



ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS

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NewsLetter

Volume XXXII, Number 4

March, 2023

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Rodney Bennett's Column

President 2023-2025

Where has January and February gone? It does not seem possible we are into March. The ATSSB All-State Symphonic and Concert Bands were both absolutely fantastic and the All-State Jazz Ensemble



concert was world class. If you have not been to an ATSSB All-State Jazz concert recently, you have missed some truly outstanding young jazz musicians play at a level many did not think possible in small schools. The conductors of the All-State ensembles, Dr. David Allen Waybright (Director of Bands University of Florida), Symphonic Band, Dr. BJ Brooks (Professor of Theory and Composition West Texas A&M University), Concert Band and Mr. Steve Owen (Director of Jazz Studies University of Oregon), Jazz Ensemble, did a masterful and inspiring job with each band.

Most of us have just finished UIL Solo & Ensemble Contest and hopefully your students had successful performances. UIL Concert & Sight-reading preparation has been started and

(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 2023 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](#)

(Bennett, continued from Page 1):

contests will be underway shortly with all regions using the new sight-reading procedures. Best wishes for inspiring musical performances.

The ATSSB All-State seating auditions would not happen without the work of Will Burks (Brownfield HS), the All-State Chair Auditions Coordinator and Kristi Flusche (Groesbeck HS), All-State Auditions Office Manager. A special thank you to all the ATSSB members who served as monitors and judges for the all-state seating auditions; you are the ones who made the audition experience a success for our students. I would be remiss if I did not give a shout-out to Colin Anderson and Brian Boecker for their work in the office with the computer side of the auditions, everything ran very smoothly.

Congratulations to all of the ATSSB Outstanding Performance Series winners. Your performances inspire all of us to continue to improve our bands and to make beautiful music. If you have not been a participant in the OPS competition, consider entering and letting others hear the outstanding work being done in the small schools of Texas.

I want to acknowledge and congratulate the new members of the ATSSB executive board, Jenny Bartley - 1C Representative from Grand Saline, Brian Tillman continuing his service as the 1A Representative from Irion County, and Bonnie Anderson from Littlefield, continuing as the 3A Representative. Also continuing service is 2C Representative Christina Smith from Center, 2A Representative Brian Sours from Tenaha, and 4A Representative Marc Nichelson from China Spring. We have a wonderful Executive Board who always has the best interests of our students, directors and the ATSSB organization in all decisions.

Thank you to Gina Muela 1C Representative from Littlefield for your terms on the Executive Board, your expertise and insight helped guide the organization to continue providing great musical experiences for our students.

Congratulations to Angie Liss from Howe, President-Elect for 2023-2025. I look forward to working with you on the Executive Board. Your dedication and experience are assets to ATSSB!

I cannot thank Matt Knight, Immediate Past President enough for his exceptional leadership and guidance to our association. I have learned many invaluable insights into ATSSB that will serve me well during my time as president.

We had the third installation of the ATSSB Hall of Fame following the General Membership meeting on February 10. Inductees were: Elmer Schenk, Don Theode, and Louis Thornton (posthumous). These men are icons in the band world in Texas. Congratulations to each of you and your families for a most well-deserved honor.

(Continued on Page 3)

(Bennett, continued from Page 2):

ATSSB is in great hands with the leadership of Kenneth Griffin, Executive Secretary and members of the State Executive Board.

I am very humbled to serve as President of ATSSB. It is a tremendous honor and I look forward to serving the association, directors, and students of the small schools of Texas. If I can ever be of assistance to you or your students, please don't hesitate to ask.



Angie Liss's Column President-Elect 2023-2025

Well, we blinked and it's March! January and February are such a whirlwind of activities and now many of us are in those last few rehearsals before UIL Concert/Sight-Reading. Such a busy time! My husband is currently home recovering from knee replacement surgery instead of umpiring baseball as he normally would be during this season. He commented the other day that his recuperation time at home has afforded him a new perspective into what a band director's life looks like during this time of the school year. Even though he sees my calendar hanging on the wall with all the color-coded events written in (yes, I'm old school that way) being at home knowing I was still working was eye opening for him. Here's the deal...if our own spouses don't even fully comprehend how busy we are I'm sure the rest of the world doesn't. So much of the fall semester is filled with full band activities that are very much in the public eye while the spring can fly a little more under the radar to the public. I think we need to do three things: 1) Publicize all the things your students are doing! Social media posts, newspaper articles, emails to your school staff and administration don't take that much time and keep our students' endeavors in the forefront. 2) Remember that are students are also incredibly busy. Our ATSSB students often are the students that do everything, and spring can be overwhelming for them. Communicate with sponsors and be flexible when you can. And finally, 3) DO NOT forget to take time to take care of yourself! You are no good to your students or your families if you are pushing yourselves to the brink of mental and physical exhaustion! Go for the walk, watch the movie, read the book, take the nap, etc! The work will still be there, and you might just be able to do the work a little better if you're refreshed!



I am truly humbled and honored to have been selected as your ATSSB President-Elect. I am so very proud of this organization and look forward to serving you and our students over the next few years. Do not hesitate to reach out to me if I can be of help in any way!



Matt Knight's Column
Immediate Past-President 2023-2025

Greetings from West Texas! It is hard to believe another TMEA Convention has come and gone! This year's convention was filled with great clinics, concerts, and more exhibits than you could get through. If you were not able to get to San Antonio this year, I hope you make plans to attend next February. TMEA is truly a "can't miss" event. Hats off to Robert Floyd, Frank Coachman, TMEA President Michael Stringer and the TMEA Executive Board for all their hard work putting this convention together.



The highlight of this year's convention had to be our ATSSB All State Bands. We were blessed with some truly outstanding clinicians this year: Dr. BJ Brooks, ATSSB Concert Band, Dr. David Allen Waybright, ATSSB Symphonic Band, and Steve Owen, ATSSB Jazz Band. From the first down beat, our clinicians connected with our students, made music and provided a great learning environment. This led to outstanding All State Concerts. A special thanks to our all-state band organizers for the countless hours they spent getting ready for TMEA along with the time they spent in rehearsals during the all-state clinic. Our All-State Symphonic Band Organizers were Jay Sutton and Dago Gonzalez, Concert Band Don Summersgill and David Rogers, and Jazz Band Steven Rash and Adam Bodine. Our percussion organizers were Donald Myers and Hunter Hale with the Symphonic Band and David Speer with Anthony Aguilar in the Concert Band. Also thanks to Will Burks, Kristi Flusche, Collin Anderson, and Marc Nichelson for all your work with our all-state chair auditions. Thanks to Christina Smith for coordinating section rehearsals for both all-state bands. We are truly blessed with outstanding people whose work does so much for our all-state students.

If you have ever felt led to serve on a state level committee, please contact someone on the Executive board for more information. We are always looking for good people who have a desire to serve our ATSSB students. Some great areas to serve at the state level are as band organizers, percussion organizers, and state audition judges just to name a few.

I hope you had a chance to enjoy the Honor Band Concerts by ATSSB member schools. Congratulations to the 1A/2A Honor Band Carlisle HS Band, Christopher Clifton conductor and Argyle HS Wind Ensemble, Jason Bird Conductor for their outstanding concerts. Music education is truly alive and well in these two fine small schools.

As you finish contest this season, don't forget to enter our Outstanding Performance Series competition. We will name winner for each classification; 1A, 2A, 3A, & 4A HS and 1C & 2C/3C MS. Please see Collin Anderson's column for more information. I hope you will consider entering.

(Continued on Page 5)

(Knight, continued from Page 4):

It was truly an honor to be a part of this year's ATSSB Hall of Fame inductions. We honored three special men who have given more to small school bands and their students than we can ever repay. Congratulations to Elmer Schenk, Don Thoede and Louis Thornton. Thank you for all that you have done for our organization. We are excited that your legacies will live forever in our organization's history.

I have truly enjoyed my time working with the ATSSB Executive Board the last four years as ATSSB President-Elect and President. Each one of these ladies and gentlemen bring so much to the table and work hard for our ATSSB students. Thanks to Gina Muela for your service as our IC Representative for the last four years. Your knowledge and insight have been invaluable. Congratulations to Eric Gray as you move off the Executive Board. Thank you for your six years of service to ATSSB. You were the perfect person to lead us as we had to navigate the uncertainty after COVID. I am excited for the continued service of Christina Smith (2C) and Marc Nichelson (4A) to our executive board. Congratulations to Jenny Bartley being elected IC state rep. and to both Brian Tillman(1A) and Bonnie Anderson(3A) on being re-elected to the board once again. Angie Liss made history as the first woman elected to the position of ATSSB President-Elect. I can't think of a better person to set this new precedent.

Our board is in great hands as Rodney Bennett became our President at the end of the ATSSB All-State Concerts. I have enjoyed getting to work with him that last two years, and I know he is the ideal person to lead us the next two years. Special thanks to Kenneth Griffin for all that you continue to do up front and behind the scenes for this great organization.

I am excited to be moving into a new role as Immediate Past President. I look forward to helping Rodney, Kenneth and the executive board anyway I can.

I hope you have a great spring and a great contest season. As always, please let me know if there is ever anything I can do to help you or your students.



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](#).

Christina Smith's Column
2C/3C Representative 2022-2024

It is my hope that you are re-invigorated from a successful TMEA Clinic/Convention. I hope that you were able to catch a fantastic performance or two, attended clinics that gave you a new idea or enhanced an old one and reconnected in person with mentors, colleagues, and friends. TMEA week is always a whirlwind of to-do lists and I always feel like there is never enough time to get to everything I want to accomplish in such a short time. It was my pleasure to serve this year as the All-State Section Coordinator. It is such a rewarding experience for me to get to work with these directors who volunteered some of their limited time at the convention in order to share their talent with our All-State Musicians.



I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank these individuals for their service:

Symphonic Band

Flute	Madison Bennett	Canton
Clarinet	Victor M. Garza	Gatesville
Low Clarinet	Jessica Carter	Farmersville
Saxophones	David Holland	Navasota
Cornet/Trumpet	Ramon Sanchez	Carrizo Springs
French Horn	Nazario J. Trevino	Grulla
Trombone/Euphonium	Tami Goss	Bridge City
Tuba/Bass TB/String Bass	Ray Portillo Jr.	Glen Rose
Percussion Organizer	Donald Meyers	Wills Point
Symphonic Band Organizer	Jay Sutton	Pleasant Grove

Concert Band

Flute	Cristalina Burse	Tahoka
Clarinet	Shayla Skief	Westwood
Low Clarinet	Keith Davis	Maypearl
Saxophones	Tim Grace	McGregor
Cornet/Trumpet	Gregg Diamond	Bushland
French Horn	Jennifer Voges	Yoakum
Trombone/Euphonium	Andy Thompson	Union Grove
Tuba/Bass TB/String Bass	Justin Mauldin	Sundown
Percussion Organizer	David Speer	Wink
Concert Band Organizer	Don Summersgill	Retired

Brian Donnell's Column
State Jazz Coordinator

Bravo to the 2023 All-State Jazz Band members for their terrific performance! And kudos to the directors of those students for supporting them throughout the process. The first ATSSB Jazz commission, by director Steve Owen, was fantastic! Special thanks to Steven Rash and Adam Bodine for doing amazing work as organizers for the band.



We had a lot of people step up to make the weekend successful, from sitting in until our 2nd Alto could get to San Antonio (thank you, Ken Snow!), to running sectionals, making copies of music, passing out pencils, and supervising rehearsals. Thank you to all who pitched in:



T. Jarred Carlton III running the sax sectional



Adam Bodine working with trumpets



Michael Browning working with trombones

Looking ahead to 2023-2024, the Set C music is ready to order. There are no changes from the previous rotation. The music is available at Mattei Music:

<https://www.matteimusicervices.com/atssbjazz>

There is an option to pay with school credit card or personal credit card. Music and accompaniment tracks can be delivered via download.

(Continued on Page 8)

(Donnell, continued from Page 7):

If your school has yet to get involved in the ATSSB Jazz process, I highly encourage you to order the music and play it with your students. The music fits our small school programs very well, allowing single director schools an easy way to teach the music. Whether you have one interested student or twenty-one students, find out when your region's jazz auditions are being held and get the students entered.



Jazz Ensemble in concert



Donnell, Owen, Rash, and Bodine

As always, I'm honored to serve as the Jazz Coordinator for ATSSB and welcome any and all suggestions or comments. Have a terrific spring semester!

Brian Tillman's Column

Class 1A Representative

Greetings to my fellow directors. I hope you are maintaining your sanity during what can be a crazy time for us, especially in the small schools where it seems EVERY student we have is also doing basketball, tennis, One Act Play, UIL Academics, FFA etc. Spring time is when your (hopefully) good relationships with coaches, administrators, and parents can really help out.

Speaking of those good relationships...

I recently started reading the book **The Good Life: Lessons from the World's Longest Scientific Study of Happiness** by Robert Waldinger and March Schulz, current directors of the Harvard Study of Adult Development. This project began in 1939 and continues to track subjects' levels of happiness and contentment



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(Tillman, continued from Page 8):

throughout their lives. Overwhelmingly this study shows that the number one factor for a person's happiness, life satisfaction and even life expectancy is not wealth, status, or career achievements, but rather having and maintaining close relationships. I was struck once again by how fortunate I am to have a career where camaraderie and close friendships with fellow directors is commonplace. How lucky I am to be in a school where I've forged several close friendships with teachers and coaches. And how incredibly blessed I am to guide young people in the close knit, almost "family" setting that so many small school bands are. I hope you feel this same way about your school and students. I also hope you will take heart in knowing that by guiding these young people every day you make an incredible difference in their lives as they begin forging the relationships that will mean so much to them over their lifetimes. Years from now they won't remember the rating they got at contest, they may not even remember the music they played, but they will remember how it felt to be around their band friends and their caring director.

As I wrap up, I'd like to put in one more plug (especially for my 1A colleagues) to participate in the OPS process. This can be a great way to "extend" your contest season and get some great "PR" during a time of year when the band can sometimes be a little under the radar.

Best of luck to all of you!



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.

Will Burk's Column

State Chair Audition Coordinator

Colleagues and friends. I know that by this time you are more than ready for Spring Break. The number of days school here took a massive hit from weather in January. From December 12 to February 24, Brownfield ISD had ONE full week of school. Thankfully, we are back on track, although as I type this message, I can still see dust in the air from the storm that crossed the US on February 26. Seventy-five mph wind kicks up a lot of dust.

I'm grateful to the ATSSB leadership for allowing me to serve as the Auditions Director for the state audition and I'd like to express my thanks to all who judged and monitored state chair auditions this February, and to all those who were standing by ready to judge when airports in Lubbock and Wichita Falls unexpectedly closed. As always, the ATSSB member directors stepped up when asked. Thanks, as well, to the Brownfield staff, Emily Hercules and Adam Flores, and the Band staff at Springlake-Earth, Herbert Herrera, and Katie Thayer for helping me get the audition rooms prepped. You guys are the best. Thanks also to Collin Anderson, Kristi Flusche, Marc Nichelson, Brian Boecker, and Eric Senzig who run the tabulation room. Their experience allows the tabulation to perform like a well-oiled machine!



Utilizing Google Forms and a direct link to sign up for Judging or Monitoring assignments was a huge step forward for us and I'm grateful to Marc Nichelson for helping me get the form set up to collect all the information needed to build judging panels. As our area coordinators become more accustomed to that method, more directors will click on the form and fill in their information. That will be much easier to balance the panels among all five areas. Internet hotspots provided by Collin Anderson made it possible for us to take the leap to online scoring and with minor adjustments due to flight delays, we were able to pull that off without a hitch.

Of course, the judges are the key players in any audition and my sincere thanks to those educators who take time to seat our kids in the right places:

3A Flute and Piccolo – Rebecca Carter, Megan Seymore, Amile Honstein, Madison Bennett, and Johanna Balboa

4A Flute and Piccolo – Cristalina Burse, Lauren Gwinn, Rache Clackley, Ashley Blount, and Ryan Chambers

3A Clarinet – Gina Muela, Amy DeLaVergne, Yvonne Garcia, Clint Bingham, and Dakota Jackson

4A Clarinet – Mikayla Stephenson, Stormy Kelly, Rene Rosales, Rachel Berg, and Jesse Rodriguez

Low Clarinet – Emily Hercules, Michaela Cole, Justin Vance, Sara Hill, and Jennifer Condon

Double Reed – Katie Thayer, Katherine Nusz, Kerry Hughes, Pamela Langley, and Donavie Mosley

Saxophone – Kenneth Walker, Eric Daniels, Robert Palmero, Jordan Holmes, and S.Mae Trevino-Mendez

3A Trumpet – Jimmy Cannon, Leif Hall, Steve Sanchez, Kenn McSperitt, and Jason Lauthrner

4A Trumpet – Rick Driscoll, Eliu Santos, Sarah German, Paul Martin, and Michael Munoz

Horn – Justin Wallis, Joseph Hewitt, Idalia Medina, Jennifer Voges, and Julie Tefertiller

Tenor Trombone – Herbert Herrera, Julio Lasanta, Nick Stephenson, Juan Mireles, and Josh Rumbaugh

Bass Trombone, Euphonium, String Bass – Harvey Davidson, Patrick Deitz, Jordan English, Ron Espinoza, and Jeffrey Keyes

Tuba – Justin Mauldin, Chris Thomsen, Jaylon Stewart, Veronica Tagle, and Zack McCullough

3A Percussion – Eric Rath, Oscar Cano, David Torch, William Ross, and Mike Bartley

4A Percussion – Miranda DeBruin, Daniel Wainwright, Bishop McGee, Timothy Clifford, and Adam Flores

The audition monitors, without question, have the most direct contact with the auditioning students. These directors can make the audition a fantastic experience for our students, many of whom are auditioning at the state level for the first time. These people served as monitor for the 2023 State Audition. Echo Bruns, Chelsea Hoffman, Rachel Berg, Emily Segovia, Jennifer Bridges, Jace Powell, Gabe Martinez, Matt Daily, Damon Vela, Michael Wilson, Daniel Rodriguez, Robert Quick, Christian Pitre, and Joshua Ferguson.

My best to you and your bands as you very quickly move toward Spring UIL activities. ATSSB members are just the best around, and it is my honor to serve.

Steven Rash's Column
2023 State Jazz Ensemble Organizer

For the past three years it's been a privilege to organize for the ATSSB All-State Jazz Band through the awesome 2021 experience in Melissa, and the return to 'normal' at TMEA in 2022 and 2023. During my time I've enjoyed many encounters with the outstanding clinicians Brian Donnell has recruited; learning things from them that I wish I had learned when I was the students' age! Watching the amazingly talented small school students soak in their knowledge has to be one of the most rewarding things of organizing! I would strongly encourage people to consider volunteering to organize a group at some point in their teaching career. If you've ever been an organizer for an All-Region band it really is much the same work. There are new challenges with equipment/staging, but ATSSB/TMEA also have an amazing support system in place! (It really is a well-oiled machine!) You gain a whole new level of experiences and networking opportunities. I had a blast doing it!!!



Special thanks this year to Adam Bodine for his help as the apprentice organizer! Also thanks go out to Adam Bodine, Jarred Carlton, and Michael Browning for helping run sectionals during the clinic. A special thanks to Ken Snow for sitting in on Alto for Friday morning's rehearsals! Finally thank you to Brian Donnell for finding a great clinician and organizing the audition process year after year!



Collin Anderson's Column

OPS State Chair

The **25TH COMPETITION SEASON** of the Outstanding Performance Series begins March 1st!

Please make time to go onto the OPS web page (<https://www.atssb.org/ops>) and read through the instructions for entering the competition. There are a few changes, and some reminders, regarding this year's entries.

Entry deadline is Saturday, May 20 at 11:59 pm - All portions of your entry should be completed by this time. Region adjudication will be completed and entries certified to Area by midnight on Saturday, June 10. Area adjudication will be completed and entries certified to State by midnight on Saturday, June 24. State adjudication will be July 20 at the Texas Bandmasters Association convention in San Antonio.



All information needed for your Entry Verification Form will be input through the Online Entry Portal. Once you have completed the required information, the official Verification Form and an OPS invoice will be emailed to you immediately following. The link to upload your .WAV files can be found in multiple locations: on the OPS web page, after submission of the information in the online entry portal, and in your confirmation email. However, you only need to upload via one of these links.

As always, be careful to read all the instructions to fully understand the entry process. Label all .WAV files with the proper FILE NAME, which will now be generated in the Online Entry Portal and can be copied and pasted to your .WAV file. Also, be sure to label the correct files according to March - 1A, Concert Selection 1 - 1B, and Concert Selections 2 - 1C.

IMPORTANT CHANGES:

1. Your signed Entry Verification Form will be scanned and uploaded on the OPS web page.
2. **Payment is due by the posted deadline!** Online payment is preferred (link provided on the OPS web page), but if a school purchase order and check are required, uploading an official purchase order via the other link on the OPS web page will expedite your entry to be completed by the deadline.

Editing of any recording to be submitted is not allowed, except to remove any vocal announcements at the beginning (particularly a March selection) that could identify the name of the competing school and/or to remove applause following a piece.

You will receive verification emails for both finalizing your Verification Form information and for completing your .WAV file uploads. However, also check the Completed OPS Entries link on the OPS web page which will indicate that all portions of the entry have been properly received and documented.

A judging matrix of regions and areas will be available on the web page.

Certification of Advancement forms will be emailed by the OPS State Chair following each level of adjudication to indicate which entries advanced from region to area and then to the state OPS contest. A link will be available on the OPS web page to view results once posted following each level of adjudication.

All recordings **MUST** be from official UIL events or from attending one of the festivals from the approved list found on the OPS web page. Any director may submit for a new festival to be considered, but the festival must meet the criteria as detailed on the Non-UIL Approval Form, also found on the web page.

If there are any questions or issues about entering OPS, call or email me! 903-390-3271 / opsstatechair@gmail.com
Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and our fantastic organization as the OPS State Chair.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Collin Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Kenneth Griffin's Column

Executive Secretary

Another great ATSSB All-State experience under our belts. There are so many people to thank for its success, but where do I start?

1. To all participating ATSSB band directors who encouraged their students to audition at the region level, only to continue working with them to compete at the Area level, then plan and arrange for their trip to San Antonio for the All-State Band - and serve as adjudicators at all levels, taking their students to the auditions and getting them home again safely.
2. To our Region Coordinators among our twenty-two regions who secured audition sites, arranged for judging panels, assigned directors to the panels with links to the audition software, oversaw the adjudication process, paid expenses for site hosting, maintenance, and cleanup, reported results and filed paperwork after the auditions, and maintain the ATSSB membership on the region level all year,
3. To the five Area Coordinators who planned the Area auditions, securing a host site, assigning directors to panels and links to the audition software, overseeing results, reporting results, paying for all associated costs, overseeing the distribution of Area patches, collecting Area fees and much more in the background.
4. To All-State Organizers (Symphonic Band Organizer, Concert Band Organizer and Jazz Organizer, along with Apprentice Organizers in each group who will take over the following year. These directors give up most of their convention time getting the physical needs of each group ready to go, securing music folders and stuffing each with the assigned music, rehearsal schedules and anything else the clinician wants included, arranging for stand name tags so the clinician can call on students by name, securing equipment not provided by TMEA, arranging for snacks and water at breaks, overseeing each rehearsal to make sure students are there and cooperating with the clinicians and much more in the background.
5. To Kristi Flusche and the Groesbeck staff for running a smooth chair audition office on Wednesday evening and Christina Smith for coordinating the Section Teaching Staff for leading sectional rehearsals on Thursday morning,
6. To TMEA for hosting the audition process on their servers, arranging for hotel space for students and their chaperones, securing and organizing the Convention Center for clinics and rehearsals and, most importantly, the final concerts and much more in the background. Many thanks for so many years of dedicated service from Robert Floyd, TMEA Executive Director, Frank Coachman, Deputy Director, Andrew Denman-Tidline, TMEA Information Technologist, Kay Vanlandingham, Karen Cross and the entire TMEA staff in Austin for their tireless efforts on behalf of the TMEA membership.
7. To ATSSB leadership: President's Committee Matt Knight, Rodney Bennett and Eric Gray; Class Representatives Gina Muela, Christina Smith, Brian Tillman, Brian Sours, Bonnie Anderson, and Marc Nichelson; State Jazz Coordinator Brian Donnell; OPS State Chair Collin Anderson; Webmaster Marc Nichelson and so many others that stepped up to lead the way when asked. It has been a pleasure working with these directors over the past two years and I look forward to two more with the new officers: President-Elect Angie Liss and Class 1C Representative Jenny Bartley.



(Continued on Page 14)

(Griffin, continued from Page 13):

A big **THANK YOU** to all of these people plus the unnumbered hundreds who did things in the background to make all levels of ATSSB work seamlessly throughout the year.

It was my pleasure to emcee the ATSSB Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony after the General Session on Friday. We are fortunate to have had these gentlemen at the forefront in the development of ATSSB:



Elmer Schenk
ATSSB Hall of Fame
Class of 2023



Don Thoede
ATSSB Hall of Fame
Class of 2023



Louis Thornton
ATSSB Hall of Fame
Class of 2023 (posthumous)

You can go to the ATSSB Hall of Fame Web page for details about each of these inductees.

Interesting fact about the 2023 All-State Bands: The bands include 10 freshmen (down from 12 last year), 42 sophomores (down from 58 last year), 99 juniors (up from 89 last year), and 155 seniors (up from 148 from last year).

Outstanding Performance Series - Be sure to check out the OPS web page carefully regarding the process for 2023. Every 2022-2023 member of ATSSB will receive a link to stream all of the winning selections in the 2023 Outstanding Performance Series after results have been completed and mechanical licenses secured (CDs are no longer produced).

Interesting fact about the 2023 All-State Bands: The bands included 98 females and 208 males.

DIRECTORY - An ATSSB Membership Directory is available on the Website (on the main page, hover your mouse over MEMBERS then ATSSB TMEA MEMBERS DIRECTORY and enter your last name and last four Social Security numbers 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. We secured the Directory because advertisers were mining the contact data and besieging our members with advertisements.

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

(Continued on Page 15)

(Griffin, continued from Page 14):

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 bandsmen 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).

Interesting facts about the 2023 All-State Bands: Canyon and Hidalgo each had 9 students make All-State; China Spring had 8 student make All-State; Mineola had 6 students make All-State; Canton, Commerce and Davenport each had 5 students make All-State; nine schools had 4 students make All-State; twenty-four schools had 3 students make All-State; twenty-one schools had 2 students make All-State; and one hundred and nine schools had 1 student make All-State. In all, 170 different schools are represented in the ATSSB All-State Bands.

PAL - The Prescribed Audition List includes all known (and SARC-approved) errata to date on each of 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 C in the PAL for auditions in 2023-24. Watch the Website for the Year C Update - and remember that percussion auditions are unified. Links will be updated as they become available.

Interesting facts about the 2023 All-State Bands: Of the 306 students selected for ATSSB All-State, 4 were from class 1A schools (1.30% - down from last year), 32 were from class 2A schools (10.46% - up from 27 last year), 109 from class 3A schools (35.62% - up from 104 last year), and 161 from class 4A schools (52.61% - down from 168 last year).

This year, recordings of the ATSSB All-State Bands will be available as a link online at no cost. We have moved away from CDs and now use streaming services. This way, everyone will have access to the All-State recordings without having to purchase CDs and waiting several months for their arrival. As soon as the recordings have been mastered and mechanical licenses secured, the links will be emailed to all participants and posted on the ATSSB website. 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 welcomed. 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.

(Continued on Page 16)

(Griffin, continued from Page 15):

Interesting facts about the 2023 All-State Bands: Of the 306 members, each of the 22 regions had an average of 14 students in the band. One region had 32 (the most) and two regions had 2 (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 2023-24 in your Spring Meeting. I need to have their name as soon as possible for our plans for 2023-24 (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 they 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.

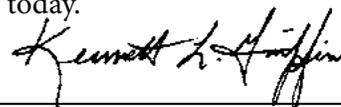
Seniors Roy Brown (Menard 3A French Horn), Reagan Burnett (Bremond 3A Clarinet), Luke Chambers (Legacy Christian 3A Percussion), Anelyssa Elizondo (Tahoka 3A Alto Saxophone), Alexa Hearn (Junction 3A Trombone), Rose Jaramillo (Anna 4A Clarinet), and James Trevino (Goliad String Bass) each received the \$2000 ATSSB All-State Band Scholarship for making the band all four of their years in high school. Seniors Xander Aleman (Hereford 4A Clarinet), Justin Beamsley (Stephenville Jazz Trumpet), Nash Blais (Legacy Christian Jazz Trumpet), Martin Davenport (China Spring Jazz Trombone), Daniela Diaz (Grulla 4A Trumpet), John Fowlkes (China Spring 4A Tuba), Allison Garner (Alvarado Tenor Saxophone), Caden Kaufman (Shallowater 3A Trumpet), Laisha Lozano (Denver City 3A Flute), Wyatt Martinez (Sealy 4A Trumpet), Ryan McClaugherty (Port Isabel 4A Tuba), Fernando Medrano (Commerce 3A Trumpet), Emma Mejia (Canton 4A Clarinet), Maribel Rivas (Carter-Riverside 4A Euphonium), Alexander Rouk (Aubrey 4A Percussion), Kayla Sepeda (Alvarado 4A Clarinet), Matthew Smith (Gladewater 3A Euphonium), Christiana Ussery (Lindale Alto Clarinet), Sarah Walbridge (Gladewater 3A Trumpet), and Jayden Windham (Timpson 3A Tuba) each received the \$500 ATSSB All-State Band Scholarship for making the band three of their four 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 and the Jazz Ensemble concert. This makes one hundred fifty 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 four hundred twenty-four who have received the three-year scholarship. Since 1992, \$489,000 in scholarships have been awarded to 574 individuals (7.30 % of those selected to ATSSB All-State have received a scholarship).

Interesting facts about the 2023 ATSSB All-State Band: Over the last thirty-two years, 7,865 students have been awarded All-State honors by ATSSB.

In your spring meetings, be sure to nominate state officers for next year: President-Elect, Class 1C, 1A and 3A Representatives to the State Board of Directors 2023-2025.

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



Marc Nichelson's Column
ATSSB Webmaster and 4A Class Representative

Seeing so many of you at the TMEA Clinic/Convention was so rewarding. I was also inspired to interact with so many people who are invested in engaging in professional development and celebrating those top students named to the All-State Ensembles. I was particularly impressed by those willing to take on roles throughout the convention and actively participate in the process. ATSSB is such a wonderful organization serving small schools throughout the state. Having outstanding directors stepping into roles at all levels makes us the strong organization we are today (and prepare to be in the future). So, as we return home to all of the preparations for UIL, Trips, and Concerts, I would first like to wish you the best as you navigate the web of “things” that seem to eat up our spring semesters. Secondly, as we approach region meetings later this spring, I would also like to encourage you to find places to be involved. So often, just offering help, running for that office, or serving on that committee makes all the difference.



Website Projects Currently in the works:

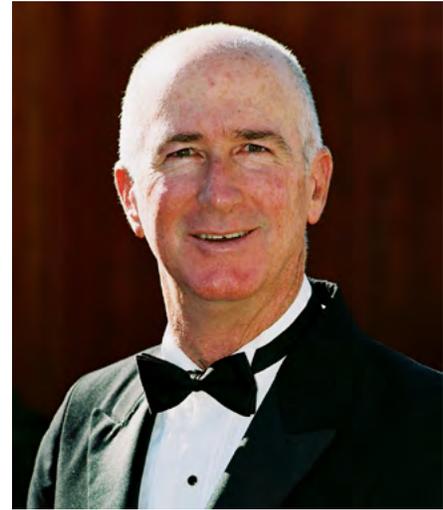
1. As always please let us know if something on the site is not functioning the way it is intended or a resource you'd like to see on the website.
2. I'd also like to know if some of you would be willing to help submit materials, we can publish to our social media that would help small school band directors. These could be teaching resources, videos you've made giving a clinic on certain items, etc... This would be specific to Small Schools and something our audience would find beneficial to use in their programs. If interested, please contact me at mnichelson@atssb.org.
3. If you know of any business that would be interested in beginning an advertising relationship with us, please have them contact me at mnichelson@atssb.org.
4. I am also looking at digital media (both in terms of video clinics, podcasts, and even zoom hangouts) to continue adding opportunities for directors not only use our contests but have more wonderful resources given through our website. If you know of anything we can add PLEASE LET ME KNOW!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marc Nichelson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

TEACHING BAND IN SMALL SCHOOLS

by John Gibson, ATSSB Founder and Founding Charter Member

1. Be prepared to share students. Most of your band will be involved in OAP, sports, AG, UIL academics, yearbook plus church activities and others.
- 2a. Due to #1, you will find that there are many days when your band students will be out of your rehearsals while participating in another activity. IMHO those "active students" either can already play their band music or will be able to do so faster than the others. Teach the ones who are in your rehearsal and don't fret over the others. NEVER complain about students being gone for another activity!
- 2b. Due to #1, DON'T OVER-PROGRAM, especially in year one.
3. Be visible at other school activities/events. Your students and their parents will notice and appreciate your support of other organizations and will be ready to step up for you when needed. Good time to brag to band parents about their child. Lays foundation of communication which will come in handy if/when you need parents to help with student discipline issues. BTW: when that happens, open the discussion with something positive about the student. THEN go for the problem and your expectations.
4. Be proactive with your admins and counselors. Get out of the band office and make person to person contact. Don't be a pest, just stop by to say hello, keep it short (they have a lot on their plates) and always take the opportunity to invite those folks to your rehearsals, even if its only for a few minutes in their busy day.
5. On days you eat in the school cafeteria, sit with the coaches. Your students WILL notice.
6. Get to know the bus manager, maintenance staff, secretaries and call them by name. Take the time to acknowledge (and thank them for) their importance to everyday school life. Ask them how you can make their job easier. The secretary likely has a mental list of things your predecessor could have done better. She runs the school, and can/will save your bacon many times even before you know you're in the skillet.



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:
 CB MB CB* MB*
 * Supplemental

**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.

ASSOCIATION OF TEXAS SMALL SCHOOL BANDS COLLEGE DIVISION APPLICATION

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

NAME _____ Last 4 SS# _____
 COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY _____ Anticipated Graduation Date _____
 SCHOOL ADDRESS _____ SCHOOL PHONE () _____
 CITY & ZIP CODE _____ SCHOOL EMAIL _____
 PERMANENT ADDRESS _____ TELEPHONE () _____
 CITY & ZIP CODE _____ EMAIL _____
 MAJOR INSTRUMENT(S) _____
 Email address to which you want the ATSSB Newsletter sent: _____ School _____ Permanent

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

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 Active Members may vote or hold office in ATSSB.

Minutes of the February ATSSB General Session

The General Session of ATSSB met in CC214 on Friday, February 10, 2023, with approximately 300 in attendance. President Matt Knight called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

Mr. Knight introduced candidates for the office of Class 1C Representative to the State Board of Directors: Jenny Bartley from Grand Saline MS and Marilyn Bennett from Olney MS. He asked for nominations from the floor and, hearing none, Kyle White spoke for Jenny Bartley and Christian Smith spoke for Marilyn Bennett

He then introduced candidates for the office of President-elect: Brandon Garmon from Gilmer HS and Angie Liss from Howe HS. He asked for nominations from the floor and, hearing none, Eric Gray spoke for Brandon Garmon and Elmer Schenk spoke for Angie Liss

Ballots were then cast.

The minutes of the General Session July 22, 2022 were approved as printed in the September Newsletter after a motion by Brian Sours from Tenaha and a second by Kyle White from Grand Saline.

There were no Special Committee reports.

There was no SARC report.

There was no Past-President Committee report.

OPS State Chair Collin Anderson presented the 2022 OPS winners and runners-up with their awards.

State Jazz Coordinator Brian Donnell noted that the All-State Jazz Ensemble was having a good time and suggested the membership stop by rehearsals when they could. The clinician, Steve Owen has been commissioned by ATSSB to write a piece for this year's ensemble and is crushing it. He encouraged everyone to get involved with the jazz process. The Year C music is unchanged and available from Mattei Music as a download and that Mattei has online payments available for a quick turnaround. The Jazz concert will be at 1:00 Saturday in Hemisfair Ballroom 1-2.

In the President's Report, Mr. Knight announced action taken by the State Board of Directors: producing ATSSB videos of the ATSSB etudes using professional musicians and making them available to the membership via a password on the website; modified wording regarding the type of trombone that can be used in auditions; commission a jazz ensemble piece each year it is practicable. He then announced the recipient of the 2023 Bruce Kenner Memorial Scholarship as Matthew Smith, 3A Euphonium from Gladewater High School. Matthew will receive a \$1000 scholarship. He thanked the Executive Board for their hard work this year and thanked the Association for his time as President.

Executive Secretary Kenneth Griffin thanked Eric Gray and all Past-Presidents for their 6-years or active service, recognizing their continued contributions after their time in office. He reported that in the interest of time, the status of the scholarships, program and commission brokerage accounts would be available online.

There was no old business and no new business.

Mr. Knight then announced the result of the ballot: Class 1C Representative 2023-2025 is Jenny

(Continued on Page 21)

(General Session Minutes, continued from Page 20):

Bartley from Grand Saline and President-Elect 2023-2025 is Angie Liss from Howe.

Mr. Knight recognized Gina Muela, Brian Tillman and Bonnie Anderson for their service on the Executive Board with individual plaques. Rodney Bennett then presented Matt Knight with a plaque and pin recognizing his service as President 2021-2023.

Mr. Knight then adjourned the meeting at 2:10 p.m. to the ATSSB Hall of Fame Induction and Kenneth Griffin, who presided over the induction of Elmer Schenk, Don Thoede and Louis Thornton into the ATSSB Hall of Fame.

State Board of Directors Meeting

7:03 a.m., February 9, 2023

Menger Hotel Minuet Room

Present: Region 22 Coordinator Anthony Alvarado, 3A Class Representative Bonnie Anderson, Region 6 Coordinator Josh Bailey, Region 02 Coordinator Daniel Balkema, Region 3 Coordinator and Area North Coordinator Mike Bartley, President-Elect Rodney Bennett, Region 14 Coordinator Charles Cabrera, Region 11 Coordinator Leo Garza, Region 9 Coordinator Trent Graves, Immediate Past-President Eric Gray, Executive Secretary and Founding Charter Member Kenneth Griffin, Region 21 Coordinator Craig Haynie, Region 10 Coordinator Russell Hopkins, Past-President Jim Jones, Region 15 Coordinator Benjamin Keltner, Region 07 Coordinator Josh Kidd, Region 16 Coordinator and President Matt Knight, Region 01 Coordinator Kevin Kuehler, Region 24 Coordinator Angie Liss, Class 1C Representative Gina Muela, Region Coordinator Ann Lowes Mueller, Region 8 and Area Central Coordinator and Webmaster Marc Nichelson, Region 23 Coordinator John Pritchett, Region 13 Coordinator Rod Rodriguez, Founding Charter Member Elmer Schenk, Class 2C/3C Representative Christina Smith, Class 2A Representative Brian Sours, Past-President George Strickland, Region 4 Coordinator Jay Sutton, Class 1A Representative Brian Tillman, Past-President and Charter Member Robert Vetter, Region 12 Coordinator Dr. Jennifer Voges, and Proxy for Region 05 Kelli Wilson. Attending as guests were OPS State Chair Collin Anderson, State Jazz Coordinator Brian Donnell, TMEA Band Division Vice-President Shane Goforth, Area South Coordinator Emerico Perez III, Area West Coordinator Don Summersgill, and UIL Assistant Music Director Gabe Musella. **Not present:** Region 29 Coordinator Brian Hecimovich, Area East Coordinator Joe Hewitt, Founding Charter Member John Gibson, Founding Charter Member and Past-President Fred Pankratz and Mike Marsh, Charter Member and Past-President Don Stockton, Past-Presidents Brandon Brewer, Steven Moore, Ronnie Page, Gary Robbins, Rob Toups, and John Young.

Meeting **called to order** at 7:03 a.m. by Matt Knight.
The Invocation was given by Don Summersgill.

The Oath of Office was administered by Kenneth Griffin.

TMEA Band Division Vice-President Shane Goforth addressed the Board, noting the Honor Band

(Continued on Page 22)

(SBOD Minutes, continued from Page 21):

process and discussing how invited groups would be handled in the future, continuing the trend started during the pandemic when Honor Bands were not selected.

Minutes of the SBOD meeting July 21, 2022, as printed in the September Newsletter were approved after a motion by Jim Jones and a second by Josh Kidd.

Under the reports of **Special Committees:**

Matt Knight introduced **Gabe Musella** who gave a UIL report:

Greetings from the UIL office.

The pilot Sightreading program will be implemented in all regions this year, seeking comments regarding the process as it continues.

PML selections will be added for the fall of 2023. Under-represented cultures have been added to many of the categories, including hundreds of small ensemble pieces. More than 50% of the committee are or have been from ATSSB schools.

The mariachi state contest will be March 25. There were 50 entries and 16 selected to participate at the finals.

The State Marching Contest will be for all classifications in the future – starting in the fall of 2023 or 2024, depending on contract negotiations with the Alamodome.

He emphasized that the UIL Music Advisory Committee needs representation from each region.

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

He encouraged Region and Area Coordinators to update their web page and to tell region members about the site – include contact data and the date the page was updated. If he goes to a page and sees “LOREM IPSUM” he knows the page is not updated (those are placeholders). 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:**

The SARC Committee report was given by **Rodney Bennett:**

Motion by Committee to update jazz procedures online. Second by Kenneth Griffin. Brian Donnell, State Jazz Coordinator explained that numerous items were out of date, detailing all of them (see attached) Motion carried.

Motion by Committee to modify timpani tuning requirements (see attached). Second by Brian Sours. Motion carried.

Motion by Committee to update wording regarding trombones (see attached). Second by Jim Jones. Motion carried.

Motion to remove alto clarinet from the area and state audition track and add two alto saxophones to each band (total of 4) using the same audition procedure as is used to add 3 baritones in each band. Second by Brian Sours. After much discussion, it was determined the best solution is to form a committee to student ALL of the instrumentation so it is balanced – so long as the total number of musicians does not exceed 306. Question was called, Motion failed.

George Strickland moved that a committee be named to discuss instrumentation and bring a

(Continued on Page 23)

recommendation to the Board. Second by Russell Hopkins. Motion carried.

Eric Gray reported from the **Past-President Committee** that they really enjoy the ATSSB keychain flashlights distributed today.

Collin Anderson, OPS State Chair, noted that OPS awards would be presented to the runners-up and winners at the General Session on Friday at 2:30. There were 288 organizations entering 795 entries in the 2022 OPS. He said deadline dates will be posted soon, asking them to give him a full week after deadlines to get the entries organized and ready. The site will be able to accept school PO's and already accepts credit card payments for the entry fees.

With some Area OPS adjudications going past the noon meal, the OPS Committee moves that \$10 per judge be added to those Areas that have so many recordings to adjudicate that a meal is necessary. Second by Kenneth Griffin. Motion carried.

The 1A separate category went well and will continue this year, with a review to be made for 2024 to see if it should continue.

The Committee discussed having a category for non-varsity bands but did not come to any definitive conclusions regarding that issue. They will continue to discuss the concept.

Judging standards were discussed and several options for assuring quality judging at all levels were suggested.

Ben Keltner asked about judging rubrics and Collin said the Committee still has them under consideration.

State Jazz Coordinator **Brian Donnell** encouraged all those present to visit the All-State Jazz Ensemble rehearsals, noting that ATSSB had commissioned the clinician to write a piece for that ensemble this year. The concert will be at 1:00, preceded by the Mariachi ensemble which should be entertaining and exciting. Jazz music for 2023/2024 will be available soon and can be downloaded, cutting the time from ordering to receiving the music. He encouraged participation and asked that the recording for area be overseen carefully, that quality matters.

President's Report by Matt Knight:

Mr. Knight noted that the bands are all cranked up, so try to go by rehearsals and listen in. He noted that there will be several ATSSB-commissioned works premiered on the concerts this year.

The Dialogue Committee was supposed to meet but the weather conditions in Austin caused considerable delays for TMEA in preparing for this clinic. Therefore, we will have a ZOOM Dialogue Committee meeting after TMEA to deal with the proposed ATSSB All-State Percussion Ensemble.

An Area Patch Redesign Committee chaired by Christina Smith will bring recommendations for a new Area patch for future years.

He thanked everyone for his term in office as President and how much he enjoyed working with the Executive Committee and Kenneth Griffin.

Executive Secretary's Report by Kenneth Griffin:

He noted that ATSSB had a check stolen and altered last June, causing a loss of \$9000 that is still under investigation. After that happened ATSSB is now paying all bills either electronically (debit) or using a Bank Check. There will still be some few written checks, but only if handed to the recipient for immediate deposit.

(Continued on Page 24)

(SBOD Minutes, continued from Page 23):

Gave a **Scholarship Report** which showed a value of \$190,083.75 as of January 31.

Dividends are reinvested into the brokerage account each month. We still lack paying for 9 \$500 and 2 \$2000 from 2022 - deadline to claim is February 12, 2023, unless they file for an extension. We have 20 3-year recipients this year = \$10,000 and 7 4-year recipients this year = \$14,000 for a total of \$24,000 in scholarships awarded this year.

Kenner Scholarship Report: Value of portfolio was \$13,089.85 as of January 31.

Dividends are reinvested into the brokerage account each month. We have given nine \$1,000 scholarships since starting it 9 years ago. This year's 2023 Kenner Scholarship goes to Matthew Smith, Gladewater High School Euphonium.

Program Fund: Value of portfolio was \$25,338.45 as of January 31. Dividends are paid to ATSSB to pay for All-State programs each year. This fund was established with a gift from the Elmer and Anita Schenk Family Trust.

Commission Fund: value of portfolio was \$27,271.31 as of January 31. Will soon deposit \$10,845.00 from Area fees = \$38,116.31 available for future commissions.

Griffin polled the Board regarding a Training Session at TBA for Coordinators, noting a growing trend of details being overlooked in the audition and reporting processes. It was determined that ZOOM was fine, but perhaps staying after the TBA State Board Meeting for an hour should accomplish even more. He said he would make plans for a session in the Minuet Room following the TBA State Board meeting.

There being no old business, Mr. Knight moved to New Business:

Ben Keltner moved that we increase the size of the alto saxophones in the All-State bands. Motion died for lack of a second.

Kenneth Griffin moved that we pay for **professional videos** of each etude in the 5-year audition cycle. Second by Jim Jones. It was noted that Dallas Winds make excellent video clinics of our etudes, selling the year's recordings for \$100. This proposal would make the ATSSB videos available free to ATSSB members (password-protected download). Griffin said he would consult with Dallas Winds regarding their recordings. Motion carried.

Kenneth Griffin moved that we add the Jazz Ensemble in annual rotation for commissioned works (Concert Band in even years, Symphonic Band in odd years). Second by Bob Vetter. Motion carried.

Brian Sours moved and Angie Liss seconded that the time and place of the **General Session** is to be set for 2:30 p.m. on Friday, February 10, 2023, in CC214. Motion carried.

Kenneth Griffin moved that the Website Committee become a Standing Committee. Second by Mike Bartley. Motion carried.

There was no other new business.

Region reports then were heard:

1. No report.
2. No report.
3. No report.
4. No report.
5. No report.
6. No report.

(Continued on Page 25)

(SBOD Minutes, continued from Page 24):

7. No report.
8. Nicholson thanked everyone there for their proposals on all the issues addressed, noting that it may have made the meeting longer, but input was valuable.
9. No report.
10. No report.
11. No report.
12. No report.
13. No report.
14. No report.
15. Benjamin Keltner noted that his region had their first region percussion ensemble (quintet) that was well-received. They have Willie Owens under contract as clinician and commission composer for 2024.
16. Matt Knight reported that they had a region percussion ensemble (12 students) and had a blast. Willie Owens working on a march for John Odom called "MR. ALL-REGION".
18. Ann Lowes Mueller reported that their region was commissioning a piece in memory of Bob Hansen and they were still asking for other regions to help with the cost by donating to the fund. Zach Sims at Shiner will be clinician in 2024.
21. He lacked one region taking the survey he circulated and will share results when he gets that region's response.
22. No report.
23. No report.
24. They are commissioning Carol Brittin Chambers to write a piece for 2024. She will also be the clinician.
29. No report (Coordinator absent).

Area reports then were heard:

Area North No report.
Area East No report (Coordinator absent).
Area West No report (Coordinator absent).
Area Central No report.
Area South No report.

Jim Jones asked to speak regarding the NAMMB State Marching Contest.

May 6 is the deadline for scholarship applications.

August 19 is the NAMMB Retreat in Carthage.

October 7 will be the Pre-UIL Clinic at Carthage.

The NAMMB State Contest will be at Baylor Stadium October 24-25.

3A/5A will exhibit their shows in Longview October 22.

The NAMMB Hall of Fame will be housed on the campus of Texas A&M University.

NAMMB gives a \$1000 scholarship in May of each year.

Tim Rhea had written a march entitled STUMPBURNER incorporating all of the traditional military marches.

Mr. Knight **adjourned** the meeting at 8:46.

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
- 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

(ATSSB Clinicians & Composers, continued from Page 26):

- 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
BREAKING THROUGH by Brian Balmages (commissioned by ATSSB)
Don Lefevre, West Texas A&M University - CONCERT BAND
Dr. Mo Trout, Purdue University - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
- 2022: Dr. Emily Threinen, University of Minnesota - SYMPHONIC BAND
THE ESSENCE OF MEMORY by BJ Brooks (commissioned by ATSSB in memory of Darin K. Johns)
Caroline C. Beatty, Texas State University - CONCERT BAND
RISING by Clif Jones (commissioned by ATSSB)
Russell Schmidt, Director, Valley Jazz Cooperative in Phoenix - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
- 2023: Dr. David Allen Waybright, University of Florida - SYMPHONIC BAND
CONNECTUS by Carol Brittin Chambers (Commissioned by ATSSB)
Dr. BJ Brooks, West Texas A&M University - CONCERT BAND
Steve Owen, University of Oregon - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
OOLABOOG by Steve Owen (Commissioned by ATSSB)
- 2024: Dr. Michael Golemo, Iowa State University - SYMPHONIC BAND
William Owens, Composer and Retired Educator - CONCERT BAND
UNTITLED by William Owens (Commissioned by ATSSB)
Noe Marmolejo, University of Houston - JAZZ ENSEMBLE
UNTITLED by Aaron Lington (Commissioned by ATSSB)

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