THE FLORIDA BANDMASTER

67th Year, No. 4

(Bulletin of the Florida Bandmasters Association, Inc.) Silver Springs, Florida

February 1, 2003

IN MEMORIAM

Neil C. Brooks

Neil Brooks was a hardworking, innovative and caring teacher who was named Teacher of the Year in 1998 for both Lake Butler Middle School and his district. Neil was born on December 22, 1960 in Pensacola Florida. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from Florida State University and his Master's Degree in Music Education from the University of Florida. From the Florida Music Educators Association, Neil received the "Innovative Teaching Award" for his work in multiple intelligences as they applied to the music classroom. Any band director or student who had Neil as an adjudicator, knew him as a fair, kind, compassionate, and encouraging judge. Neil was very involved with his church and served as director of the orchestra, string ensemble and one of the choirs.

The **2003 FBA SUMMER CONFERENCE** will be held at the Altamonte Springs Hilton on July 17 - 19, 2003. Pre-registration and hotel reservation information will be mailed to you in April. We are doing something different this year, and everyone will be in the **DIRECTOR'S BAND**. More information will follow, and it's going to be great! Bring the family, enjoy the clinics and fellowship, and get inspired for next year! The Bar-B-Q is on and the convention will be a weekend you won't forget!

ATTENTION SENIOR HIGH DIRECTORS

You should be getting information about State S&E from your district chairman at your S&E festival. It will also be posted on the web site. Deadlines for State S&E entry are only 1(one) week after district. Please be ready for that deadline. It always comes so quickly after district. State S&E will be March 31, April 1, 2, 2003 at Satellite High School in Brevard County.

Look for State MPA information in late February. If you have not received yours by MARCH 1, please call the Executive Director immediately!!! 352-625-9570 MPA dates and adjudicators are:

North - April 21 - 25, 2003 - University of North Florida, Jacksonville Concert Rich Bergman - Herndon High School Bentley Shellahamer - Florida State University Bruce Dinkins - James Bowie High School Commentator Robert Spradling - Western Michigan University Bobby Adams - Stetson University South - April 22 - 26, 2003 - North Port High School

Concert

Fred Humpreys - Retired John Laverty - Syracuse University

Dennis Silkebakken - East Central University at Ada Oklahoma

Commentator

Rick Greenwood - University of Central Florida Kenneth Williams - University of Texas at San Antonio

OTHER IMPORTANT NEWS

ORDER SCORES AND MUSIC FOR FESTIVALS NOW! See Handbook for FBA rules regarding music scores. Do it now, don't wait. You MUST secure permission to copy out-of-print copyrighted music from the copyright owner. Your music dealer should have a form to secure permission. The use of this form, when sent to the copyright owner, will expedite the inquiry and permission process greatly.

GENERAL MEETING of the FLORIDA BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION

The meeting was called to order at 9:37 PM by President **Rob Roadman**, who made a brief statement commending everyone who helped make the convention run smoothly. After the introduction of the FBA Officers seated on the dais, the minutes of the July 2002 Board and General Business meetings, and the December 2002 Executive Board meeting were approved as distributed to the membership. Attendance rolls were sent around the room for members to sign.

A big thank you to Jeanne Reynolds of Pinellas County and John Acosta from Hillsborough County in their help in procuring the larger percussion instruments.

| TREASURERS REPORT (As of January 4, 2003) | |
|---|--------------|
| FBA Festival Account | \$ 7,207.35 |
| FBA Inc. Account | \$ 63,258.89 |
| FBA Reserve Account(CD) | \$ 24,771.43 |
| FBA Commissioning Acct. (MM) | \$ 9,032.66 |
| FBA Severance Acct (CD) | \$ 6,282.31 |
| FBA Festival Reserve (CD) | \$ 62,377.60 |

The FBA Past-Presidents in attendance were asked to stand and were introduced.

New FBA members were presented and received a round of applause, then those members with varying lengths of longevity were recognized.

Barbara Johnson, FBA Life Member, from Amman Baptist School in Jordon, with her four students and one chaperone were introduced and recognized by the membership. They were our special guests from across the world.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP PINS (representing at least 25 consecutive years of Active or Affiliate membership in the FBA) were presented to: David Ammerman, Richard Brown, Jim Hacker, Lee Haskins, John Henry, Barbara Johnson, Bobbie Keen, Alan Klispie, Fred Schmidt, Elaine Whitmire, and Doug Yopp.

NOTE: MEMBERS WHO WILL ATTAIN 25 CONSECUTIVE YEARS OF ACTIVE OR AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP IN THE FBA AT THE END OF THE 2002-03 School year should notify the Executive Director as soon as possible.

FIVE-YEAR SUPERIOR AWARDS (available to those Middle School /Junior High directors whose bands have earned Superior ratings for the last five consecutive years) were presented to:

Robert Keating, Ed Maina, Brian Nichols, Fred Schimidt, Neil Theriault, Mike Vail, and Gloria Vagi.

NOTE: CERTAINLY, OTHERS ALSO QUALIFY FOR THIS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD AND WE WANT TO RECOGNIZE THEM. PLEASE WRITE ME A NOTE STATING THAT YOU HAVE MET THE REQUIREMENTS SO THAT YOUR NAME CAN BE ADDED TO THIS LIST. DEADLINE NOVEMBER 1ST.

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION were also distributed to those who served the FBA as District Chairpersons: Tony Chiarito - District 1, Travis Henry - District 5, Christina Frye - District 7, Diane Suris - District 9, Mark Spreen - Dstrict 11, Bill Lindner - District 13, Rick Miles - District 15, Cathi Leibinger - District 16, Jason Duckett - District 17, Jose Lopez - District 18, Bob Allen - District 19

The District Chairs and Committee Chairs were recognized and thanked.

JUNIOR HIGH/MIDDLE SCHOOL DIRECTORS FORUM: - Reported by Cathi Leibinger, JH/MS Rep.

FBA Middle School/Junior High Meeting Agenda **FMEA** Thursday, January 9, 2003

- I. Introductions/Information Sheets
- Meeting called to order by Cathi Leibinger, Middle School/Junior High representative at 7:00 PM II.
 - All State 7th/8th Grade Honors Band Report
 - 2003 Selection Process
 - 209 forms submitted (over 600 students)
 - 36 schools had students selected for the Audition Band
 - 7 schools submitted incorrect forms that were not considered (3 late postmarks, 2 missing signatures, 1 missing check, 1 check received with no form)
 - 2 schools had students selected that were unable to participate (1 notice was received in time to _ be replaced, 1 notice was received 12/17)
 - 41 schools did not have students selected due to instrument section being filled before schools form was considered

Discussion followed concerning the selection process. Many members gave opinions and suggestions. Concerns were raised that more and more schools are being left out every year due to larger numbers. Ms. Leibinger is creating a database showing every school and their yearly representation in an All-State ensemble. This will help future leadership see the history of a school's participation at a glance, which may need to be considered in the selection process.

- Communication
 - E-mails sent, some returned

Ms. Leibinger urged everyone to update their e-mail information and to get in the habit of checking it regularly.

Receipt letters sent 10/15

Many directors called or e-mailed asking for confirmation that their application was received. With over 200 schools, this was impossible. Many bookkeepers are now asking for financial receipts, so this letter served both purposes.

Music was mailed 11/18

Although the music was mailed earlier than ever before and an e-mail was sent to notify Ms. Leibinger if music was not received by Dec. 1st, there were still directors calling mid-to late December asking for music.

Stay on top of things

Students showed up at the first rehearsal with wrong parts. (Baritone Bass clef needed Baritone Treble clef, etc.) CHECK THIS WHEN THE MUSIC ARRIVES AND BE SURE TO WORK WITH YOUR STUDENTS SO THEY ARE PREPARED!

Future Selections – Survey

A survey was given to all members listing all criteria that could be considered during the selection process. Ms. Leibinger will compile the results of the survey and formulate a definitive process that will be published and passed to each new representative to ensure consistency from year to year.

Future rehearsal locations

While some directors would like to see the rehearsal sites rotated so that there are years that the middle schools are closer to the convention center, others like the fact that our rehearsals are in the same place, as it is easier to give parents details. Also, parking is less of an issue at the current rehearsal locations.

III. All-State Middle School Jazz Band

There is still an interest in creating an All-State Middle School Jazz Band. There was also discussion about expanding the current Middle School Bands and increasing Middle School representation at All-State in general. Concerns were raised about rehearsal space and performance time.

IV. Appropriate use of Website/Contact information

Directors were encouraged to educate their students and parents on the proper use of the FSMA/FBA website, specifically of the contact information given. Students have been voicing complaints directly to Board members (usually over ratings) and parents are using the information given to locate Board members and call or e-mail them directly with questions or concerns. It is urged that everyone remind students and parents to follow the proper lines of communication.

V. Future Clinics

- Recommendations for conductors
- Recommendations for clinics

Recommendations were given for both. Directors were also encouraged to send any other ideas to Cathi Leibinger at <u>cleibinger@ransomeverglades.org</u>

OTHER:

Neil Jenkins spoke concerning some of the clinics being offered, specifically of those featuring our guests from Japan.

Efforts are underway to create a Middle School All-State Percussion Box that would travel to the convention every year and alleviate some of the problems caused by students forgetting equipment. Everyone is encouraged to talk to their local music dealers and ask for one item. If you have any donations, let Cathi know.

Ms. Leibinger also had free copies of Bandworld Magazine and brochures from the American Band College Masters Program in Oregon.

SENIOR HIGH DIRECTORS FORUM - Reported by **Paula Thornton**, FBA President-elect

The Florida Bandmasters Association

FBA High School Directors Meeting

January 9, 2003 Tampa, FL

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. The following items were discussed:

- □ New format for State Concert MPA
- Dues and assessment increases and reductions
- Professional use of the FBA website—directors were asked to explain to their students that this is a professional site. Students have access for information purposes only. Please encourage students to use it responsibly. FYI: a passwordprotected section "for members only" is coming soon.
- □ Concern regarding State MPA conflicts with Advanced Placement Testing (in previous years) and Spring Breaks—these are among the reasons that some bands have not been able to participate.
- □ A majority of the members in attendance would like to see the FBA State Solo & Ensemble / Jazz Band / Auxiliary MPA divided into two regions—north & south.
- Other comments or questions were discussed regarding
 - □ Marching gate receipts
 - □ All-State Orchestra music delays
 - □ Selection of students for the Small Schools Honor Band
 - □ The decision to have the clinic session at State Concert MPA (instead of sight reading)
 - □ The adjudicators list being posted on the website.

- □ Watch for the "legislative update" emails from FSMA. What has been accomplished is invaluable.
- □ Lewis Jones encouraged everyone to make plans to attend the "Hall of Fame" event at Stetson University in November. It is an incredible musical experience and fitting tribute to deserving members of our organization. Don't miss it!

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Thornton President-Elect Florida Bandmasters Association

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

Bobby Adams gave his usually brilliant Hall of Fame Report. On November 16, 2003 both Roy Wood and Frank Howse will be inducted into the Florida Bandmasters Association Hall of Fame. Saturday night, November 15, 2003, with a concert by the Southern Winds, Bentley Shellahamer and Reid Poole will be brought into the Florida Bandmasters Association Roll of Distinction. Put the dates on your calendar. This will be one you don't want to miss.

GOOD OF THE ASSOCIATION

The following directors have been selected by their fellow teachers as TEACHERS OF THE YEAR at their respective schools:

Jerry Carter - Southside Middle School David Christensen - South Sumter High School Paul Destito - Jupiter Middle School Travis Henry - River Ridge Middle School Everett McConn - Fort Clarke M S and Alachua County M S Teacher of the Year Cara McKinney - Deltona Middle School Lee Ponder - Mandarin High School Gloria Vagi - Pioneer Middle School Connie Wilkes Pettis - Jay High School

Congratulations to Paula Thornton and the Buchholz Band for the wonderful concert at the Midwest Band Clinic in Chicago. The band also have been selected to receive the Sudler Flag of Honor which will be presented at a concert on April 30 at 7:00PM at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts in Gainesville.

Paula Thornton of Buchholz High School and Rob Roadman from Martin County High School both received the Legion of Honor Award administered by the John Philip Sousa Foundation.

Bud Roberts sent his regards to all FBA members.

Everyone was encouraged to join the National Band Association (NBA)

We were honored to have attending our meeting the conductor, a composer, and the principal of the Inagakuen Sogo High School Band.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:46PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Duane L. Hendon, Executive Director.