

ALPHA CHAPTER/PHI BETA MU

Honorary Bandmaster Fraternity

Hall of Fame Nomination Form

Name of nominator Waymon Bullock Date Submitted January 19, 1996

The information furnished on this form together with any attachments provided by the nominator(s), will be the principal items considered by the Board of Directors. Additional information may be solicited by the Board of Directors.

Name of person nominated Leonard Harris Buckner (903-657-3657)

Address (if living) 201 College Ave

Henderson TX 75653
City State Zip

Birth date of nominee Sept. 18, 1905 Death date (if applicable) _____

Place of birth Pine Hill, Texas

Give reasons why nominator feels the nominee is particularly outstanding in the band profession.

"The SCHOOL MUSICIAN staff takes great pride in presenting a true pioneer of Music Education, Mr. L. H. Buckner, who is truly helping to "Make America Musical." This statement concludes an article in the October, 1952 magazine "The SCHOOL MUSICIAN" honoring Mr. L.H. Buckner of Henderson, Texas as being one of the ten most outstanding Music Directors in the United States of America. The article and accompanying certificate bears the signature of the late Forrest L. McAllister of Joliet, Illinois. This honor is but one of many bestowed upon Mr. Buckner. Mr. Buckner served as State Band chairman and president of the Texas Music Educators Association in the early 1950s as well as serving as secretary of the Texas State Music Council. Mr. Buckner also has the distinction of being a charter member of Phi Beta Mu . Mr. Buckner was not only a well respected band director in East Texas but was widely called upon to adjudicate band contests in Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas.



Luncheon

Members of the Phi Beta Mu Alpha Chapter gathered for a luncheon Thursday in honor of L.H. Buckner, who was recently selected to the fraternity's Hall of Fame. Attending the luncheon were (left row, from front) Alto Tatum, Jimmy Blackwell, Waymon Bul-

lock, Ronnie Ferguson, Jim Hagood, Jerry Hale (right row, from front) L.H. Buckner, Paul Stroud, Wally Read, Neil Grant, Pete Kunkel, Toni Hale and David Harper. (Staff photo by Eddie Davis)

Mr. Backus,

It was so good to see you at the convention and hear from you since we returned home. I am going to publish your little "reflections" of the convention and dinner in the Southwestern Musician. Look for it in the April issue.

Now that you have come back, we will not let you off "the hook." We will expect you every year!

Again, good to hear from you; see you. Keep in touch.

Bob Hoyt

Congratulations
and
Best Wishes

Bert E. Woods, Jr.

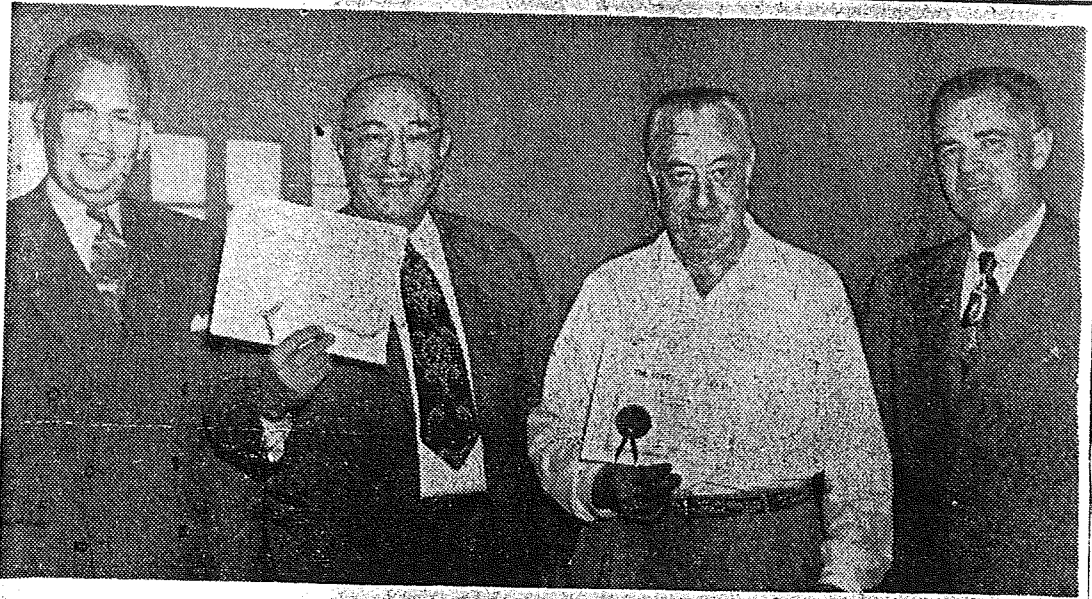
Buckner Paid High Tribute

Henderson's able High School band director, L. H. Buckner, to whom much of the credit is due for the band's many outstanding achievements this year, was selected State Band Chairman at the Texas Music Educators Association convention last week in Galveston.

Four members of the red and white uniformed Henderson band were selected to play in the All-State Red band at the convention last week. They were James Henry, Darrell Phillips, Jimmy Blackwell, and Billy Rhea Nelson. The Red band was composed of students from high schools with an enrollment of 499 or less and the Blue band, 500 and above. Mr. Buckner and the band members were housed in the Buccaneer Hotel during the convention and made the trip to and from Galveston in the high school station wagon.

Highlights of the Convention was the Grand Concert in the city auditorium Friday night at eight o'clock with Dr. Bain and Dr. Borchers conducting the choruses; Brooks Morris and Dr. Sorantin, directing the orchestra; and Mr. Bainum and Mr. Sawhill conducting the bands. Another convention feature was a concert by North Texas State Teachers College Band, directed by Maurice McAdow.

Other officers elected to serve with Mr. Buckner are Jack Mahan, president; G. L. Doll, San Antonio, orchestra chairman; and Euell Porter, Abilene, vocal chairman.



HONORARY TEXANS—Dr. Frank Simon of Cincinnati and Henry Fillmore of Miami received honorary Texas citizenship certificates at the convention of the Texas Music Educators Association in Mineral Wells, where they conducted two all-state bands Friday night. Left to right, Jack Mahan of Texarkana, retiring TMEA president; Simon, Fillmore and L. H. Buckner of Henderson, new TMEA president. —Stewart Weaver Photo.

Texas Music Educators End Session Today

MINERAL WELLS, Feb. 11 (Sp1).—Concerts by the McMurry College Indian Band and the a cappella chorus of Hardin-Simmons University Saturday morning and a business meeting in the afternoon were closing features of the Texas Music Educators Association convention here.

Nearly 4,000 people Friday night heard the convention climax, a concert, in which two all-state bands, an all-state chorus and an all-state orchestra performed.

The all-state bands, organized by Irving Dreibrodt and Don Hayes, were conducted by Dr. Frank Simon of Cincinnati and Henry Fillmore of Miami. Dr. N. de Rubertis, of the Kansas City civic orchestra, conducted the all-state orchestra, organized by Anton Bek, and Dr. John Finley Williamson of Princeton, N. J., was guest conductor of the all-state chorus, organized by Clyde Welford. The University of Texas Brass Quartet gave an interesting performance.

Honorary Texas citizenship certificates were presented Friday to Dr. Simon and Fillmore.

L. H. Buckner of Henderson was elected president of the TMEA, succeeding Jack H. Mahan of Texarkana; Robert Fielder of Abilene vice president and state band chairman; G. Lewis Doll of San Antonio vice president and state orchestra chairman, and Euell Porter of Abilene, president and state vocal

Henderson High School Band

Copy for music magazine

The Henderson High School band has enjoyed continual growth and progress under the direction of L.H. Buckner. One of the most outstanding musical units in East Texas, the band was one of two that rated first division in playing, marching and sight reading at the region four contest held in Longview last Spring. This was the first time in the history of the school the Henderson band had won this honor.

The band is a most outstanding civic organization and is a vital organ in the affairs of the school and community. For the past two years the Rusk County Chamber of Commerce has awarded a certificate of merit to the red and blue uniformed high school musicians. The band has represented the school and community in important affairs of other towns, and always wins the applause of the spectators at half-time performances at night football games.

Throughout the summer, the public has had the privilege of listening to weekly concerts played by the band in the new Lakeforest park.

The instrumental music program in Henderson consists of six separate units including H.S. band, Jr H. band, H.S. Orchestra, Jr. H. beginners and two Elementary groups. In addition to this director Buckner finds time to teach private lessons after school hours.

Much of the success of the entire music program goes to Supt. E.W. Adams and principals C.F. Duran and R.C. Lee. No school band could wish for finer cooperation from its school officials.

The band began work in September in its remodeled band room where new practice rooms, office and music rooms have been ~~added~~ added. More power to this fine outfit in 1948-49.

L. H. Buckner

Copy for Music Magazine

L.H. Buckner, director of the Henderson High School band has earned the privilege of looking back upon sixteen years of richly satisfying experience in training young high school musicians. Coming to his present post in 1944, he has made steady progress with the instrumental music program.

His principal interest is in the training of boys and girls and making the band fit into the school and community life.

Director Buckner received his B. S. degree from Stephen F. Austin college with a music major. He has done graduate work in the conservatory at Cincinnati Ohio and the music school of Northwestern U.

An active participant in local, district and state educational and musical organizations, Mr Buckner also finds himself frequently in demand as a band clinician and contest judge. At present he is chairman of region four of the Texas Music Educators Association.

L. H. BUCKNER
President TMEA
1950 - 1951

L. H. Buckner is one of the early pioneers of the instrumental music program in the public schools of Texas. He began his teaching career in 1927 at the small rural school of Laneville in East Texas. Here he organized a small band which met for practice after school hours and at night. At this time instrumental music was not a part of the school program in most East Texas schools.

With the discovery of the East Texas oil field in 1931 many of the East Texas schools began to organize instrumental music programs as a part of the regular school program. However, for several years the music program was considered to be extra-curricular and most of the teaching was done after school hours.



In 1934 Buckner moved to the oil field school of Carlisle in Rusk county. Here he organized a band and succeeded in making it a part of the regular school program. After spending ten successful years with the Carlisle band he moved to Henderson. Here he directed the instrumental music program for twelve years. His bands at Carlisle and Henderson won many top ratings in contests and festivals. Many of his former students have gone on to make High School and College directors.

His last few years in the public schools were spent as principal and assistant superintendent. After forty three years, he retired in 1971.

During his active years as a teacher his principle interest was in teaching boys and girls music and making the instrumental music program fit into the school and community.

The school music program offers the teacher an excellent opportunity to teach boys and girls

(continued on page 17)

EDITOR cont.

discipline, good study habits, high moral standards, and preparation for future life.

Buckner received his B.S. degree from Stephen F. Austin College. His graduate work was done at Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois and the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music at Cincinnati, Ohio.

During his music career he served as district chairman and state band chairman. He was then elected to president of the Texas Music Educators Association and now holds an honorary life membership in that organization. Other services include, secretary of the state music council, summer director of the Stephen F. Austin college band, member of the Kappa Kappa Psi, and Phi Beta Mu.

For several years he served as band judge and clinician in Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas. He was listed in the School Musician Magazine as Who's Who in 1952.

He has been retired now for twelve years but still enjoys keeping up with our music activities through our fine music magazine.

He and his wife Josie celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this past June. At age 78 he is still active in church and community affairs. He is presently serving as an active deacon in the First Baptist Church in Henderson and teaches an older men's Bible Class. He is still able to carry on with his two main hobbies - fishing and gardening.

His wish for the officers and members of TMEA is for continued progress and success.

Mr. Buckner was our President in 1950 - 51.

HENDERSON HIGH SCHOOL BAND

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L. H. BUCKNER
DIRECTOR

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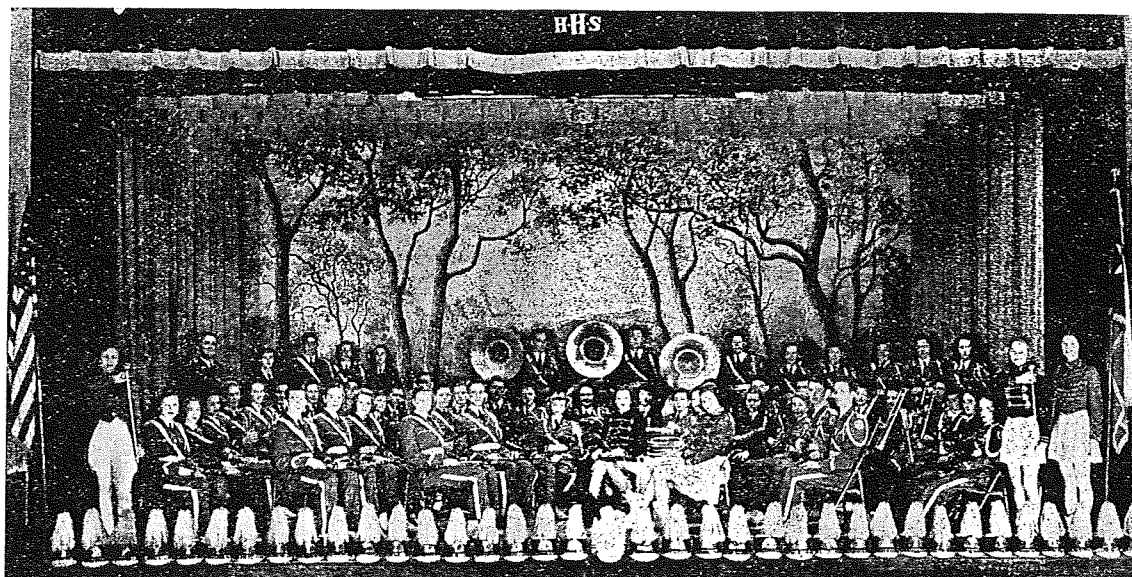
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Clinic / Convention
ACTIVE MEMBER



Feb. 15, 16, 17, 1996
San Antonio, TX

Texas Music Educators Association

L. H. BUCKNER
Henderson TX

San Antonio
The best time. Every time.

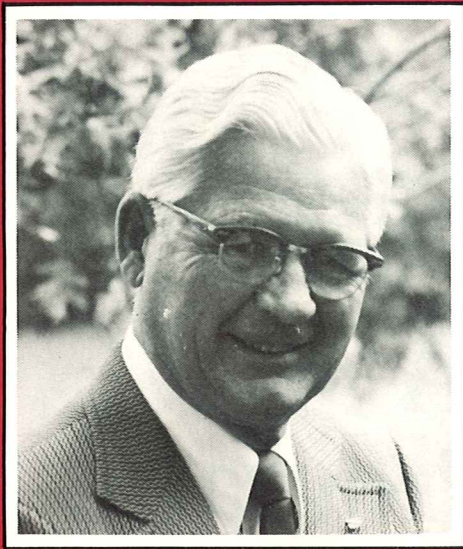
TMEA
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TMEA

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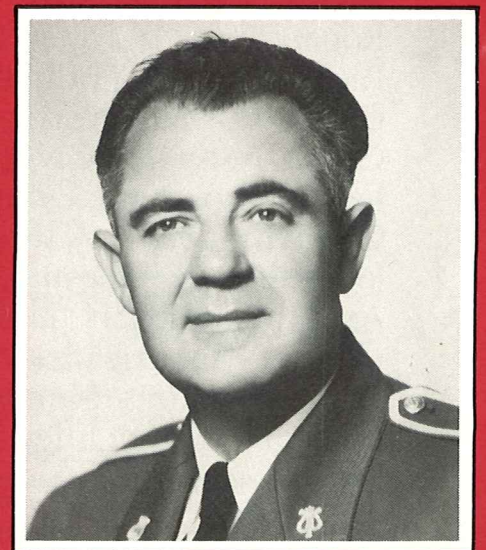
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Robert Maddox
President of TMEA
38 years ago



Jack Mahan
President of TMEA
35 years ago



L. H. Buckner
President of TMEA
34 years ago

***TMEA Salutes
Its Past Leadership***



PAST PRESIDENTS



**PICTURES
NOT AVAILABLE**

E. A. LIGHTFOOT
1925 - 1926

R. E. FRAZIER
1928 - 1930

PAUL JAMES
1930 - 1931



JAMES E. KING
Founder 1920 - 1923



DON HANNA
1995 - 1996



CONWAY KING
1923 - 1924



G. C. COLLUM
1926 - 1927



R. J. DUNN
1931 - 1932



EVERETT McCRACKEN
1932 - 1934



D. O. WILEY
1934 - 1936



LLOYD REITZ
1936 - 1938



WARD G. BRANDSTETTER
1938 - 1940



RUSSELL SHRADER
1940 - 1941



LYLE SKINNER
1941 - 1942



CHARLES ESKRIDGE
1942 - 1943



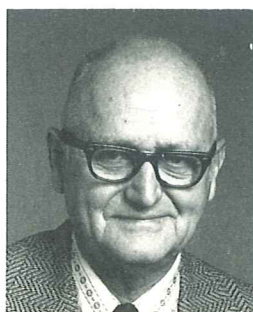
CARL COCHRAN
1943 - 1944



RAYMOND T. BYNUM
1944 - 1946



ROBERT MADDOX
1946 - 1947



WELDON COVINGTON
1947 - 1948



EUELL PORTER
1948 - 1949



JACK H. MAHAN
1949 - 1950



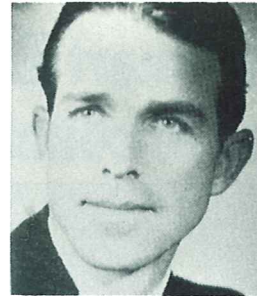
L. H. BUCKNER
1950 - 1951



ESTILL FOSTER
1951 - 1952



ED CANNAN
1952 - 1954



ROBERT FIELDER
1954 - 1955



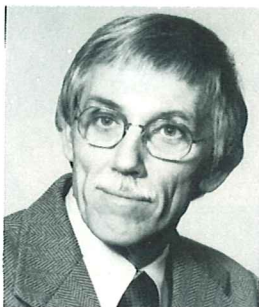
ED HATCHETT
1955 - 1957



NELSON PATRICK
1957 - 1958



PHIL BAKER
1958 - 1960



HERB TEAT
1960 - 1962



BRYCE TAYLOR
1962 - 1964



FRED JUNKIN
1964 - 1966



HARRY LANTZ
1966 - 1968



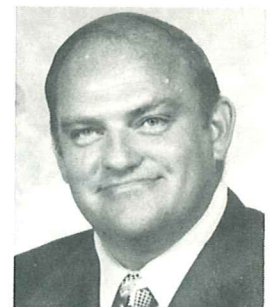
HUGH SANDERS
1968 - 1970



J. R. McENTYRE
1970 - 1972



J. W. KING
1972 - 1974



BILL R. CORMACK
1974 - 1975



JERROLD W. LONGWELL
1975 - 1976



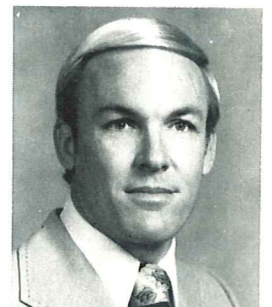
BARBARA F. EADS
1976 - 1977



JAMES A. MOORE
1977 - 1978



JOHN BRIDGES
1978 - 1979



HENRY SCHRAUB
1979 - 1980



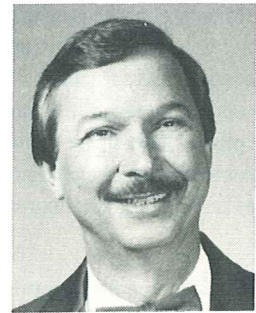
MILTON PULLEN
1980 - 1981



ROBERT FLOYD
1981 - 1982



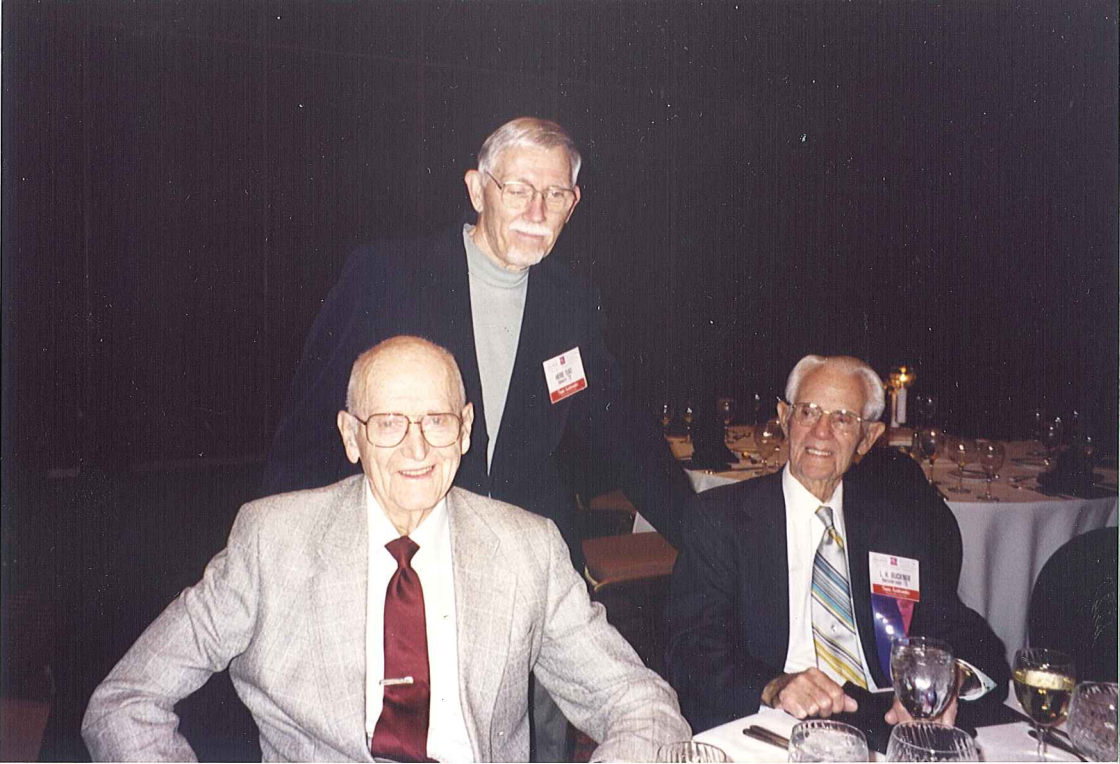
CHARLENE WATSON
1982 - 1983



BILL WOODS
1983-1984



SALLY SCHOTT
1984 - 1985



Name and dates of band organizations conducted by the nominee:

Laneville High School Band (3 years)	1927-1931
Minden High School Band (4 years)	1931-1935
Carlisle High School Band (10 years)	1935-1945
Henderson High School Band (12 years)	1943-1955
Henderson Jr. High School Principal (15 years)	1955-1970

Write a brief biographical history about the nominee.

Leonard Harris (L.H.) Buckner was born September 18, 1905 in Pine Hill Texas, a small farming community a few miles east of Henderson towards Carthage. His parents, James Andrew Buckner and Elizabeth Harris Buckner were a young farming/ranching couple in their early twenties. L.H. grew up and attended the Pine Hill schools for most of his public school education, but graduated from Henderson High School in 1926 .

That fall he enrolled in college at Stephen F. Austin State Teachers College in Nacogdoches. While there he attained a Bachelor of Science degree with double majors in Music and Geography, and achieved minors in both English and History . He continued his post graduate musical education by attending the Cincinnati Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati, Ohio and North Western University in Evanston, Illinois.

His first teaching job was in the small nine teacher school of Laneville, Texas where his teaching assignments included English, Arithmetic, Geography and History, as well as Music. After three years he took a position in the twelve teacher school of Minden where his teaching assignments included Arithmetic, History and Civics as well as Music. After teaching there for four years he applied for a position in the Carlisle School District where he was employed to start a band program. Carlisle High School, in the bustling oil field community of Price, had forty-two teachers on their school staff, and enough oil field money to finance a good band program. Carlisle, even today, boasts being one of the few schools in the State of Texas who still have active oil wells pumping on their campus.

After ten years of service at Carlisle, Mr. Buckner applied for the position of band director in Henderson, his old alma mater, and one of the larger 4A schools in East Texas. For two (war) years he taught a half day in both school districts. In 1945 he became full time in Henderson and there, he served the seasoned years of his professional career as Band Director, attaining the high office of President of T.M.E.A. in 1950-51 . His outstanding leadership both on and off the podium earned Mr. Bruckner strong support from the administration and total respect in the community. In 1955 he applied for and was awarded the position of Principal of Henderson Jr. High School. He served as principal until his retirement in 1970 concluding 43 years of service in Texas Public Schools. Mr. Buckner, now 90, still resides in Henderson.

A more detailed personal and professional biographical history is attached.

Yes ___ No ___ Will send later X

Can the nominator provide a photograph of the nominee?

Yes ___ No ___ Attached ___ Will send later X

Other persons who may be contacted in support of this nomination:

Name(s)	Phone	Address
Ronnie Ferguson	903-657-6820	P.O. Box 37 Henderson, TX 75653
Alto Tatum	903-758-3261	301 N. High St. Longview, TX 75601

ALPHA CHAPTER/PHI BETA MU

Honorary Bandmaster Fraternity

Biographical Data: Leonard Harris Buckner

Leonard Harris (L.H.) Buckner was born September 18, 1905 in Pine Hill, Texas, a small farming community fourteen miles east of Henderson toward Carthage. His parents, James Andrew Buckner and Elizabeth Harris Buckner were a young farming/ranching couple. L.H. grew up on the farm and attended the Pine Hill schools for most of his public school years.

It was there that Mr. Buckner began his musical education, not in regular band classes in school (for there were none) but in after-school and night meetings of 14 or 15 young students who wanted to learn how to play musical instruments. This class was taught by a local couple in the community who happened to be ex-circus musicians, Mr. and Mrs. Homer Duran. During their career, the Durans had acquired a few instruments, and those, along with others acquired by the students, were enough to teach the Pine Hill students. This small group would meet one or two times a week to receive instruction and play their instruments. L.H. started out playing the trumpet but later changed to trombone as his "main" instrument.

Mr. Buckner has a distinction not held by many people. He graduated from high school three times. The first was from the tenth grade, which was the highest grade taught at that time. That summer after graduation the principal, who also was the basketball coach, contacted L.H. and informed him that he had just received notice that Pine Hill schools would add the eleventh grade to the curriculum and invited L.H. to return to school, especially if he would play basketball again. L.H. did this and that spring graduated from high school again. But alas, that summer Texas Public Schools decided to extend public school education through the twelfth grade to schools who could qualify. Pine Hill did not qualify, so L.H. decided to attend Henderson High School in hopes of finally completing his high school career. Yes, L.H. graduated for the third time from Henderson High school in the spring of 1925.

That fall he enrolled in college at Stephen F. Austin State Teacher's College in Nacogdoches and played in J. T. Cox's first SFA band in 1925. While at Stephen F. Austin he earned a Bachelor of Science degree with double majors in Music and Geography, and achieved minors in both English and History. He continued his post graduate musical education by attending summer sessions at Cincinnati Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati, Ohio and North Western University in Evanston, Illinois studying with such notables as Karl King, Frank Simon and Percy Grainger.

His first teaching job was in the small nine teacher school of Laneville, Texas where his teaching assignments included English, Arithmetic, Geography and History. However, he started a band there which was not affiliated with the school meeting one night a week. The band was comprised of a few adults and students from Laneville, Cushing and the Douglas communities. After three years of teaching in Laneville, he took a position in the twelve teacher school of Minden where his teaching assignments included Arithmetic, History and Civics as well as Music. After teaching there for four years he applied for a position in the Carlisle school district where he was employed primarily to start a band program.

The Carlisle schools, in the bustling oil field community of Price, had forty-two teachers on their school staff and enough oil field money to finance a good band program. Carlisle, even today, boasts being one of the few schools in the state of Texas who still have active oil wells pumping on their campus. Mr. Buckner built that program and Carlisle prided itself as having one of the finest and largest small school bands in the East Texas area.

After ten years of service at Carlisle, Mr. Buckner applied for the position of band director in Henderson, his old alma mater, and one of the larger 4A schools in East Texas. He got the job, but had to teach for half a day in both school districts because for two war years, 1943 and 1944, no other director was available for the Carlisle district. Carlisle played their football games on Thursday nights and Henderson on Friday nights. With no assistants at all, he said this kept him quite busy!

In 1945, he became full time band director in Henderson and there served the seasoned years of his professional career. Mr. Buckner was not only a well respected band director in East Texas but was widely called upon to adjudicate band contests throughout the states of Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas. His outstanding leadership both on and off the podium earned Mr. Buckner strong support from the administration and total respect from his students and the community. Many of his former students followed his musical footsteps and became outstanding musicians and band directors.

An article in the October, 1952 issue of "The SCHOOL MUSICIAN" honoring Mr. L.H. Buckner of Henderson, Texas as being one of the ten most outstanding Music Directors in the United States of America stated:

"The SCHOOL MUSICIAN staff takes great pride in presenting a true pioneer of Music Education, Mr. L. H. Buckner, who is truly helping to "Make America Musical."

This statement concludes an article and accompanying certificate bearing the signature of the late Forrest L. McAllister of Joliet, Illinois.

This honor is but one of many bestowed upon Mr. Buckner. Mr. Buckner also served as Secretary of the Texas State Music Council, TMEA Band chairman, and in 1950-51, served as President of the Texas Music Educators Association. Mr. Buckner also has the distinction of being one of the founders and charter member of the Alpha Chapter of Phi Beta Mu .

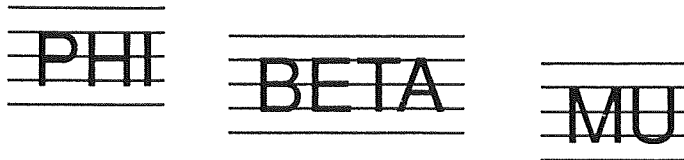
In later years Mr. Buckner continued to attend college from time to time in pursuit of a Texas Administrators Certificate. In 1955 Mr. Buckner applied for and was awarded the position of Principal of Henderson Jr. High School. He served the remaining fifteen years of his public school career there as principal, retiring in 1970, and concluding 43 years of service in Texas Public Schools.

So, Mr. Buckner, your journey from a small East Texas farming community, to office of the Presidency of the now largest music association of its kind in the world, TMEA, was quite an accomplishment. And it is for that accomplishment that we honor you today; that each of us can take your example and make out of our lives what we want it to be. You led the way and proved that it is possible...all we have to do is follow your example.

Mr. Buckner and his wife Josie B. (now deceased) had two children. Sara and her husband Ed York live in Austin and have three children and three grandchildren. Robert (Bob) and his wife Judy live in Plano and have three children and one grandson.

Mr. Buckner, now 90, still resides in Henderson.

Office of the
ALPHA CHAPTER
Secretary-Treasurer
P.O. BOX 1198
Temple, Texas 76503
(817) 939-5611



1 June 1996

Mr. Leonard Harris Buckner
210 College Avenue
Henderson, TX 75653

Dear Mr. Buckner:

It is with great pleasure that we notify you officially of your selection for entry into the Alpha Chapter, Phi Beta Mu Texas Bandmasters Hall of Fame. Induction ceremonies will be held during the Texas Bandmasters annual convention in San Antonio on Monday, 22 July 1996, in the Mezzanine Salons of the Marriott Riverwalk Hotel.

While family members and friends are most welcome, only two places of honor in the front row will be provided for you and a family member. All other family members are requested to sit in the audience and to come forward for the presentation.

Immediately, or as soon as possible, we must have an 8x10 bust/head photograph of you in color or black and white (color preferred). Phi Beta Mu will frame your photograph and attach an engraved name inscription to the frame for permanent display in the Hall of Fame which is housed in the office headquarters of Texas Music Educators Association in Austin. The photograph will also be displayed during the induction ceremony.

Please begin assembling personal memorabilia which will be placed in a permanent file in the Hall of Fame. Items which you should include are programs, newspaper clippings, awards, honors, personal letters, papers, compositions, articles you may have written, contest records, photographs of your bands and their activities, etc. If there are original items which you wish to retain, please photocopy for Hall of Fame files. In addition, you should prepare a cassette recording of at least three of your favorite band compositions as they were performed by your groups during your teaching career. Please bring all memorabilia with you to the Induction Ceremony.

A biographical sketch is being prepared by your sponsors, however, should there be any pertinent facts which you feel might not have been included, please convey these immediately to me. If you should have questions or concerns, please contact me or the Chairman of the Hall of Fame Committee, Mr. Ben Gollehon, at Post Office Box 670407, Houston, Texas 77267-0407, Telephone 713 875-1214/713 935-1013. Should you require housing in San Antonio during the convention, it will be necessary for you to contact Al Sturchio, Executive Secretary of TBA, at 210 599-7585, and request a hotel registration form.

Congratulations on your election to the Hall of Fame. We hope to see you in San Antonio on July 22nd.

Warm regards

Durward B. Howard
Secretary-Treasurer