forming a public relations committee, and perhaps inviting college directors to clinic the second band.

The next item of business was a proposal by Don Stockton to increase the dues after October 1 to \$50 with the additional \$25 received to go into the 4-Year All-State Band Scholarship Fund. Anyone may join after Area auditions for \$25 as an Associate Member. This was proposed to keep directors from joining at the last minute before Region auditions with the intent that members get their dues paid as soon after September 1 as possible. Mr. Griffin sent as many as 40 faxes of cards to members who needed a membership number so their students could audition at the Region level (Office policy is that a number cannot be issued unless a check or official school purchase order is received first).

The next item of business was to address Area DNA's. After a report by Kenneth Griffin detailing students who were reported as DNA at the respective Area auditions, Mr. Stockton referred the item to the SARC for consideration of proposals to deal with DNA's.

The next item of business was a discussion of private school participation in ATSSB. No action was taken in this matter.

The next item of business was proposed ATSSB-sponsored clinics at TBA. The following clinic ideas would be sent to TBA to see if they can be included in the TBA program:

Computer-assisted audition procedures by Don Stockton.

Small-school block scheduling with a panel discussion led by John Gibson, Bryant Harris, Jim Smith, Rodney Bennett, Jesse Lotspeich, and Scott Stephenson.

Brass players teaching woodwind beginners in small-school situations with Jesse Lotspeich and Jennifer Willison (could be combined with another proposal - How to organize a one-man band program).

The next item of business concerned ATSSB-sponsored competitions. Several members reported requests from the membership that ATSSB sponsor Concert and Sightreading contests, Marching contests, and solo-ensemble contests (with a proposal by Jesse Lotspeich for ATSSB to sponsor a state solo-ensemble contest). After much discussion, Don Stockton named Elmer Schenk to chair a committee to investigate all of these possibilities. The committee would include the Representatives to the SBOD, Fred Pankratz, Fred Angerstein, Dennis Teasdale, and Jesse Lotspeich.

Jennifer Willison moved and Jim Smith seconded that ATSSB pay a \$200 honorarium to All-State Band Organizer Wayne Smith and Percussion Organizer Cathie Cain. Motion passed.

John Canfield moved and Ronnie Page seconded that ATSSB pay a \$200 honorarium to All-State Seating Audition Coordinator Neal Sutton. Motion passed.

Jim Smith moved that Region Coordinators be required to be in the tabulation room at Area. After a second by Fred Pankratz, the motion passed unanimously.

Mike Hardy moved and John Gibson seconded that all judges' math be checked before entering data into computer at the State Seating auditions. Motion passed.

Fred Angerstein moved and Jesse Lotspeich seconded that audition results will not become final until 30 minutes after the last section is posted (instead of 30 minutes after each section is posted). Motion passed.

Jennifer Willison moved that Area be moved before the Christmas break. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Region reports were then heard:

I They had 1120 entries and five bands (2 high school and 3 feeder junior high). Tim Youree would like ATSSB to work with UIL and TEA to lessen the impact of the 10-day rule which at this point is discriminatory to small schools. They were going to donate \$500 to the ATSSB Four-Year All-State Band Scholarship.

II No report.

SBOD Minutes, continued from page 10:

- III This was the first year for a performing ATSSB All-Region Band and they had 2 high school and 2 junior high bands, with the region commissioning a new work from John Stewart for the first middle school band. They had 461 audition for the high school and 552 for the junior high bands.
- IV They added a 7th-grade band this year and had 1300 entries. Their region wanted to go on record that they wanted a unified percussion audition instead of separated snare drum, mallets, and timpani. David Holsinger was their clinician for the high school band. He premiered two of his new pieces (both commissioned for New England bands). They expressed a concern about a student who had been selected to All-State, but then moved to a AAAA school and (by rule) not being allowed to participate (the alternate was sent). They had donated \$1000 to the ATSSB Four-Year All-State Band Scholarship.
- V They had 987 audition (485 in high school and 502 in junior high) with one 123-piece high school band and one 123-piece junior high band (using the same instrumentation as the All-State Band). Their region would also like to go on record as favoring a unified percussion audition instead of separated snare drum, mallets, and timpani. They had donated \$1000 to the ATSSB Four-Year All-State Band Scholarship.
- VI They had 362 audition for the middle school band and 180 for the high school band. Their numbers are up and participation is up. They plan to have a second high school band next year.
- VII There is the only region with zoned bands. They had 2 zoned bands with 400 auditioning 2 all-region bands with 500 auditioning and 3 junior high all-region bands with 1000 auditioning. They had donated \$500 to the ATSSB Four-Year All-State Band Scholarship. They hosted a sightreading clinic for directors at the region clinic.
- VIII No report.
- IX Combined auditions and bands with Region XIX.
 - X They had 982 audition for 2 bands (518 in high school and 464 in junior high) with 123 in each band. They used a unique and effective audition scoring system for the fifth year as a pilot study and this year commissioned a computer program to score it. Their region still wants to go on record as favoring the use of TMEA etudes for audition purposes.
 - XI They had 203 audition for the all-region band.
 - XII No report.
 - XIII They had two bands with 285 auditioning (462 entries). They donated \$500 to the ATSSB Four-Year All-State Band Scholarship and plan to donate \$500 more next year.
 - XIV They had 550 audition (250 in high school and 300 in junior high) from 19 schools. Brice Taylor was their clinician.
 - XV They had 167 audition (74 in high school and 70 in junior high).
 - XVI No report.
 - XVIII They had 26 middle schools and 26 high schools auditioning for 2 middle school bands (450 auditioned) and 2 high school bands (400 auditioned). David Shaffer from Hamilton, Ohio was the clinician for the top band.
 - XIX Combined with Region IX, they had 210 audition for a 98-piece high school band and 325 audition for a 98-piece junior high band. Dr. Gary Sousa was the clinician for the high school band. They donated \$250 to the ATSSB Four-Year All-State Band Scholarship.
 - XXI They had 550 audition for 2 junior high bands (each with 110 members) and 500 audition for 2 high school bands (each with 100 members). They ran all four bands the same day. Jim Hagood was very cooperative and helpful in sharing his facilities. Don Stockton ran the audition using his pilot scoring procedures and Neal Sutton ran the computer. Fred Allen was the clinician for the top band. They hosted a reception for Frederick Finnell.
 - XXII No report.

In Area reports:

- A - No report
- B All went well. He commended the schools because he had more than enough judges. He commended the students and directors for their professionalism and said that his parent helpers were very complimentary of the students and directors alike. There was a three-way loop in the tie-breaking procedure, but it was solved with a judges' conference.
- C All went well using the Panola County Junior College campus hosted by Pete Kunkel.
- D No report.
- E Everything went very smoothly. The integrity of the directors and students involved has been fantastic and professionalism is high.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:29 a.m.



The Association of Texas Small School Bands
Minutes of the General Session

The meeting was called to order by President Don Stockton at 11:02 a.m. Louis Thornton gave the invocation.

Mr. Stockton announced the candidates for Representative to the SBOD and asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor. Nominated for Class A Representative was Gene Conway from Wortham and Rodney Bennett from Munday was nominated from the floor. Nominated for Class AA Representative was Eric Wharton from Elkhart with none others nominated from the floor. Nominated for Class AAA Representative were Leon Steward from Orangefield and Don Thoede from Clifton and Gary Robbins from Rusk was nominated from the floor.

Mr. Stockton asked for speakers for the candidates. In Class A, no one spoke for Gene Conway, but Dennis Teasdale spoke for Rodney Bennett. No one spoke for Eric Wharton in class AA. In Class AAA, Don Stockton spoke for Leon Steward, George Strickland spoke for Don Thoede, and John Canfield spoke for Gary Robbins. Mr. Stockton then asked that ballots be marked and collected by the Election Committee chaired by John Gibson.

Mr., Stockton then recognized the head table: Elmer Schenk, AA Representative; Ben Hoaldrige, AAA Representative; Ronnie Page, President-Elect; and Kenneth Griffin, Executive Secretary.

Mr. Stockton then introduced the candidates for TMEA Band Division Vice-President. Jeff Laird from Aldine High School spoke for 5 minutes and Jack Trousdale from West Brook High School in Beaumont spoke for 2 minutes. Tom Burns from Wink introduced Randy Storie from Midland Lee (who was to be nominated from the floor) who spoke for 2 minutes.

Mr. Stockton introduced Tom SoRelle, candidate for TMEA President-Elect, who spoke for 6 minutes.

Mr. Stockton then introduced UIL Director of Music Activities Dick Floyd who spoke for 5 minutes about cooperation between UIL and ATSSB.

Mr. Stockton then announced the results of the election for Representatives to the SBOD: Gene Conway, Class A; Eric Wharton, Class AA; and Don Thoede, Class AAA.

The minutes of the General Session July 24, 1995 was approved as printed in the October Newsletter after a motion by Bryant Harris and a second by Paul Downing.

The financial report was accepted after a motion by Neal Sutton and a second by Jennifer Willison.

There being no old business, Mr. Stockton reported on action of the SBOD (see minutes of the State Board of Directors, page 9).

Kenneth Griffin then reported the availability of the ATSSB lapel pin and that the large 10" patches would be offered for sale to the students at breaks. He reminded the members to stop by exhibit booths and thank Fruhauf Uniforms for providing the ATSSB All-State Band shoulder patches for the students, RBC Music Company for their assistance with music, Caldwell Music Company for providing the programs, and to remember that it took many people to make the All-State Band work - from Region and Area Coordinators, member judges at regional, area and state taping and seating auditions to the organizers and their assistants giving up most of their convention time to make the clinic a success, including many who loaned equipment for the band. He reported statistical data regarding the band members and updated information concerning the Four-Year Scholarship Fund. He announced Leslie Hunter from Eldorado as the first recipient of the \$1,000 scholarship this year and that there was only one eligible for the honor next year, 6 eligible so far for 1998 and 6 for 1999.

Mr. Stockton then asked the outgoing Representatives to the State Board of Directors (Rodney Bennett, Elmer Schenk, and Ben Hoaldrige) to come forward to receive a plaque recognizing their two years of service to the Association. Marilyn Bennett accepted Rodney's plaque in his absence.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

