

From the Board

Jeff King, 2011-12 Sergeant-at-Arms

I am extremely grateful and humbled to have been asked to serve on the Texas Bandmasters Association Board as the new Sergeant-of-Arms. TBA has given me so much over the

years and I cannot think of anything more gratifying than to be able to give back to this great organization that is such a strong advocate for our profession. I am looking forward to working with

Mike Brashear, Executive Director, and his staff Alfred Esquivel, Robin Tovar and Justin Young. Many of the current TBA board members and I have had the pleasure of knowing each other for over 20 years. These unselfish board members have given hundreds of hours of their time and talents back to our profession. My wife Leslie and I are looking forward to working with the entire board and their spouses.



When I attend clinics and conventions, such as TBA's, I am always impressed with the number of older, more experienced directors who still attend clinics.

In our profession, there is always more to learn. I recently had the opportunity to present clinics to band directors and students in Shenzhen, Guangzhou and Beijing China.

Although I visited Tiananmen Square, The Forbidden City, and the Great Wall of China, I was most amazed with seeing music break the language barrier. This was my first time presenting clinics to a non-English speaking audience. I found myself singing examples of what I wanted rather than trying to put them into words. I was amazed to see some of the most experienced Chinese directors and conductors attend my clinics. While attending

the TBA Convention/Clinic this July, I found myself learning new ideas and rediscovering some old ideas through clinics and the newly created TBA Academy. The Academy was created for new teachers and/or new teachers to Texas. I must be a "new" teacher, as I found myself learning new things. I believe that teaching band requires a lifetime of learning.

By the time you read this article, we will have already started the 2011-12 school year. Whether this is your first year to teach or your 30th, the beginning of each school year brings with it many emotions. As I begin my 28th year to teach band in Texas, I still get excited and energized about the many new possibilities that teaching students brings to me. I hope that everyone reading this article has an exceptional year of teaching and I am looking forward to a great year serving on the TBA Board.

Jeff King is in his 28th year of teaching band in Texas, 23 of which have been in the Duncanville ISD which has a long standing tradition of excellence in concert music and marching band, achieving both the John Philip Sousa Foundation Sudler Shield of Honor and the Sudler Flag of Honor. Jeff is currently the Director of Bands for the Duncanville ISD where he oversees the instrumental program for the district and conducts the Wind Ensemble. Mr. King has had the privilege of teaching all levels of band in the district. In 2008, Jeff was co-conductor of the Wind Ensemble with Tom Shine, which was selected as the state honor band for 5A high school bands. While teaching at the middle school level, his bands advanced to the Texas Honor Band finals four times and his concert bands have achieved superior ratings in concert and sight-reading for the past 24 years.

Prior to teaching in Duncanville, Jeff taught in the Irving and Dallas ISDs. Along with the late Richard Williams, Jeff has co-authored a band warm-up and technique book entitled Foundations for Superior Performance and The Complete Instrument Reference Guide for Band Directors. He earned a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Baldwin-Wallace College, studying trumpet with James Darling (Cleveland Orchestra) and Mary Squire (Cleveland Chamber Orchestra) and a Masters in Trumpet Performance degree, Thomas Booth (Dallas Symphony Orchestra), from Southern Methodist University. While at SMU as a graduate student, Jeff had the pleasure of working with the late Howard Dunn, one the great music educators of our profession.

Currently Mr. King is the Chairman for the TMEA Band Division for Region 20. His professional affiliations include TMEA, TBA, TMAA, National Band Association, and the honorary music fraternity Phi Beta Mu.