

# ***A Spotlight On ... TBA Board of Directors***

Your TBA Board of Directors meets four times each year and works tirelessly to produce the world's best summer convention for band directors. They also plan and administer highly successful Professional Development Clinics throughout the school year and oversee the entire TBA operation. This work is all done on a volunteer, non-paid basis for a seven-year term. The spouse of each board member also volunteers time on the TBA Spouse's Board to plan and administer spouse and family convention activities. From my experience working with the Board, I see that theirs is a labor of love, giving back to the profession that has been so good to us all.

The structure and election of the TBA Board is outlined in the TBA Constitution and has evolved through the years to meet the ever changing needs of our organization and to serve the educational needs of bands, band directors, and band students. At the annual business luncheon, a nominating committee recommends a proposed slate of officers including a Sergeant-at-Arms, the newest addition to the Board. The slate is voted upon by the membership. After approval of the proposed slate, the current President Elect assumes the role of President and the current President moves to Immediate Past President. Other board members move on to the next position on the board. This system has provided great continuity and outstanding leadership for TBA allowing our organization to grow and flourish throughout the years. By operating through a nominating committee,

this process has consistently produced new board members who understand their responsibilities and are willing to commit themselves and their spouses to the seven-year term.

One of the greatest strengths of the seven member board is its diversity. While there are no specific guidelines in the TBA Constitution governing geographic representation, by tradition board members reside in different areas of the state. Board members are active band directors or music administrators and work at the university, high school, or middle school level. This rich diversity of background and experiences has allowed TBA Boards to serve their organization well and to provide the leadership necessary for TBA to flourish.

As you look at the lineup of Past Presidents in your TBA Convention/Clinic program this summer, you will find many of the leaders of our profession. What a great history of the Texas Band movement can be told through these men and women and their contributions to TBA. Please join me at the convention in thanking our Past Presidents for their vision and leadership that has allowed TBA to become the outstanding organization it is today!

Your Board of Directors always welcomes suggestions and input from you. If you want to find out how you might serve TBA in a greater capacity, including the possibility of serving on the board, visit with the board member from your area of the state.

*—by Michael Brashear*