

From the Board

Cody E. Myers, 2007-08 President

Colleagues and friends,
Underway, once again!! Thoughts and efforts of Texas band directors look toward beginning students eagerly anticipating music achievement, middle schoolers having fun and dealing mischief, and of course, the excitement of the marching band performing under those "Friday Night Lights". It is my sincere hope that the recent Texas Bandmasters Association Convention/Clinic helped prepare you for the opportunity to enrich your students through "The Art of Teaching Band".

This year's TBA convention was truly a fantastic endeavor. Over three thousand folks registered and enjoyed offerings of one of TBA's largest and best gatherings. Attendees included colleagues from all over the globe. I particularly enjoyed visiting with Marko Rnic and Rob Murray, band directors from Vancouver, British Columbia. It was a pleasure to meet John and Suzzi Combs from Arkansas. John is the 2008 President of the Arkansas Bandmasters Association. In addition, exhibitors occupied 603 booths---a TBA high. TBA exhibitors are truly our partners in presenting not only needed goods and services, but in presenting outstanding clinic opportunities for the membership.

I continue to be impressed at the professionalism of Texas bandmasters

who attended clinics in droves. You are to be commended. What fun the BBQ turned into! It was a great evening with over 1,000 friends, family and colleagues. The "President's Own" Marine Band Concert was fabulous. I could go on and on.



Particular highlights of every TBA gathering are the recognition of award winners, the Bandmaster of the Year address and the Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame induction ceremony. I believe that one of our profession's strongest characteristics

is the regular recognition of those among us deserving honor. By giving these awards, the colorful history of the Texas band movement is preserved and remembered. I was especially excited to be present for the induction of my high school band director, Clyde Wilson, into the Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame. Mr. Wilson has always served as a role model for me and countless other students. I am honored to have been his band student at Midland High School all those years ago. My personal sincere *thank you* to the Alpha Chapter of Phi Beta Mu for continuing this invaluable tradition.

I want to say a big *congratulations* and *thanks* to 2006-07 President Rey Meza for an incredible convention. Rey is not only an incredible band director,

Texas Bandmasters Association

2007-08
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Mission Statement

The purpose of the Texas Bandmasters Association, Inc. is to:

Continually assist its membership in achieving the highest standards of instrumental music education.



Promote the place and value of music education in our society and the important role instrumental music plays in our cultural, intellectual, and social lives.



Foster goodwill, fellowship and a collegial, fraternal spirit among its members.



Provide its membership with an annual Convention/Clinic which introduces new music, tried and proven teaching methods and materials as well as instruments and equipment.



Provide Educational Publications of instructional methods and materials for TBA members and aid them with their personal development and leadership.



Provide information for the university music student preparing to become a band director.

he is a real visionary and leader. The Texas Bandmasters Association will reap the benefits of his wisdom and action for years to come. Rey Meza's fiscal wisdom has moved TBA into a very solid position for the coming years. I am truly honored to have worked with him on the board these past several years.

This will be a year of challenge and opportunity for TBA. The 2008 convention is already taking shape. The

convention will return to the former Sunday through Wednesday morning format: July 27 – 30. I am very excited to announce the appearance of "Pershing's Own", the United States Army Band with Herald Trumpets for next summer. Among additional performing ensembles will be the Austin Symphonic Band under the direction of Dick Floyd and the Lone Star Wind Orchestra. TBA is very pleased to welcome the Women Band Directors International to Texas where they will meet alongside us in 2008. The TBA Board of Directors is already focused

on providing an exciting line-up of those among us who can assist us all in "The Art of Teaching Band". 2007 President of the TBA Spouses Board of Directors Starrla Myers is busy planning exciting activities and clinics for attending spouses and children as well.

Perhaps the most daunting task facing TBA is the search for a new Executive Director. Al Sturchio has led TBA for more than two decades.

On his watch the Texas Bandmasters Association has become the largest bandmasters association in the world. More importantly, through his vision, TBA has become an important source of learning for many, many directors. Al and Jan will remain with the TBA office through the 2008 convention and subsequent wrap up. Meanwhile, those interested in considering this position may find information on the TBA web site.

Have a super year. May your students experience the joy of band, and may you share in it.

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