

NEWSLETTER

SERVING TEXAS SMALL-SCHOOL BANDS SINCE 1991

Greetings from ATSSB!

Dear Colleague:

This packet is being sent to all ATSSB-eligible high schools and current members of record as first-class mail by decision of the ATSSB State Board of Directors to insure that each school receives the current Prescribed Audition List Update and etude errata. If there is no PAL enclosed, our records indicate you picked up a copy at TBA. If that information is incorrect, please let us know and a PAL will be sent to you.

ATSSB enjoyed another exciting and productive year in 2001-02. It was evident from the number of members we had in our eleventh year (914) and from the quality of the 2002 ATSSB All-State Bands that our organization was "sensitive to the needs and interests of A, AA and AAA band programs in Texas."

The All-State Band Clinic was a positive one with Anthony Maeillo conducting the Symphonic Band and Robert W. Smith leading our Concert Band in wonderful performances.

We invite you to join ATSSB and hope that we can help you in your task. Please copy or cut out the enclosed membership form in this Newsletter and return it with your dues to the address indicated. A membership card and receipt will be returned to you as soon as possible and your name added to the roster of your ATSSB Region Coordinator (see PAL Update enclosed) so you can be kept up to date on ATSSB activities. If you wish to have students audition for membership in the ATSSB All-State Band this year, you must also become a member of TMEA because the two organizations have unified the audition procedure for membership in Texas All-State Bands.

We hope you will get actively involved in ATSSB - or at least communicate your desires and suggestions to the State Board of Directors through your Region Coordinator (or directly to the Executive Committee).

We expect another banner year for ATSSB as we grow together as unified small-school band directors and we want you to be a part of it. We finished the 2001-02 membership year with more than 90% of the small schools in Texas that have band programs as paid members of the Association. Thank you for your continued support of small-school bands in Texas.



**GARY ROBBINS
PRESIDENT**

ARE YOU READY FOR SOME FOOTBALL?

Well, if not, you'd better be. It is that time of year when we spend countless hours marching and playing,

preparing for those 7 minute half-time shows on Friday night. Notice I did not say for UIL marching competitions. Keep in mind the spectators who see you every Friday night want to be entertained. I know the end result should be a superior rating, but don't let that keep you from entertaining them.

Texas Bandmasters Association was another huge success. Ronnie Ferguson and the whole TBA State Board did a fantastic job getting this convention ready. The concerts, clinics and exhibits were well prepared and informational. Thanks,

Ronnie, for the job you do for music education in Texas!

Iwould like to thank Frank Coachman for running a session for our Area Coordinators in Austin the Friday before TBA. TMEA, with Frank's help, ran a workshop on how to use the Filemaker Pro program in running our area contest. Several ATSSB regions were represented as well. I have heard quite a few regions are going to use the program this year. Area Coordinators must use it this year; however, it is optional for regions. Thanks, Frank, for an informative session.

Your state board of directors had a busy convention discussing items of concern for ATSSB. Please thank your region coordinators for being in attendance and giving their input on the various issues we are facing. Some of the items that the state board took action on are:

1. The State Board voted to endorse the Howard Payne University's Future Music Educators' Camp portion of the HPU Band Camp as it is currently formatted.
2. The State Board voted to give the OPS judges at the Region, Area, and State levels a \$35 judge's honorarium plus an allowance for meals.

3. The State Board voted to award the audio recordings of the all state concerts to Probst Audio.

4. The State Board voted to include membership in the 2004 All State Jazz Band when awarding scholarships to multi-year seniors.

Don Stockton has been busy developing mentoring guidelines for ATSSB. These will soon be on the website. I have also visited with Don about being the State Chairman for a committee to aggressively implement a mentoring program in each region. Don has agreed to this position. He will be contacting the region coordinators to see who in their regions would make a good contact for

mentors. We, as an association, strongly believe that we must help those young teachers in our profession feel comfortable and confident in the job they do. If you would like to be the contact for your region, let your coordinator know.

A Constitutional Amendment will be coming in February to implement a policy for replacement of the Executive Secretary in case of a catastrophic event. We need to make sure that ATSSB will have a plan in place to keep the organization running in case something happens. We hope we never have to utilize it, but we want to be prepared.

I am excited about the items discussed at our summer symposium. It was titled, A Timeline: Past, Present, Future. We had 37 participants attend. We met at the Menger Hotel the Saturday before TBA. I would like to thank those who participated for their time and skills to make this symposium a huge success. Look for a full report in this newsletter. ATSSB is meeting the needs of small schools in Texas. Read over the report in the newsletter and let's work together to implement some of the new ideas presented. One of the most helpful ones I was impressed with was the idea to have a Reading Band at the clinics to read grade I, II, III literature. This could be

especially helpful with the new PML coming out. If there is someone who would like to organize this, please contact me to help get it started. Thanks again to those who participated in the symposium.

As we start the year, keep in mind the students you have contact with are someone's children. Teach, talk, and tutor them as if they were your personal child. Do not say or do anything in front of them you would not do in front of your own child.

Gary M. Robbins



ED LOWES
PRESIDENT-ELECT

Are YOU online? Are you connected yet?

Your region coordinator is required to advance area candidates with their demographics to their area coordinators this year online. In order for this to work, you must submit demographics to your region coordinator with your student entries this year. Region directors should review their region policy. What are your deadlines and how will you

submit your entries to your region coordinator?

If your region doesn't use the online method this year, then submit all of your data with demographics to your region coordinator by your ATSSB deadline. Remember to become a member of ATSSB & TMEA as well as pay your region fees on time.

If your region requires you to get online, connect at www.tmea.org and enter your students with their demographics. Follow the prompts to enter data. When you submit your entries, the information will go to Frank Coachman, your region coordinator and Kenneth Griffin. After the deadline has passed the entry process online will be closed. If you have any adjustments after the deadline, you will then need to contact your region coordinator to correct the information and pay any

late fees according to your region policy.

If a local band director just enters a list of student names on a paper entry form, includes their entry fees, has his or her membership # in ATSSB & TMEA and mails the information by the local region policy deadline, your region coordinator MUST STILL collect demographic information on each student. This demographic information will be submitted by your region coordinator to the area coordinator. Your student then will turn in the required area forms and pay their \$15.00 fee at the area contest.

Many regions across the state will be using the Filemaker Pro system with their auditions this year. We are heading toward a complete online entry process in the very near future. Regions are not required to use this

program at this time, but they are required by state policy to submit their results to their area coordinators in the same format as the File Maker Pro system. The process requires region coordinators to export their data of area candidates as a text file, TAB, or CSV, etc. File Maker Pro can work with these files. Filemaker Pro can also work directly with Excel Files if your region is using Excel for its auditions.

The region coordinator or computer expert MUST make sure that the data sent is ONLY for true candidates advancing to their respective areas. Their demographics with instrument, telephone numbers and addresses must match the File Maker Pro system format. TO GET STARTED ... region coordinators should email Frank Coachman at fcoachman@tmea.org to set up an account and get a password. If your region chooses to go

online, local band directors should be able to log on at the tmea website:

www.tmea.org and enter their region entries. We want to thank Frank Coachman and our region and area coordinators for their extra time spent this summer prior to TBA to learn this new process. In the end it will save us a lot of time.

SARC NEWS

Do you have the NEW GREEN PAL?

I contacted 16 ATSSB members of the SARC committee this spring. I even expanded the list to include more members from Area South. I appreciate the members that gave up their Sunday afternoon to review the issues submitted for study. Special thanks go to Richard Whorton, Brandon Brewer, Carl Idlebird, Chris Whorton, Elmer Schenk, Tim Edins & Gary Robbins for their help in completing this assignment. We studied over three hours on such issues as adding instruments to the auditions, changing tempos, reviewing region variants, etude transcriptions, new all-state jazz band procedures and the one-breath chromatic scale. As chairman, I made sure that

these issues were discussed both pro and con by each member in attendance. Once these issues were voted on, we submitted to the state board our recommendations for their consideration. The state board approved the following items:

Flute Year B Capriccio tempo should be changed to 120-126.

The committee cleaned up some procedures for the NEW All-State Jazz Band auditions to begin in the 2003-04 school year. More details on these plans will be in our next ATSSB newsletter. We want to thank Brandon Brewer for his report to the SARC.

Check the ATSSB web page for any updates, however the errata is final in this Newsletter.

I want to especially thank Kenneth & Gary for assisting me in this short period of transition as President-Elect. Darin Jolly gave me valuable information to make this event run so smoothly. Special thanks

go to Don Thoede and George Strickland for their expertise during my time of asking the many questions needed to make this association the best that it can be.

I have learned to appreciate how a three-hour SARC committee study turned into a three-minute report at the state board. I did notice that I attended fourteen hours of meetings during the 5 days of the TBA convention.

I have started many projects this summer including my 31st year of teaching, painting my home on weekends and working late with my high school band due to the afternoon sun, while serving you as your President-Elect. I know what it takes to be busy and successful. We just finished 32 football games and it looks like another 16 to go this year. GO LEOPARDS! Thank you for electing me as your President Elect. I am here to serve your interest and ATSSB. Contact me at any time on your concerns. I will still be here to assist Robert Vetter as our new Area Central Coordinator and Perry Morris as our new Region 18 Coordinator. We

will continue to push ATSSB into the center of school music education. Gary and I are scheduled to meet with Kerry Taylor and Robert Stovall on honor band issues. Good Luck to George Strickland in his new UIL assignment. He is a great leader. I know he will work to resolve our concerns over the sightreading music in the future.

Don't miss your deadlines, membership requirements, online registration and use the NEW Green PAL (Year B) this year.

Remember to follow all of the rules and procedures. Send your comments or questions to me at ed_lowes@yahoo.com. My school server was slow by about 1 month, so use a variety of email links to give me any SARC requests for the next meeting at TMEA in 2003. Good Luck to you all, as we continue to grow and expand our GREAT Music Association. Remember to teach your students to love the joys of making beautiful music.



Year B Errata

(errata discovered after this publication is not official for this audition year)

FLUTE: p. 64, Allegro giusto: Line 3, measure 2, the eighth sixteenth note B should be a C#. Add a crescendo to the first 2 beats of line 10, measure 2 to the dynamic "forte" on beat 3. Add the dynamic "forte" on line 11, measure 2, beat 1. Also, the tempo should be marked ♩ = 120-126.

CLARINET: p. 51, Adagio: Play from beginning through beat 1, measure 28. Old editions have B \flat for the last note on line 3. Newer editions have C which is correct.

LOW CLARINETS: p. 3, #5: The last two eighth notes on line 3 should be tongued.

SAXOPHONE: p. 10, #19, Andante: Measure 4, beat 2, 1st note should be G, not A.

p. 15, #30: The F \sharp in the 3rd group of 16th notes in measure 2 of line 7 should be an F \sharp .

F HORN: p. 37, Presto: Measures 15 and 17 - play B \flat throughout. Measure 25 - the G \flat on the 2nd triplet should be a G \sharp .

TRUMPET/TREBLE CLEF BARITONE: p. 32: The 4th note of measure 9 should be a sixteenth note.

MALLETS: p. 74, Allegretto XVI: Measure 9, beat 2, the grace note should be F double sharp (same as measure 1).

TIMPANI: p. 64, #63: Line 4, measure 1, second note F should be G.



**KENNETH GRIFFIN
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

TMEA: Honor Band

As you probably already know, the ATSSB recommendation to TMEA to use the ATSSB 5-Area alignment to advance A, AA and AAA bands in the TMEA Honor Band process is still under review. The ATSSB State Board of Directors voted unanimously to make this recommendation to the UIL for the State Marching Band process and to TMEA for the Honor Band process in February of 2000. Dick Floyd immediately responded with a note thanking us for the recommendation and stating that it would be studied. It was then implemented in the following year. When we questioned TMEA about the alignment at TBA in 2000, we were told that the realignment was complete and would be finalized by the TMEA State Board in September (2000) with the idea of advancing TMEA Honor Band tapes for A, AA and AAA through ATSSB Areas with three tapes from each class advancing to state. Dick Floyd told us that the UIL realignment was complete with A, AA and AAA bands advancing through ATSSB Areas (with three from

each area) to the UIL State Marching Contest. At TBA of 2001, we were told that TMEA was not going to use the ATSSB area alignment for the honor band process. We asked Bob Floyd about it. We were told that the TMEA State Board thought "the TMEA Band Division should maintain total control of the honor band process" and made no move to act on ATSSB's request although we were never notified of this decision, nor was the ATSSB SBOD's recommendation responded to in any way. Gary and I met with Jeff Laird at TBA. Jeff said he wanted to see how it went in 2001-02 using the TMEA 7-area alignment. After TBA, I sent Jeff, Bob, and Frank statistics showing parity using the ATSSB 5-area alignment versus the disparity of the current TMEA 7-area alignment. Jeff informed Gary that the process would remain unchanged.

After the election of a new TMEA Band Division Vice-President in February of 2002, the ATSSB State Board of Directors again unanimously voted to make the recommendation anew, so a letter was sent to Kerry Taylor. Nothing was heard from this request until just before TBA, when Gary was informed of a committee meeting at TBA to consider the honor band process and that Kerry would like us to make a presentation regarding ATSSB's recommendation at that meeting. Gary noted that the committee was scheduled to meet at the same time as the ATSSB State Board of Directors so we would be unable to attend. We still hope they work it out so small-school bands can use one area alignment in all of their activities - UIL, TMEA, or

ATSSB.

Auditions

As you send in entries to ATSSB all-region auditions this year, remember that it is assumed that students from schools in class A, AA and AAA are auditioning in the ATSSB track to All-State. If you have a student who wishes to take the 4A or 5A track, they MUST submit a Track Selection Form with their first audition entry (whether it is to ATSSB or TMEA). Also, please realize that since we are aligned with TMEA regarding auditions, directors will be held accountable regarding the policies and procedures in effect for TMEA and ATSSB which include an obligation to judge at region and area 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, TMEA membership, region entry fees, forms completed, etc.) in advance of auditions. Please see the updated ATSSB Officers and Organizers listed with the PAL Update and contact your Region Coordinator if you have any questions regarding auditions. If you are already a member of ATSSB for 2002-03, your name and address is in your Region Coordinator's database and you will be receiving mailouts regarding these auditions. 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. A copy of these two forms is available in Spanish should anyone need this. Be sure to request a copy if you think it might help - or download them (or any other ATSSB form) off the website at <http://www.atssb.org/> or contact the state office.

Housing

Hotel space is at a premium of course in San Antonio. 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 yourself (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. Hotel rates continue to increase but the student hotel fee remains \$125 for this year. This includes all three nights at the Emily Morgan Hotel and includes all taxes and fees. We had a couple of All-State students elect to stay elsewhere this past year and that is perfectly fine.

Best wishes for a successful marching season. Please let me know if there is anything ATSSB can do to help you in your task. We are blessed with an abundance of fine band directors in small schools in Texas!

(We received the following email from a former ATSSB All-State student and have her permission to share it with you)

My name is Stacie Gasser, and I am a recent graduate of Greenwood High School of Midland. I would just like to take this opportunity to thank everyone at ATSSB for all the work that you do for the music students of small school bands in Texas. I was fortunate enough to be involved in a band with three very active and supportive directors who encouraged us to audition for the ATSSB all region and all state bands, and I'm so glad that they did. I was honored to be a member of the ATSSB All-State Band both my junior and senior year, and each experience was one that I will never forget. Being a part of the audition processes and the actual clinics has taught me much about music as well as other aspects of life. I would just like to sincerely say thank you for all the wonderful, hard work and time that you put into this organization. Oh, and keep up the good work, because I have a brother and sister who hope to be involved, too.



**DON THOEBE
OPS STATE CHAIR**

The Texas Bandmasters Association convention is over and the 2002 Outstanding Performance Series competition has come to a close. I must congratulate the entire membership for the fine job they did this year. In addition, it is obvious to me that the real credit for the success of this program can be given to our Region and Area Coordinators. I hope you all realize how hard they work and how much we depend on them to fulfill their duties as Coordinators. Be sure you let them know how much they are appreciated.

We had more CDs entered into competition this year than in any previous year. A total of 445 CDs were entered. To give you an idea of how the OPS has grown, we had 174 entries in 1997, 269 entries in 1998, 281 in 1999, 351 in 2000, and 376 entries in 2001.

Because the number of entries has increased over the years, it is now possible to increase the honorarium to the judges and also pay judges at the state competition. As you know, the judges at the state competition have never received an honorarium, but due to a recommendation by the OPS Steering Committee, consisting of your four elected Representatives and the OPS State Chair, the SBOD has approved the following

recommendation for the 2003 OPS competition. We know it is not enough, but it is the best we can do at this time. The SBOD agreed that all OPS judges at the region, area, and state levels may be paid \$35.00 each. Also, judges may be paid \$7.50 for each meal with a maximum of two meals, but if the judges complete their assignment without the need of a meal, then no meal money will be given. If judges work through lunch but finish before dinner, only lunch may be paid. Two meals may be paid if judges work through lunch and dinner. Although judges at the state level will be paid \$35.00, money for meals will not be given since judging starts after lunch and is finished before dinner. If there is a need for two panels due to the number of entries, but only one panel is used to hear all entries, and the judges work through two meals, the judges may also be paid an additional \$35.00 (\$85.00 total). Region Coordinators should not give money to judges for meals if meals are provided by the region. You may do one or the other, but not both.

I received a telephone call in June from a Region Coordinator telling me that he was having a difficulty finding ATSSB members to judge. He ask me if he could use non-ATSSB members to judge, and I reminded him that only ATSSB members could judge these competitions. Region Coordinators should keep in mind that judges may be used from any region in the state, as long as judges do not judge CDs from the regions or area with which they compete. I understand that this may require more travel, but it can be done if necessary. As it turned out, that Region Coordinator called me back and said that he found enough ATSSB members to judge from his own region. Although it is not mandatory that you judge

these competitions, it is the opinion of this office that if you enter a CD, you should make yourself available if called. I also believe that getting judges would be much easier if the Region Coordinators and Area Coordinators would set their judging dates and sites several months in advance. I recommend that all CDs be judged two days prior to their mailing deadline. That is all the more reason why Region Coordinators MUST put the CDs in the mail by the deadline date!

I want to congratulate the 2002 OPS state winners and runners-up. Winner of the Class C March is Orange Grove Jr. High School, Emerico Perez, Director. The runner-up is O. H. Herman Middle School (Van Vleck), Mike Cudd, Director. Winners of the Class C Concert Selection are Honey Grove Middle School, Dennis Syring, Director, and again Honey Grove Middle School, Dennis Syring, Director. The runner-up is Littlefield Jr. High School, Phil Phyllaier, Director. Winner of the Class CC March is Bridge City Middle School, Traci Anderson, Director. The runner-up is Walker Jr. High School (Monahans), John Zalman IV, Director. The Class CC Concert Selection winners are Lindale Jr. High School, Susan Scott, Director, and Fly Jr. High School (Crystal City), Steve Sanchez, Director. The runner-up is Cleveland Middle School, Leonard Arnold, Director. The Class A March winner is Overton High School, Glenn Wells, Director. The runner-up is Carlisle High School, Scott Rhame, Director. The Class A Concert Selection winners are Overton High School, Glenn Wells, Director, and again, Overton High School, Glenn Wells, Director. The runner-up is Charlotte High School, Ralph A. Unger, Director. The Class AA March winner is Celina High School,

Rüss Rutherford, Director. The runner-up is Timpson High School, Jamie Welch, Director. The Class AA Concert Selection winners are Holliday High School, Stan Mauldin, Director, and Elkhart High School, Judy Holleman, Director. The runner-up is Somerville High School, Carl Idlebird, Director. The Class AAA March winner is Alvarado High School, Kevin Heckaman, Director, and the runner-up is Rio Hondo High School, Robert Garza, Director. The Class AAA Concert Selection winners are Cleveland High School, Jonathan Kelly, Director, and Alvarado High School, Kevin Heckaman, Director. The runner-up is Port Isabel High School, Scott Hartsfield, Director. Again, congratulations to all of you for a job well done.

All information and forms for the 2003 OPS are now on the ATSSB website. You will no longer be able to get entry forms from your Region Coordinator. The forms are set up so that you can type the information onto the form right on the computer. When finished, print the form and it will be ready to mail. Be sure you print at least two copies because once you close out the screen, you will have lost the information. If necessary, call me and I will fax or mail you what you need.

The 2002 OPS CD should be available in early November. Contact Avant Recordings in November to purchase your CD. Remember that the OPS CD is a two-CD set containing the OPS winners and the 2002 All-State Symphonic and Concert Bands.

I hope you all have an enjoyable fall semester.

Don Thoebe

(We received the following email dealing with the Mentoring issue and have his permission to share it with you)

Have you ever wondered why you get the ratings you get at a band contests? Have you ever thought that the judges are just picking on your band or they don't understand what you are going through? Do you seriously question the rating and think your band deserved much better? Has it ever crossed your mind that somehow you are not part of the "fraternity" yet, so you are not given top honors when it comes to band competitions?

I have to admit that after over a decade of going from band contests to band contest and rarely receiving the top honor, I had many of the above-mentioned thoughts. I struggled with the idea that I was missing the boat somehow and I was simply not getting my bands to the point I thought they should be. I seriously considered the notion that the judges knew my name and had already filled in the comments sheets weeks before we arrived at contests. For over a decade, I was the ultimate master of the Second Division Rating.

Almost three years ago my band attended our UIL Region Marching Contests. I knew going into the band contests that this was simply the best band I had ever had and that we were going to be clearly First Division. I knew in my heart, mind and soul - but someone forgot to inform the judges. We once again walked away with a rating of straight twos, and on that day I almost walked away from Music Education.

I went home frustrated, belittled and very distraught. I knew that the top bands which we were striving to be like continued to have success and we continued to be so "very close." I dreaded the sheets that once again said, "Keep up the good work, you are on the right track." After 10 years of being on this track, I was in serious doubt of where this track was going.

I broke down in total frustration and anger and I called the only person that I thought might be able to help me out, or at least would be willing to listen to my anger and frustration. I called a person with 30+ years of First Division ratings, honors a mile long and an air about him that exuded winning. I informed him that I wanted to see him and see him now before I decided to leave my profession. I was mad. I was a little surprised that this virtual stranger agreed to meet me immediately. After two hours of ranting, raving and maybe a few tears, I told him that I was done with music education. If I could not offer my kids a better musical education than a second division then I must be a lousy teacher and the music world simply didn't need my kind in it. Much to my surprise, I was then told that if I wanted, he would come to my band hall for a single day and observe my teaching. I was told that the difference between a First Division Band and a Second Division Band was usually very little, and that it probably would only be a matter of tweaking a thing or two overall. We agreed to meet in early January and take a look at the situation.

My new "mentor" arrived just before first period. We chatted a bit and then I started my first period class. My 7th grade students arrived and we went through our daily routine of warming up, scales, bookwork and a bit of music at the end of the class. Once the kids left, my mentor asked me if this was a typical class period and I responded that it was. I could not believe what happened next!! My mentor preceded to state line by line all the things that have been on my rating sheets for years. I think somehow he secretly broke in and jotted down all the comments the judges have ever made. In short, he stated every cliché that any judge had given me to justify a second division rating. My mentor told me that I was a good teacher and did everything very well. The notes, the dynamics, the phrasing, the fingerings, the rapport with the kids all seemed to be in order. However, the one single thing that appeared to be missing in my lesson was a basic understanding of pitch, matching pitch and matching tonal qualities throughout the group. What he did not see was not just tuning, though he didn't see any of that either during the class period, but relating to the students how they have to match pitch from instrument to instrument, and section to section. My mentor stayed with me through the remainder of my classes that day and took a few notes on each. When it was all said and done and we sat down at the end of the day, the solution was rather simple - teach pitch everyday!!

That evening was just as frustrating as any post-contest night I have ever had. I realized that my mentor was absolutely right. My realization became anger toward myself for not going back to what I should have known all along was needed. I realized that during my years at Coronado H.S. in El Paso (Richard Lambrecht, Director) we spent hour after hour working on matching pitch and tonal quality. It was simply the most important thing we did in band. Somehow I had seriously failed in even mentioning this to any of my bands. Now I had a choice to make - do I do what I know is right, or do I run and hide from my own stupidity? I had to get over the fact that I had seriously missed teaching one of the fundamental parts of music education and had to convince my kids that we needed to start learning a few new concepts before we went back to tackling notes and rhythms. I asked my mentor how I should begin teaching my kids this idea and again I was surprised by his answer, "Just teach them." It seemed it didn't matter how, it simply needed to be taught ... taught everyday and in every class period.

The next day at school I began by apologizing to my high school band and informing them that we were about to start learning how to be a better band. We started with pitch recognition and matching F concert just as I remembered doing at Coronado. For the next two weeks we spent a majority of the class working on matching tone, and pitch. I knew that my bands could play the notes and rhythm; I had proven that in years of UIL contests. As the days became weeks, and the weeks, grew into months, the band began to really understand what we were looking for. By the time UIL Region band contests had rolled around my mentor had been in and out of my class enough to also assist me in choosing UIL music and working on concepts for improving our sight-reading skills as well. That spring the band at Crawford H.S. received the first First Division ratings in concert and sight-reading in many years. That evening was simply one of the most relaxing and enjoyable post UIL evenings I have ever had. My wife had the first relaxing post-UIL evening of her life.

I then continued to work with my mentor in the fall and with a bit of guidance, the Crawford band received a First Division rating in marching for the first time in 5 years. By April, the band had been awarded only the second Sweepstakes Award in the school's history. Last year, I continued to count on my friend and mentor for support and consultation, and again with good results. Back to back Sweepstakes years have given new life to my band program and confidence to the students that I have never seen.

Through this time, my mentor has been around to lift my spirits when times are rough as well as firmly plant his foot on my behind when it is needed. Don Thoede has been a friend, an inspiration and a confidant. Mr. Thoede has pushed me hard and dragged me behind him a time or two. The one lesson that Mr. Thoede gently keeps reminding me is a simple one: Teach the kids to play *music*. Teach the kids every aspect of music and develop an appreciation for what it takes to become a musician. When you do that as a teacher, you will never worry about the ratings.

I would like to encourage others that are new to teaching or simply desire to achieve more with their groups to take some time, find someone who has "been there and done that." Do not wait until frustration and anger over ratings destroys your desire to teach music. Find a person that you can trust and rely on to give advice, support, counsel and direction.

In short, I wish I would have been a bit smarter over the years and sought the advice and council of other knowledgeable band directors. A mentor is someone I thought I would never need; now I am looking forward to the day when I can be one.

Ron Chapman
Crawford H.S. Band (AA)
Rwchap36@aol.com

ATSSB SYMPOSIUM - A Timeline: Past, Present, Future

Thirty-seven ATSSB members met for a Symposium in Austin July 26, moderated by ATSSB President Gary Robbins. Mr. Robbins outlined the goals and scope of the Symposium, listing the top four occupations, problems that face teachers, reasons people join associations, nationwide organization problems, and warning signs of decline. Executive Secretary Kenneth Griffin discussed ATSSB's history and answered questions regarding the history and the recent alignment with TMEA.

After a lunch break, President-Elect Ed Lowes clarified some issues regarding TMEA's mission statement and the 4A school's desire for a separate 4A All-State Band which helped TMEA reach out to ATSSB for the alignment in order to continue to provide support for all music students in Texas. Mr. Griffin gave several reports about ATSSB's membership statistics, ATSSB's budgetary receipts and expenditures, and the ATSSB Scholarship Fund. The Symposium was divided into four groups which met to discuss and arrive at a consensus on ten questions regarding ATSSB's future placed in order of priority (see chart below and on following pages).

The Symposium concluded at 4:30 p.m. after Mr. Robbins thanked the participants and encouraged them to continue to keep ATSSB and its future in their thoughts. The participants included the following (listed by name, school and region):

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Roger N. Ashcraft, Bonham HS, 4 | Ed Lowes, La Grange HS 18 | Bob Smith, West Hardin HS, 10 |
| Lonnie Baker, Callisburg HS, 5 | Michael Lunney, Wylie HS, 2 | Don Stockton, Retired, 10 |
| Marilyn K. Bennett, Munday MS, 2 | F. Mac McKinnerney, Grandview HS, 7 | George Strickland, Retired, 7 |
| Rodney D. Bennett, Munday HS, 2 | Cindy Mikel, Argyle HS, 5 | Dennis Syring, Honey Grove HS, 4 |
| Marc Christy, Tulia Junior HS, 1 | Perry Morris, Giddings HS, 18 | Jo Ann Syring, Honey Grove HS, 4 |
| Matt Daily, Tulia HS, 1 | Virginia Olsovsky, Hallettsville HS, 18 | Dennis Teasdale, Quanah HS, 2 |
| Tom English, Gatesville HS, 8 | Sister Rosa Maria Ortiz, St. Joseph, 15 | Mary H. Thornburg, Sanger MS, 5 |
| Kenneth Griffin, John Paul II CS, 9 | Hector A. Perez, Randolph MS, 12 | Ralph A. Unger, Charlotte HS, 12 |
| Ben L. Hoaldrige, Bowie HS, 2 | Forrest H. Perry, Van Horn HS, 22 | Chris Whorton, Kerens HS, 8 |
| Anna Marie Holland, Spearman HS, 1 | Twyla Perry | Richard L. Wilson, Randolph HS, 12 |
| Rustin Honeycutt, Pilot Point MS, 5 | Coral Rios, Luling HS, 12 | William C. Wilson, Fort Davis HS, 22 |
| Charles F. Horton, Liberty HS, 10 | Gary Robbins, Rusk HS, 21 | John S. Young, Wills Point HS, 3 |
| | | Melissa Zamzow, Stephen F. Austin HS, 10 |

1. What are the important concerns that ATSSB members are facing today?

- | GROUP I | GROUP II | GROUP III | GROUP IV |
|---|--|--------------------------------|--|
| •Declining enrollments | •Retention of students | •Required statewide PAL for JH | •Educating administrators |
| •A/AA teachers (prepare HS students to become small school teachers and support small school directors) | •Class time limits | •Declining budgets | •Retention of directors |
| •Working with administrators and getting them to work with you | •Sharing students with sports | •Sharing students | •Mentoring first-year/young directors |
| •Budget | •Elementary music (lack of programs in many schools) | •Mentoring | •Scheduling, course offerings |
| •Time constraints | | •Overload, understaffing | •Retention of students |
| •Publicity to administrators from ATSSB | | •Teacher-student ratio | •Education of college music faculty about ATSSB |
| •Quality of music | | | •Provide handbook for directors |
| | | | •Improve communication, foster good Region Coordinator positions |

2. What are the major issues facing ATSSB?

- | GROUP I | GROUP II | GROUP III | GROUP IV |
|--|---|---|---|
| •TSSEC (influence from ATSSB for a more positive experience) | •Keeping costs down | •UIL classifications - adding 6A? | •Retention of directors |
| •Teacher retention | •Sponsor clinics at TBA, TMEA | •Separate All-State Bands by class | •Educate administrators |
| •TAKS influence on programs | •Recruit college music students to ATSSB jobs | •ATSSB-sponsored contests | •Scheduling student classes for co-teaching opportunities |
| •Student TAKS failure effect on band | | •Middle school PAL | •Budget |
| •C/CC role in ATSSB | | •All-State Jazz Band | •Overload, burnout of directors |
| | | •Keeping ATSSB's identity | |
| | | •PR (TAKS) - How music helps learning | |
| | | •Add no more credits for graduation | |
| | | •Need more band directors becoming administrators | |

3. What is ATSSB doing that should be continued?

- | GROUP I | GROUP II | GROUP III | GROUP IV |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|--|---|
| •Continue current activities | •Keep two All-State Bands | •All-State Bands using PAL and using Scottish Rite | •All-State Bands |
| | •5-year PAL | •OPS | •OPS |
| | •Commissioning works | •Publicity (video, website, newsletter) | •Recruitment video |
| | •Scholarships | •Mentoring | •Website, job board and links |
| | •Maintain our own identity | •Structure and alignment of the organization | •Membership Directory and other printed materials (PAL and Newsletters) |
| | | •Scholarship program | •Scholarships |
| | | •Symposium | |

4. What is ATSSB not doing that it should?

GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	GROUP IV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Academic All-State Band •Study All-State (one for each class) •Form legislative committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Make Concert Band A/AA only •Use TMEA etudes for auditions •Ask UIL to set aside a music contest week in school calendars •In OPS, allow the use of concert recordings, not just contests 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Committees addressing concerns •Lobbying at state for small schools •Visibility (at administrative functions and TMEA) •Sponsoring contests •3 All-State Bands and Jazz Band •Recommended curriculum for small school elementary music 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Listen to and address the needs of A and AA programs •Alternate year ATSSB State Marching Contest •Create and maintain a list of professional musicians who are willing to conduct master classes

5. How can ATSSB improve membership participation?

GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	GROUP IV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •ATSSB booth at Midwest, other states •Time for ATSSB Region Coordinator to speak at UIL/TMEA region meetings •One-on-one (mentoring) •Appoint more to committees - more investment in group •Region Coordinators need to mail out more information •ATSSB informational brochure 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Letters to administrators; handbooks •Recruitment video to schools •Invite administrators to TBA, TMEA •Invite booster clubs to join ATSSB •Clinic at administrator convention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •ATSSB socials, party, luncheon •TBA reading band for grade I, II, III made up of ATSSB members •College newsletter (2 per year) •End-of-year survey of membership •Door prizes •More contests, activities, with clinics after each •Mentoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Sponsor social events for members •Awards for recognition •Tutoring clinics •Advertisements to school administrators •Sponsor camps

6. Who should be eligible to join ATSSB?

GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	GROUP IV
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Keep it the same as it is 		

7. What should the mission of ATSSB be?

GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	GROUP IV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •To promote, assist and advance all small school bands in Texas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Educate our students and encourage them to go into music education •Develop the small-school director (mentoring) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •To encourage, facilitate, support and actively promote the role of music to students, teachers and administrators of small schools •To provide quality musical experiences through worthwhile musical activities and to promote school band programs in Texas small schools •To provide support for the educators of these students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •To promote, encourage participation in, and enhance small-school band programs •To provide an opportunity for A, AA, and AAA band students to participate in a performing ensemble as a means of becoming more accomplished musicians •To encourage young musicians to pursue music education as a career •To encourage more beginning teachers to consider teaching in small schools

8. How can ATSSB expand?

GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	GROUP IV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Sponsor alternate year state marching band contest •Sponsor multiple-site TSSEC and include medium ensembles •Corporate sponsorship •Provide expertise in establishing small-school organizations in other states for a fee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •More newsletters •Corporate sponsorship •Reach ISDs that do not have a band program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Social events •Organize an intrastate organization (i.e. Tri-State) •Advertise •Give awards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Addition of other All-State groups •ATSSB middle school solo-ensemble contest •University level involvement (especially small and medium universities) •Include more private schools

9. What services do ATSSB members use most?

GROUP I	GROUP II	GROUP III	GROUP IV
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Website and all links 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Job placement •Audition organization •OPS •Chatboard on website 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •All-Region, All-State - PAL •Website, job board •Newsletter •OPS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Website, job board and links •OPS •Membership Directory •Printed materials - PAL

10. What new services should ATSSB offer?

GROUP I

- Advocacy groups to intervene when schools try to do away with a band program
- More clinics/workshops using ATSSB member
- List retired directors by region that members can call on for clinics
- Music library on-line
- Put handouts from ATSSB clinics on the website

GROUP II

- Clinic for new directors
- Expand the music lending library
- Add student links to website
- ATSSB-member reading band at TBA
- Clinics with corporate sponsors

GROUP III

- Small-school contests
- Music lending library or music swap meet
- Music recording library
- College and administrator newsletters
- Mentoring matchup

GROUP IV

- Donate OPS CDs to university directors who join as Associate Members
- Database of all OPS recordings at Area and State
- Area CD reference recordings made available for directors
- Provide ATSSB directors as speakers to go to universities
- Continue to provide clinics at TBA and TMEA

PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE BY-LAWS

February 13, 2003

Change SECTION 3.(c) of ARTICLE II of the By-Laws

from: **SELECTION.** The Executive Secretary shall be appointed by the Executive Committee of the Association (minus the Executive Secretary) and approved by the State Board of Directors. The appointment is subject to review by the Executive Committee in odd-numbered years.

to: **SELECTION.** The Executive Secretary shall be appointed by the Executive Committee of the Association (minus the Executive Secretary) and approved by the State Board of Directors. The appointment is subject to review by the **Executive Committee State Board of Directors** in odd-numbered years.

Rationale: This is a housekeeping procedure to remove inconsistencies in the By-Laws.

Change SECTION 3.(d) of ARTICLE II of the By-Laws

from: **VACANCY IN OFFICE.** In the event of a vacancy in the office of Executive Secretary for any reason, the President shall appoint a replacement with the approval of the Executive Committee, subject to review by the State Board of Directors at its next scheduled or called meeting.

to: **VACANCY IN OFFICE.** In the event of a vacancy in the office of Executive Secretary for any reason, the President shall ~~appoint a replacement with the approval of the Executive Committee~~ **immediately assume the responsibilities of the Executive Secretary. The President shall take possession of all files, equipment, and supplies stored by the Executive Secretary. The President shall assume responsibility for all financial receipts and disbursements. The President may delegate certain responsibilities to members of the Executive Committee as may be necessary. The Executive Committee shall post the vacancy within thirty (30) days through the websites of ATSSB, TMEA, TBA, and/or any other appropriate sites. If time allows, the vacancy may also be published in various music association journals, newsletters, and/or magazines. The position shall be posted for a period of at least two weeks. Upon receipt of applications, the Executive Committee shall review and interview applicants. The Executive Committee shall select and appoint the new Executive Secretary, subject to review by the State Board of Directors at its next scheduled or called meeting.**

Rationale: Needed for an orderly transfer of ATSSB property in the event of an unforeseen vacancy in the Executive Secretary position due to sudden or catastrophic events.

Official Licensees These companies have paid a fee and are under contract to use the ATSSB logo and marks on their products. They pay a 10% royalty to our Scholarship Fund on products they sell using ATSSB logos and service marks. Please consider using them before any other companies:

Music T's
 Freddy Butlar
 1031 Eastgate Drive
 Midlothian, Texas 76065
 (800) 430-3226

Concertronics
 Wilbur Collins
 202 Cherokee Lane
 Victoria, Texas 77901
 (512) 575-1521

Made To Order
 Larry Wood
 Route 1, Box 6
 Lorenzo, Texas 79343
 (800) 223-4511

Rehearsal Solutions
 Robert McElroy
 P.O. Box 1098
 Bellville, Texas 77418
 (979) 865-1282

Probst Audio
 Scott Probst
 210 W. Belknap
 Ennis, Texas 75119
 (972) 875-7592

Jordan Sound Productions
 Gary Jordan
 P.O. Box 10
 Leesburg, Texas 75451
 (903) 856-9090

California T's
 L. Steve Taylor
 1611 University
 Lubbock, Texas 79401
 (800) 763-1071

Omni-Video
 8726 Heath Circle
 Heath Circle
 San Antonio, Texas 78250
 (210) 681-3136

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 7:30 a.m. in the Guenther House Restaurant in San Antonio. In attendance were Region 11 Coordinator Daniel Alemán, Region 9/23 Coordinator Alfred Angerstein, Class AA Representative Lonnie Baker, Region 21 Coordinator Virgil Beene, Corey Buckley (proxy for Region 17/19 Coordinator Mike Bendiksen), Region 3/20 Coordinator Brandon Brewer, Region 12 Coordinator Sandy Brown, Region 6 Coordinator David Fortenberry, Executive Secretary Kenneth Griffin, Region 13 Coordinator Stephen Henry, President-Elect Ed Lowes, Founding Charter Member Mike Marsh, Carie Martin (proxy for Region 8 Coordinator John Canfield), Region 5/24 Coordinator Cindy Mikel, Region 2 and Area North Coordinator Greg Miller, Region 18 Coordinator Perry Morris, Region 1 Coordinator James Nance, Region 15 Coordinator Sister Rosa Ortiz, Region 16 Coordinator John Odom, Founding Charter Member Fred Pankratz, President Gary Robbins, Founding Charter Member Elmer Schenk, Region 10 and Area East Coordinator Don Stockton, Immediate Past-President George Strickland, Class AAA Representative Rob Toups, Region 7 and Area Central Coordinator Robert Vetter, Region 22 Coordinator Chuck Wilson, and Region 14 Coordinator Eric Winterbottom. Also in attendance were Area South Representative David Smith and OPS State Chair Don Thoede. Absent were Founding Charter Members Rick Ball, Area West Coordinator Mike Glaze, Region 4 Coordinator Eric Gray, Class C/CC Representative Sherry Potetz, Founding Charter Member Louis Thornton, and Founding Charter Member Jennifer Willison.

The meeting was called to order by President Gary Robbins at 7:45 a.m. The invocation was given by Mr. Robbins.

The SBOD minutes of the February meeting were approved as printed in the March Newsletter after a motion by Bob Vetter and a second by Brandon Brewer.

Under reports from special committees:

Jennifer Willison's report regarding ATSSB participation in adjusting the UIL Sightreading process was tabled on a motion by Kenneth Griffin and a second by Brandon Brewer after it was noted that Ms. Willison was unable to attend due to illness.

Under reports of standing committees

Ed Lowes reported on the SARC meeting in which they moved that the tempo of flute Year B Capriccio be adjusted to quarter = 120. After a second by Brandon Brewer, motion passed.

A motion from the SARC to change the chromatic scale of each instrument was seconded by Brandon Brewer. After a lengthy debate, the motion failed.

A motion by Elmer Schenk to instruct judges to not penalize a student stopping to breathe during the performance of the chromatic was seconded by Chuck Wilson. Motion failed.

George Strickland reported from the Past-President Committee:

The Future Music Ed camp at Howard Payne University was another success and ATSSB liaison to the camp Mike Marsh reported he was pleased with its organization. The committee moved that ATSSB endorse this camp under its present format. After a second by Chuck Wilson, the motion carried.

Fred Pankratz was serving on the UIL PML committee and reported good progress, especially in the addition of tubes to the grade I, II and III lists.

Don Stockton prepared and presented a Mentoring Guidelines booklet and the committee asked President Robbins to appoint a Mentoring Committee Chair to aggressively implement a mentoring program in each region this coming year.

In Ronnie Page's absence, the committee asked that the recruitment video be promoted more this coming year and asked that members take it and show it to music ed and methods classes at colleges and universities this year.

A constitutional amendment will be presented to the membership for vote in February providing guidelines for securing ATSSB equipment and files in case of a catastrophic or sudden loss of the Executive Secretary.

Don Thoede then gave an OPS report, noting that we had more entries this year than ever (445). He reported that the state judging panels were good ones and that the CD adjudication sessions went smoothly. The OPS Steering Committee (made up of the Class Representatives and OPS State Chair) suggested that OPS judges be paid a \$35 honorarium at the region, area, and state levels and that should adjudication go through a meal, judges would be paid an additional \$7.50 for each meal up to two at the region and area level. After a motion by Virgil Beene and a second by Brandon Brewer, motion passed.

In the President's Report:

Gary Robbins reported that ATSSB sent a letter to TMEA Band Division Vice-President Kerry Taylor in February from the ATSSB SBOD requesting that TMEA use the ATSSB five-area alignment to advance bands in the A, AA, and AAA honor band process to state. No reply was heard from Mr. Taylor, but Taylor did name a committee to study the proposal. Taylor called Mr. Robbins on Thursday before TBA and asked that Robbins and Griffin come to the committee meeting to present the proposal. However, Taylor set the committee meeting at the same time as ATSSB's State Board meeting, so Robbins told him we could not attend.

Mr. Robbins noted that he had named John Ivie to chair a committee to develop a handbook or guidelines (tentatively called "Essential Elements" at this time) to assist new band directors in small schools in their task.

He reported on the ATSSB Symposium held July 27 in San Antonio which had 37 in attendance. He was pleased with the progress made and an innovative input from the grass-roots membership should help ATSSB in developing a vision for continued growth. He noted that once all of the Symposium discussions had been compiled by Kenneth Griffin, results would be posted on the website and mailed to all participants with a summary in the Newsletter.

In the Executive Secretary's Report:

Kenneth Griffin told Region and Area Coordinators that all forms for auditions in 2002-03 will be mailed to their school addresses and noted that all of these were also available for download from the website, cautioning them to use the current version of Adobe Acrobat Reader to ensure a correct pdf file download.

He reminded them about the use of the Track Selection form and that it was assumed by ATSSB and TMEA that AAA and down students were taking the ATSSB track unless a form was submitted selecting a TMEA track with their original region entry (ATSSB or TMEA).

He noted that Col. Foley still had not responded to repeated invitations to be clinician for the 2005 All-State Band.

He went over procedures for entering students into region and area competition this year and the use of FileMaker Pro at the Area level (required) and region level (optional this year).

Under old business:

All-State Jazz Band Coordinator Brandon Brewer reviewed progress on the audition process and polled the Board regarding region jazz bands, finding 9 regions that have an all-region jazz band in place.

Under New Business:

After presenting audio recording bids to the Board for consideration, Cindy Mikel moved and Elmer Schenk seconded that we accept the bid of Probst Audio to record the 2003 All-State concerts.

It was noted that Omni Video declined to submit a bid for video recording the concerts. Board members were asked to submit proposals to come up with a way to provide this service. After some discussions, it was decided that Chuck Wilson will chair a committee of one in securing this service in cooperation with the Executive Secretary.

After a discussion regarding clinicians, it was decided to seek Col. Foley as the 2005 Symphonic Band clinician.

John Odom moved and Virgil Beene seconded that "When removal of All-State students must occur, a supervised designated area will be made available for the students until the director, sponsors or parents are able to appear in person to take charge of the students. The students will not be allowed to be under their own supervision during this time nor will they be placed in a situation where they will be unsupervised." It was noted in discussion that nothing like this had happened and it was not suggested or supposed that it might. Region 16 just wanted the wording in the rules and regulations for clarity. Motion carried.

Bob Vetter moved and Sandy Brown seconded that membership in the ATSSB All-State Jazz Band would be considered when awarding the All-State Band scholarships. Motion carried.

Chuck Wilson asked about the possibility of awarding plaques or certificates to bands for having a CD at the OPS Area level. OPS State Chair Don Thoede said he would have the OPS Steering Committee consider it.

Region Reports were then given:

- Region 1 - No report.
- Region 2 - No report.
- Region 3/20 - No report.
- Region 4 - No report - Coordinator absent.
- Region 5 - No report.
- Region 6 - No report.
- Region 7 - No report.
- Region 8 - No report.
- Region 9/23 - No report.
- Region 10 - No report. They would be using FileMaker Pro for auditions.
- Region 11 - No report.
- Region 12 - No report.
- Region 13 - No report.

Area Reports were then given:

- Area West - No report - Coordinator absent.
- Area North - No report.
- Area East - No report.
- Area Central - No report.
- Area South - He thanked Region Coordinators for getting their Area entries in on time.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:21 a.m.

Region 14 - No report. ATSSB is doing a good job. Keep it up.

Region 15 - No report.

Region 16 - No report.

Region 17/19 - No report.

Region 18 - No report.

Region 21 - Virgil Beene asked that the SBOD minutes of the February meeting reflect that he was in attendance, not absent. (It was subsequently determined after TBA from SBOD minute notes that Mr. Beene was indeed present for the SBOD meeting, but was absent at the time of region reports, having had to leave before the end of the meeting - so he was reported absent when it came time for the Region 21 report).

Region 22 - Sul Ross had their second band camp.

Minutes of the July 2002 ATSSB General Session

The General Session of ATSSB met in the Convention Center 207 A-B on Tuesday, July 30, 2002 at 1:21 p.m. with about a dozen empty chairs and 45 standing around the back of the room. The meeting was called to order by President Gary Robbins. The invocation was given by Ed Lowes.

Mac MacKinnerney moved and Brandon Brewer seconded that the minutes be approved as printed in the March Newsletter. Motion carried.

Don Thoede presented the Outstanding Performance Series Report. 445 CDs were submitted in the competition. Winners and Runners-up in the 2002 competition were announced and directors present were recognized.

Mr. Robbins reported on State Board of Directors action:

Approved an errata in the flute Year B Capriccio etude.

Past-President Committee reports:

HPU Future Music Ed camp. The SBOD voted to endorse the camp as it is currently formatted.

Fred Pankratz was serving on the UIL PML Committee.

Don Stockton had developed guidelines for Mentoring and Mr. Robbins would be naming a Mentoring Chair to aggressively implement a mentoring program in each region this year.

A constitutional amendment would be presented to the membership for a vote at the February meeting providing guidelines for securing ATSSB equipment and files in case of a catastrophic or sudden loss of the Executive Secretary.

Voted to pay OPS judges a \$35 honorarium at region, area, and state plus \$7.50 each for up to two meals should adjudication timelines require it.

Awarded the bid to record the 2003 All-State Bands to Probst Audio.

Voted to include membership in the ATSSB All-State Jazz Band when awarding scholarship to multi-year seniors.

Mr. Robbins reported that ATSSB sent a letter to TMEA Band Division Vice-President Kerry Taylor in February from the ATSSB SBOD requesting that TMEA use the ATSSB five-area alignment to advance bands in the A, AA, and AAA honor band process to state. No reply was heard from Mr. Taylor, but a Taylor did name a committee to study the proposal. Taylor called Mr. Robbins on Thursday before TBA and asked that Robbins and Griffin come to the committee meeting to present the proposal. However, Taylor set the committee meeting at the same time as ATSSB's State Board meeting, so Robbins told him we could not attend. However, there were three ATSSB members on the committee (Rodney Bennett, Stan Mauldin, and Mike Lewis) and Taylor had asked to meet with Robbins and Griffin at 4:30 that day to discuss the situation.

Mr. Robbins then reported on the ATSSB Symposium help July 27 in San Antonio which had 37 in attendance. He was pleased with the progress made and innovative input from the grass-roots membership should help ATSSB in developing a vision for continued growth. He noted that once all of the Symposium discussions had been compiled by Kenneth Griffin, results would be posted on the website and mailed to all participants with a summary in the Newsletter.

Kenneth Griffin reminded the members that each region needed to nominate a President-Elect and a Class C/CC and Class AA Representative at their Fall Region meetings for election in February.

OPS State Chair Don Thoede told the membership that no OPS forms would be given Region Coordinators next year since they are all on-line.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

ALL-STATE FLOOR MONITORS NEEDED

Would you like a free room for three nights at the Ramada Emily Morgan hotel during the convention-clinic February 12-15, 2003? Contact Mike Barnes at 903-323-7735 or on the internet at mbarnes@springhill.esc7.net to add your name to the list. Most positions have already been filled. All you have to do is monitor one or two floors to see that our all-state students are safe in the hotel for the three nights. Your days are free to enjoy the exhibits, clinics and concerts. You can share the room (and duty) with others if you wish. Contact Mike for details.

The ATSSB Newsletter is the official publication of the Association of Texas Small School Bands. Any correspondence should be addressed to ATSSB; 15310 Amesbury Lane; Sugar Land, Texas 77478-4180. You may also contact us on our Web Site (<http://www.atssb.org>) or email the Editor (Kenneth Griffin) at KL2000G@aol.com or call (281) 494-2151. Letters to the Editor will be published as space permits if signed and verified, although writers may remain anonymous by request. Advertising rates are available by request.

ATSSB FINANCIAL REPORT

August 31, 2002 - end of fiscal year 2001-02

Amount in checking account 08-31-01 \$ 40,069.32

RECEIPTS:

Dues, fees	\$ 64,930.00
Hotel fees	\$ 45,634.52
Interest on checking account	\$ 283.63
Late fees (paid to Scholarship)	\$ 4,350.00
Miscellaneous receipts	\$ 462.00
Patches	\$ 11,478.75
UMI (contribution for video project) ...	\$ 1,500.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	+\$ 128,638.90

AVAILABLE FUNDS \$ 168,708.22

EXPENSES:

All-State expenses	\$ 53,592.36
Area expenses	\$ 936.71
Copying	\$ 5,458.36
Deposit to Scholarship Fund	\$ 7,625.00
Executive Committee expenses	\$ 113.38
Executive Secretary stipend	\$ 14,400.00
Office expenses	\$ 6,853.14
Officer & Org. expenses, honoraria	\$ 4,998.93
OPS expenses	\$ 13,067.85
Past-President Committee	\$ 3,489.93
Patches	\$ 11,475.42
Postage	\$ 2,819.07

Refunds	\$ 1,836.00
Returned checks	\$ 60.00
Symposium	\$ 277.93
TBA expenses	\$ 365.00
Telephone	\$ 773.23
Website expenses	\$ 63.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	-\$ 128,205.31

BALANCE:

Amount in checking account 8-25-02 \$ 40,502.91

ATSSB All-State Band Scholarship Fund

Amount in scholarship fund August 31, 2001 \$ 34,082.29

RECEIPTS

305 Memberships paid after October 1 \$ 7,625.00

DONATIONS RECEIVED:

Robert McElroy	\$ 78.00
Licensee Royalties:	
Concertronics)	\$ 132.20
Probst Audio)	\$ 1,093.10
Jordan Sound - 01 & 02)	\$ 740.00
Omni Video)	\$ 238.47
Music T's)	\$ 4,300.00
California T's)	\$ 240.91

INTEREST

TOTAL RECEIPTS **+\$ 14,837.20**

Amount available

EXPENDITURES:

Plaque for scholarship recipients	-\$ 157.80
1 2002 Scholarship (of 3)	-\$ 1,000.00

TOTAL EXPENDITURES **-\$ 1,157.80**

Amount in scholarship fund August 25, 2002 \$ 47,761.69

Please use the application below to join ATSSB. Be sure to share copies with all directors in your district and neighboring schools to insure everyone gets involved in the activities for the year. Do your part to promote ATSSB membership across the state.

ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS Membership Application

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

NAME _____ SS# _____ - _____ - _____
 SCHOOL _____ CLASS _____ REGION# _____
 TITLE _____ SCHOOL PHONE () _____ Best time to call _____
 Are you are the only band director for both high school and junior high in your district? _____ If there are others in your district, please list their names: _____
 SCHOOL ADDRESS _____ FAX # () _____
 CITY & ZIP CODE _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____
 HOME ADDRESS _____ PHONE () _____
 CITY & ZIP CODE (if different from school) _____
 MAJOR INSTRUMENT(S) _____

Are you a judge listed with the Texas Music Adjudicators Association? If so, please circle your area of certification:
 CB MB O (add * if supplemental)

Until October 1, mail this completed form and \$25* for dues to:
ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS
 Kenneth L. Griffin, Executive Secretary
 15310 Amesbury Lane
 Sugar Land, Texas 77478-4180

Make checks payable to ATSSB

***NOTE:** After October 1, Regular Member dues increase to \$50. A membership card and receipt will be returned to you. The membership year runs from September 1 to August 31. Associate Member dues are \$25 all year, so anyone may join as an Associate Member after October 1 for \$25. To enter students into competition leading to membership in the ATSSB All-State Band, you must be a current Active Member of the Texas Music Educators Association in addition to being a current Regular Member of ATSSB. Only ATSSB Regular Members of may vote or hold office in ATSSB and submit entries in the Outstanding Performance Series. ATSSB membership is held on an individual basis and is nontransferable.