



ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS
 2117 Morse Street Houston, Texas 77019 (713) 874-1151

NEWSLETTER

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President's Column

by Eric Gray

Hello again
 ATSSB colleagues!
 I hope your TMEA
 Convention experience
 was as rewarding as
 mine. We always look
 forward to a new group
 of all state students,
 wonderful concerts,
 seeing old friends and
 making new ones. As
 I begin to go down



the list to thank all those that made the convention and all-state experience great for all of us, I must start with our Executive Secretary Kenneth Griffin. He is truly the heart and soul of our organization and the amount of work he does behind the scenes is staggering. He is a very humble man and would never draw attention to himself but we as an organization must acknowledge his work and determined efforts to keep ATSSB running and to keep us all focused on the job at hand. To my staff that works very hard to prepare for the all-state auditions - thank you for another well-organized state chair audition! To my helpmate Lynn and Gilmer directors Sarah Thompson, Chris Witt, Keaton Box and Jonathan Stafford, I truly cannot thank you enough for all the work you guys do before, during and after the auditions to ensure that things run smoothly and efficiently. Also, a big thank you to the computer gurus Collin Anderson,

(Continued on Page 2)

REMEMBER!

- ◆ Don't forget to discuss your region donating to the Scholarship Fund and/or the Bruce Kenner Memorial Scholarship Fund (individual donations to these funds are fully tax-deductible).
- ◆ Entries submitted in the 2020 ATSSB Outstanding performance Series will be checked to make sure the Head Director of the competing ensemble is a current Active Member of ATSSB, so join TODAY if you need to do so: [CLICK HERE](#)

Gray, continued from Page 1):

Kristi Fluesche, Eric Senzig, Brian Boecker and Marc Nichelson. You guys have no idea how comforting it is that whatever difficulties come up during auditions, your response is always the same: “No problem, we’ll figure it out”. And you always do, thanks!!! I have included in this newsletter a list of ATSSB directors that served as Monitors and Judges for the All State Auditions. Please reach out to these individuals and thank them for serving in this capacity. Another thank-you goes out to the members of the SARC Committee that continue to look for ways for us to do a better job with our auditions. Joe Barrow, Cathy Sherrill, Wayne King, Don Summersgill, Chans Moellendorf and Matt Knight have served for the past year in this capacity and we thank you for your service! Congratulations to Jerry Whorton for being elected as our 4A Representative, Brian Sours for being elected as 1A/2A Representative and to Christina Smith for being reelected as 2C Representative. Moving off the ATSSB State Board of Directors is Jason Smith and Brandon Garmon. Thanks for your service to the students and directors of ATSSB and remember to always say “yes” when I call you in the future with a position I need to fill! Also thanks to the current Executive Committee Mike Bartley, Matt Knight, Kenneth Griffin, Jerry Whorton, Angie Liss, Brian Sours, Christie Smith, and Gina Muela for all you do throughout the year.

Another great job this year has been provided by our Jazz Coordinator Brian Donnell, Jazz Organizer Ben Keltner, Band Organizers Brian Sours, Luis Zepada and Justin Ketner. Also Percussion Organizers Curtis Brian Straw, David Speer and Jordan Fitzwater. We appreciate the efforts of OPS Chair Collin Anderson and All-State Band Section Rehearsal Coordinator Jerry Whorton. All of these individuals gave up most of their convention time to ensure every detail of the all-state experience was covered for our students and we owe them a big thank-you!

Looking ahead to 2021, we are looking to fill the positions of Apprentice Organizer for both band and percussion. This is a “learn the ropes” position for the first year and then take over the Concert Band the next year and then the Symphonic Band the following year. Please contact me or Kenneth if you are interested in either one of these vital positions. Also longtime Area Central Coordinator Perry Morris has stepped down so we will be looking to fill that position as well. Thank you Perry for your many years of hard work and we hope you enjoy the retired lifestyle!

Congratulations to all the OPS winners and to TMEA Honor Band winner Mineola High School. Your concert was truly inspiring and you have set a great example for small school programs across the state of Texas! As we now turn our attention to the UIL Concert & Sightreading Evaluations that seem to consume us this time of year, remember to try to find the good in every rehearsal, every student and every conflict that will fill our days. As our students are pulled in many different directions this spring, help us to understand and encourage them along in their journey. As young directors are looking for answers to help their ensembles sound as good as they can for contest, try to remember what it was like to be in that position and offer suggestions and encouragement to those in need. Remember that happiness doesn’t come from division ratings and trophies, but from solving problems and working together, lifting each other up and helping each other be the best version of themselves they can be.

Have a great spring and let me know how I can be of service to you!



President-Elect's Column by Matt Knight

Wow! Another great convention in the books. What an outstanding turnout this year for the 100 anniversary of TMEA. It is always get to see old friends, attend great clinics and hear some outstanding concerts. Speaking of concerts, I hope everyone had a chance to hear the 3A Honor Band Mineola HS. Congratulations to Chris Brannon, his staff, the Mineola band students and their parents for an outstanding concert. Thanks for representing your community and ATSSB in fine fashion. A special moment for me was getting to hear the West Texas A & M University Symphonic Band perform this year. What an amazing concert! Outstanding music is definitely alive and well in West Texas. It was my first chance to hear a former student perform with a university band at TMEA. Josh Carrillo, we are so proud of you!



Thanks to all the Region and Area Coordinators that do so much to help with the audition process. You each do a great job. Hats off to Eric Gray and his staff for the outstanding job they do with the All State Auditions. I want to encourage you get involved. Volunteer to host an audition, organize a band, organize percussion, or just help herd children. ATSSB is always looking for good people to help at all levels.

Congratulations to all three ATSSB All State Bands this year on outstanding concerts. The concerts were amazing, but the rehearsals were so much fun to watch. If you have not gotten a chance to hear the All State Jazz Band, you are missing out. We are truly blessed with some amazing students in small school bands in Texas. These are the kids that should be on the news!! Thanks to all the people who help make the All State bands work so well behind the scenes. We are blessed with outstanding band and percussion organizers for each ensemble.

As the ATSSB All State concerts started Saturday, I could not help but be overwhelmed with emotions. Our son, Keelan Knight who is a senior, was a member of the ATSSB Concert Band for the second time this year. This was the last concert that he would perform in an All State setting. What a run. 7-time all region band member, 4-time area qualifier, and two-time member of the All State Band member. I can't explain how special that was. How many parents ever get to experience something like this?

My son has had the unique "privilege" to go through school K-12 and have one of his parents as a teacher every year in school. It is not always easy teaching your own child, but I would not trade it. It has been so much fun to watch him grow up. He has taken 2nd place many times to the many other kids that we teach but he has also been loved by so many "parents" in our community.

As I type this, he has been accepted to three universities and has an interview for a major scholarship on March 1st. He plans on going to medical school. To say that Anna Jo and I are proud is an understatement. It is hard to believe these 18 years have gone so fast. Please take the time to hug your spouse and kids tonight. Thank them for sharing you with the other students at their school. Being a band director is not just about you, it is a family commitment! Thanks for letting me share a little of my family with you!

Thanks to Joe Barrow, Cathy Sherrill, Wayne King, Don Summersgill and Chans Moellendorf for serving on the SARC this year. They are truly a great group to work with. If you have any questions or ideas that you feel need to be addressed, please forward them to me at mknight@abernathyisd.com.

A few other "thank you's" need to go out. Thanks to Eric Gray and Mike Bartley for all your help during this first year. I know I have bugged you with lots of questions and emails. You have always been more than willing to help! No one deserved a bigger thanks than Kenneth Griffin. He not only take care of all the "day to day" stuff but he keeps us all on track with what need to be done. Thank you for your passion for kids and for ATSSB.

I would be remiss if I did not thank my wife Anna Jo Knight for all she does for me. If you are lucky in life, you are blessed with that special person that makes you not only a better teacher but a better person. My wife, Anna Jo Knight is that special person in my life. I could not ask for better.

Anna Jo and I had the pleasure of meeting so many great kids and directors at all State registration this year. It is neat to put names with faces! Thanks for sharing that time with us. If there is ever anything I can do for you, please let me know! Hope each of you have a great spring!!

Matt Knight

Immediate Past-President's Column

by Mike Bartley

Another wonderful TMEA convention has come and gone, and I think they keep getting better every year. The 100th year was outstanding, and I am sure that TMEA will continue to improve in the next 100 years as well! As always, there were great concerts, informative clinics, and time well-spent with colleagues and friends. It's always fun to catch up with people that you do not see often, as well as the friends from your immediate area. The camaraderie can be an energizer that allows you to go back home and start tackling UIL.



I would like to congratulate Chris Brannan and the Mineola Band for an enjoyable performance that represented ATSSB so well! I also want to congratulate his staff, parents, community, and all of those that help and support such a fine organization. There is an excellence on display in that program that all should be proud of!

As we head into spring with UIL contests, trips, concerts, banquets, and everything else that happens from now until May, I hope all of us can find time to realize what a rewarding career we have. I know my students can make each day enjoyable, entertaining, and worthwhile. Some of our students today are going to be our colleagues in the near future, and we inspire them to do that! I don't think there can be anything more rewarding than having that kind of an impact on a young person's life.

I hope everyone has a great Spring, and I wish you and your programs much success and health! I'll catch you back in San Antonio at TBA if not sooner.

Mike Bartley

ATSSB Music Lending Library

Various regions send the music they purchase for all-region band clinics to Groesbeck High School after they use them so others can use the music in similar situations. We also send the All-State music to the Lending Library. If you would like to borrow a title, let them know. Contact Brian Boecker at Groesbeck High School, P.O. Box 559, Groesbeck, TX 76642 or call (254) 729-4117 between 10:10 and 11:00, fax him at (254) 729-5458, or email him at b.boeck@groesbeckisd.net. The only expense you will have is postage (both ways) as a courtesy to Brian and his staff. If you have music left over from an all-region clinic and would like to share it with other regions, send it to Groesbeck High School at the address above.

Here is the current list of titles available: <https://www.atssb.org/files/execsec/MusicLibrary.htm>

We would like to thank Collin Anderson, Brian Boecker and the Groesbeck band staff for providing this service to ATSSB members.

State Jazz Coordinator's Column

by Brian Donnell

Congratulations to the 2019-2020 All-State Jazz Band on a spectacular performance! This group was strong in every section and learned so much from their time in rehearsals with Mr. Paul Harshman, University of Washington. I am grateful to Ben Keltner, Port Isabel HS, for his work as organizer during the all-state weekend. He, along with the other directors who volunteered to lead sectionals and helped chaperone rehearsals, made the weekend a memorable one for each of the students.



The music for the 2020-2021 jazz auditions is ready to ship from Buddy Mattei. The only change for this next year is the improv piece, which has been shortened a bit. Details will be posted on the jazz page soon.

Here's hoping your spring semester is successful!

All the best,

Brian Donnell
Greenhill School
Addison

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Donnell".

bdonnell@atssb.org (official ATSSB email address)



Symphonic Band Organizer Reflections

by Brian Sours

Three years ago, I was asked to become an All-State Band Organizer. At the time, I had many reservations, and even more questions. I had never been an organizer of even a region band, and it all seemed overwhelming to me. Could I manage this? Would I be good at this? Did I want to be locked in a rehearsal for seven hours each day for three days rather than move freely throughout the exhibits and clinics? After over a week of consideration, I accepted the position somewhat reluctantly. Little did I know at the time that it would end up being one of the best decisions I ever made.



From my first year as an apprentice organizer in February of 2018 to my last all-state band concert on February 15, 2020, I grew both personally and professionally. I learned new organizational techniques, created new professional networks, and yes, I even gained experience from the “glitches” made along the way. The thing that I frequently reminded myself is that no matter how hard we try to be perfect, lapses are going to happen. How we deal with these missteps is often what defines us.

Over the last three years, I opted to channel the frustration of these mistakes into revisions for the organizer handbook. Some of these additions had just simply never been written down. These modifications provide suggestions and guidance that will help future organizers avoid making similar oversights. This was my way over the last three years of contributing to an already well-run all-state clinic. I found the following quote the other day that seems to sum it all up: “Continuous improvement is better than delayed perfection.” ~Mark Twain

As I conclude my three years as organizer, I can honestly say that I put as much effort and energy into being an organizer as I do my own band program. I enjoyed the experience and did my best to improve upon the position. I’m so thankful I was given the opportunity to help the all-state students and clinicians put on fantastic concerts over the last three years! I’m also a better band director now because of it.

I want to thank Brian Straw for being the percussion organizer with me the last two years. That’s a tough job, yet he made it seem easy. I want to wish Luis Zepeda and Justin Ketner the best of luck next year as band organizers. We have worked well together the last two years as an organizing team and we’ve managed to have a lot of fun in the process, despite the workload.

Lastly, I want to be sure to thank Kenneth Griffin again. He still has so much passion even after 52 years of teaching and 29 years as Executive Secretary of ATSSB. He is quick to reply to an email, text, or phone call. He answers every question without contempt and is very receptive to recommendations on how the organization can improve. His passion and willingness to work tirelessly for ATSSB is one of the reasons for the longevity of this organization. Here’s to year 30 of ATSSB being the best yet!

Brian Sours

2020 All-State Sectionals

Coordinated by Jerry Whorton, Melissa ISD

Thank you to the directors that selflessly served the students of the All-State Bands this past month. We were fortunate enough to have sixteen directors across the state to volunteer their services. A special thank you to Wylie Gore from Robinson ISD for stepping in to cover for an illness.



Would you like to help next year?

Please contact Jerry Whorton if you would like to serve as an All-State Band Sectional Teacher next year at jerrywhorton@melissaisd.org. Serving is easy! It consists of attending Wednesday evening's reading rehearsal and teaching one sectional for one hour and fifteen minutes on Thursday morning of TMEA. I am sure you will find this experience fulfilling and rewarding.

Symphonic Band	Teacher	School District
ATSSB Symphonic Band Sectional – Flute / Oboe	Christina Smith	Center ISD
ATSSB Symphonic Band Sectional – Clarinet	Gentry Ragsdale	Anna ISD
ATSSB Symphonic Band Sectional – Alto, Tenor, Baritone Saxophone	Jon Weddle	Celina ISD
ATSSB Symphonic Band Sectional – Cornet/Trumpet	Jordan Hayes	Melissa ISD
ATSSB Symphonic Band Sectional – F Horn	Sheena Meziere	Van Alstyne ISD
ATSSB Symphonic Band Sectional – Tenor Trombone / Euphonium	Chris Smith	Center ISD
ATSSB Symphonic Band Sectional – Tuba /Low WW / B. Trb./ String Bass	Larry Firman	Celina ISD
ATSSB Symphonic Band Sectional – Percussion	Brian Straw	Quanah ISD
Concert Band	Teacher	School District
ATSSB Concert Band Sectional – Flute / Oboe	Kirsten Guerra	Bells ISD
ATSSB Concert Band Sectional – Clarinet	Wylie Gore	Robinson ISD
ATSSB Concert Band Sectional – Alto, Tenor, Baritone Saxophone	Austin Snow	Anna ISD
ATSSB Concert Band Sectional – Cornet/Trumpet	Justin Ketner	Winona ISD
ATSSB Concert Band Sectional – F Horn	Joe Hewitt	Chapel Hill ISD
ATSSB Concert Band Sectional – Tenor Trombone / Euphonium	Scott Kennedy	Gunter ISD
ATSSB Concert Band Sectional – Tuba / Low WW / B. Trb. / String Bass	Wayne Winner	Andrews ISD
ATSSB Concert Band Sectional – Percussion	David Speer	New Deal ISD

The ATSSB Newsletter is the official publication of the Association of Texas Small School Bands. Any correspondence should be addressed to ATSSB; 2117 Morse Street; Houston, TX 77019. You may also contact us on our Web Site (www.atssb.org) or email the Editor (Kenneth Griffin) at atssb@att.net or call 713-874-1151. Letters to the Editor will be published as space permits if signed and verified, although writers may remain anonymous by request.

Advertising is accepted for the ATSSB Quarterly Newsletter. The Newsletter is published online each September, December, March, and June. See our advertising policy and costs [HERE](#).

State Chair Audition Panels

Symphonic Flutes

Steven Rash- Odem
 Rachel Clakley- Van Vleck
 Leah Cobb- Pilot Point
 Alyssa Garza Garcia- Falfurrias
 Brittany Lozano- Eden
 Alexis Sampley- Bridgeport

Concert Flutes

Josie Inman- Kennedale
 Rudy Leal- Iowa Park
 Robin Williamson- Robinson
 Randy Marble- Columbia
 Nancy Davis- Anna
 Madison Fowler- Canton

Oboes & Bassoons

Wylie Gore- Robinson
 Whitney Katz- Gunter
 Luis de la Garza- Schulenburg
 Amy Bennett- Fulshear
 Samantha Clendenny- Bullard
 Beth Morrison- Thrall

Symphonic Clarinets

Kelli Wilson- Alvarado
 Lynsey Gold- Menard
 Jennifer Condon- Stanton
 Jennifer Webber- Clyde
 Bonnie Anderson- Littlefield
 Robin Weatherman- Burkburnett

Concert Clarinets

Keith Davis- Heritage
 Carroll Rhodes- Tahoka
 Damon Whitley- Brazosport
 Julie Cook- Howe
 Paige Bowers- Flatonia
 Rachel Berg- China Spring

Contest Office:

Eric Gray
 Lynn Gray
 Sarah Thompson
 Chris Witt
 Jonathan Stafford
 Keaton Box

: Alto, Bass & Contra Clarinets

Nora Mosby- Rogers
 Clint Bingham- Marion
 Stephanie Wlodkowski- New Waverly
 Ryan Chambers- Crane
 Anna Sutton- Redwater
 Josh Bailey- Lakeview

: Alto, Tenor & Bari Saxes

Tim Grace- McGregor
 Brian Best- Splendor
 Bob Hansen- Flatonia
 Scooter Miller- Seymour
 Charles Cabrera- Robstown
 Amy Robinson- Iowa Park

: Symphonic Trumpets

Carl Idlebird- Somerville
 Billy Vess- Queen City
 David McEntyre- Spearman
 Kendall Freeman- Thorndale
 Scott Cross- Farmersville
 Jaren Braud- East Chambers

: Concert Trumpets

Juan Cantu- Rio Hondo
 Joshua Kidd- Graham
 Brandon Huff- Krum
 Emerico Perez- Orange Grove
 Michael Munoz- Lamesa
 Gary Owens- Levelland

: French Horns

Jon Schriver- Valley Mills
 Zach Sims- Shiner
 Jacob Pipak- Sunnyvale
 Chans Moellendorf- San Saba
 Odis Bonner- Callisburg
 Whitney Sims- Shiner

: Tenor Trombones

Oscar Gonzalez- Grulla
 Tami Goss- Bridge City
 Tom English- La Vega
 Eddie Benitez- La Feria
 Jay Sutton- Redwater
 Jeremiah Ward- Fredericksburg

: Bass Trb., Euph. & S. Bass

Michael Powers- Thorndale
 John Barry- Levelland
 Roel Saenz- Zapata
 John Winebrenner- Wimberly
 Garrett Laird- Cuero
 Jeff Van Oort- Collinsville

: Tubas

Ray Portillo- Glen Rose
 Rodney Bennett- Olney
 Chris Clifton- Carlisle
 Bryce Victory- Stratford
 Veronica Tagle- Forsan
 Gabe Martinez- Big Spring

: Symphonic Percussion

David Torch- Jourdanton
 Jim Best- Winnsboro
 Justin Caldwell- Queen City
 Rick Yanez- Hidalgo
 David Speer- New Deal
 Josh Donnelly- Pilot Point

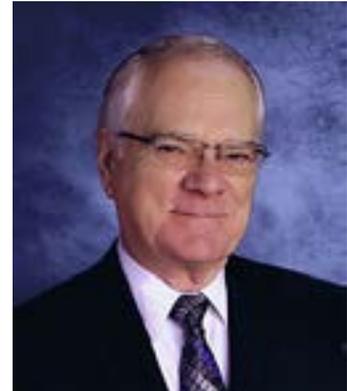
: Concert Percussion

Mike Sheffield- Canyon
 Charlie Bradberry- Iowa Park
 Will Burks- Levelland
 Richard Varela- Cuero
 Lance Finley- Needville
 Daniel Coffey- Shepherd

Executive Secretary's Column

by Kenneth L. Griffin

Another successful ATSSB All-State experience - our 29th! It is hard to believe we enter our 30th year of operations next year! The success, of course, is attributed to the many individuals working behind the scenes to put it all together. I will try to mention all I can in the following paragraphs.



TMEA once again housed the ATSSB All-State students and their chaperones in the Hyatt Regency Hotel. We had student registration in the Hyatt Regency again this year so you did not have to run over to the Convention Center just to get their badges - then run back to the Hyatt Regency for the student meeting prior to chair auditions. We also started chair auditions an hour earlier to give the students time to get a bite to eat before the evening rehearsal. It seemed to go smoothly - and we actually distributed every badge to every student. In the future, if you need to book an early arrival on Tuesday or late departure on Sunday, try to use another hotel for those stays and book the Hyatt Regency for the three nights of the clinic if you want your students in the same hotel as rehearsals (just a suggestion - some of you may have been able to secure the Hyatt Regency for all of the nights you needed).

Thanks go to the dedicated leadership of TMEA: TMEA Executive Director Robert Floyd, TMEA Deputy Director Frank Coachman, Andrew Denman, Kay Vanlandingham, Susan Daugherty, Karen Cross, and the rest of the TMEA staff for their help and cooperation over the years.

Interesting fact about the 2020 All-State Bands: The membership included 11 freshmen (down from 22 last year), 59 sophomores (up from 44 last year), 101 juniors (up from 85 last year), and 129 seniors (down from 149 from last year).

THANK YOU - Eric Gray from Gilmer and his crew did another great job with State Chair Auditions. It is no small task assembling all of those panels of volunteer judges and screens and the forms and pencils necessary and the computers and printers and food for judges and workers. Thanks again, Eric, for all of your hard work and that of the Gilmer staff, and to Collin Anderson and his staff from Groesbeck for serving in the Auditions Office - working the computers and checking all that math (then his staff attended each concert to take up all-state music folders so they could be sorted and placed in the ATSSB All-State Music and Lending Library Groesbeck hosts). And thanks to all of the directors who volunteered their time to sit on judging panels, monitor, run errands, etc., to make the auditions run smoothly, and then even more who gave up their evening to attend the organizational rehearsals then meet with the clinicians to decide what to work on as section teachers the next morning (they are named and thanked elsewhere in this newsletter). Brian Sours from Tenaha, Luis Zepeda from London, Justin Ketner from Winona, and Benjamin Keltner had to give up most of their convention to serve as Band Organizers as did Brian Straw from Quanah, David Speer from New Deal and Jordan Fitzwater from Community as Percussion Organizers. We would be remiss in not thanking TMEA for including ATSSB in the percussion provision rotation. Rehearsal and performance percussion equipment were provided by provided by Ludwig-Musser, a division of Conn-Selmer, Sabian Cymbals of Canada, and

(Continued on Page 10)

(Griffin, continued from Page 9):

Gon Bops, in cooperation with Brook Mays Music / H&H Music and Lone Star Percussion. Pianos were provided by Steinway & Sons. Digital keyboards were provided by Yamaha Corporation of America. Conductor podiums, conductor stands and conductor chairs were provided by Melhart Music Center.

Interesting facts about the 2020 All-State Bands: Canyon had 7 students make All-State; Alvarado, Anna, Grulla, Hidalgo, and Van Alstyne had 6 make All-State; Argyle, China Spring, Greenwood, and Pittsburg had 5 students make All-State; eight schools had 4 students make All-State; fourteen schools had 3 students make All-State; thirty-five schools had 2 students make All-State; and ninety-nine schools had 1 student make All-State. In all, 166 different schools were represented in the ATSSB All-State Bands.

OPS - The Outstanding Performance Series was once again a great success in 2019 and the beautiful award the winners received in the General Session on Friday is an enviable trophy to be seen in band halls across the state. The runner-up plaque was beautiful also, befitting the great honor these bands received from their peers. Congratulations to the winners and runners-up. I look forward to this year's competition and hope many of you enter your band's performance(s) from a contest this year. The digital process seems to be working smoothly and I know no one misses amassing all those CDs and mailing them! Be sure to read Collin Anderson's OPS article carefully regarding the digital process. Every 2019-2020 member of ATSSB will receive a link to secure a PDD (permanent digital download) of the winning selections in the 2020 Outstanding Performance Series after results have been completed and mechanical licenses secured.

DIRECTORY - An ATSSB Membership Directory is available on the Website (in the main page at www.atssb.org, hover your mouse over MEMBERS then ATSSB TMEA MEMBERS DIRECTORY and enter your last name and ATSSB number with no letters to access the Directory. It lists all those who are Active and Current for the fiscal year (which ends July 31). Since the State Board has voted that the ATSSB Website is the official document, we no longer print the Directory (or anything else) for mailout. All documents must be viewed/printed/downloaded from the Website. You will now need your last name and ATSSB ID (your ATSSB number without the letters). We secured the Directory because advertisers were mining the contact data and besieging our members with advertisements.

Interesting facts about the 2020 All-State Band: The band had 125 females and 175 males.

APPLICATION - There is a Membership Application in this Newsletter and on the Website that you can download and use or give to your assistants or to share with neighbors. Membership renewal reminders are not sent, so use the one available online or linked here to join as soon as you can in the new budget year (although we surely do appreciate all of the scholarship contributions you make when you join after October 1!). There is also a College Division Membership application available here and online. Give one to your senior bandmen that might be considering music as a major or minor in college. Remember that dues are \$50. The \$25 late fee will continue to be added after October 1, so if you want to avoid the late fee, get your dues paid as soon as possible (you can use a school PO at any time, a check or money order or your credit card online).

PAL - The Prescribed Audition List includes all known (and SARC-approved) errata to date on each of

(Continued on Page 11)

(Griffin, continued from Page 10):

the etude pages. The scales are up to date on the website, including the State Board mandated statement that scales are to be played "as written" - so be careful your students play a whole note at the end of each scale. Be sure you are using the current data from the Website since an Update will not be mailed or passed out at TBA like we used to do (remember that the Website is the official document). We will be using YEAR E in the PAL for auditions in 2020-21. Watch the Website for the Year E Update - and remember that percussion auditions are unified. Links will be updated as they become available.

Interesting facts about the 2020 All-State Bands: Of the 300 students in the bands, 7 were from class 1A schools (3.33% - same as last year), 32 were from class 2A schools (10.67% - up from 28 last year), 92 from class 3A schools (30.67% - down from 93 last year), and 169 from class 4A schools (56.33% - down from 172 last year).

The audio recording of each of the All-State Band concerts is available on compact disc from Probst Audio (see order form in this Newsletter). Please be advised that Probst will more than likely be moving toward streaming recordings in the future, so keep an eye on the website and the Newsletter for details regarding how that will work. Mark Custom Recording did not make a DVD this year of the Jazz Ensemble due to copyright issues on most of the pieces performed but the All-State Bands are available on DVD from them. You may still order plaques and t-shirts from the event through Pepwear. You may also order the large 10" All-State patch from this office (\$10 each includes shipping). Use the order forms in this Newsletter or online to get yours today.

Use your contacts at colleges and universities across Texas (and beyond) to make sure that they give scholarships (all expenses paid) to ATSSB All-State students and tuition scholarships to ATSSB Area students for their summer band camps like some colleges do. Check out what the camp offers and then encourage your students to go where they are wanted. Several colleges have already contacted me wanting the All-State list so our students can be contacted about scholarship opportunities. More and more colleges are interested in our seniors each year.

Interesting facts about the 2020 All-State Bands: Of the 300 members, each of the 22 regions had an average of 13.63 students in the band. One regions had 27 (the most) and one region had one (the least).

Remember that Region Officers serve a two-year term, so if elections need to be held in your regions, go through the process in place to elect them. Be sure to let me know if you replace a Region Coordinator for 2020-21 in your Spring Meeting. I need to have their name as soon as possible for our plans for 2020-21 (call me at 713-874-1151 and leave a message). Your Region Coordinator is your region's representative on the State Board of Directors which makes all of the 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 region members so votes could be representative of each region of the state. Keep an eye on your region's page and volunteer to help keep it up to date if you are into web publishing and would like to help. The ATSSB State Board will send each Region a Fall Agenda, listing items each Region needs to address, so watch for those items.

Seniors Ashlin Alvarez (Colorado 3A Clarinet), Rayce Baker (China Spring Jazz Bass Guitar), Daniel Bartley (Canton Jazz Trombone), Rachel Black (Aubrey 4A Alto Saxophone), Colton Brietzke (Marion

(Continued on Page 12)

(Griffin, continued from Page 11):

3A Trumpet), Zack Cavender (Van Alstyne 3A Percussion), Emma Clarke (Stephenville Jazz Trumpet), Bonnie Dyess (Canton 4A Clarinet), Natelie Jones (Frankston 3A Bas Clarinet), Joshua Karki (Eastland 3A Clarinet), Iliana Leal (Rio Hondo 4A Clarinet), Ashley Lee (Grulla 4A Clarinet), Stephen Matherne (Hardin-Jefferson 4A Flute), Caleb Miller (Saint Mary's Hall 3A French Horn), David Molina (Sealy 4A Clarinet), Madison Parker (Chapel Hill 4A Trumpet), Reed Rothe (D'Hanis 3A Alto Saxophone), Shane Smith (Liberty Hill 4A Flute), and Mia Stenberg (Fredericksburg 4A Clarinet) each received the \$500 ATSSB All-State Band Scholarship for making the band three of their four years in high school.

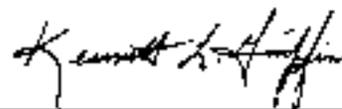
Seniors Meredith Bowden (Grandview 3A Clarinet), Eduardo Cazares (Hidalgo 4A Alto Saxophone), Nikolas Delacruz (Estacado Jazz Bass Trombone), and Nikkie Galindo (Trinity Midland 3A Flute) each received the \$2000 ATSSB All-State Band Scholarship for making the band all four of their years in high school.

These senior scholarship recipients were given a plaque in a brief ceremony between the performances of the Concert and Symphonic Bands. This makes one hundred twenty-six students who have received the four-year scholarship (the first twenty-three received a \$1000 scholarship until 2003 when the three-year \$500 scholarships were started and the four-year award was raised to \$2000) and three hundred forty-two who have received the three-year scholarship. Since 1992, \$388,000 in scholarships have been awarded to 468 individuals (6.7% of those selected to ATSSB All-State have received a scholarship).

Interesting facts about the 2020 ATSSB All-State Band: Over the last twenty-nine years, 6,946 students have been awarded All-State honors by ATSSB.

In your spring meetings, be sure to nominate state officers for next year: Class 1C and 3A Representatives to the State Board of Directors 2021-23 and President-Elect 2021-23 (the current President-Elect, Matt Knight, assumes the Presidency at the end of the All-State clinic February 13, 2021).

My thanks to all of you for what you have done to make ATSSB what it is today.



ATTENTION, COMPOSERS!

The 2022 ATSSB Composition Competition winner in 2022 will receive a \$1500 award in addition to publication by TRN. The entry deadline is June 1, 2021. Be sure to check the website for details: <https://www.atssb.org/competitions/composition/>

Did your student(s) forget to purchase one of the large 10" patches at state this year? They cost \$10 each (including postage). Please use the order form online:

<https://www.atssb.org/files/execsec/LargePatchOrder.pdf>



OPS State Chair's Column

by Collin Anderson

It was an honor and privilege to present the OPS Winners' plaques at TMEA as your OPS State Chair. Congratulations once again to the following winners:

1C March

Winner	Troup MS	Ryan McIntuff
Runner-up	Morris Upchurch MS	Stephen Bynum

1C Concert

1st Place	Danbury MS	Charles Fricker
2nd Place	Tenaha MS	Shannon Johnson
Runner-up	Yoakum JH	Waylon Johnson

2C/3C March

Winner	Walnut Grove MS	Andrea Tenant
Runner-up	Chapel Hill MS	Chelsye Newland

2C/3C Concert

1st Place	Argyle MS	Evan Fletcher
2nd Place	Walnut Grove MS	Andrea Tenant
Runner-up	Argyle MS	Evan Fletcher

1A/2A March

Winner	Thorndale HS	Michael Powers
Runner-up	Timpson HS	Rhonda Daniel

1A/2A Concert

1st Place	Union Grove HS	Brandon Garmon
2nd Place	Union Grove HS	Brandon Garmon
Runner-up	Valley Mills HS	Jon Schriver

3A March

Winner	CH Yoe HS	Craig George
Runner-up	McGregor HS	Tim Grace

3A Concert

1st Place	Mineola HS	Chris Brannan
2nd Place	Eastland HS	Stephen Cox

Runner-up	CH Yoe HS	Craig George
-----------	-----------	--------------

4A March

Winner	North Lamar HS	Randy Jones
Runner-up	Argyle HS	Jason Bird

4A Concert

1st Place	Fredericksburg HS	Jason Younts
2nd Place	North Lamar HS	Randy Jones
Runner-up	Gruella HS	Oscar Gonzalez



The new season of OPS kicks off with the printing of this newsletter article! Wow, how time flies! All of the instructions/information will be on the ATSSB OPS Webpage. The official entry deadline is Saturday, May 23 by midnight. ALL components of the entry (Entry Verification Form, check, and uploads) must be completed by this time. If any component is missing, the entry/entries will be disqualified.

Entries will be certified to Area by midnight on Saturday, June 6. Entries will be certified to State by midnight on Saturday, June 20. State adjudication will be July 23 at the TBA convention in San Antonio. A matrix of which regions and areas will be judging others will also be posted on the webpage.

IMPORTANT CHANGES:

The OPS State Chair email has changed. Please make sure to send future correspondence to: opsstatechair@atssb.org.

(Continued on Page 14)

(OPS, continued from Page 13):

Also, the online entry process has a new look. This year, upon completion of the online entry, the Entry Verification Form will automatically be generated and emailed to you to get the necessary signatures. This version of the EVF can also serve as an invoice for your business office. The link to upload your .WAV files will be available upon completion of the online entry and will also be in the email along with your entry verification.

FOLLOW THE PROCEDURES CAREFULLY:

1. Create .WAV files of each piece you plan to enter. Any multi-movement work should be in one .WAV file with seven seconds between movements.
2. Name the .WAV file correctly, in the right format!!! This is imperative to keep all the files sorted into the correct classes and regions/areas for adjudication.
Include NV after the school name for non-varsity entries and SNV for sub non-varsity entries.

FILE NAME protocol:

Region#_SchoolClassification_EntryID_TitleOfPiece_SchoolName_DirectorFirstLastName.wav

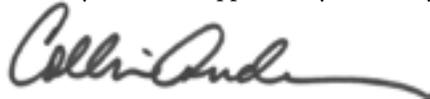
Example:

8_3A_1A_TheTromboneKing_GroesbeckHS_CollinAnderson.wav

3. Click on the 2020 OPS Online Entry link to begin the process. All entry information will be entered through the OPS Webpage.
4. Upload your .WAV files to the DropBox link provided after completing the online entry.
5. Send the OPS Verification Form and your entry check (unless paying online) to Kenneth Griffin.
6. Check the OPS website page shortly after completion of all these steps to see if your entry has been marked as complete.

A Certification of Advancement form will be emailed by the OPS State Chair following each level of adjudication to show which entries advanced from region to area and then to the state OPS contest.

If there are any questions or issues while entering OPS this year, contact me at the number or email address below. Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and our fantastic organization as the OPS State Chair.



903-390-3271

opsstatechair@atssb.org

State Jazz Organizer Reflections

by Benjamin Keltner

Organizing the ATSSB All-State Jazz Ensemble was an outright privilege! It was absolutely amazing to watch our students grow with confidence as musicians with each rehearsal block. Our clinician, Paul Harshman, was fantastic with his feedback pertaining to the shaping and phrasing of improvisational solos. The amount of music the ensemble covered was astonishing as well. Starting Wednesday, they read 12 charts and ended up performing 8 charts at their concert on Saturday... which was nothing short of inspiring! It is also incredibly rewarding to see the development of student-friendships across the 20-member ensemble.

My Sincere thanks to all who "lent a hand" including Dennis Boucher and Jacob Faske. The guidance of State Jazz Coordinator Brian Donnell is also greatly appreciated. It is always a challenge to get things rolling for the initial rehearsal and it takes great planning and know-how to maximize efficiency. Also, Thank you to Kenneth Griffin for your amazing organizational skills and countless hours taking care of endless tasks.



DVD Video Recordings

Please Ship To:

Please PRINT, this is your shipping label.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Due to copyright issues DVDs cannot be made for ATSSB/TMEA All-State Jazz Ensemble. All 3 Groups audio CDs are available through info@probstaudio.com or PO Box 8108 Ennis, Texas 75120.

55913-MDVD ___ ATSSB/TMEA All-State Concert Band - DVD
55914-MDVD ___ ATSSB/TMEA All-State Symphonic Band - DVD

ALL-STATE CONCERT PRICING

	<i>DVD</i>
<i>Any ATSSB All-State Concert</i>	<i>\$35.00 ea.</i>
<i>Both ATSSB All-State Band Concerts</i>	<i>\$50.00 set</i>

**SEND ORDERS/
MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:
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ph: 716-759-2600
www.markcustom.com

STUDENT NAME & INSTRUMENT: _____

TOTAL ORDER: _____

TOTAL Amount All-State (DVDs Only) @ _____ ea. \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT \$ _____



A percentage of all proceeds are donated to the appropriate ATSSB scholarship fund.

20 ATSSB/TMEA

ATSSB All-State Band CD Audio Recording Order Form

Send \$22 for a recording of the 2020 ATSSB All-State Bands and Jazz Ensemble programs recorded and digitally mastered. Add \$3 for shipping and mail to Probst Audio at the address below. Make sure you print your name and address and enclose payment. If you missed previous years' recordings, a limited number are available (be sure to indicate which years if ordering). Shipment will be some time in April.

NAME _____

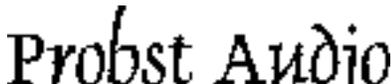
ADDRESS _____

CITY, ZIP CODE _____

TELEPHONE (include area code) _____

_____ 2020 X \$22 (\$17@ if 2 or more)	\$ _____
_____ 2004-2019 CD's (please list) X \$22 (\$17@ if 2 or more)	\$ _____
_____ 2003 & earlier CD's X \$17 (\$15@ if 2 or more)	\$ _____
Shipping charges	\$ _____ 3.00
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED	\$ _____

P.O. Box 8108
Ennis, Texas 75120



(972) 878-6018
info@probstaudio.com

Print the application on this page below and share it with your neighbors or assistants.

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.
If this is a membership renewal, only enter name and school and ANYTHING THAT HAS CHANGED.

NAME _____ Last four SS# _____ TMEA # _____
SCHOOL _____ CLASS _____ REGION # _____
TITLE _____ SCHOOL PHONE _____ Best time to call _____
If a public middle or junior high school, what high school does your school feed? _____
How many directors are on the band staff in your ISD? _____ New to this region? _____
SCHOOL ADDRESS _____ FAX# _____
CITY & ZIP CODE _____ EMAIL _____
HOME ADDRESS _____ PHONE# _____
CITY & ZIP CODE (if different from school) _____ CELL# _____
MAJOR INSTRUMENT(S) _____

Until October 1, mail this completed form and \$50* for dues to:

ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS
Kenneth L. Griffin, Executive Secretary
2117 Morse Street
Houston, Texas 77019

Are you a judge listed with the Texas Music Adjudicators Association? If so, please select your area of certification::

**I would also like to donate \$_____ to the
ATSSB All-State Band Scholarship Fund.**

Dues may not be deductible, but any amount over \$50 is considered a fully-deductible contribution.

**I would also like to donate \$_____ to the
Bruce Kenner Memorial Scholarship Fund.**

Donations to this scholarship are fully deductible.

***NOTE:** The membership year runs from August 1 to July 31. After October 1, Regular Member dues increase to \$75 (the additional \$25 is deposited into the ATSSB All-State Band Scholarship Fund). A membership card and receipt will be returned to you via email, so make sure you have a valid email address. 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 an ATSSB All-State Band, you must be a current Active Member of the Texas Music Educators Association in addition to ATSSB. Retired Members dues are \$25. Only ATSSB Active Members may vote or hold office in ATSSB and submit entries in the Outstanding Performance Series. ATSSB membership is held on an individual basis and is nontransferable.

Print the application on this page below and give it to your graduating senior bandmen who might wish to consider a career in band directing.

ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS College Division Membership Application

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

NAME _____ SS# (last 4 is all that is required) _____
COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY _____ Anticipated Graduation Date _____
SCHOOL ADDRESS _____ SCHOOL PHONE () _____
CITY & ZIP CODE _____ SCHOOL EMAIL _____
PERMANENT ADDRESS _____ TELEPHONE () _____
CITY & ZIP CODE _____ HOME EMAIL _____
MAJOR INSTRUMENT(S) _____

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

Mail this completed form and \$25 for dues to:

ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS
Kenneth L. Griffin, Executive Secretary
2117 Morse Street
Houston, Texas 77019-6807

Make checks payable to ATSSB

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

Minutes of the February ATSSB General Session

The General Session of ATSSB met in CC304 on Friday, February 14, 2020, with approximately 229 in attendance. President Eric Gray called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

John Young from Terrell gave the invocation.

Mr. Gray introduced the head table: himself, Executive Secretary Kenneth Griffin, Class 1C Representative Gina Muela, Class 3A Representative Angie Liss, Class 2C Representative Christina Smith, Immediate Past-President Mike Bartley, President-Elect Matt Knight, Class 1A/2A Representative Brandon Garmon and 4A Representative Jason Smith. He then recognized TMEA officers present: Michael Childs, TMEA Region 7 President from Stephenville.

Mr. Gray then introduced the candidates for the office of Class 2C Representative to the State Board of Directors: Christina Bilyeau from Anna MS, Christina Smith from Center MS and Robin Weatherman from Burkburnett MS. He asked for nominations from the floor and, hearing none, he introduced candidates for the office of 1A/2A Representative to the State Board of Directors: Will Brewer from West Texas HS, Michael Copeland from Stamford HS, Beth Morrison from Thrall HS, Jon Schriver from Valley Mills HS, Brian Sours from Tenaha HS, and David Speer from New Deal HS. He asked for nominations from the floor and, hearing none, he introduced candidates for the office of Class 4A Representative to the State Board of Directors: Craig Haynie from Henderson HS, Robert Hinds from Hereford HS, Joshua Kidd from Graham HS, Marc Nichelson from China Spring HS, and Jerry Whorton from Melissa HS. He asked for nominations from the floor and, hearing none, he asked speakers to step forward to speak for one minute for each candidate:

2C Representative:

Nancy Davis spoke for Christina Bilyeau.

George Little spoke for Christina Smith.

Brian Beeson spoke for Robin Weatherman.

1A/2A Representative:

Fred Pankratz spoke for Will Brewer.

Michael Childs spoke for Michael Copeland.

Stephen Krupicka spoke for Beth Morrison.

Zachary Sims spoke for Jon Schriver.

John Young spoke for Brian Sours.

Anna Jo Knight spoke for David Speer.

4A Representative:

Craig Haynie spoke for himself.

Joe Barrow spoke for Robert Hinds.

Michael Childs spoke for Joshua Kidd.

Robert Vetter spoke for Marc Nichelson.

Angie Liss spoke for Jerry Whorton.

Ballots were then cast and collected by the election committee: Chris Witt from Gilmer, chair; also Jonathan Stafford, Keaton Box, and Sarah Thompson – all from Gilmer.

The minutes of the General Session July 26, 2019, were approved as printed in the September Newsletter after a motion by Brian Beeson from Burkburnett and a second by Michael Copeland from Stamford.

Mr. Gray reported for Ann Lowes Mueller, Composition Competition Coordinator, that her committee recommended and the State Board approved a new monetary award of \$1500 for the winning composition in future ATSSB Composition Competitions beginning in 2022.

In the SARC report, Matt Knight reported motions from the committee approved by the State Board:

Changes to jazz rules that area round auditions for drum set must use an acoustic drum set, not an electronic drum set.

Changes to audition rules as follows:

Under ALL-STATE BAND TRYOUT PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES, SECTION VI.H.

"If a student auditions at the Region level on two or more instruments then decides to advance to Area on one, omit the other position, then recalculate (do NOT mark the other position "DNA" before recalculating)." CHANGE TO: "If a student auditions at the Region level on two or more instruments and is selected to advance to Area on one or more, the student and director must choose which instrument to accept; after the decision, omit the other position(s),

(Continued on Page 18)

(General Session Minutes, continued from Page 17):

then recalculate (do NOT mark the other position “DNA” before recalculating).”

Under ALL-STATE BAND TRYOUT PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES, SECTION VI.M.

Add a second sentence: Only students in grades 9-12 may be certified to advance to the Area auditions.

Under ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES AND RULES FOR AREA AUDITIONS

Only students in grades 9-12 may be certified to advance to the Area auditions.

Add 1 euphonium advancing to Area from Region and 1 from Area to State:

4 BARITONE-EUPHONIUM (only 2 shall be certified to State from Area)

He thanked his committee for their work: Wayne King, Cathy Sherrill, Chans Moellendorf, Joe Barrow, and Don Summersgill.

Mike Bartley reported for the Past-President Committee that the State Board had approved a TBA clinic sponsored by ATSSB that will deal with how to correct/repair a broken program when taking it over.

State Jazz Coordinator Brian Donnell noted that this next year will be SET E. Buddy Mattei will have the accompaniment CDs ready for sale by March 1 and there are length changes in one etude that is reflected in the new CD. Mr. Donnell recommended directors get a new one. Region Coordinators will be given the CD accompaniment at TBA.

A runoff ballot was distributed to vote on Class 2C Representative between Christie Bilyeau and Christie Smith, also a runoff for Class 1A/2A Representative between Brian Sours and David Speer, also a runoff for Class 4A Representative between Craig Haynie and Jerry Whorton.

OPS State Chair Collin Anderson presented the 2019 OPS winners and runners-up with their awards.

In the President’s Report, Mr. Gray announced the recipient of the 2020 Bruce Kenner Memorial Scholarship as Daniel Bartley from Canton HS. Daniel will receive a \$1000 scholarship. He noted that the ATSSB Presidents Committee met with the TMEA Presidents Committee on Tuesday for a long discussion regarding science and technology and other curriculums being pressed into lower grades to the detriment of the arts. They also discussed the reclassification numbers for 4A, noting that the cap was 689 in 1992 when ATSSB started but will be 1229 next year. Suggestions for mitigating the pressures of increased numbers were discussed and more communications will be forthcoming in the months ahead. He thanked the All-State Band Organizers and Sectional Teachers and everyone involved with the All-State process for the success of the All-State bands this year.

Executive Secretary Kenneth Griffin reported on the status of the scholarships, program and commission brokerage accounts. He reported clinicians and composers under contract for the next two years:

2021: Brian Balmages (FJH Music), Symphonic Band, Don Lefevre (WTAMU), Concert Band, Russell Schmidt (Valley Jazz Cooperative, Phoenix), Jazz Ensemble, ATSSB has commissioned Brian Balmages to write a piece for the Symphonic Band to premier.

2022: Dr. Emily Threinen (University of Minnesota), Symphonic Band, Caroline C. Beatty (Texas State University), Concert Band (will premier the winner of the 2022 ATSSB Composition Competition).

There was no old business and no new business.

The State Board moved for the adoption of the Constitutional Amendment regarding the nomination process for state offices. After a second by Jason Smith, motion passed.

Mr. Gray recognized Christina Smith, Brandon Garmon and Jason Smith for their service on the Executive Board with individual plaques.

Mr. Bartley then announced the result of the ballot: Class 2C Representative 2020-2022 is Christina Smith from Center, Class 1A/2A Representative 2020-2022 is Brian Sours, and Class 4A Representative 2020-2022 is Jerry Whorton.

Mr. Gray then adjourned the meeting at 2:02 p.m.

State Board of Directors Meeting

7:11 a.m., February 13, 2020

Menger Hotel Minuet Room

Present: Region 22 Coordinator Anthony Alvarez, Region 3 Coordinator and Area North Coordinator and Immediate Past-President Mike Bartley, Region 7 Coordinator Brian Beeson, Region 21 Coordinator Gehrig Blankenship, Region 2 Coordinator Asa Burk, Region 14 Coordinator Charles Cabrera, Class 1A/2A Representative Brandon Garmon, Region 11 Coordinator Leo Garza, President Eric Gray, Executive Secretary and Founding Charter Member Kenneth Griffin, Region 10 Coordinator Russell Hopkins, Region 6 Coordinator Darin K. Johns, Past-President Jim Jones, Region 15 Coordinator Benjamin Keltner, Region 16 Coordinator and President-Elect Matt Knight, Region 1 Coordinator Kevin Kuehler, Region 5 Coordinator Ross Langdon, Class 3A Representative Angie Liss, Founding Charter Member and Past-President Michael Marsh, Region 12 Coordinator Laurie Mollenkopf, Region 18 and Composition Competition Coordinator Ann Lowes Mueller, Class 1C Representative Gina Muela, Region 8 Coordinator Marc Nichelson, Region 23 Coordinator John Pritchett, Region 13 Coordinator Rod Rodriguez, Founding Charter Member Elmer Schenk, Class 2C Representative Christina Smith, Class 4A Representative Jason Smith, Region 4 Coordinator Jason Steele, Past-President George Strickland, Past-President and Charter Member Robert Vetter, Past-President John Young, and Region 29 Coordinator Jason Younts. Attending as guests were OPS State Chair Collin Anderson, State Jazz Coordinator Brian Donnell, Area East Coordinator Joseph Hewitt, Area Central Coordinator Perry Morris, Area South Coordinator Emerico Perez, Area West Coordinator Don Summersgill, Region 4 Coordinator-designee Jay Sutton, TMEA Band Division Vice-President Joe Munoz, and UIL Assistant Music Director Gabe Musella. **Not present:** Founding Charter Member and Past-President Fred Pankratz, Founding Charter Members John Gibson and R. Michael Hardy, Charter Member and Past-President Don Stockton, Past-Presidents Brandon Brewer, Steven Moore, Ronnie Page, Gary Robbins and Rob Toups, and Region 9 Coordinator Trent Graves.

Meeting **called to order** at 7:03 a.m. by Eric Gray.

The Invocation was given by **Robert Vetter**.

The **Oath of Office** was administered by Eric Gray.

Minutes of the SBOD meeting July 25, 2019, as printed in the September Newsletter were approved after a motion by **Brian Beeson** and a second by **Laurie Mollenkopf**.

Under the reports of **Special Committees**:

Eric Gray introduced **Gabe Musella** who gave a UIL report:

No Pass / No Play rule approved by TEA last May. Local ISDs may decide whether to implement or not.

TSSEC takes entries beginning April 1 and ending April 15 with performances on Saturday, May 30 and June 1.

Many new Class I ensemble added to the PML. Solos are now under review.

The PML Committee has added ten Grade 1, nine Grade 2, five Grade 3, eleven Grade 4, and twenty-two Grade 5.

The State Mariachi Festival will take place February 21-22 at the University of Texas Rio Grande. Participation has expanded to the point there may be an Area level in the near future.

The TMAA Sightreading Study Committee under Chair Greg Countryman will be implementing a pilot study of the revised procedures in 2020-21.

The State Marching Contest is scheduled for November 2-4 for 2A, 4A and 6A with 1A, 3A and 5A participating in an Area competition the Saturday after the 2A, 4A and 6A Areas.

August 1 physical exams are due for 1st and 3rd year participants. An FAQ page on the UIL website will help with questions regarding these required physicals, including 7th and/or eighth graders that participate in marching band.

The TMAA Ad Hoc Committee on Marching Band has produced new sheets, available online.

5A and 6A will have a 7-judge system at State.

The State Military Marching Band Contest is now under the UIL, run by NAMMB.

The **Website Report** was given by Marc Nichelson:

The new website is now up and running. The Job Board is still being tweaked for appearance, but is operating as intended.

(Continued on Page 20)

(SBOD Minutes, continued from Page 19):

Finances will be more transparently reported as advertisers participate, with funds expended on plugins and features to make the website easier to navigate and easier to edit.

He advised the Board that districts submitting a job opening that wish to make changes be advised they are to email us of the error, then resubmit a new job opening and we will delete the old one – much easier than trying to edit current posts.

He encourages the Board to use the @atssb.org email addresses for ATSSB business to make it easier to keep and transfer data when officers change.

Heard reports of **Standing Committees:**

President-Elect and **SARC Chair Matt Knight** presented motions from the committee:

Changes to jazz rules that area round auditions for drum set must use an acoustic drum set, not an electronic drum set. Second by Darin Johns. Motion carried.

Changes to audition rules as follows:

Under ALL-STATE BAND TRYOUT PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES, SECTION VI.H.

"If a student auditions at the Region level on two or more instruments then decides to advance to Area on one, omit the other position, then recalculate (do NOT mark the other position "DNA" before recalculating)."

CHANGE TO: "If a student auditions at the Region level on two or more instruments and is selected to advance to Area on one or more, the student and director must choose which instrument to accept; after the decision, omit the other position(s), then recalculate (do NOT mark the other position "DNA" before recalculating)."

Under ALL-STATE BAND TRYOUT PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES, SECTION VI.M.

Add a second sentence: Only students in grades 9-12 may be certified to advance to the Area auditions.

Under ADDITIONAL PROCEDURES AND RULES FOR AREA AUDITIONS

Only students in grades 9-12 may be certified to advance to the Area auditions.

Motion by committee, second by Jason Smith. Motion carried.

Add 1 euphonium advancing to Area from Region and 1 from Area to State:

4 BARITONE-EUPHONIUM (only 2 shall be certified to State from Area)

He thanked his committee for their work: Wayne King, Cathy Sherrill, Chans Moellendorf, Joe Barrow, and Don Summersgill.

Mike Bartley reported on behalf of the **Past-President Committee** that he would like to present a clinic at TBA regarding how to correct/repair a broken program when taking it over. Motion by committee, second by Matt Knight. Motion carried.

Collin Anderson, **OPS State Chair**, thanked Kenneth Griffin for his work on forms and with the ATSSB DropBox and noted that entries this year will probably upload to the ATSSB website with Marc Nichelson's help. He is working with a nearby director to utilize FileMaker Pro instead of Excel in the tabulation of OPS scores. He noted there will be a change in the OPS Runner-Up plaques due to manufacturing changes but that it is a nice product. Deadline for OPS entries is in Region Coordinator hands by May 23, Region adjudications by June 6, and Area adjudications by June 20. A non-varsity track is still under discussion.

State Jazz Coordinator **Brian Donnell** thanked Ben Keltner for his work with the State Jazz Ensemble, noting that clinician Paul Harshman was tough on the kids but getting great results. Thanked Bullard band director Gary Jordan for helping out with lead trumpet on Wednesday night due to a student illness. He noted that in past years, the bass line was included in the audition accompaniment CD, so Buddy has adjusted the EQ to make it less obvious so a distinction can be made between the accompaniment recording and the auditioning bass player. The improvement of auditions for 2020-21 will have cuts, so a new accompaniment CD will be given Region Coordinators in July. He asked that Regions be careful uploading files to check for accuracy before they submit the entries, since

(Continued on Page 21)

(SBOD Minutes, continued from Page 20):

after that it is impossible to change the file without state intervention.

Ann Lowes Mueller, Competition Competition Coordinator, moved that starting in 2022, we pay the winning composer \$1500 to encourage more quality compositions. Second by Kenneth Griffin. Motion carried. She noted the steering committee would be looking into ways to screen entries so that only 10 of those qualified will advance to the adjudication committee.

President's Report by Eric Gray:

Mr. Gray noted that we met with the TMEA Presidents Committee on Tuesday and had a good discussion regarding reclassification numbers affecting 4A down in 2020-21. He thanked everyone who helped in coordinating, organizing, working at all levels of auditions to make the year a success. He noted that last summer we were in discussions about implementing an ATSSB State Mariachi Band and a State Percussion Ensemble, but we decided to forego the Mariachi for the present time and watch TMEA's implementation of the Percussion Ensemble to see how it works before implementing an ATSSB Percussion Ensemble. He also noted that the convention center was at full capacity and it would be difficult to add a new performing ensemble in the future.

Executive Secretary's Report by Kenneth Griffin:

He reminded Region Coordinators to be careful to check that the head director of the school entering region auditions is a current Active Member of ATSSB. He asked that regions still owing for region patches (5,9,18,24) to please get accounts current.

Gave a Scholarship Report which showed a value of \$158,494.80 as of January 1, 2020, noting that ten \$500 scholarships will lapse February 17, 2020. We are awarding \$16,500 in scholarships this year to 17 3-year (\$500 each) and four 4-year (\$2000 each). Noted that the Kenner Scholarship Fund was valued at \$13,549.66 as of January 1, 2020, and that \$1000 would be used for the 2020 Kenner Scholarship to be awarded at the General Session on Friday. The Program Fund was valued at \$23,229.97 as of January 1, 2020 and that dividends from that fund have consistently paid for all-state programs since the fund was started with a donation from the Elmer and Anita Family Trust. The Commission Fund was valued as of January 1, 2020 at \$6,994.58, but that \$10,605.00 had been moved into that account giving us over \$16,000.00 in the Commission Fund. Brian Balmages has already been paid half of his \$7000 commission fee. Noted that we have under contract for coming years:

2021

Brian Balmages – Symphonic Band

Brian Balmages – commissioned composer (premiered by Symphonic Band)

Don Lefevre, West Texas State University – Concert Band

Russell Schmidt, Valley Jazz Cooperative, Phoenix – Jazz Ensemble

2022

Dr. Emily Threinen (University of Minnesota) – Symphonic Band

Caroline C. Beatty (Texas State University) – Concert Band

Winner of the 2022 ATSSB Composition Competition

Asked Region Coordinators to get with Webmaster Marc Nichelson to update their websites.

There was no old business.

Under new business:

Mr. Griffin asked that any business using ATSSB logos or service marks or names must be ATSSB Licensees.

Kenneth Griffin moved that the State Board make the motion to approve the Constitutional Amendment regarding nominating procedures for State Office. Second by Russell Hopkins. Motion passed.

Russell Hopkins moved that the ATSSB computer be replaced. Second by Marc Nichelson. Motion passed.

Brian Beeson moved and Angie Liss seconded that the time and place of the General Session is to be set for 1:00 p.m. on Friday, February 14, 2020, in CC301. Motion passed.

George Strickland had some questions regarding bands advancing from region to area to state in the UIL Military

(Continued on Page 22)

(SBOD Minutes, continued from Page 21):

Marching State Contest but Jim Jones and Gabe Musella had both had to leave earlier.

There was no other new business.

Region reports then were heard:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 1. No report. | 13. No report. |
| 2. No report. | 14. No report. |
| 3. No report. | 15. No report (Coordinator had to leave). |
| 4. No report. | 16. No report. |
| 5. No report. | 18. No report. |
| 6. No report. | 21. Noted this would be his last report, retiring from the Region Coordinator post after 14 years. He received a round of applause from the Board. |
| 7. No report. | 22. No report |
| 8. No report. | 23. No report. |
| 9. No report (Coordinator absent). | 24. No report. |
| 10. No report. | 29. No report. |
| 11. No report. | |
| 12. No report. | |

Area reports then were heard:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| Area North | No report. |
| Area East | No report (Coordinator had to leave earlier). |
| Area West | No report (Coordinator had to leave earlier). |
| Area Central | No report (Coordinator had to leave earlier). |
| Area South | No report. |

Mr. Gray adjourned the meeting at 7:56.

Concert Band Percussion Organizer Reflections by David Speer

I hope you all had a great All-State experience. I know it was a little “bumpy” for me, but I think it all worked out nicely with some outstanding performances. Eugene Corporon emailed me: **"I want to thank you once again for the invitation to conduct the ATSSB Symphonic Band. It was an incredible experience and I value the opportunity to work with the talented and hard working musicians that made up the band. The organizing team was relentless in their commitment to making sure all of our experiences were nothing but the best."**

I will sign off with Corporon’s byline:

May we live a life worth repeating.



ATSSB CLINICIANS & COMPOSERS

- 1992 Gary Lewis from the University of Michigan
- 1993 Myron Welch from the University of Iowa
- 1994 Jared Spears from Arkansas State University
ELDORADO by Jared Spears (commissioned by ATSSB)
- 1995 James Curnow
LONE STAR CELEBRATION, by James Curnow (commissioned by ATSSB)
- 1996 Robert Foster from the University of Kansas
ELEGY FOR SELENA by Robert Foster (commissioned by ATSSB)
- 1997 Dr. Tim Lautzenheiser - SYMPHONIC BAND
Dr. Gary Garner - CONCERT BAND
ROMANZA SEMPLICE by Fred Allen (commissioned by ATSSB)
- 1998 Anthony Maiello from George Mason University - SYMPHONIC BAND
Ed Huckleby - CONCERT BAND
NEW MILLENNIUM by Ed Huckleby (commissioned by ATSSB)
- 1999 Col. Alan Bonner - SYMPHONIC BAND
John O'Reilly - CONCERT BAND
YORKSHIRE FANTASY by John O'Reilly (commissioned by ATSSB)
- 2000 David Holsinger - SYMPHONIC BAND
Jack Delaney from Southern Methodist University - CONCERT BAND
RIDING WITH THE FRONTIER BATTALION by David Holsinger (commissioned by ATSSB)
- 2001 Col. Arnald D. Gabriel (U.S. Air Force, Ret.) - SYMPHONIC BAND
Bobby Francis from Texas Christian University - CONCERT BAND
HILL COUNTRY HOLIDAY by Robert Sheldon (commissioned by ATSSB)
- 2002 Anthony Maiello from George Mason University - SYMPHONIC BAND
Robert W. Smith - CONCERT BAND
THE STAR OF DREAMS by Robert W. Smith (commissioned by ATSSB)
- 2003 W. Francis McBeth from Ouachita University - SYMPHONIC BAND
James Barnes from the University of Kansas - CONCERT BAND
A SOLEMN PRELUDE by James Barnes (commissioned by ATSSB)
- 2004 Jim Keene from the University of Illinois - SYMPHONIC BAND
Shelly Berg from the University of Southern California - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
Kevin Sedatole from Baylor University - CONCERT BAND
FORTRESS VARIANTS by Elliot Del Borgo (commissioned by ATSSB)
- 2005 Richard Floyd, UIL State Director of Music Activities - SYMPHONIC BAND
H. David Caffey from California State Polytechnical University - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
Fred J. Allen from Stephen F. Austin State University - CONCERT BAND
EXHILARATION by Fred J. Allen (commissioned by ATSSB)
- 2006 Col. John R. Bourgeois (USMC, Ret.) - Symphonic Band
Paula Crider from the University of Texas at Austin - CONCERT BAND
Rick Stitzel from Tarrant County College - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
FROM ANAHUAC TO SAN JACINTO by Gabe Musella (commissioned by ATSSB)
- 2007 Jerry Junkin from the University of Texas at Austin - SYMPHONIC BAND
Jeff Hellmer from the University of Texas at Austin - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
Bill Brent from Northwestern State University (Natchitoches, LA) - CONCERT BAND
ON THE OVERLAND STAGE TO EL PASO by David Holsinger (commissioned by ATSSB)
- 2008 David Holsinger from Lee University - SYMPHONIC BAND
Dr. Lou Fischer from Capital University Conservatory of Music - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
Robert Sheldon, Concert Band Editor for Alfred Publishing Co. - CONCERT BAND
CHOREOGRAPHY by Robert Sheldon (commissioned by ATSSB)
- 2009 John Whitwell from Michigan State University - SYMPHONIC BAND
Mike Vax, International Artist, Yamaha Corporation of America - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
Dr. William K. Wakefield from the University of Oklahoma - CONCERT BAND
TOWARDS THE WESTERN HORIZON by Philip Sparke (commissioned by ATSSB)
- 2010 Mark Camphouse from George Mason University - SYMPHONIC BAND
Glenn Kostur from the University of New Mexico - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
Dr. Sarah McKoin from Texas Tech University - CONCERT BAND
PARAMOUNT PARK by Eric Rath, winner of the 2010 ATSSB Composition Competition

(Continued on Page 24)

Clinicians & Composers, continued from Page 23):

- 2011 Larry J. Livingston from the University of Southern California - SYMPHONIC BAND
Lowell E. Graham from the University of Texas at El Paso - CONCERT BAND
KITTIE HAWK, 1909 by William Owens (commissioned by ATSSB)
Chris Vadala from the University of Maryland - Jazz Ensemble
- 2012 Col. Timothy W. Foley (USMC, ret.) - SYMPHONIC BAND
Dennis Fisher from the University of North Texas - CONCERT BAND
EGYPT, THE AWAKENING by Billy Newman,
winner of the 2012 ATSSB Composition Competition
Jeff Jarvis from California State University, Long Beach - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
- 2013 Dr. Peter Boonshaft from Hofstra University - SYMPHONIC BAND
Larry Gookin from Central Washington University - CONCERT BAND
INSUPERABLE Second to None by William Owens (commissioned by ATSSB)
Dr. Ron McCurdy from the University of Southern California - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
- 2014 Richard Floyd, UIL Director of Music Emeritus - SYMPHONIC BAND
Dr. Timothy Rhea from Texas A&M University - CONCERT BAND
AND SAIL AWAY by Jack Wilds, winner of the 2014 ATSSB Composition Competition
Chuck Owen from the University of South Florida - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
- 2015 Michael Haithcock from the University of Michigan - SYMPHONIC BAND
Dr. Eric Hammer from the University of the Pacific - CONCERT BAND
IMAGINARIUM by Randall Standridge (commissioned by ATSSB)
Robert Washut from the University of Northern Iowa - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
- 2016 Robert Jorgensen, University of Akron - CONCERT BAND
WHERE MORNING DAWNS, WHERE EVENING FADES by Eric Rath,
winner of the 2016 ATSSB Composition Competition
Stephen Pratt, Indiana University - SYMPHONIC BAND
RESOLUTION march by Kenneth L. Griffin (commissioned by ATSSB)
Dean Sorenson, University of Minnesota - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
- 2017 Jeff Greshman, Capitol University (Ohio) - CONCERT BAND
ARMENIAN RHAPSODY by Johnnie Vinson (commissioned by ATSSB)
Joseph P. Missal, Oklahoma State University - SYMPHONIC BAND
Ellen Rowe, University of Michigan - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
- 2018 Matthew McInturf, Sam Houston State University - CONCERT BAND
CHICAGO BELLE MOTIFS by Kenneth L. Griffin,
winner of the 2018 ATSSB Composition Competition
Brian Britt, University of Oklahoma - SYMPHONIC BAND
Jay Saunders, University of North Texas - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
- 2019 Dennis Johnson, Murray State University (Kentucky) - CONCERT BAND
Dr. John Cody Birdwell, University of Kentucky - SYMPHONIC BAND
SPRINGERLE by Jack Stamp (commissioned by ATSSB)
Christopher Bruya, Central Washington University - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
- 2020: Eugene Corporon, University of North Texas - SYMPHONIC BAND
Dr. David F. Wilborn, Texas A&M University - CONCERT BAND
SCHERZITO, AFTER GUSTAV HOLST by Christopher Lowry,
winner of the 2020 ATSSB Composition Competition
Paul Harshman, University of Washington - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
- 2021: Brian Balmages, FJH Music - SYMPHONIC BAND
UNTITLED by Brian Balmages (commissioned by ATSSB)
Don Lefevre, West Texas A&M University - CONCERT BAND
Russell Schmidt, Director, Valley Jazz Cooperative in Phoenix - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
- 2022: Caroline C. Beatty (Texas State University) - CONCERT BAND
- 2023: Dr. Emily Threinen (University of Minnesota) - SYMPHONIC BAND

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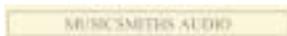
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