

Minutes from the North American Brass Band Association  
Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, March 31, 2006  
Indiana Room, Student Center, Indiana University Southeast

Board Members present: Louis Bourgois, Jay Cohen, John de Salme, Paul Droste, Jim Grate, Jackson Hill, Diana Herak, Ron Holz, Anita Cocker Hunt, Rusty Morris, Susan Reigler, Tom Scheibner, Quentin Sharpenstein, Julie Vish, Doug Yeo.

Guest: Joanna Goldstein

Meeting began with a Call to Order by President Hunt, and a welcome to new member Doug Yeo (official term will start in August, 2006). Thanks were also given to Doug for providing an errata sheet for "Spectrum," this year's Honors Section test piece.

Review of Minutes: Ron Holz moved to accept, Rusty Morris 2<sup>nd</sup>, approved.

IUS/Louisville competition site update (Joanna Goldstein). Joanna reported that signs are up everywhere to help direct people. The info table includes band rehearsal times, meeting times, etc. Volunteers will show bands where to drop off their cases (in the Recital Hall). Bands performing in the Robinson Theater will warm-up in the Black Box, bands performing in the Stem Concert Hall will warm-up in the Orchestra/Band Room. A NABBA representative will bring the bands from the warm-up areas to the performing areas. She asks that doors are kept closed (to prevent sound bleeding). For the Solo/Ensemble Competition, Soloists are asked to enter/exit through the stage doors, not audience doors. Music stands, chairs, timpani, xylophone will be provided in the band warm-up rooms. There's an emergency instrument repair person located in the Exhibit Room.

Treasurer's Report (Jim Grate). Jim passed out a handout that included the NABBA Budget as of March 26, 2006. NABBA's net worth is \$33,407.39. Ron Holz motioned that we accept the budget until we can look at it in more detail at the August Board meeting. Jackson Hill 2<sup>nd</sup>, approved.

Jim also passed out a graph which contained the number of Bridge Subscriptions (155 Family Members- No Bridge; 200 people receive Printed Bridge, 650 people receive Internet Bridge).

Membership Report (Jim Grate). As of March 25, 2006, NABBA has 1,008 members, which is up about 200 people from last year. NABBA contains 36 member bands, located in 19 states.

Website Usage Report (Jim Grate). Jim passed out a handout that included a Website report for the NABBA website, which identifies website activity for each month of the year (busiest month- March). Jim also mentioned that the NABBA History portion of the website is actually its own site (Nabbamusic.org), and is maintained by Doug Yeo.

Amendments to the Contest Rules (Jim Grate). Jim brought 2 amendments to the contest rules to the Board. Ron Holz suggested Board members review the suggestions, and we'll discuss at the August Board Meeting.

Contest Program (Jay Cohen). Jay reported that the contest program was finished, and that it will be much easier to put together next year. Complimentary copies were given to the Board Members, and to the members of each competing band. It was noticed by Paul Droste and Quentin Sharpenstein that there were several advertisers that had paid for ads in the contest program, but they did not appear (Solid Brass, Colonial Music, Bearn's Pizza, the University of Louisville School of Music...). We will return their money, and give them a free full page ad in next year's program. It was also noted in the contest program that James Anderson was mistakenly listed as the Percussion Soloist/Ensemble Judge. The judge will actually be Simone Rebello.

The Bridge Update (Eric Aho). Eric was not in attendance. Concerns arose about information not being printed in the Bridge in a timely manner, or not including submitted material at all. This affects NABBA's image, as the Bridge is the main way of communicating with our members. Anita reminded the Board that the position of Bridge Editor is a Presidential appointment but she then asked the Board for their sense of what they thought would be best to do about the situation. Discussion ensued. Recommendations from the floor for a new editor included Tom Gillette (of the Chicago Brass Band) or Douglas Yeo (New England Brass Band). The Board wishes to thank Eric for filling in when he did and for all of his hard work, but it was decided that a change is needed, and we will go in a different direction. Anita thanked the Board for their discussion and took the matter under advisement; when she makes her decision, it will appear on the NABBA website. In addition, with the costs of printing and mailing hard copies (which exceeded the extra annual \$5.00 fee per member), it was suggested that perhaps the Bridge should go all electronic (therefore being more cost effective and timelier).

Ads/Exhibits (Paul Droste). Paul passed out a handout. There are 14 exhibitors this year. NABBA has collected \$5550 from them. He expressed the need for us to keep them happy, and encourage people to visit the displays. Announcements will be made during the solo and ensemble events Friday and the band competition Saturday to encourage people to visit. Many of these exhibitors were approached by Anita, Paul, and Eric Aho at the Midwest Band

and Orchestra Clinic, who agreed that exhibiting at NABBA would be far less expensive!

Publicity (Diana Herak). Diana passed around a notebook containing copies of NABBA articles (written mostly by Patrick Herak) that had appeared on several on-line Brass Band Websites, such as 4barsrest.com and themouthpiece.com. Distributing NABBA information via the internet has proven to be an easy, free way to reach an international audience. In addition, Brass Band World Magazine has sent Diana approximately 60 free magazines for NABBA members, which will be located at the NABBA table in the Exhibit hall. The magazines will contain a "Nabba Championship Rate" coupon for 20% off a subscription. Also, Patrick Herak has already been asked by the "British Bandsman" to write a review of the 2006 Championships. Anita expressed thanks to Pat for the articles he's written.

NABBA Table products and CDs (Jim Grate). In addition to NABBA t-shirts, bumper stickers, posters, pins, etc., the NABBA Table has offered to sell member band CDs. The CDs will sell for \$15 each, with the member band receiving \$10, and NABBA \$5. Please pick up unsold CDs at the conclusion of the contest.

Great American Brass Band Festival Report (Ron Holz). For this summer's GABBF, the London Citadel Band will be the Salvation Army representative band, and the James Madison University Brass Band will be NABBA's representative. NABBA's representative band to the GABBF is determined by the previous year's Championship Section winner band. If the 1st place band cannot attend (or attended the GABBF the previous year- no band can go two years in a row), it is offered to the 2<sup>nd</sup> place Championship band. If they are unable to attend, it would then go to the 1<sup>st</sup>, then 2<sup>nd</sup> place Honors Section Band.

In addition, Ron was asked by Bram Gay and the Mortimer Family to extend an invitation to this year's 1<sup>st</sup> place NABBA Championship Section Band to attend the British Open (and compete). At this time, NABBA is under no financial obligation to provide funds for the winning band to travel to England, however, we will discuss at this summer's board meeting if we will be able to help out. Motion to accept- Jackson, 2<sup>nd</sup>- Rusty, approved unanimously.

Review of Recommendations from Pat Herak (Anita). A handout of Patrick's proposals was handed out. We will review these proposals at our August Board Meeting.

Southern Territorial Band invitation 2007 (Anita). Before recommending we invite the Southern Territorial Band to be the Gala band for NABBA Championships 2007, we need to clarify costs. Perhaps the Louisville Salvation Army can help with housing, meals, etc.?

Athena Brass Band (Anita). Athena will be performing in the International Women's Brass Conference this June (as a replacement for the Central Florida

band that could no longer attend after the Conference was moved from Florida to Illinois).

Bridge Report #2 (Julie Vish). As Eric Aho was unable to attend the Board Meeting, he sent in a report via Julie. The first Bridge report cost approximately \$1950 to print (from Chicago), the second one only \$650 (from Columbus).

Reading Band (Ron Holz). Due to the band rehearsal schedules that conflict with the time the Reading Band is offered, it has been cancelled for this year. However, due to the many positive points that the Reading Band has offered in the past, Ron would like it to continue next year. In addition to the pieces that are played, Ron writes a review of the pieces for publication in the Bridge, which has been a positive point for the music publishers involved. Therefore, we'll plan on continuing the Reading band next year.

Contest Update/responsibilities (Tom Scheibner). Tom thanked Joanna for all her help with the contest. He then proceeded to go over the contest responsibilities of each board member. We were short a few helpers, but schedules were re-arranged and it looks like we are ready for the contest. He also passed out a handout of responsibilities for all solo and ensemble assistants. The final band in each rehearsal site is asked to rack up the music stands and put the percussion away. It was also decided that no-one is needed to sit at the Information Booth at the Galt House- information will be left on the table.

Emails and Information passed out (Anita). Information was given regarding Youth Band Changes (from Doug Yeo and Tony Granados), the new "Birmingham Band of the World Contest," Adjudication Standards (Doug Yeo), Professional Development Credit, Clinics (Paul Droste). After some brief discussion on each of these topics, it was decided to have further discussion at the August Board meeting when there is more time available.

Board members renewing (Anita). Anita read the list of board members that are up for renewal.

Dates and location for summer Board Meeting (Jim Grate). It was decided that we should meet in Louisville for the August Board meeting, although perhaps another location would work in the future. First choice- August 4-5; 2<sup>nd</sup> choice- August 25-26. We'll call for a vote later to determine the best weekend to meet.

New Business: Jackson Hill reported that the Ashland Brass Band Festival will be held on June 3, 2006, and that he appreciates NABBA's \$500 financial contribution. Motion to give Jackson the same amount this year- Diana moved, Jay 2<sup>nd</sup>, approved. Eastern Iowa has not requested funds for their summer festival. Susan Reigler reported that the Louisville Courier Journal" has

contained 3 articles this week about the upcoming NABBA Championships. In addition, they may be sending a reporter to cover the contest this weekend.

Motion to Adjourn: Ron Holz, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Tom, approved.

Respectfully submitted by Diana Herak, last minute substitution for NABBA Secretary, Linda Detman.