

NSBA Newsletter – January 2009 – Convention Issue

48th Annual NSBA Convention – March 5, 6, & 7 – Embassy Suites Hotel

From the President – Larry Rathbun

Please make plans to attend the 48th annual NSBA Convention, held in Lincoln, March 5 – 7. We are excited that both the Embassy Suites Hotel and the UNL School of Music will be hosting our convention. The exhibits, registration booth and Friday night's Awards Banquet will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel, while clinic sessions and concerts will be held at Westbrook Music Building and Kimball Recital Hall, respectively.

This year's convention should provide attendees with numerous clinic sessions that will benefit them in their quest to "Build Better Bands for Nebraska". Fran Kick will conduct sessions that will be inspirational for directors and will provide them with techniques to motivate students to "take the lead" to strengthen the entire band program. Other sessions will cover rehearsal techniques, arranging, middle school band programs, and technology. Saturday morning will feature a composer's panel discussion/question-and-answer session which should be very informative for all directors.

Please make plans today, to attend this year's NSBA Convention. It will be a great time to get new information and ideas, while providing everyone with the opportunity for sharing sessions with colleagues and friends. I hope to see everyone in Lincoln!

(See following pages and visit www.nsbma.org for session descriptions and photos/bios of presenters)

Register Early and save \$\$\$\$\$

Register for the convention by February 6th and save \$10 on your registration fee. Please see more details on the registration page!

Thursday Night's Opening Concert

Thursday night's opening concert will feature the "Heartland of America" United States Air Force Band, under the direction of Captain Michael J. Willen. The Concert Band is known throughout the United States for its outstanding performances and recordings. The band's broad spectrum of music

ranges from classical to contemporary, and from jazz to rock and country. Their musical performance is sure to inspire audience members to an increased sense of patriotism. I encourage everyone to make plans to attend this opening concert.

Exhibits

Exhibits will be open throughout the convention. Please plan to attend the (newly scheduled) Thursday night session after the opening concert. NSBA will provide finger foods and a cash bar for those in attendance. Exhibitors will be providing door prizes at the displays. I am hopeful that this session will provide directors a time to socialize with each other, while showing support for our many exhibitors.

Annual Awards Banquet – Friday Night

The NSBA Awards Banquet will be held Friday, March 6, at the Embassy Suites Hotel. The social hour will begin at 5:00 p.m., with dinner scheduled for 6:00 p.m. This is our time to celebrate and recognize individuals for accomplishments they have made in the field of instrumental music. The following awards and scholarships will be presented.

- NSBA Graduate & Student Scholarships
- Bob Palensky Scholarship
- Academic Achievement Awards
- Jack Snider Young Band Director Awards
- Outstanding Administrator Award
- Distinguished Service Awards
- Honored Retirees
- Retiring NSBA Executive Board Members
- Don Lentz Award

Please contact Bryan Regier (Awards Chair) if you, or anyone you know will be retiring.

Attend the Annual Business Meeting Saturday

Please plan to attend the annual business meeting on Saturday morning at 8:00 a.m. NSBA exists for the benefit of our membership, so we hope everyone can be present at this meeting. An official agenda will be presented at the meeting. The following items will be included

- officer's reports
- brief reports by class representatives

- updates on convention meetings and proceedings
- approval of slate and voting for new officers (Jeff has an outstanding slate of candidates)

Breakfasts at the Embassy Suites Hotel

The following breakfast meetings will be held, Friday, March 6th at the Embassy Suites:

- Past Presidents (ESH “P” Street area)
- Summer Boot-camper “Alumni” (ESH Bar & Grill)

Participants rooming at the Embassy Suites will receive “comped” breakfast with their room. Cost for all other participants will be \$10. These tickets may be purchased at the front desk.

Luncheons – Friday, March 6th (Noon – 1:50 p.m.)

Concert & Marching Band Luncheon

This luncheon will begin with informational items regarding the NSBA Concert Band Festival presented by R.J. Metteer. Immediately following, Ron Hardin will preside over the marching band meeting. Those in attendance will discuss any proposed changes as well as vote on site locations for the 2009 NSBA Marching Band Festival. Participants wishing to eat should prepay \$8 – please see registration form.

Elementary-Middle Level Luncheon

Come and share ideas with colleagues in a fun atmosphere. Curtis Forsch will guide the meeting and all participants wanting to eat should prepay \$8 – please see registration form.

College/University Directors Luncheon

The College/University director’s luncheon will be held at “Barry’s”. Jim Saker will preside at this meeting.

NSBA Directory Update

The updated 2009 NSBA Directories were distributed at the NMEA Convention and mailed to those members that were unable to pick them up at that time. Thanks to all that assisted with this project. Special thanks go out to Roger Thaden, Marilyn Godby, and Neal Schnoor for their efforts in updating our directory!

Room Availability at the Embassy Suites Hotel

The Embassy Suites Hotel will be hosting the NSBA March Convention through 2010. A two-year contract was signed that will guarantee no room rate increase for 2010.

NSBA is responsible for filling 85% of the negotiated room nights. If this percentage isn’t met, our organization pays for any un-reserved rooms. Please be sure to register early to guarantee yourself a room within this block.

Website – Way to go, Dave!

The NSBA Executive Board is very interested in keeping our website updated and easily accessible for our membership. Dave Young does an outstanding job researching new software that is available in order to make our website more “user friendly”. Thanks for your continued work on this project, Dave. Please feel free to contact Dave with any ideas you might have for improving the website. Our goal is to serve our membership in the best possible way.