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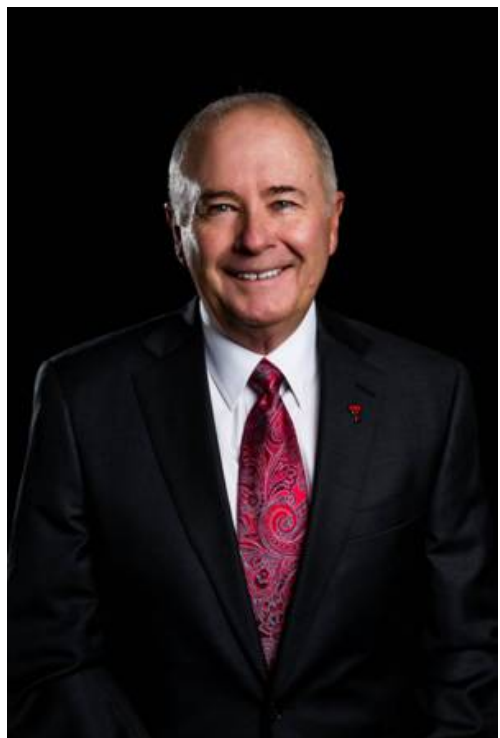
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June

NEWSLETTER

2018

FROM THE PRESIDENT OF PHI BETA MU - KEITH BEARDEN (ALPHA TX)



Greeting brothers and sisters of Phi Beta Mu! Summer break is here for those still active in school duties. Summer provides a much-needed break away from "the job". I hope you will take full advantage of this valuable time to rejuvenate by spending time with your family and friends. Step out of the ring and do something for YOU!

PhiBetaMu International is busy behind the scenes with the review of nominations for the Col. Earl D. Irons Program of Excellence Award. Our commissions have been completed! "Cosmic Expedition" by Michael J. Miller is a grade three piece and is now available at J.W. Pepper. "Prelude and Presto" by David Holsinger, will be published by Barnhouse by September and is a grade five

piece. Both compositions appear to be on track for performances at Midwest! A tremendous thank you goes to our commission chair, Mr. Jay Watkins of the University of Florida, for his work on these projects.

Our international outreach continues as members donate and ship supplies to other parts of our music world. Hopefully by December, we will have another international chapter coming on board. This is an exciting time for the growth of our fraternity.

Don't overlook the awards available through our international executive secretary office for your outstanding band members, campers, etc.

Thank you for serving our profession in such a meaningful way. Thank you for being leaders in your state/province to promote the ideals of the fraternity. I ask you to be on the lookout for young talented directors who will sustain our fraternity in the future. We exist to honor their achievements in working with students.

Have a happy and relaxing break, see you in Chicago!

Life, Love, Music,

Keith Bearden, President
PhiBetaMu International

It's actually the *silence between the notes* that makes the music, or else we'd just have continuous sound. So musicians must become as skilled at *playing the silence* as they are at playing the notes.

PHIBETAMU NEWS & COMMUNICATION

Welcome to the PhiBetaMu International June 2018 edition. With our "3 edition format" it is important that I draw to your attention the following action items and projected deadlines.

- This is an opportune time for you to give some thought about nominating a member from your Chapter for the International Board of Directors. This year we will also be electing a new Vice President / President Elect in addition to two board members. The deadline for nominations is October 31, 2018. More information is available at www.phibetamu.org.
- Register now for Midwest 2018, Dec. 19-22 in Chicago and plan to attend PhiBetaMu International meetings and functions. Early bird registration and discount is only available until Sept. 19. Register online at www.midwestclinic.org.
- In this edition you will find a new entry entitled PhiBetaMu Potpourri. Here is where I shall publish "pictures & short write-ups" on what our members are doing, awards they have won, etc. that are not necessarily related directly to PhiBetaMu. If you have something of general interest to the membership about yourself or another member, please email it to me!
- It is with regrets that I need to inform you, on behalf of Past President Paul Worosello, that the Earl D Irons Program of Distinction Award will not be presented in 2018. If you have a program of distinction to nominate for 2019, please take a minute and DO IT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, after the new school year takes effect in August 2018.

Mike Townsend

RICHARD BLATTI - OUTSTANDING BANDMASTER 2018



After having taught for 42 years, **Richard Blatti** retired in 2016 from Ohio State University and became Professor Emeritus. He served OSU as chief executive and academic officer for an internationally recognized faculty and a School of Music ranked 10th among public colleges and universi-

ties. Prior to this appointment, he was Area Head of Ensembles and Conducting, supervising all aspects of the conducting curricula and the administration of all university ensembles.

Throughout his OSU tenure, Professor Blatti personally taught conducting at all levels and the ensembles under his direction performed at national conferences, recorded for international recording labels, and toured extensively. For his interpretation of their works, Blatti earned the praise of many composers, including Gunther Schuller, Warren Benson, Michael Daugherty, Augusta Read Thomas, Jennifer Higdon, Eric Whitacre, Steven Bryant, David Gillingham, Carter Pann, Frank Tich-

eli, John Mackey, Daniel Bukvich, and Roger Cichy.

Professor Blatti has twice received The Ohio State University School of Music Distinguished Teaching Award, and in 2007 was presented with the Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching by the President of the University. He also served on the Board of Trustees for the Columbus Symphony Orchestra, the Board of the John P. Paynter Foundation, and on the Executive Board of the OSU Academy of Teaching.

As guest conductor, clinician and adjudicator, Blatti has been invited to 42 states, five Canadian provinces, and the United Kingdom, The Netherlands, France, Belgium, Australia, and China. Prior to his ap-

pointment at OSU, Professor Blatti was Director of Instrumental Music at Albion College in Michigan for 10 years, where he was twice selected the outstanding Faculty Member of the Year, and was awarded two grants in support of his research on rehearsal techniques and conducting pedagogy.

Richard Blatti is a member of the American Bandmasters Association, College Band Directors National Association, National Association for Music Education, Ohio Music Education Association, Pi Kappa Lambda, Phi Beta Mu, Omicron Delta Kappa, Tau Beta Sigma and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia.

ROBERT W. SMITH - OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTOR 2018



Robert W. Smith is one of the most popular and prolific composers in America today. He has over 600 publications in print with the majority composed and arranged through his long association with Warner

Bros. Publications and the Belwin catalog.

Mr. Smith's credits include many compositions and productions in all areas of the music field. His original works for winds and percussion have been programmed by countless military, university, high school, and middle school bands throughout the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia, South America and Asia. His Symphony #1 (*The Divine Comedy*); Symphony #2 (*The Odyssey*); Symphony #3 (*Don Quixote*); *Inchon* and *Africa: Ceremony, Song and Ritual* have received worldwide critical acclaim. His educational compositions such as *The Tempest*, *Encanto*, and *The Great Locomo-*

tive Chase have become standards for developing bands throughout the world.

His music has received extensive airplay on major network television as well as inclusion in multiple motion pictures. From professional ensembles such as the United States Navy Band, United States Air Force Band, Boston Pops and the Atlanta Symphony to school bands and orchestras throughout the world, his music speaks to audiences in any concert setting. As a conductor, clinician and keynote speaker, Mr. Smith has performed throughout North America, Asia, South America, Europe and Australia. His music has been recorded by various en-

sembles and is available on CD and download through iTunes, Amazon, and other recorded music outlets.

RWS Music Company, exclusively distributed through C.L. Barnhouse, is overseen by President/CEO Robert W. Smith. In addition, he is currently teaching in the Music Industry program at Troy University in Troy, Alabama. His teaching responsibilities are focused in music composition, production, publishing and business.

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS TO BANDS IN BRASIL - ANDRÉ DE OLIVEIRA (BETAZETA)

In the year of 2014 occurred in Brazil in the city of Bragança Paulista, the World Band Championship of WAMSB. As a counselor and founder of Wamsb Brasil, I was invited to volunteer and help in the best way in the Championship.

During the days I had there and I met my old friends who were working, in the Championship. Explaining to them that I was working with bands in Brazil for many years, but that we had here a methodology, a method to apply mainly the beginner bands, they introduced me to a Lord that I did not know personally. I was introduced to James Keith Bearden. Despite my difficulties in the English language, we talked and soon realized that he could really help us.

Back home, I exchanged some emails with Mr. Bearden. He invited me to visit the bands and the Texas Band System, more precisely in the city of Lubbock. I accepted immediately, despite the difficulties in obtaining resources for the trip.

After several contacts and requests, I was able to get the schools I worked to buy air tickets. In September of that year I traveled to Texas.

For me it was a clash of culture and knowledge. I could see up close how everything started, how the musicians were formed and the results of this Teaching System.

During my visit, through Mr. Bearden, various methods of the Essential Elements collec-



In the photo: Maestro André de Oliveria (sitting) next to Gabriel Luz (tuba). Standing, Guilherme Camargo (trombone) and Franciele Camargo (trumpet).

tion were donated.

As soon as I arrived in Brazil, I began to apply it to musicians from my small band at Stella Maris College, in Viamão, on the outskirts of Porto Alegre. It was the first time I had this resource at hand.

Since then many musicians have learned through these methods and the results are really encouraging. That is why I thank everyone who has donated the books and who have provided new perspec-

and are now professional musicians playing at the Rio Grande do Sul Youth Orchestra, where I am the current assistant director.

Testimony of Gabriel Luz - tubista - 16 years - I Gabriel Light began playing Sousafone about two years ago in the marching band of Stella Maris High School, I am currently a musician from the Rio Grande do Sul Youth Orchestra. I started playing sousafone soon with the Essential Elements method, a musical method that unites theory and practice it with easy-to-understand explanations.

At the beginning of my apprenticeship, I had a great difficulty in playing the instrument, but with the help of the method and Maestro André things got easier. The practice brought by the method is very well planned bringing initially small children's music, with a progressive musical learning, without skipping stages.

I realized that I progressed much faster with the Essential Elements method than without it or maybe a different method, I felt very safe when playing the method, because the method reinforced with several practical exercises what it showed in its theories.

Being part of an orchestra for me is the reflection of my effort and dedication with the help of the Essential Elements method.

tives for many of our young people.

Here in Brazil, especially in peripheral cities like Viamão, learning music and playing an instrument is not only a leisure option, sometimes it is the chance of a young person's life, to have more dignity and better living conditions.

Below are 3 reports of young people who have learned music using Essential Elements

ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS TO BANDS IN BRASIL - CONTINUED

Testimony of Guilherme Camargo - 20 years - trombonist. (he started using the method at age 15)

My experience was the best I could, I learned everything using the books. If today I can play, it was thanks to the Essential Elements method.

I was a guy who played percussion, all by ear. Learning theory and reading sheet music with these methods has totally changed my way of seeing and making music. I'm very grateful!

It was all very new and very fast for me. But as soon as Professor André de Oliveira explained to me that these methods are used all over the world and especially by American schools I knew I should follow it and that it would take me somewhere.

It is a very great honor and a dream come true. I believe that all or almost all musicians dream of being part of an orchestra someday, and this opportunity I am having is being the best I can. But none of this would have happened if I had not spent long hours in front of a bookcase with my trombone and the Essential Elements books. I am eternally grateful to all who have helped and donated this material to us. Thank you very much.

Testimony of Franciele Camargo - trumpet - 18 years

From the first steps, when I could not get the sound of the

instrument, the method helped me at the beginning of the reading of sheet music, which until that moment I was not aware of. The way of using numbers and letters below the notes of each measure, helped



me divide the times more easily. The exercises throughout the method helped me significantly to get more and more notes, with the frequency with which the new ones were appearing.

It was all of immense importance, because it gave me a base, something that established me to be prepared for the difficulties that I would encounter throughout my life with music. Spreading from the sound to the first reading.

In Brazil, more specifically in the city where I live, music teachers have no basis to teach, most do not read scores and in many situations, students know better than teachers. So, besides being rare to find a good teacher (Maestro André),

finding such a didactic, clear and helpful method of these makes me feel privileged, and totally safe.

Today playing in an orchestra is a dream come true, because my entire family is composed

of musicians, but no one has reached the level of being able to participate in something as big as me and my brother Guilherme. In addition to being fulfilled, I fulfilled my parents' dreams. And in spite of all that is most important for me is to contribute to the spread of culture and the passion for music, something that I consider to be pretty weak in my country.

Master's final words André - Through all these testimonies we see how important it is to have the sharing of information mainly to poor countries, as is the case of Brazil. In the Music Bands in Brazil, the vast majority of children and young people come from peripheries and neighborhoods lacking re-

sources. Many times, they go to school to be able to eat because they do not have it at home. For this reason, he has no money to buy musical instruments or methods. Thanks to the schools that still assemble their bands it is possible to train young musicians. I personally have an eternal gratitude to the great man who is James Keith Bearden, for his goodwill, for his interest and for his unconditional support, not for me, but for the children and young people of my country. He proves to be a model of being a human being and a teacher. Example for all brothers of Phi Beta Mu. That all of us Phi Beta Mu can have you as an example and we can contribute to bring music to places where it is not only fun but salvation of various lives of children and young people.

Today small and young musicians continue to learn using Essential Elements and to further expand, we continue to accept donations of used books that will be passed on to bands in Brazil.



André de Oliveira - Orchestra and Band Director. PhiBetaMu Member since 2016 - Brazilian Chapter, BetaZeta, President.

REPORT FROM MU CHAPTER - LINDA FOX MILLER (MU/OHIO)



Our fellowship gathering this summer was held on June 11, at the Apple Valley Golf Course in Howard, Ohio. The chapter golfers and guests met for an 18-hole scramble and a meal and plenty of fun and fellowship.

At our annual meeting on February 10, we welcomed a transfer member, Jeremy Ewing, from Colorado and new members; Tom Deep, Jeffrey Gershman, Jesse Leyva, Karen Martin, Brandt Payne and Ryan Smith. Tributes were made for Mark Kelly

Our Commissioning Project will celebrate the MU Chapter's 60th Anniversary with a new composition by Jack Stamp. The selection will be performed at the 2019 Ohio Music Education Association

Conference. A new CD will also be produced with recordings of all the Ohio Commissions. Elaine Ostrander and William Wittman are chairing these commit-

tees. (Bowling Green State University) and Gary Tirey (Otterbein University). One-hundred and ten members were present for our meeting in Columbus, Ohio.

SUBMISSION FROM DELTA CHAPTER - TRAVIS COAKLEY (DELTA/MS)

The Delta Chapter of Phi Beta Mu is beginning a new project in 2018 in which we partner with the Mississippi Chapter of the American School Band Director's Association (ASBDA). Inspired by the "Legacy Project" in Florida we will be creating a series of videotaped interview sessions with leading active and retired band directors who helped pave the way for music educators in Mississippi. This video series will archive their knowledge, wisdom, anecdotal sto-

ries, and preserve the history of band directing in Mississippi.

Dr. Jamie Standland is the Projects Committee Chairman for the Delta Chapter of Phi Beta Mu. He explains, "We have a collection of legendary music educators in the state of Mississippi that have made an indelible impact on so many people. It is our duty to learn more about their legacy and preserve a part of their storied success. I am excited to imag-

ine what we can do though the canvas of digital technology."

Dr. Craig Aarhus, Delta Chapter President, adds, "I am so appreciative of Travis Coakley and Jamie Standland for taking the initiative on this project and visiting with the legends in our state. This project, upon completion, will create something that will be enjoyed by future generations of music educators for years to come."

This joint project will take approximately two years to



complete and once done will be stored on the Delta Chapter website for the next generation of music educators to enjoy and to learn from.

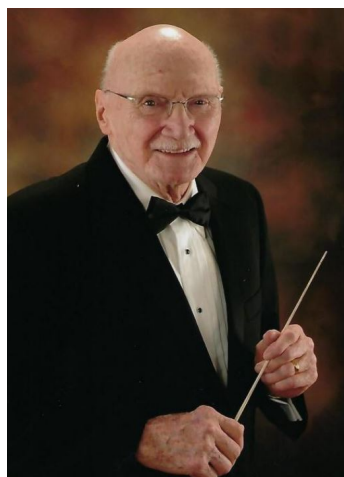


JOIN US ON FACEBOOK

Join and invite other PhiBetaMu Members to join the PhiBetaMu International Bandmasters Fraternity Facebook Group. This is a closed group, others can see who the members are and what PhiBetaMu is about. However, they will not see posts or any information that is located in the site. Our site can be found on Facebook using "title search" and type PhiBetaMu International Bandmasters Fraternity or type <https://www.facebook.com/groups/510173002454158/> into your browser.

IN MEMORY OF **BOYD McKEOWN** - PATRICK GALLAGHER (ZETA/GA)

Our Georgia Brothers and Sisters received the sad news informing us of the death of Brother Boyd McKeown.



Brother Boyd was the last surviving Charter Member of

Zeta Chapter.

The death of Boyd McKeown leaves a gap in music education and in GMEA that will never be filled. Boyd loved GMEA and was, in fact, a life member of almost 70 years. He served the association in many capacities, including state instrumental chair (before we had separate band and orchestra chairs), president (twice), executive director, and several terms as past presidents' representative on the executive committee. He taught band at Marietta High School, served as a school principal, and as music coordinator for Cobb County. He was respected by all who knew him as a col-

league, mentor, teacher, supervisor, and friend.

Here are just a few of the comments made by his colleagues:

This is a great loss to the Georgia Music Community. Once I received a superior from Boyd McKeown I finally felt validated as a band director - Don Roberts

Sad indeed. A great source of wisdom and compassion has passed from us, along with his enormous capacity to remember so many details of our history - Derik Clackum

Very sad that he has passed. No doubt we all hope to live such a full life - Mike Walsh

A great force in state instrumental Music Ed. He was a super colleague, Band Director, clinician, judge, GMEA official in various offices and helpful friend just to mention a few - Archie Sharretts

Boyd was a friend, mentor, teacher, colleague, and too many other things to mention to so many of us. Boyd loved GMEA and continued to serve us and to take an interest in it as long as he lived. On a personal note, I could never have learned to do my job as executive director without Boyd's guidance and support. I shall miss him more than words can express.

Kindest regards, Cecil Wilder

CBDNA NATIONAL ATHLETIC BAND SYMPOSIUM - ROBERT CESARIO

Picts from the CBDNA National Athletic Band Symposium at the University of Texas in Austin May 30-June 2, 2018.



International Vice President/President Elect, Elva Kaye Lance, in the middle of a group of attendees at the Opening Reception



Clifton Taylor, Craig Aarthus, Elva Kaye Lance, MS State; Christopher Nichter, Terren Frenz, U of Cincinnati; Kevin Kessler, South Dakota State; Corey Spurlin, Auburn U.



Brian Gibbs, Matthew McInturf, Alpha Chapter, Sam Houston State University; Rick Ghinelli, Alpha Chapter, Conn-Selmer.

AARON PERRINE COMMISSIONED – DARCY BRANDENBURG (ALPHA GAMMA/ND)



Darcy Brandenburg

Four years ago the Alpha Gamma Chapter of North Dakota made a goal to commission a composer for the North Dakota All-State Band. The chapter raised over five thousand dollars to make this dream a reality.

In 2017, when all funds were secured, a motion was passed to set the commission committee consisting of John Warren, Sigurd Johnson, and Darcy Brandenburg in motion to commission a composer for the 2018 North Dakota All-State Band. Since Dr. Emily Threinen was contracted as the 2018 conductor, the commission committee contacted her to gauge her interest in be-

ing part of the creative process of conducting a new work. Dr. Threinen was the perfect conductor to take this on, as an advocate of new works. She gave recommendations of composers that she would enjoy working alongside. Aaron Perrine was chosen as the composer to write this commission.

Aaron Perrine's music has been performed by some of the leading ensembles and soloists across the United States. He is a two-time winner of the American Bandmasters Association Sousa/Ostwald Award for his compositions - *Only Light* in 2015 and *Pale Blue on Deep* in 2013. *Only Light* will also be included on the latest University of Kansas Wind Ensemble Klavier recording, which was released in late 2016. His composition, *Temperance*, commissioned by Timothy Mahr, won the 2017 CBDNA Young Band Literature award. Additionally, *April*, another one of his compositions, was a finalist in the first Frank Ticheli Composition Contest and was included in the series, *Teaching Music through Performance in Band*. Aaron's music for band has also been featured at Midwest

Clinic, Western International Band Clinic, and at numerous all-state conference and honor band concerts. Mr. Perrine has received degrees from the University of Iowa, the University of Minnesota and the University of Minnesota, Morris. He is currently on the faculty of Cornell College.



Aaron Perrine

In addition to our composition project, Aaron Perrine visited our ND All-State Festival and worked alongside Dr. Threinen so that our North Dakota students got the full scope of the creative efforts and collaboration of a commissioning project. Phi Beta Mu Alpha Gamma chapter thanks Eckroth Music and JWPepper for helping sponsor Aaron's visit to North Dakota. Aaron

will spend some time at the JWPepper booth during the exclusive exhibit time to talk with students and educators.

Mr. Aaron Perrine wrote, *"When beginning a new piece, I'm actively searching for inspiration and direction. I often either find a connection to something in my life and/or something to the commissioning group. Lately, I've been pretty disheartened about the current state of our country. Knowing this would be a wonderful time to speak to some of the best and brightest students in the state of North Dakota, I wanted to remind them of their voice, opinions, dreams, impact on society, etc., and how much it all matters. Then, when I saw [a] New Year's post where you quoted Whitman's preface to his Leaves of Grass, I thought that quote very eloquently summed up many of my thoughts. Taken a phrase from this quote, the title of the piece is "In the Open Air, In the Silent Lines." I really appreciated Whitman's comparison of the very essence of a person to a "great poem." I hoped to challenge the students both musically and intellectually, and challenged them to one unified, powerful statement."*



2018 North Dakota All-State Band with guest conductor Dr. Emily Threinen and composer Aaron Perrine

PHIBETAMU POTPOURRI – MIKE TOWNSEND

Ok, here goes my first attempt at this section! I have borrowed from facebook, as well as received submissions. There is so much that our members are doing out there in the world and I expect you as I am interested in hearing about these members!

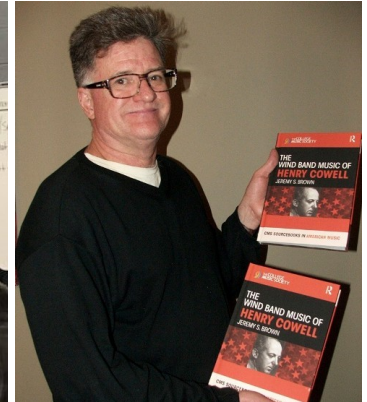
Please send me “stuff for this segment” AND when I have a page or more I will publish it! -- Mike



Five Members of the Lambda Iota Chapter in Ontario recently received the OBA Conducting Excellence Award. Congratulations to: David Lum, Jeff Wrigglesworth, Greg Colley, Mark Caswell.



Ken McFarlan and Catherine Lewis, members of Mu Chapter in Ohio, are pictured doing a Pre-Adjudicated Event Clinic at Bellevue HS. Catherine and Ken conducted in the neighborhood of 27 clinics with 18 bands in 12 different schools as well as some sectionals and lessons.



Jeremy Brown, member of MuAlpha in Alberta, is pictured with his newly published book. The Wind Band Music of Henry Cowell (Routledge Press, New York/London) is available from [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), the College Music Society, and other online sites. It is a hardback book with an e-book option.

