

From the Board

Don Haynes, 2011-12 TBA Past President

Thank you to everyone who participated in the 64th annual Convention/Clinic of the Texas Bandmasters Association this past July. The many outstanding clinicians, the powerful clinics and concerts were thoroughly enjoyed by the band directors, families, and participants. I am thrilled that everyone had a great experience. The board of directors is very grateful to the exhibitors for the success of TBA. To this group of fine managers and company owners, I want to say thank you for believing in us, and being there to service the needs of our Texas band directors.

To TBA members—It was a tremendous joy for me to serve as your 2010-11 president, working with my superb fellow board of directors, the unflappable Executive Director Mike Brashear and our tremendous TBA office team.

It was a special treat for me to sing a duet with Priscilla Brashear at the spouse's luncheon during the convention. Wow, Priscilla, what a voice! I had a great time visiting the nursery, checking in on the "little" TBA people. I totally love little kids. Most of all, the convention is where I get to renew friendships with my many colleagues. How does one top the fun night like the TBA BBQ with dear friends, great food, music and dancing? Together, we continue to create a convention that is truly for the entire TBA membership and families. I hope you will continue to attend and I ask that you tell

your hometown directors to join us next summer. My challenge to our experienced directors across the state is that YOU help us keep this a very special event for the young music educators to thrive—keeping TBA unique and powerful for decades to come.

I want to thank my many friends of the UT Alumni Band for their attendance and surprise rendition of *Texas Fight* when Professor DiNino rose to give his Bandmaster of the Year speech. Congratulations to all the honorees who were recognized for their amazing contributions to the band profession.

Thank you to the directors who provided a demonstration group for select clinics. These fine young people and their school groups traveled at their own expense. We appreciate their time and contributions to the convention.

Congratulations to the Hall of Fame inductees. Each of you has made the Texas band community very proud. To our featured clinician Professor Paula Crider, who truly touched the hearts and minds of her audience, thank you

on behalf of everyone with TBA!

Thanks to the one and only Frank Troyka and his terrific staff for another fabulous high school leadership session. Congratulations to Brian Merrill and his superb faculty team for an outstanding first TBA Academy. I cannot imagine our music education industry without such a wonderful experience each summer.

In closing, I want to encourage our young band directors to reach out and "network." Call on those band directors who are experienced and "battle tested." True, you will want to learn some lessons from your mistakes, but reaching out to a mentor can help you enjoy quicker success and avoid the big mistakes.

Keep a good balance in your life. Have as much fun in the profession as in your personal life. Teach the music with passion and with sincerity because I can assure you, you will make a difference for the little ones who sit before you daily. For many kids, you are



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From the Board - Haynes

their window to the outside world. And remember this golden rule—when you leave the band hall, leave those problems at the band hall (as best you can.) Continue to help your students to develop self-discipline, self-motivation, respect for each other, and good habits that lead to successful music making as well as becoming successful scholars.

I am very excited for future of TBA under the leadership of our new President Tom and Shelley

Harrington. Tom has a high level of enthusiasm, passion and vision for TBA. We are in great hands for the upcoming year.

On behalf of my wife Cloteal and myself, thank you TBA for this special opportunity to serve you as presidents. We will always cherish the many friendships and special experiences given us as board members. Best wishes to everyone for a great school year. I look forward to seeing you in San Antonio next July!