

RODNEY A. KLETT



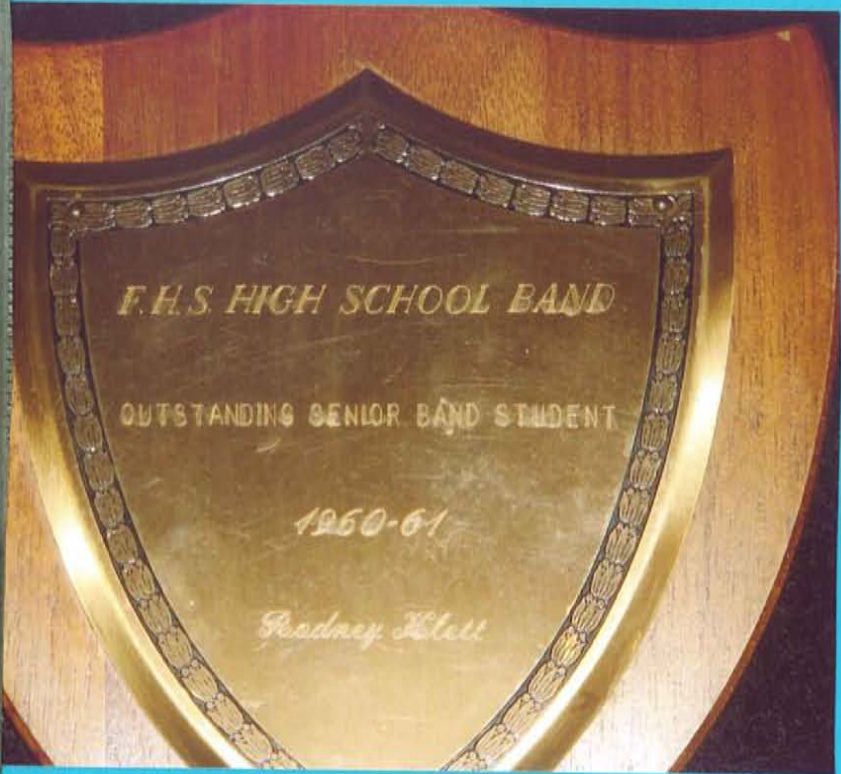
Just as there can

be no music without

learning; no education

is complete without

music.



Texas A&M University - Kingsville



Be It Known That

Rodney Albert Klett

having satisfactorily completed the Course of Study as prescribed by this Institution and having complied with all other requirements of the University is awarded the degree of

Bachelor of Music

In Witness Whereof, our signatures are hereto affixed this twenty-ninth day of May, nineteen hundred sixty-five.

Way B. Meacham
Chancellor

Mac Cruse
President

[Signature]
Dean of the College of Music

[Signature]
Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences





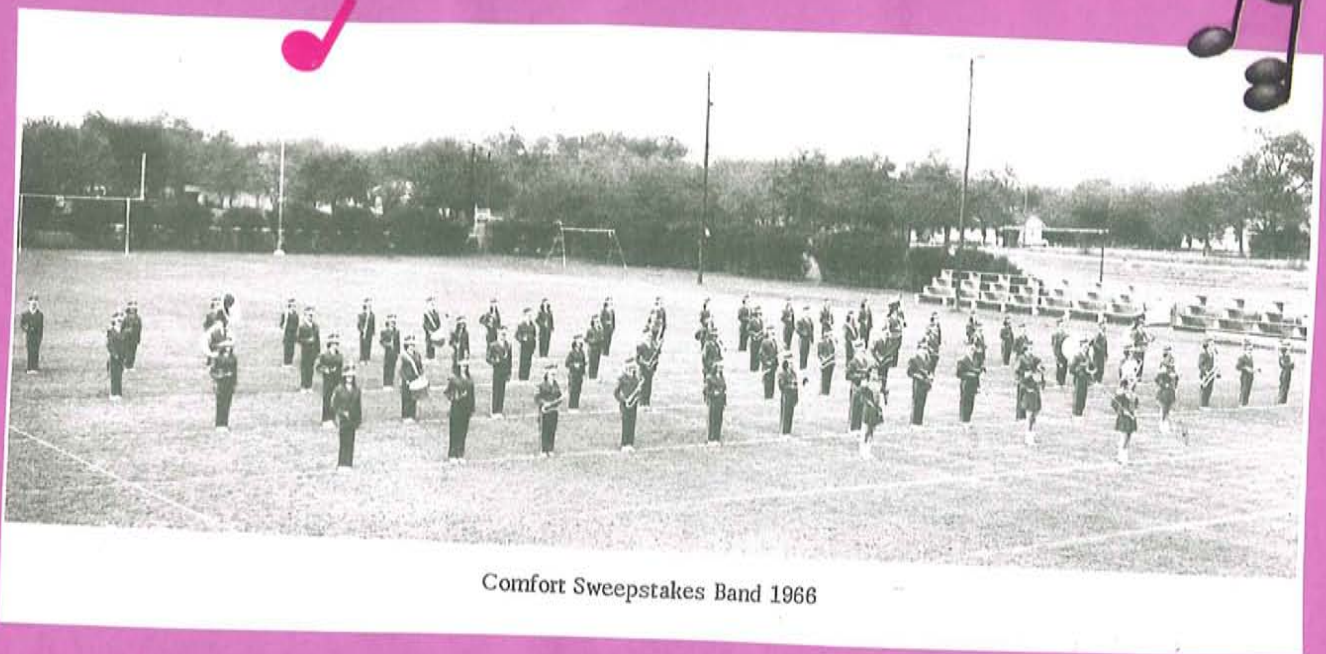
1965 - 1966
First teaching job – Comfort ISD

BAND 1966





Band Bus



Comfort Sweepstakes Band 1966



It's a 1st, Mr. Klett!



1966 - 2004

Next teaching job - Georgetown ISD

Many new faces on local faculty this Fall

8-18-66

Georgetown schools open on September 6th

Georgetown students will see many new faces behind teachers' desks this year.

New faculty personnel include:

RODNEY A. KLETT, band and choral director. From Fredericksburg; B. A. in Music from Texas A & I; formerly band director at Comfort, Texas where band was sweepstakes winner, married, no children.

LINDA C. MOSS, Junior High Language Arts and Social Studies. From Dodd City, Texas; B. A. from East Texas State College; married; 4 year old child.

ALYCE STRINGER, Junior High Science and Art. From Henderson, Texas; B. A. from S. F. Austin State College; married, no children.

LINDA GWATHMEY, High School English and Speech. From Brownwood; B. A. from Howard Payne College; married, no children.

CAROLYN SANSOM, High School Commercial. From San Antonio; B.B.A. from University of Texas; has taught

at Nixon Clay Business College; married, no children.

IWANDA BLESING, Junior High P.

E. From Georgetown; B.S. from Ilene Christian College; married, children.

CAROL ANN BREEDING, 50 From Houston; B.S. from Christian University; taught elementary school in Corpus Christi, Houston; not married.

DONALD LANE CHANDLER, assistant coach, Boys' P.E. and Science. From Lockhart; B.S. Southwest Texas State Teacher College; taught in Harlingen, Lockhart, married; 3 children.

DELMER FLOYD CREWS, commercial. From Granger, B. East Texas State College, 10 years in Granger, not married.

LINDA JOHNSON, French English; from Henrietta, B.

Turn to NEW FACES, Page



Allen Lee



Rodney A. Klett



Donald Lane Chandler



Iwanda Blesing



Alyce Stringer



Linda Brown Johnson



Sue Sandley



Peggy Talbot



Linda Gwathmey



Mary Nell Harrison



Delmer Floyd Crews



Carolyn

Eagle Band

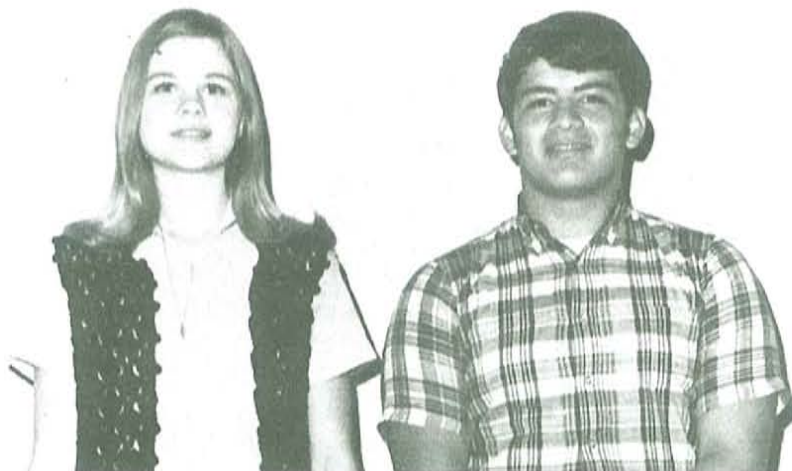
Band Jackets



All-State Symphonic Band

3rd Chair Alto Sax - Ed Aleman

4th Chair Flute - Ann Nelson





New Uniforms and Trophies

Band President Donald Flowers and Drum Major Jane Gardner model the new band uniforms which will make their first public appearance at the band concert in Alma Thomas Fine Arts Theater on March 16 at 7:30 p.m. They hold another uniform overlay to show the back of the uniform. Their tall "furry" hats are still in storage and were not available for the picture. Georgetown Band Boosters ordered the new uniforms and will sponsor their annual

turkey supper to help pay for them. Tickets may be bought at the door Monday, March 16, at the San Gabriel Community Center beginning at 5 p.m. Turkey and dressing with all the trimmings, including drink and dessert, will be sold for \$1.50 for adults and \$1 for children under 12.

Trophies in the picture are the newest ones the band has won to add to their rapidly growing collection. These came from the Brady Band Festival last Saturday.




Eagle Band '70 Did It Again

The Mighty EAGLE BAND did it again at Brady last Saturday coming back with a trophy. They won the concert contest in the class A division, of course receiving #1 ratings from all judges. Even though the high school band did not get a trophy for sight-reading, they still made another 1 rating.

Other Class AA bands competing in the Brady Band Festival included those from Clear Creek, Winters, Floydada, Coleman, Hamilton and Llano

Our hats go off to the Junior High Band because they came back with a trophy for both concert and sight-reading in the class C division. We are all very proud of them.

Many of the people in this town don't realize how hard our Band Boosters work for all bands and we just want to say a big THANK YOU for all that's put into this organization to help support our bands. One thing they are working on now is the Turkey Supper which will be on March 16, 1970 at the Community Center. You can buy a ticket from any band student and the price is \$1.00 for students under 12 and \$1.50 for age 12 and up. Let's all go and eat some FABULOUS food next Monday night! A concert will follow at the Alma Thomas Theater at Southwestern.




Eagle band is Super I '71

The Georgetown Eagle Band attended UIL Marching Contest last Tuesday and brought home a Super I!

A "Super I" means the band received a First Division from each of the 3 judges. There was only one other band at the contest who received all 3 First Division.

The Georgetown band is now eligible for Sweepstakes competition when it goes to Concert and Sight Reading Contests this spring.



Georgetown Again Has Sweepstakes Band



Shortly before 7 p.m. Tuesday a shout on the Southwestern University Campus rang out which could have been heard for miles!

The Georgetown High School Band did it again!

A SWEEPSTAKES Band — the only AA band in the region competition to earn the Sweepstakes honor!

They were proud. They were excited. But they were not surprised! They had worked hard, they knew their music, and under the direction of Rodney Klett they expected to score #1 in concert, #1 in sight reading — which, added to their #1 rating in marching last November made them a Sweepstakes Band.


They were not surprised — nobody except the director, and that was when he got home. His house was dark. Exhausted, he trudged up the front walk, opened the door, switched on the light, and a delighted squeal of "Surprise!" came from all the band members there for his surprise party!

A big sign "Congratulations, Rodney" was on the wall and "For he's a jolly good fellow" almost raised the roof before they devoured an unbelievable amount of sandwiches, chips and dips, cookies and soda water - prepared ahead by band members and stashed away at the Nelson's to be transported and served at

the Klett's by a couple of band mamas.

This climaxed a long day of helping the many bands coming to Southwestern for the U.I.L. competition, beginning at 8 a.m. and ending at 6:30 when the Georgetown band was the last to play.



The four judges' comments of the Georgetown band on the judging sheets: "Beautiful performance," "Excellent", "Congratulations to a fine band and a great director", "This group seems to get better every year; it shows a lot of hard work; your school and community should be proud of you," "This was a joy to hear — keep up the good work."



Jr. High Band Also No. 1

Georgetown Junior High School Band, the only junior high school band in the U.I.L. competition at Southwestern University Tuesday, competed with the Class B high school bands and scored #1 in both sight reading and in concert and received a Special Award.

High praises came from the judges for this young band predicting great things for them in high school as a result of their junior high school training.



Music Maker



Southwest Texas State University

San Marcos, Texas

Be it Known That

Rodney Albert Klett

having successfully completed the Course of Study as prescribed by the Faculty and Board of Regents and having complied with all other requirements of the University has been declared a

Master of Education

and is entitled to all rights and privileges appertaining to that degree. In testimony whereof, the Board of Regents, upon recommendation of the Faculty, has granted this Diploma, bearing the seal of the University.

Done this the fifteenth day of May Nineteen Hundred Seventy-six.



Bernard Johnson
PRESIDENT OF BOARD OF REGENTS



Lee Smith
PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY

First Chair Of America

AN HONOR RECOGNITION ORGANIZATION
ESTABLISHED NINETEEN HUNDRED FORTY

Greetings:

Know ye that in the name of "The First Chair Of America," by virtue of the authority vested in me by our constitution and by-laws and upon instruction of our executive committee, I have conferred and by these presents do confer the title of:

"Distinguished Bandmaster Of America"

to

RODNEY A. KLETT

In recognition of outstanding achievements in the advancement of the art of music through his work with American Youth in the High School Bands of America we highly commend his meritorious services to the development of high standards of performance by the school music organizations of the nation. This document warrants the respect of all musicians in whatever field and is a pledge to hold high forever the standards of excellency in performance as set by the late A. R. McAllister, eminent American Bandmaster and outstanding leader in the music education field of America.

To perpetuate the memory of his merits and in testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed The Emblem Of Excellency as is upheld by the ideals set as a standard by "The First Chair Of America" on this the First day of September in the year of our Lord Nineteen Hundred and Seventy-six.



Roy M. Martin

ROY M. MARTIN, CHAIRMAN
FIRST CHAIR OF AMERICA

MEMBERSHIP



CERTIFICATE

Phi Beta Mu

NATIONAL SCHOOL BANDMASTER FRATERNITY

HONORS

Rodney Klett
AS AN _____ MEMBER

AND IS ENTITLED TO ALL THE RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES THEREBY CONFERRED



Ralph Smith

PRESIDENT

Robert G. ...

SECRETARY

February 11, 1976

DATE

Musical Memories

Georgetown Band Named "Best in Class"

4-21, 22, + 23-77

Georgetown High School bands were named best in their class and they received superior ratings at the nationally recognized Buccaneer Band Festival in Corpus Christi last Friday and Saturday.

Fresh from capturing their tenth consecutive sweepstakes trophy in University Interscholastic League (UIL) regional competition by sweeping first division ratings in concert and sight reading contest to add to their first division in the November marching contest, the two Georgetown bands could do no wrong.

THE SYMPHONIC BAND (first band) was placed in a class with 11 AAA bands from Texas and one from Oklahoma. The Concert Band (second band) was in a class with six other bands.

Both bands were heard by three judges, one from Modesto College in California, one from Brigham Young University and the third from Ohio State University, who rated them according to national standards. The judges scored each band on a letter scale A through F on such qualities as tone, including beauty, blend, and control; intonation, including chords, melodic line and tutti; and technique, including articulation, facility, precision and rhythm. Other factors considered by the judges were balance (ensemble, sectional); interpre-

tation (expression, phrasing, style, tempo); musical effect (artistry, fluency); and other factors (choice of music, instrumentation, discipline and appearance).

Both GHS bands received "A's" in each category from all three judges, giving them an overall superior rating.

IN THE SYMPHONIC BAND classification Georgetown was joined by Uvalde and Westlake, who were also rated superior. The Georgetown Concert Band, however, was the only band in its class to receive superior standing. The GHS band was also named the best in the AAA class.

Last weekend's journey to the Buccaneer Festival was the first time the band had competed in this tough national contest. They have gone to the 6-Flags national competition three times, bringing home a first place on one of those trips and seconds the other two tries. The success of the two bands in the Corpus Christi contest might make this festival the goal for future groups of GHS musicians.

Next on the schedule for the GHS award winners will be a series of small concerts for the schools and the band parents. The group will also be making an honor band tape. This recording must be made at a live audience performance. It will be judged over the summer and the honor band will be named next fall.



LOOK AT THOSE TROPHIES — After the outstanding performances the GHS band turned in last week, they brought home several trophies and award plaques. Band officers, (front row left to right) Reporter Cindy Howry, secretary-treasurer Janie Mayfield, (back row left to right) vice-president James Rusk and president Steve Kemble, gathered their recent awards together for a photograph for the Sun.

Bravo!

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Bravo!

Neighbor

Austin American-Statesman

November 16, 1978

News of North Travis and Williamson counties published every Thursday

Georgetown band leader built winner

By CHRIS PETRISON
American-Statesman Staff

When Rodney Klett first came to Georgetown High School 12 years ago there wasn't much of a band program.

Twenty-seven students played in the band while Klett worked with a program budget of \$2,000. He was the sole band director who also had charge of the choir and taught Texas history.

That has all changed, says Klett. Today the band consists of 150 members and a budget of \$44,000. Three directors work with the band that has been an 11-year sweepstakes winner in University Interscholastic League (UIL) competition.

The change started the first year Klett took charge of Georgetown's music programs.

"Although the first year I started there were 26 band members, by the end there were 54. The following year the membership was up to 70 and it was a steady healthy growth from that point on," Klett recalls.

The band program was backed by students, parents and administration alike.

Klett was given a free hand to design the fine arts section of the new Georgetown High School. He made sure that besides a large band hall there would also be enough practice and ensemble rooms.

The enthusiasm for the band program has mounted and many of the students involved wouldn't want to do anything else.

Senior Jeanne Clifford is one. She says she joined the band the first year because her parents wanted her to be involved in music. She's stayed in, however, because it's been a challenge and a lot of fun.

According to Klett, every time the band



Staff Photo by Chris Petrison

Band Director Rodney Klett with Jeanne Clifford (left) and Jan Wakefield at practice

marches on the field for a half time show they are working towards competition standards.

"For every half time show it takes about 26 hours of practice — both on the instrument and in marching drills — by the students," Klett said.

He added that even before students learn the routine, band directors spend some 16 hours designing the drills, making sure that they fit the music.

Klett says that every year is different and that makes it a challenge for him.

Although Klett was always interested in music as a youth, he didn't know until he was senior in

high school that he wanted to make it a career. It was through the influence of his high school director Tom Rhodes (now director of the University of Texas band) that he chose his profession.

Klett spent his first year out of college as director of the Class A band in Comfort. He recalls that he spent many evenings that year with his old high school band director going over drills and routines.

"Rhodes helped me go in the right direction that first year. I got started right," Klett said.

The next year he took over the job as band director in Georgetown.

"TO PROMOTE THE MUSICAL AND EDUCATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE OF BANDS"

RODNEY A. KLETT

is a MEMBER of the

NATIONAL BAND ASSOCIATION

President

W. J. ...

Secretary

Alan ...

Date

November 28, 1979





GHS Bands take Festival honors ^{Apr. 199}

Georgetown band students swept up the honors at the National Invitational Buccaneer Music Festival and Contest in Corpus Christi last weekend.

National judges unanimously picked the Georgetown Symphonic Band as the most outstanding among the tough multi-state competition.

The Symphony Band also took first place in its class AAA division after receiving top scores by all three judges in a 10 point "national standard."

While bands performed for 20 minutes Friday afternoon, judges from the University of Mississippi, University of Arizona, and University of Wisconsin scrutinized students for attributes like tone, discipline, balance, appearance, techniques, and interpretation.

The Georgetown Concert Band also received the highest rating of all the bands in the Class AAA second group division.

Four buses left with the 140 GHS competitors for the Gulf Coast Thursday about 9 a.m. Although there was time for a swimming party Friday night, both bands spent most of their time prior to the Friday afternoon competition practicing in one vacant rehearsal hall after another.

Symphonic Band Director Rodney Klett recalls an incident that turned out to be a premonition for the three-day contest. While the Symphonic Band drilled through its two competition numbers, "Lincolnshire Posey" by Grainger and the "Free Lance March" by Sousa, in an empty Corpus Christi high school auditorium, a school photographer barged into the hall

and began snapping pictures.

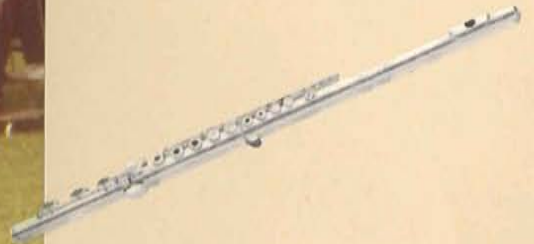
When Klett asked him why they were being photographed, the photographer responded, "You're Georgetown High School, aren't you? They said you were supposed to win this thing."

While the competition continued well into Saturday night, the Georgetown kids were finished by late Friday afternoon and spent Saturday romping on the beach without knowing how they had stacked up in the judges' eyes.

The bands climbed aboard the buses to go back to Georgetown about 6 p.m. Saturday while Klett and Concert Band Director Rey Meza stayed on to hear the results of the competition.

When they learned both bands had received tops in their division and that the Symphonic Band had received the "Most Outstanding" trophy for the festival, Klett called GISD Superintendent Jack Frost, who met the kids with the good news as the buses pulled into the high school parking lot.

"We cheered," band president Mike Collier explained. "We felt really good about it!"





Georgetown Band wins state

National music judges selected the Georgetown High School Symphonic Band the best Class AAA band in the state UIL Wind Ensemble Contest last weekend. The Wind Ensemble Contest, considered the culminating event of the year in first division band competition, was held Saturday in the music building on the University of Texas campus in Austin.

Ten first division schools from throughout the state participated in the last UIL match of the year. Judges from the Universities of Mississippi, Colorado and Indiana

compared the 61-member Georgetown band against three other highly-rated, first division AAA bands (Westlake, Clint High and Dobie).

They unanimously awarded the first place trophy to Georgetown for its renditions of Sousa's "Free Lance," Grainger's "Lincolnshire Posey" and an exclusive arrangement of the finale from Malcolm Arnold's "Symphony No. 2."

"THEY SELECTED US the best AAA band," said Ray Meza, who along with other high school band directors, Rodney Klett and Alex

Ybarra, participated in the weekend meet. "It was a major state contest," Meza explained. "The kids had a good day and the directors are extremely proud of the students for their hard work and their determination to keep up the winning tradition of the Georgetown schools. They wiped everyone else up!"

It's been a triumphant year for the Georgetown High bands. Several of the symphonic band's 26 graduating seniors, as well as others from both GHS bands, received honors from all-district through all-area TMEA (Texas Music Educator Association) competitions held throughout the fall.

BOTH GHS BANDS won firsts in the UIL District Marching contest held in Round Rock November 1. The bands took a second place at the Westlake Marching Festival later in the fall. Georgetown High School trumpeter Mike Collier earned first chair in the all-state symphonic band.

In April, both bands won all "first division" places in the UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest held in Taylor. The Georgetown Symphonic Band was selected the "Most Outstanding" in a national UIL band contest, the Buccaneer Festival, held in Corpus Christi in April.

This weekend's UIL state championship has confirmed the Symphonic Band's incredible status as a musical wonder which competitive high school bands through the state will remember for a long time to come.

"The administration is at a loss for words to express our gratitude to these students," Meza told the SUN



THE STATE OF TEXAS X
 X KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:
COUNTY OF WILLIAMSON X

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Georgetown High School Band under the leadership of Band Director Rodney Klett and Assistant Band Director Ray Meza has consistently, over the past decade, qualified for and achieved the distinction of being a State Sweepstakes band under Texas University Interscholastic League Rules and;

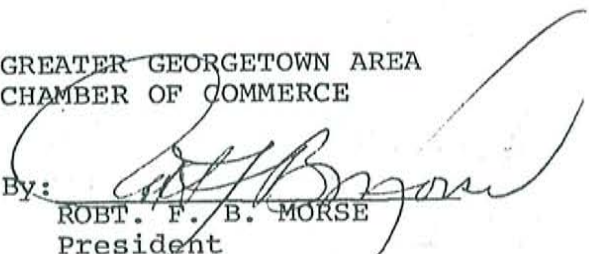
WHEREAS, the Georgetown High School Band and its individual members has been recognized throughout the State of Texas as having excellent quality in both musical ability and marching ability, and;

WHEREAS, the Georgetown High School Band has achieved the distinction of being named the Outstanding AAA Band by the University Interscholastic League and by the Texas Music Educators Association in 1979.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Board of Directors of the Greater Georgetown Area Chamber of Commerce do hereby congratulate the Georgetown High School Band, its Director, Rodney Klett and Assistant Director Ray Meza and honor them by placing this resolution on the minutes of the Chamber of Commerce and naming each band member and director as Ambassador of Good Will Extraordinary.

*Sept 14, 1979 read by "Skip" Morse
at half time with Round Rock*

GREATER GEORGETOWN AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

By: 
ROBT. F. B. MORSE
President

ATTEST:


Secretary



TEXAS MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION
LEADERSHIP AND ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

PRESENTED TO

Rodney Klett & Rey Meza

HONOR DIRECTORS
AAA HONOR BAND
GEORGETOWN HIGH SCHOOL

IN CONJUNCTION WITH
THE ANNUAL CLINIC

AT

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

1980

NATIONAL BAND ASSOCIATION

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NBA
TAKES GREAT PLEASURE IN AWARDING A

Citation of Excellence

TO

RODNEY A. KLETT

FOR AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO BANDS AND BAND MUSIC

Through professional leadership you have inspired and motivated excellence in musical performance. Your record of service to our profession is one of which you may be justifiably proud and it will serve as a model to others.



W. J. Juban
President, National Band Association

George S. Howard
Chairman, Citation Committee



FEBRUARY 15, 1980
Date

CLASS AAA

HONOR BAND RESULTS

1. GEORGETOWN - RODNEY KLETT
REY MEZA
2. MONAHANS - DAN GIBBS
3. UVALDE - RICHARD GIBBS
4. FALFURRIAS - CHARLES ARSU
5. HUNTSVILLE - RICHARD WDEM

B R A V O !



TEXAS MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION
LEADERSHIP AND ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

PRESENTED TO

Rodney Klett & Rey Meza

HONOR DIRECTORS
AAA HONOR BAND
GEORGETOWN HIGH SCHOOL

IN CONJUNCTION WITH
THE ANNUAL CLINIC
AT

SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS
1980



Honor Band Week

Georgetown Mayor John Saerfler, seated center, signed a proclamation designating January 29-February 4 as "Georgetown Band Appreciation Week" in honor of the State Class AAA Honor Band of Georgetown High School. The band has won "Silver Stakes Honors" 16 consecutive years. They will perform in the State Honor Band Concert at Ft. Worth Friday February 3, 1984 - Seated center - left to right are Mayor John Saerfler and GSD Supt. Jack Frost. Standing - left to right are Band Director Ray Meyer, Representatives Michelle Benziger and Elisha Klawitter, Sec. - Treas. Hank Pitters, 1st Vice Pres. Tom Catlin, Representatives Alan Buis and Kirstin Peterson, Pres. Patty Collier, 2nd Vice Pres. Loris Jann, and Band Director Rodney Klett.

APR 23 2008



1980
TMEA
Honor Band Cabinet
In the Rodney A. and
Mary Ann Klett
Center for the
Performing Arts
at
Georgetown
High School



APR 23 2008

Eagle Band prepares for state competition ^{'87}

The Georgetown High School marching band takes the field for the U.I.L. state competition preliminaries at 11 a.m. Monday at Burger Field in Austin.

The band received a rating of 1 at the district competition last week and, along with Del Valle, will move up to the state march-off. Preliminaries will be held to determine which five of the 23 teams will move into the finals Monday night.

THE GEORGETOWN BAND is scheduled to march between the bands from Fredericksburg High and Tivy High of Kerrville. Rodney Klett, the music director for the Georgetown contenders, said those two bands are probably the biggest threat to the Georgetown band in the contest.

"I feel like those two bands are going to be the most competition," Klett said. Fredericksburg marches at 10:45 a.m. and Tivy marches at 11:30. Klett said Georgetown band fans might want to stay to see those two bands and judge for themselves.

"We've changed a little bit of the show," Klett said, in preparation for

the state competition. Also, the band will travel to Baylor Friday following the pep rally to practice marching on astroturf.

The finals will be held at Memorial Stadium in Austin. Klett said the finals will begin at 6:15 p.m. Monday, but "if we make the top five, we won't march that early." Class A bands begin at 6:15 p.m., followed by Class AAA. Klett estimated the Class AAA marching should last until 7:30 p.m.

FOR FANS who plan to go to the finals if Georgetown makes it, Klett said, "If they get there at 7:30, they can see most of Class AAA and all of Class AA."

Klett said he hopes for a good turnout if Georgetown makes the finals. He said other schools nearby will probably send many spectators. "I know if Fredericksburg makes the finals, they're going to bring a bunch of people in buses."

Tickets for the competition are \$2 for students and \$3 for adults.

Band takes state championship again ^{Sun - Nov. 26, 1981}

For the second year in a row, the Georgetown High School marching band won the U.I.L. state competition Monday night, beating out 22 bands from across Texas.

The judges awarded Georgetown three scores of 98 and two of 97 in what Georgetown music director Rodney Klett called "extremely tough" competition. Fredericksburg was second, followed by Kerrville, De Soto and Falfurrias.

FREDERICKSBURG was excellent. They did an excellent show. I felt it could have gone either way," Klett said.

Klett said the band finished the preliminaries with an average score of about 93. "At the preliminaries, the band didn't perform up to what

they're capable of marching. I think it woke them up for the finals," Klett said.

Klett commented on the tough competition and trained bands, saying, "There's not any slouch bands in there." He added, "That's what's so gratifying about winning something like this."

The director said he told the band after the preliminaries that "when you get to the top five, you're all winners."

AND, HE SAID, becoming the champion after making the finals was "the icing on the cake."

The state competition has been held for three years now. Georgetown High School's band has won twice. The first year, the GHS band did not compete.



THE TALON

Volume 8, Issue 3

Georgetown, Texas 78626

Marching Band wins first place at



Photo by James Duffy

(above) Murray Peters plays for a flag raising ceremony on Veterans Day. (left) Band members relax (above) and march to victory (below).

Photo by Joel Thomas



GHS band sets record^{'82}

It's first Texas band to win three in a row!

By Barbara Barrier

It's a long, torturous road from summer band practice in August to the state marching band Class AAAA championship in November, but the Georgetown Eagle Marching Band traveled it again this year with style and verve.

For the third time in three years, the GHS band this week was judged the best marching band in the state — the first time a band has ever achieved such a feat in Texas.

Co-directors Rodney Klett and Rey Meza and associate director Laura Foltz talked Thursday about the victory trek. "It's a matter of evolution," said Klett. "We really started on the show at the Del Valle game October 29. We looked at the film, decided the show was too long and cut it 32 measures, made some other changes and changed up the drum feature.

"As we moved toward competition, we kept making more changes, some of them so slight that the audience never realized they were there, but the kids knew it. We didn't plan at first to use the spiral formation, but it looked so good that we decided to keep it.

"The show was set by the Belton game. After the game, I knew that if they marched as well at regionals as they had that night,

we'd probably go to state."

Klett's confidence was not misplaced. Regional competition was November 9 and Georgetown was chosen, along with Del Valle, to represent the district in the state marching contest held Tuesday.

Meza is the director who is responsible for planning the colorful show that unfolds on the field. He plots the moves of the 150 band members on graph paper. Where does he get his ideas?

"I listen to the music and try to visualize it," he said. "Certain music just calls up certain visions. For instance, we formed a heart when we marched to 'I Don't Know How to Love Him' from *Jesus Christ, Superstar*. Mahler writes grandiose, sonorous music. I could just see a gigantic arc. Our Titan music called for a huge T."

Georgetown faced some formidable competition at state. Not only was the always awesome Fredericksburg there, but such schools as Alamo Heights, Cleburne, Del Valle, Bay City, Calallen, New Braunfels, Tivy (Kerrville), Santa Fe (Alta Loma), Brownfield, DeSoto, King (Houston), Atlanta, Tuloso-Midway, Brewer, Donna, Brownwood, Bridge City, Lamesa, Athens, Mercedes, Borger, Allen Mineral Wells, (continued on page 16)



1982 Band marches to three in a row...

(continued from page 1)

Granbury and Gonzales were all there panting to snatch away the honor that Georgetown had copped for the past two straight years.

Is it scary to be the winningest band in Texas high school history?

"It's lonely at the top," said Meza. "We've known since summer that every other AAAA school was gunning for us and just dying to beat us out."

"But," said Klett, "the kids are equal to the challenge. They like the idea of working hard to win."

One would suppose that winning the championship for the third straight year would call for hours and hours of extra practice. Not so. "The other directors never believe us when we tell them how much we practice," said Klett. "We start our practice around August 15, marching in the early evening, after the heat of the day is past. Then, when school starts, we practice from 8 a.m. 'til 9:30 a.m. Monday through Friday. This year, we had only two extra evening rehearsals. They were November 1 and 8 and lasted an hour and a half."

Klett and Meza explained that the weather made a lot of difference. "If you have a lot of rain that interferes with your regular class time, extra rehearsals are necessary. A rainy spell caused the ones we had to call. But, the kids are so good during class. They pay attention and work hard, knowing that we won't call extra rehearsals unless they are absolutely required."

The score showed the scope of that success. Out of a possible 100 points, Georgetown scored 96.83. Arch rival Fredericksburg came in second with 95.17 points. Next was Santa Fe with 93, Mercedes with 92.67 and Gonzales with 91.67.

The judges came from far and wide. They included James Keene of the University of Arizona at Tuscon; Bill Woods of Hardin Simmons University in Abilene; Jim Copenhaver of the University of South Carolina in Columbia; Jerry Longwell, music supervisor of the Euless-Bedford Independent School District; and Bob Blanton of Texas Christian University in Fort Worth.

"We tell the kids," said Klett, "that we want them to perform up to our musical and marching standards. If they do that, and some other band beats them out, then that other band deserves to win. We just don't ever want them to beat themselves by a sloppy, below-standard performance."

As proud as the band members and the directors are of the precious trophy that came home with them again this year, a letter from the Del Valle band is almost as great a source of pride. It says:

"To the Georgetown Band directors and members: Congratulations on your first division and being chosen to represent Region XVIII in the State Marching Competition. We are proud to be in the same region with a band that sets such high musical standards. We wish you the best of luck defending your State Championship on Tuesday. Sincerely, Del Valle Cardinal Band." The letter is hand signed by all the Del Valle band members.

"To receive such recognition from your peers is sweet, indeed," said Klett.

Despite the band's delirious joy in their third straight victory, they are not resting on their laurels. "We've got lots of other things to think about," said Klett briskly.

The directors are especially proud of the band's accomplishments, considering the fact that it is composed of about 60 percent freshmen and sophomores and 40 percent juniors and seniors.

"That bodes well for the future," said Meza. "It's good to know that we have a young band that can perform so well. We hope that the band's reputation for excellence will filter down to still younger students and arouse in them the continuing desire to excel."

And what of that awful day when, perish the thought, the band doesn't win?

"I just hope we're long dead and gone if that day ever comes," said Meza.

face the Music

By: Caperton

SENATE PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, With a versatility and razzle-dazzle style all their own the Georgetown Eagle Marching Band snared their third straight class AAAA state marching band championship; and

WHEREAS, No one is more deserving of this coveted award than these talented young musicians who have made high school band history as they are the only band in Texas to have achieved this feat; and

WHEREAS, Starting with their early August practices through their November victory, this highly disciplined ensemble has uncomplainingly rehearsed for hours on end to produce such show-stoppers as the formation of a heart during their rendition of "I Don't Know How To Love Him" from Jesus Christ, Superstar; and

WHEREAS, Under the skilled supervision of codirectors Rodney Klett and Rey Meza and associate director Laura Foltz the Eagles band scored 96.83 out of a possible 100 points in their championship competition; and

WHEREAS, One of the most treasured accolades received by the marching band was the cordial note sent by the Del Valle marching band wishing the Eagles best of luck in the state competition; and

WHEREAS, The spirit and determination of the Eagles Marching Band has turned them into a first class musical group of whom all Georgetown residents can be proud; now, therefore, be it

PROCLAIMED, That the Senate of the State of Texas hereby congratulate the Georgetown Eagle high school marching band on their electrifying performance at the state band championship competition and wish them continued success in their musical endeavors; and, be it further

PROCLAIMED, That copies of this Proclamation be prepared for Georgetown High School and the Eagles Marching Band as an expression of high regard from the Texas Senate.



W. P. Hobby

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Proclamation was adopted.

Setty King

Secretary of the Senate

Band goes for fourth state win

By Linda Latham Welch

And the band goes marching on and on and on . . .

All 176 of the horn blowers, cymbal clangers and drummers in the Georgetown High School band have done it again. They're off to state competition Monday to try to become the only band, ever, in any class, to be state champs for the fourth year in a row.

At the University Interscholastic League Region Contest in Austin Tuesday night, the Eagle band was chosen as one of two top bands in the

12AAAA classification. The Westlake High School band was the other winner.

Next Monday's preliminaries begin in the morning at Tony Burger Center on South Lamar and Highway 290. The finals are set at an undetermined time that evening in Memorial Stadium on the University of Texas campus.

"We're nervous because we march first, at 9 a.m., and just hope the judges remember us all day long," Band Director Laura Foster said of the preliminaries.

The Georgetown band, with its four

routines that total eight minutes and 45 seconds, could be competing with as many as 42 other 12AAAA bands from across the state, Foster said.

In the preliminaries, points are awarded to each band, and the five bands with the most points go on to the finals.

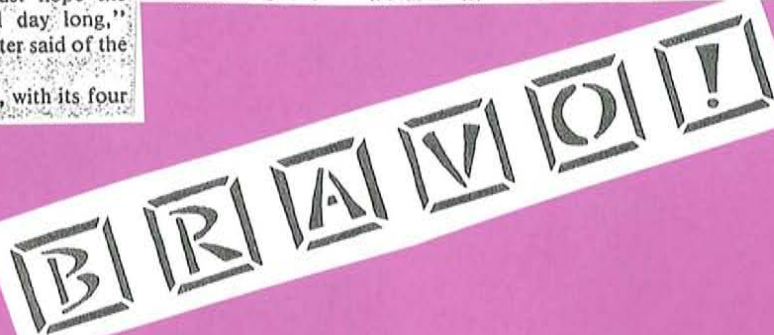
"After what we saw and heard yesterday, we feel we have a good chance to go to finals but we'll have to

march better than we ever have," Foster said.

If the Eagle band does reach the finals, listen to KGTV Radio station late Monday afternoon for the exact time they will perform.

And if the band accomplishes the unheard-of feat of being state champs for the fourth consecutive year?

"We'll get a trophy and lots of prestige," Foster said.



Georgetown High band first in AAAA meet

Georgetown High School stole the show at Memorial Stadium Monday night by taking first place in the AAAA division of the University Interscholastic League state marching band contest.

Georgetown beat out 30 other schools. Westlake High School did not reach the finals.

Fredericksburg High School took second place in the AAAA division. The other winners, third to fifth, were DeSoto High School, Taylor High School in Katy and Alamo Heights High School in San Antonio.

Henrietta High School took first place

among 22 schools in the AA division. The second place winner was Howe High School, followed by Clint High School, Dripping Springs High School and Asherton High School.

In the AA competition, Iraan High School emerged the first-place winner. Behind it came LBJ High School of Johnson City, Santa Anna High School, Rankin High School, Sundown High School and Nueces Canyon High School in Barksdale.

The competition continues today. The AAA competition will be at Memorial Stadium and the 5A competition will be at the Toney Burger Activity Center.

Nov. 15, 1983

Austin American Statesman

Way To Go Big Blue!

P.O. BOX 2910
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78769
512-475-2192



520 KAROLYN DR.
ROUND ROCK, TEXAS 78664
512-255-3386

Texas House of Representatives

NOEL GRISHAM
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
DISTRICT 52
WILLIAMSON & BURNET COUNTIES

May 30, 1983

Georgetown High School Band
1701 North Austin Avenue
Georgetown, Texas 78626

Dear Band Members,

Congratulations on winning your sixteenth consecutive Sweepstakes Award. This is truly something to be proud of. Enclosed you will find a certificate from the House of Representatives to commemorate this occasion.

I am interested in your opinions regarding issues facing the Texas House of Representatives. Please contact me if you have any comments or if I can be of any assistance.

Again, congratulations on your achievement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Noel Grisham".

Noel Grisham

NG/mrj

COMMITTEES:

PUBLIC EDUCATION
NATURAL RESOURCES

STAFF:

JIM LINDSEY, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
MARLA R. JOHNSON, OFFICE MANAGER
CATHERINE DIAL, LEGISLATIVE AIDE

Governor's Cup comes to G'town

2-5-84

Photographs by Curt Wilcott



Tuba player David Meyers puffs away.



Representative Noel Grisham presents the gleaming trophy to Pat Collier.

Band honor

Their cup runneth over . . . with lots of talent. It was with great pride the Georgetown High School band accepted the Governor's Cup Wednesday. See Whirligig, page 1.



Governor's Cup

1983

Photo/Kay Sammons

State Representative Noel Grisham presents the Governor's Cup to Georgetown High School Band president Pat Collier. Both the concert and symphonic bands played in the State Capitol Rotunda on Feb. 1. A resolution honoring the band was passed by the Texas House of Representatives. Friday the band traveled to Fort Worth to play at the Texas Music Educators' convention.



Governor's Cup

The Georgetown High School Band receives the Governor's Cup as the top band in the state.

Page 8

**THE
SUDLER FLAG
OF HONOR**

is awarded to

**GEORGETOWN HIGH SCHOOL BAND
Rodney A. Klett - Rey Meza, Directors
Georgetown, Texas**

**a national award recognizing
high school concert band programs
of very special merit**

**Sponsored by
Louis Sudler
Chicago, Illinois**



**Administered by
The John Philip Sousa
Foundation**

NATIONAL BAND ASSOCIATION

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NBA
TAKES GREAT PLEASURE IN AWARDING A

Citation of Excellence

TO

Rodney Klett

FOR AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO BANDS AND BAND MUSIC

Through professional leadership you have inspired and motivated excellence in musical performance. Your record of service to our profession is one of which you may be justifiably proud and it will serve as a model to others.



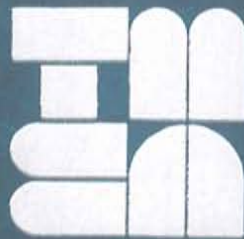
[Signature]
President, National Band Association



[Signature]
Chairman, Citation Committee

FEBRUARY 3, 1984

Date



TEXAS MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION
LEADERSHIP AND ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

PRESENTED TO

*Rodney Klett, Rey Meza
Richard Sullivan, Laura Foster*

HONOR DIRECTORS

AAAA HONOR BAND

GEORGETOWN HIGH SCHOOL

IN CONJUNCTION WITH

THE ANNUAL CLINIC

AT

FT. WORTH, TEXAS

1984

MEA
CLASS 4A
HONOR BAND

Georgetown H.S. Band
Rodney Klett, Dir.

The Colony Wind
Ensemble, Lewisville
Dick Clardy, Dir.

Dickinson H.S. Band
Don Owens, Dir.

Leander H.S. Band
Dennis Hopkins, Dir.

Tuloso-Midway H.S.
Band,
Mike Olson, Dir.



TEXAS MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION
LEADERSHIP AND ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

PRESENTED TO

Rodney Klett, Roy Meza
Richard Sullivan, Laura Foster
HONOR DIRECTORS

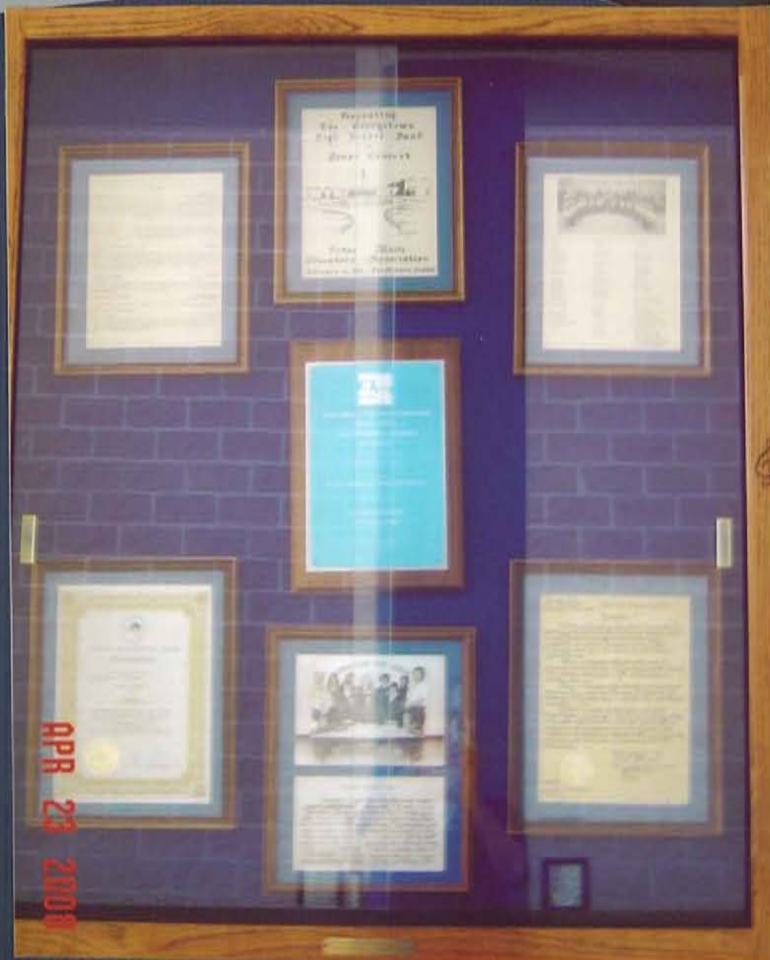
AAAA HONOR BAND
GEORGETOWN HIGH SCHOOL

IN CONJUNCTION WITH
THE ANNUAL CLINIC

AT

FT. WORTH, TEXAS
1984

1984
Honor Band
Cabinet in
Rodney A.
and Mary
Ann Klett
Center for
the
Performing
Arts at
Georgetown
High School



NATIONAL BAND ASSOCIATION

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NBA
TAKES GREAT PLEASURE IN AWARDING A

Citation of Excellence

TO

Rodney A. Klett

FOR AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO BANDS AND BAND MUSIC

Through professional leadership you have inspired and motivated excellence in musical performance. Your record of service to our profession is one of which you may be justifiably proud and it will serve as a model to others.



[Signature]
President, National Band Association

[Signature]
Chairman, Citation Committee



June 15, 1984

Date



Honor Band Day

Georgetown Mayor Bill Connor signed a proclamation designating January 28, 1992 as "Georgetown Band Day" in honor of the State Class A A A A Honor Band. The band has won "Sweepstakes Honors" 25 consecutive years. They will perform the State Honor Band Concert at San Antonio Friday, February 7, 1992 - Standing left to right are Band Director Rodney Klett, Associate Band Director Gary Foust, Representatives Melody Klett & Minda Helge, Vice Pres. Norma Hernandez, Sec. / Treas. Decey Buchhorn, Representatives Chris Beck & Jonathon Meyers, Pres. Jill Boles and Mayor Bill Connor.



CITY OF GEORGETOWN PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Georgetown High School Band has been recognized in 1990-91 and 1991-92 as one of the top five marching bands in Texas; and
 WHEREAS, the Georgetown High School Honor Band has been recognized by the Texas Music Educators Association as the best Class 4-A Band in the State of Texas for 1990-91; and
 WHEREAS, 160 Georgetown High School students are members of the Marching Band and 70 students are members of the Honor Band; and
 WHEREAS, Rodney Klett has been the Director of both of these bands for the last twenty-six years; and
 WHEREAS, the City of Georgetown wishes to acknowledge the continued contribution to excellence by Mr. Rodney Klett and the dedicated band students.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BILL CONNOR, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF GEORGETOWN, TEXAS, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, January 28, 1992, as

GEORGETOWN BAND DAY
in the City of Georgetown, Texas



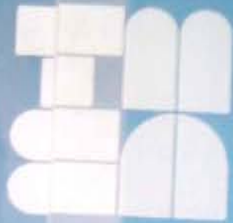
Bill Connor
Mayor
[Signature]
Attest: City Secretary

1992
TMEA
Honor Band Cabinet
In the Rodney A. and
Mary Ann Klett
Center for the
Performing Arts
at
Georgetown
High School






**1991 U.I.L. Texas
State Marching Band Contest**



**TEXAS MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION
HONOR AWARD
FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT
PRESENTED TO
GEORGETOWN HIGH SCHOOL
RODNEY A. KLETT
DIRECTOR
IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR SELECTION AS
CLASS AAAA HONOR BAND
IN CONJUNCTION WITH
THE ANNUAL CLINIC**

APR 23 2008



STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711

ANN W. RICHARDS
GOVERNOR

February 20, 1992

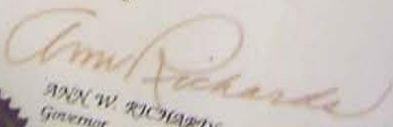
Greetings to:

The Georgetown High School Band


As Governor of Texas, it is a pleasure for me to congratulate you on your participation in the 1992 T.M.E.A. Convention in San Antonio. I know how hard you have all worked to achieve this level of success, and I am very proud of your commitment. Texas is blessed with many talented young people, and the Georgetown High School Band is a great example.

Congratulations, and all my best for the future!

Sincerely,



ANN W. RICHARDS
Governor



NATIONAL BAND ASSOCIATION

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NBA
TAKES GREAT PLEASURE IN AWARDING A

Citation of Excellence

TO

Rodney Klett

FOR AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO BANDS AND BAND MUSIC

Through professional leadership you have inspired and motivated excellence in musical performance. Your record of service to our profession is one of which you may be justifiably proud and it will serve as a model to others.



James Pratt
President, National Band Association

Chairman, Citation Committee



Date



TEXAS MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION
LEADERSHIP AND ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

PRESENTED TO

Rodney A. Klett

HONOR DIRECTOR

CLASS AAAA HONOR BAND

GEORGETOWN HIGH SCHOOL

IN CONJUNCTION WITH

THE ANNUAL CLINIC

AT

SAN ANTONIO

1992

October 14, 1992

Rodney Klett
Georgetown High School
1701 N. Austin Ave.
Georgetown, Texas 78626

Dear Mr. Klett:


The University Interscholastic League is pleased to present you with this certificate designating you as a nominee for the 1992 Denius-UIL Sponsor Excellence Award. Only one faculty member from each high school in Texas can be designated to receive this honor. Congratulations!

School administrators from across the state nominated teachers, directors and coaches such as yourself for this recognition. The accomplishments of each of these nominees clearly demonstrates the high level of dedication, care and achievement that you all share as exemplary sponsors of UIL events. We know that your students, peers, and administrators will take great pride in this achievement.

After an extensive screening process ten finalist have been selected. These finalist have been notified. Through the generosity of a grant from the Effie and Wofford Cain Foundation each of these 10 sponsors, directors and coaches will receive a distinctive obelisk and a \$1,000 cash award. I know that you will share in their happiness for being so honored. The award is named in honor of Frank W. Denius who has been recognized as one of the Ten Most Decorated Veterans in World War II and who has served his community unselfishly in civic, business, religious, governmental, charitable, and educational endeavors.

In closing let me thank you for your commitment to our UIL programs and the benefits they provide for the young people of Texas. Please know we are proud of you and applaud the high standards you hold for your students, school and community.

Sincerely,



Bailey Marshall
Director

enc.

UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE



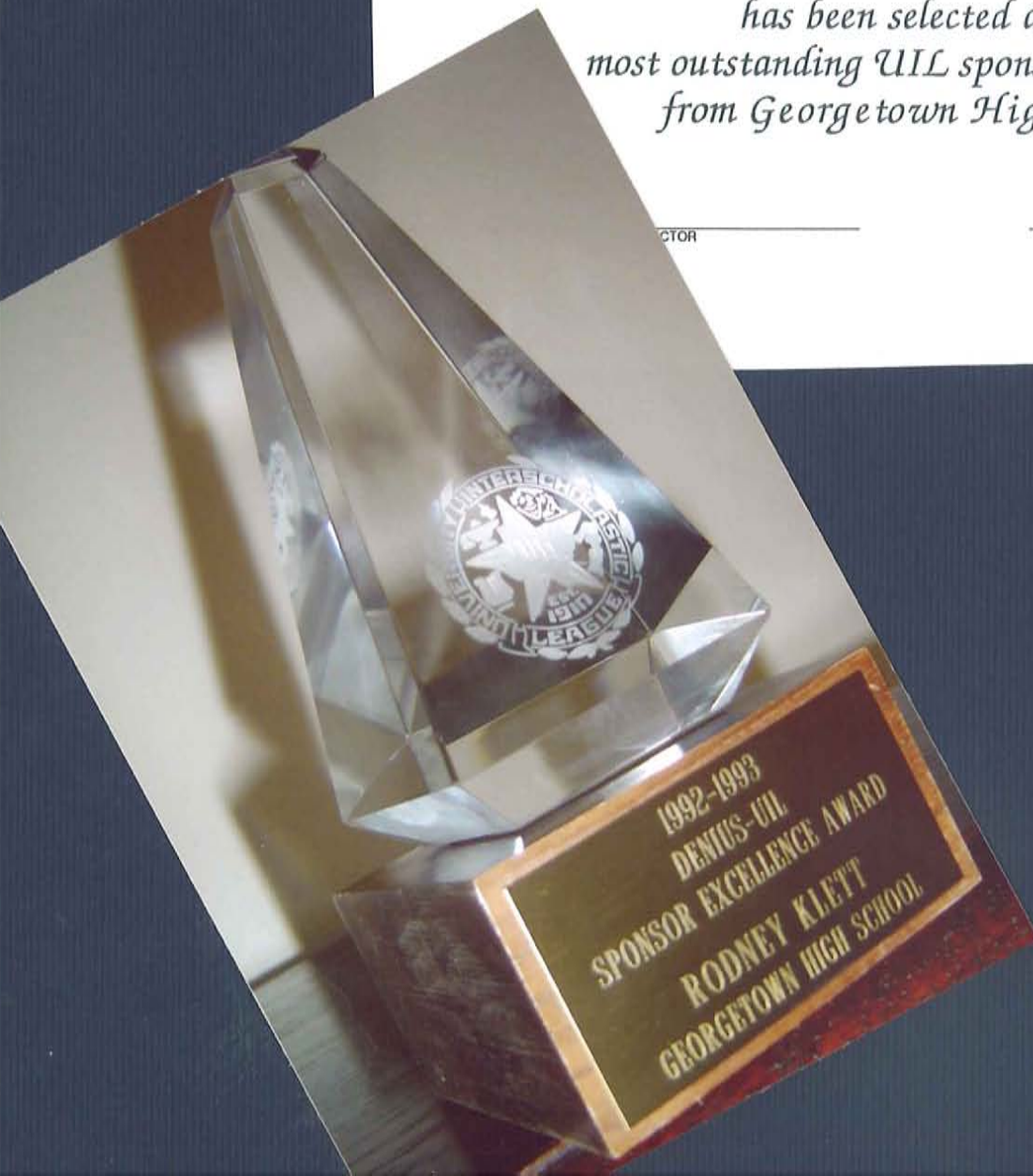
DENIUS - UIL
SPONSOR EXCELLENCE AWARD

Rodney Klett

*has been selected as the
most outstanding UIL sponsor for 1991-92
from Georgetown High School*

Bailey Marshall
DIRECTOR

DIRECTOR



Four GHS students make All-State Band

1/16/94

By J.B. Smith
Sun Staff Writer



Sun/Jeff Thompson

Tyler Turner, Sarah Kelly, Carisa Space and Anna Pennington are all-state band members from GHS.

After weeks of rigorous rehearsals and two competitions with the best high school euphonium players around, it took some minor heroics for Tyler Turner to make the top cut.

Turner was playing his second etude during the grueling auditions for All-State Band last weekend when the tuning slide began slipping, slowly dragging down the pitch as he played.

But Turner, 18, a Georgetown High School senior, persisted and made the state's top band, joined by GHS students Sarah Kelly, Anna Pennington and Carisa Space.

"I thought the slide was going to fall out, but it didn't,"

Continued on page 6

Bravo!

SECTION A, PAGE 6 SUNDAY SUN JANUARY 16, 1994



Sun Photos/Jeff Thompson

Area and area band participants from the Georgetown High School Band were (first row): Holly Carlson, Anita Reynosa, Jennifer Zavala,

Nora Horick, Ashley Crumpton; (second row) Michele Prellop, Tina Lee, Jeremy Bopp, Todd Snead, Ryan Eckert; (back row) Jerry Villarreal,

Nathan Atkinson, Chris Duncan, Collin Chichurka, Chris Johnson. Area schools included bands from throughout Central Texas.

True
talent

★ All-state

Continued from page 1

Turner said, explaining that he had to adjust the tuning with his mouth. "I had to lip the whole part up. I just kept lipping it up further and further until it was over."

Space, 16, a junior, had similar war stories of the tryouts.

Progressing through region, pre-area and area competitions, she competed against hundreds of other clarinetists, all of them playing the same prepared etudes for judges.

Space said she weathered stressful auditions along the way: once forgetting her mouthpiece, once finding that the ligature that clamps the reed onto her mouthpiece had been flattened by someone's foot.

"Being in an audition is pretty demanding — in between all the nerves and seeing all these other state players who are so good," she said.

Space and the other three students will travel to the Texas Music Educators Association conference in San Antonio in February, where they will rehearse with the best high school musicians in Texas.

A February 12 concert will feature the all-state orchestra, choir, jazz band and two wind ensembles. A final audition in February will determine which musical group the players will join.

"The kids had to go through three tryouts — that's why going through this process is such an achievement," GHS band director Rodney Klett said. "They should be very, very proud. This just shows their determination in everything they do. This sort of thing reflects in the classroom, too. They're all good

students."

Klett said the all-state tryouts are meant to determine the top 2 percent of high school musicians in Texas. Seven piccolos, 14 euphoniums, 14 oboes and 63 clarinets were chosen for the all-state music groups.

Pennington, 18, a senior oboe player, was the only all-state musician from GHS last year. She said the simple key to her success is practice.

"I don't practice the [contest] music all that much," she said. "I spend a lot of time working on lots of different styles and doing scales. That makes you prepared for whatever music comes your way."

Kelly, 16, a junior piccolo player, said there are certain advantages to having the most high-pitched instrument in the band.

"It's kind of fun," she said. "You get to be heard over everybody else."

Kelly said she hopes to keep playing piccolo after she graduates, although she has no plans to go professional. She said she's considering joining the Texas Tech University band.

Space is also thinking about going to Texas Tech and playing clarinet, perhaps to play professionally some day. Pennington, who plans to go to the University of Texas at Austin or Asbury College in Kentucky, also is thinking of a musical career.

Meanwhile, Turner said he probably won't become a professional musician.

"I really want to, but there's not a whole lot of need for euphonium players out there," he said. A euphonium is a brass instrument that is similar to a baritone.



All-district band members from Georgetown included (first row): Cory McCollough, Audrey Richter, Angela Guerry, Hannah Swinbank and Elizabeth Goodman; (second row) Heather Boyd, Rachell Pennington, Christi Landrum, Teresa Wegner, Mike Loranger; (back row) Christ Simek, Brian Bopp, Trevor Ross, Brandon Faught, Jason Wehling.



All-region band members were: (front row) Lesya Kirkpatrick, Megan Meyer, Miki Wilkins, Michelle Hancock, Jeffrey Meyer; (second row) Melissa Prellop, Catherine Warner, Brian Burgin, Joel Darble; (back row) Jesse Bryant, Ryan McElroy, Brian Russel, Jeromy Boucher, Randy Galliard.

GHS honor, symphonic bands take top honors at UIL event

By HOLLY ARCENEUX

The competition was tougher and a tradition of success was on the line recently when Georgetown High School bands entered the jungles of Class 5A competition.

And when the melodic dust had settled, two of the three bands took home their 28th sweepstakes from the University Interscholastic League contest in Austin.

The honor band and symphonic band got first divisions in sight reading and concert, capturing the sweepstakes. The concert band got second division in sight reading and concert.

Overall, about 160 Georgetown High School band students participated in the UIL meet April 25-26, GHS band director Rodney Klett said.

And wasn't long before the band members, who had played in Class 4A competition until last year, had to prove themselves again.

On April 27, they went to Galveston for the South Coast Music Festival, where the honors band won outstanding performance in the first 5A class, the concert band

got runner up in the open class and the symphonic band placed third in the 5A second group.

For the UIL competition, the bands prepared three selections and had to sight-read a musical selection. Two of their own selections also were used in Galveston.

With the competition in 5A expected to be stiffer than in past years, Klett said he and his students began preparing three months before the UIL meet.

"It takes the willingness of the students to make this commitment and be disciplined," Klett said. "You have to be able to make a commitment to do this."

Jennifer Zavala, an honor band flutist, said band members were nervous before the UIL meet.

"Our level of playing had to be higher. We had to make it a 5A level sound instead of 4A," said Zavala, a GHS senior.

Joyce Russell, band booster treasurer, attended the Galveston competition, where she said the bands sounded nothing less than Class 5A and played as if they were profes-

sional.

"It was amazing how they sounded," said Russell, who has been a band booster for six years and has two sons in the band. "They didn't sound like a high school band."

Russell said parents from competing high schools gave the GHS honor's band a standing ovation. The music even brought tears to some of the parents' eyes, she said.

Soaring with the Eagles

Academic Excellence Reception

May 14, 1994

Welcome by Master of Ceremonies.....	Troy Kimmel
Entertainment.....	GHS Jazz Ensemble
Speaker	Toody Byrd
Honor Student Awards	Dr. Jim Gunn, Superintendent
Teacher Honorees	Gary Crowell, GHS Principal
GHS Hall of Fame	Gary Crowell, GHS Principal
Reception	

Teacher Honorees

Paula Brock	Jeanne Jacob	Laura Sue Smith
Larry Connelly	Rodney Klett	Ron Roenjes
Michelle Copeland	Sean Litterst	Sylvia VanAntwerp
Sharon Duncan	Kerry Minzenmayer	LaTrelle Voss
Rae Ann Gerken	Joe Ramirez	Nancy Zenner
Patty Hagens	Debra Ray	
Tarryl Hyder	Carolyn Reed	

Mr. Klett,

Congratulations! Your dedication and talent has taken the Georgetown Music Program to the top. The students and parents alike thank you and thank your family for their 30 years of support.

Sincerely,
The Idier Family

Chris, Sandy, Russell & Pandy

He's the leader of the band that turns out life's winners

May 31, 1996

By LINDA LATHAM WELCH
American-Statesman Staff

GEORGETOWN — In an area of public education that is constantly attacked by budget-cutters, one man and his bands stand as a testament to the value of fine arts programs.

Some students who trained under Rodney Klett during his 30 years as the Georgetown High School head band director are now top music educators in Texas. Many play in symphonies. One former student is auditioning with a symphony in Germany.

Others, who may not have pursued musical careers, still carry with them the discipline, strong work ethic and music appreciation Klett instilled in them, parents say.

Many valedictorians and salutatorians have come out of his bands, said Joyce Russell, past president of the Georgetown Band Boosters.

Parents and students describe Klett as a teacher who really likes his students and "is just so into it."

Klett is hoping some of his former students will be in town Saturday to help celebrate his 30 years in Georgetown. Band boosters are inviting everyone to a 2-4 p.m. appreciation event at Christ Lutheran Church at 510 Luther Dr. in Georgetown.

Russell, also a school board member, said the gathering is "just

a way to say thank you to Rodney for all his hard work."

Russell, whose younger son is a senior in Klett's band and whose older son trained under Klett and is now a sophomore music major at Texas Tech, said Klett's secret is "his way with kids."

"And every year is a fresh, new year to him. He was already telling me yesterday how much he is looking forward to next year. I guess he never suffers from burnout," she said.

Georgetown High School has been recognized across the state as "that one with the great band." The dozens of trophies and plaques in the band hall attest to that.

In Klett's three decades, his bands have brought home the University Interscholastic League Band Sweepstakes Award 29 times. (His band didn't receive the honor in 1968 because he went to work in the U.S. Army Reserve as a cook and the band had an interim director for six months.)

To win a sweepstakes award, a band must earn superior ratings in marching, concert performance and sight-reading competitions.

The UIL judges also awarded Klett its highest honor, the Denius Award, in 1993 for having the most positive influence on students in preparing for the competitions. He was among 10 educators from across the state in all disciplines to receive the prestigious award,

said Richard Floyd, UIL state director of music.

"That's an elite circle of people," Floyd said. "Rodney's part of that upper crust of educators."

Floyd's brother Robert is the executive director of the Texas Music Educators Association, an 8,000-member public and private school music advocacy group.

That group has honored Klett three times with its highest honor, the Leadership and Achievement Award. Klett counts among his highlights the three years — 1980, '84 and '92 — his band was selected from bands across Texas as the association's honor band.

Said Klett: "I'm honored that we've received so many awards, but the rewards really come in watching these kids learn self-discipline, self-expression and gain confidence."

To Robert Floyd, Klett is what a music teacher should be.

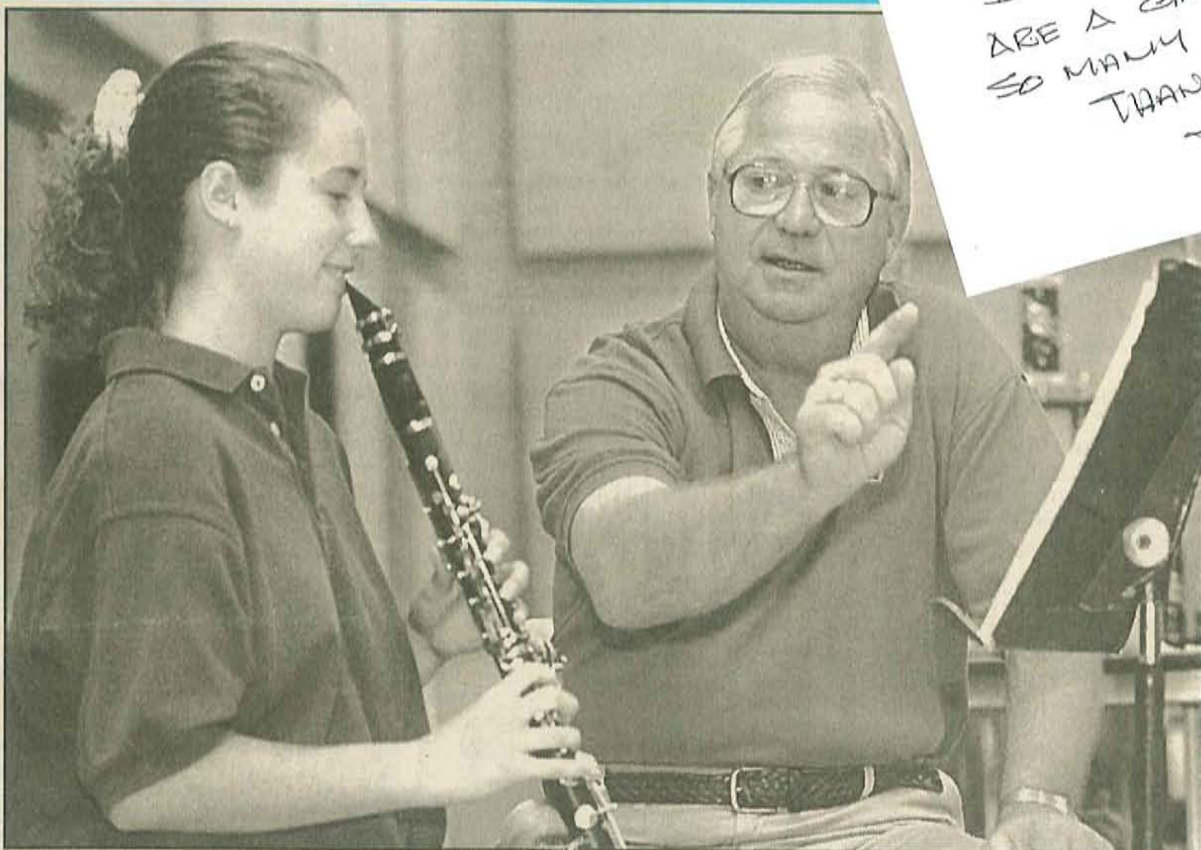
"Rodney simply epitomizes the consummate educator and musician. What I've most admired about his work is the Georgetown program has never been a flash-in-the-pan program, with ups and downs. I am in awe of his consistency and his commitment," Robert Floyd said.

Klett's band has won the UIL state marching contest six times. In 1983, the Georgetown band won the first-ever Governor's Cup at

- Rodney,
 Thank you from me for
 being a great example for
 all the young men and
 women at Georgetown High
 School. You have been a
 special person in our family
 Best wishes always.

Thank you for being Joann Meyer
 such a great director of High School.
 for my
 Al Ho Mer

I AGREE WITH JOANN YOU
 ARE A GREAT EXAMPLE FOR
 SO MANY OF OUR KIDS
 THANK YOU
 Denny Meyer



Lynne Dobson/AA-S

Clarinetist Amanda Allshause, a junior at Georgetown High, takes a lesson from veteran band director Rodney Klett.

In the past 30 years, Klett's bands have won 29 UIL sweepstakes awards.

the state marching contest.

His bands also have been named outstanding band at many National Band Association music festivals held throughout Texas, Louisiana, Tennessee and Colorado.

Klett remembers when he first started his job, "I had 26 kids. I talked some back into the program and got it up to 54 pretty quick."

He expects 190 students to be in the 1996-97 band.

Most parents respect Klett for his dedication. Others attack him for demanding so much of students who already have rigorous academic schedules.

Perhaps assistant band director Sharon Lee's description of her four years with Klett is the best.

"After I got my master's degree and my first job, I realized I didn't know as much as I thought I did. I quit and began looking for a mentor and got the names of the best. And here I am," she said.

"(Klett) teaches the students to communicate as if it were words. It's amazing how much he knows," Less said.



SPONSORED BY :

KILLEEN HIGH SCHOOL BAND BOOSTERS CLUB

**University Interscholastic League
Music Region XVIII**

Class AAAA and AAAAA

**MARCHING
CONTEST**

**Tuesday, October 15, 1996
Burger Center
Austin, Texas**

Judges

Keith Bearden, Lubbock
Ross Grant, Desoto
Van Ragsdale, Odessa

**UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
AREA D MARCHING CONTEST**

Class 3A and 5A Bands
Burger Center
Austin, Texas

October 26, 1996

3A JUDGES

Rodney Bennett..... Munday High School
Eddie Lyng..... Brewer High School Ft. Worth
Mike Marsh..... Heavens High School, OK
Ed Martinez..... Crowley ISD, Ft. Worth
Roger Winslow..... Retired, H.E.B. ISD

5A JUDGES

Kevin Arnott..... Boerne High School
Jim Childers..... Fredericksburg High School
Gary Doherty..... Brenham High School
Jon Locke..... Frenship High School, Lubbock
Fred Klaerner..... Gregory-Portland High School



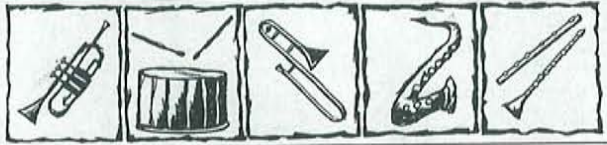


- Photos by Frank Miller

HOLIDAY TUNE TIME ON THE SQUARE

The holiday season got off with a musical bang Friday when the Georgetown High School band played a joyful round of holiday songs on the Square. Hundreds of people turned out to watch the musicians as they rolled through a number of Christmas tunes. **ABOVE:** Band director Rodney Klett leads his players through a holiday tune. **RIGHT:** Stephanie Olofson, 14, a GHS sophomore, plays her part during the band performance on the south lawn of the Williamson County Courthouse. On Saturday, thousands of people turned out to watch Christmas Stroll events around the Square, including a parade and lots of entertainment.





WESTLAKE MARCHING FESTIVAL 1998

FEATURING
32 BANDS
FROM
TEXAS

OCTOBER 10, 1998

CHAPARRAL STADIUM
WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL
AUSTIN, TEXAS

University Interscholastic League
Music Region XVIII

Class AAAA and AAAAA

MARCHING CONTEST

Tuesday, October 20, 1998
Burger Center
Austin, Texas

Judges

Harris Brinson, San Angelo
Scott Coulson, Mesquite
Fred Klaerner, Portland

UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE
AREA D MARCHING CONTEST
Class 3A and 5A Bands

Burger Center
Austin, Texas
October 24, 1998

MUSIC JUDGES - CLASS 3A

Lonnie Dooley Hawkins High School
Fred Klaerner Gregory-Portland High School
Larry Prather Azle High School

MARCHING JUDGES - CLASS 3A

Ronnie Mayfield Boswell High School
Mark Wessels De Soto High School

MUSIC JUDGES - CLASS 5A

Kevin Arnott Boerne High School
Rolando Molina King High School
Tom SoRelle Frenship High School

MARCHING JUDGES - CLASS 5A

Ken Ersch Fredericksburg High School
Duanne Minnick Heritage High School

Georgetown Independent School District

Center for the Performing Arts



*Dedication
and
Grand Opening*

May 17, 1999 - 5:30 p.m.

Welcome

DR. JIM GUNN, Superintendent
GEORGETOWN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

Address

BILL ROGERS, President
GEORGETOWN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Speaker

ROBERT FLOYD, Executive Secretary
TEXAS MUSIC EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION

Presenter

CHRIS AND SANDY HILL, President
GEORGETOWN BAND BOOSTERS

Special Performances

GEORGETOWN HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR

CONDUCTED BY: TRICIA DOUGLAS AND JOEY LOWRANCE
ACCOMPANIED BY: STACEY BRANDENBERGER

GEORGETOWN HIGH SCHOOL HONORS BAND

CONDUCTED BY: RODNEY A. KLETT

CENTER FOR THE
PERFORMING ARTS

Dedicated to

Rodney A. Klett

In Honor of His Years

of Dedication to the

Students of G.I.S.D.

and the

Pursuit of Excellence

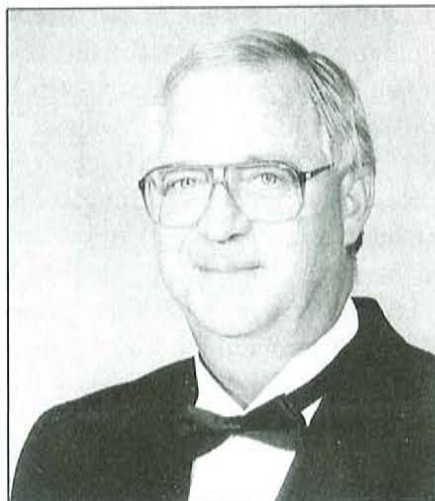


May 17, 1999

Meritorious Achievement Award

*The Board of Directors of the Texas Bandmasters Association
is proud to present the First Annual Meritorious Achievement Award
to*

Rodney Klett



Mr. Klett is in his thirty-sixth year as a Texas Band Director. He was band director for one year at Comfort, Texas and has been in Georgetown ever since. He was in the Fredericksburg High School Band under the direction of Tom C. Rhodes. He received the Bachelor of Music Degree at Texas A & I University, where he studied with Dr. Joseph Bellamah, and the Master of Music Education Degree at Southwest Texas State University, where he studied with James Sudduth. His memberships include the Texas Music Educators Association, Texas Bandmasters Association, National Band Association, Phi Beta Mu, Charter Member of Texas Music Adjudicators Association, Life Member of Texas

State Teachers Association and Georgetown Optimist Club. Mr. Klett is an active clinician, adjudicator, guest conductor, and on five occasions has been honored to receive the "Citation of Excellence" award from the National Band Association. In 1993, he received The Denlus-UIL Sponsor Excellence Award. He has served on the board of directors and as president of Phi Beta Mu, Alpha chapter. He has also served on numerous UIL state committees, and as T.M.E.A. Region Band Chairman for Region XVIII.

Under Mr. Klett's direction, the Georgetown Band has received thirty-three Sweepstakes awards, won the State Marching contest six times, on eight occasions has won the State Wind Ensemble Contest, has been awarded the Texas State Solo and Ensemble Sweepstakes award on six occasions and in 1993 was honored by receiving the first Governor's Cup at the State Marching Contest. In addition, the band has been named the outstanding band at numerous National Music Festivals throughout Texas, Louisiana, Tennessee, Florida, and Colorado. In 1984, the band performed for the National Bandmasters Association's National Convention in Knoxville, Tennessee in both marching and concert (the only band to ever be asked to perform in both). The Georgetown Band has on five occasions placed in the top five T.M.E.A. Honor Band tapes and, on three occasions has been selected the State AAAA Honor Band. In May of 1999, the Georgetown Independent School District dedicated the new 1200 seat Center for the Performing Arts to Mr. Klett. Under Mr. Klett's portrait reads;

Dedicated to Rodney A. Klett

In Honor of His Years of Dedication to the Students of G.I.S.D.
and the Pursuit of Excellence

May 17, 1999

Congressman Ron Paul
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

□ District Political Office:
837 West Plantation Dr.
Clute, TX 77531
(409) 265-1996

□ Capitol Political Office:
P.O. Box 3372
Falls Church, VA 22043

November 17, 2000

Mr. Rodney Klett
603 Lakeway Drive
Georgetown, Texas 78626

Dear Mr. Klett:

As Congressman of District 14 in Texas, I wish to congratulate you for receiving a Lifetime Meritorious Achievement Award from the Texas Bandmasters Association. What a great accomplishment!

It is truly a pleasure to represent outstanding individuals like you in the 14th Congressional District, and I look forward to meeting you someday.

Please do not hesitate to contact my office if I may be of service to you.

Sincerely,



Ron Paul

U.I.L. Region XVIII
**Concert &
Sight Reading
Contest**

April 30 – May 2, 2001

Round Rock Performing Arts Center

10:30 a.m. Georgetown High School ... Rodney Klett / Jason Schayot
Esprit de Corps - Jager
Postcard - Tichell
Les Preludes - Liszt / Hindsley

Gerald & Cheryl Babbitt, Executive Secretaries – Region XVIII

Executive Committee

- Dr. Jim Gunn, Chairman, Superintendent – Georgetown I.S.D.
- Dr. Tom Gaul, Superintendent – Round Rock I.S.D.
- Mr. Michael Hinojosa, Superintendent – Hays C.I.S.D.
- Mr. Erwin A. Sladek, Jr. Superintendent – La Grange I.S.D.
- Dr. John Walch, Superintendent – Bastrop I.S.D.
- Mr. Wayne Wise, Superintendent – Weimar I.S.D.

Brian A. Britt, Contest Chairman – McNeil High School

<u>5A BAND CONCERT & SIGHTREADING PANELS</u>	
<u>VARSITY CONCERT</u>	<u>SIGHTREADING</u>
Bob Bryant	Billy Harrell
Dick Clardy	Blane Hinton
Henry Schraub	Mike Olson



Never ask anyone to do anything you wouldn't do!



Rodney Klett retires after 38 years

by Sarah Wagers

It has been 38 years since Rodney Klett first began working as the Georgetown high school band director.

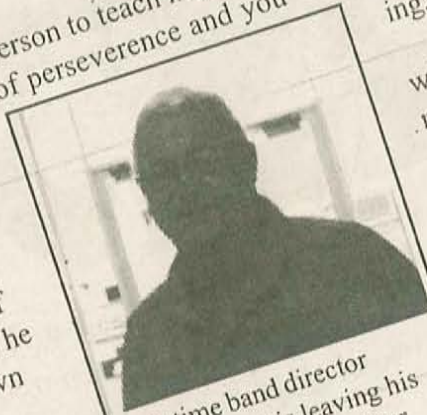
He has influenced many students in the past 38 years, and has been one of the most loyal employees of GISD. According to Klett, he chose to teach Georgetown students because, "The people were sincere, and I liked how the community supported the band program." He has remained in

Georgetown for so long for the same reasons.

"It takes a special person to teach music, a lot of perseverance and you

have to teach continuously. Having students that are willing to make commitment, that's what's so rewarding about teaching and directing."

The students are what Mr. Klett will miss most, once his retirement is official. He has decided to help out with the band program after leaving GHS. "I've got to be around students," said Klett. After almost 40 years, GHS won't be the same.



Longtime band director Rodney Klett is leaving his position after almost four decades. Phillip Drake

School Newspaper

Nov. 5, 2003

Goodbye, Mr. Klett

He hasn't left yet, but Friday was the last home football game at which the Georgetown High School Band marched under the direction of Rodney Klett. Mr. Klett has been head band director at the high school for some 35 years, and in May he announced he would retire at the end of this school year. In honor of Mr. Klett, the band spelled out "Klett" on the football field Friday night. During Mr. Klett's tenure, the Georgetown band earned many top honors across the state for its marching and concert performances.

Sun/Mark Ashley



GEORGETOWN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

JIM GUNN, Ph.D., Superintendent
603 Lakeway Drive, Georgetown, TX 78628 512/943-5000 FAX 512/943-5002

DAVID McLAUGHLIN,
Assistant Superintendent of Finance

LINDA SIMONSON,
Assistant Superintendent of Instruction

DAVE O'NEILL, Ph.D.,
Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources

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STEPHANIE BLANCK, Special Education
RALPH CAMPOS, Federal Programs
SHARON HESSER, Gifted and Talented
LINDA HOLMSTROM, Career & Technology
RODNEY KLETT, Music
LARRY MOORE, Athletics
TRACI SMITH, Technology

February 25, 2004

Dear Faculty and Staff:

Congratulations to Rodney and MaryAnn Klett! The GISD Board of Trustees officially approved the renaming of the GISD Performing Arts Center to the Rodney and MaryAnn Klett Performing Arts Center. This is a great tribute to the outstanding careers that both Rodney and MaryAnn have had in GISD. They will both be missed. We wish them both a long and enjoyable retirement.

The meeting date for the regular Board meeting in March has been changed to Monday, March 22nd, because March 15th falls during Spring Break which is March 15th - 19th.

The GISD Board of Trustees approved Scott and White and Blue Cross/Blue Shield as our health insurance carriers for the 2004-2005 school year. Some of the rates from the Blue Cross/Blue Shield bid are actually less than we currently have from Humana so we are very pleased with the outcome. David McLaughlin, Assistant Superintendent of Finance, will be sending out additional information regarding health and dental insurance. I want to thank everyone who served on the GISD Insurance Committee. They did a great job.

Employees who have health insurance through GISD will see an increase in their April paychecks due to a one-time change in the timing of the payment of premiums for health insurance. David McLaughlin will also be providing additional information regarding this.

On the back of this newsletter is the official 2004-2005 school calendar.

Thank you for the great year we have had thus far.

Sincerely,


Jim Gunn
Superintendent



Today's Learners, Tomorrow's Leaders



Please join us as we celebrate 38 years
of dedication to the Georgetown music program by
Rodney Klett

at the
Rodney & Mary Ann Klett
Center for the Performing Arts

Saturday, May 8th, 2004 at 6:30 p.m.

Reception to follow in the
Georgetown High School Band Halls

In lieu of gifts, donations will be
Accepted to the Klett Scholarship Fund

Mr Klett -

CONGRATULATIONS!

I was very pleased to
hear about your award.
If anyone deserves it -
you do. Band is probably
my most favored memory
of high school!
Much love to you & family -
Ranel Stephenson Capron

Distinguished Alumni



RODNEY A. KLETT, CLASS OF 1965

Klett retired three years ago after serving 39 as a Texas band director and music coordinator, all but one of those years at Georgetown High School. Under his direction, the Georgetown band received 36 sweepstakes awards, won the state marching contest six times and won the state wind ensemble contest eight times. He has recently been notified he was selected to receive the prestigious Bandmaster of the Year award for 2007 from the Texas Bandmaster's Association. In 2004, Georgetown Independent School District named their 2,000-seat performing arts center, the Rodney A. and Mary Ann Klett Center for the Performing Arts. Klett earned his bachelor's degree in music from Texas A&I University and his master's degree in education from Southwest Texas State University.



HECTOR FARIAS JR., CLASS OF 1961

Farias is the chairman of the board of Farias & Farias Inc., an international trading company in Laredo that provides customs clearance, freight forwarding, warehousing and distribution. He is well known in the international trade community having served several terms as president of the Laredo United States Customhouse Brokers Association and is currently president of the Texas Mexico Border International Trade Association. In 2005, Farias & Farias Inc. was honored by Baylor University's Institute for Family Business. They were the first business in South Texas to receive this honor. Farias earned a bachelor's degree in English and a master's degree in education, speech from Texas A&I University. He also earned a doctoral degree in medical education from Northwestern University.

Rising Star



MARCY MARTINEZ, CLASS OF 2000

Martinez is the one of the most high profile alumna of A&M-Kingsville in the Rio Grande Valley. She is currently morning and noon news anchor for KGBT-TV in Harlingen. She also acts as education reporter, which includes producing education reports and training six high school students to report monthly packages. She has been chosen Best TV Personality by the *Valley Morning Star's* Reader's Choice Awards four of the last six years and A&M-Kingsville's communication and theatre arts department named her Alumna of the Year in 2003. She earned her bachelor's degree in communications with a minor in government. She was Miss TAMUK in 1998. Martinez follows in the footsteps of her father, who graduated from Texas A&I and her two older sisters, who received degrees from A&M-Kingsville.



Texas A&M University-Kingsville
And
The Javelina Alumni Association
Herewith designate

Rodney A. Klett
Distinguished Alumnus

*In recognition of distinguished
Professional achievement,
Meritorious service to the alma mater,
And
Support of Alumni Affairs.*

Given at Kingsville, Texas
This
21st day of October, 2006

Cynthia Olvera
Alumni President

Rumaldo Z. Juarez
President
Texas A&M University-Kingsville



Javelina Alumni
ASSOCIATION



TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY
KINGSVILLE

"To recognize and nurture the rich, proud heritage of Texas A&M University-Kingsville"

The Kingsville Record

Alumni

education from Northwestern University.

He has been involved in his hometown of Laredo in various capacities for four decades. Farias has been in the forefront of the Laredo citizen's watchdog organization VIDA (Voices in Democratic Action) since it was founded in 1966. A Marine Corp veteran, Farias oversees the daily operations of his firm, which has offices in Laredo, Brownsville, San Antonio and Houston.

Klett retired three years ago after serving 39 as a Texas band director and music coordinator, all but one of those years at Georgetown High.

Under his direction, the Georgetown band received 36 sweepstakes awards, won the state marching contest six times and won the state wind ensemble contest eight times.

Klett earned his bachelor's degree in music from Texas A&I University and his master's degree in education from Southwest Texas State University.

Martinez is the one of the most high profile alumnae of A&M-Kingsville in the Rio Grande Valley. She is currently morning and noon news anchor for KGBT-TV in Harlingen. She also acts as education reporter, which includes producing education reports and training six high school students to report monthly packages. In addition, she co-hosts the MDA telethon.

She has been chosen Best TV

Personality by in the Valley Morning Star's Reader's Choice Awards four of the last six years and A&M-Kingsville's communication and theatre arts department named her Alumna of the Year in 2003.

She served as a judge for the Miss Texas Teen USA pageant in 2005.

She earned her bachelor's degree in communications with a minor in

government. She has been featured in university television commercials and has been judge and mistress of ceremonies for the Miss TAMUK Pageant several times. She is a former Miss TAMUK. Martinez follows in the footsteps of her father, a graduate of Texas A&I and her two older sisters, graduates of from A&M-Kingsville.

The Williamson County Sun, October 25, 2006

Klett honored as Distinguished Alum

By MARY BETH PINNELL

Rodney Klett, who directed musicians at Georgetown High School for almost four decades, received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from Texas A&M University-Kingsville last weekend.

Mr. Klett served as GHS band director for 38 years before retiring three years ago.

In 2004, the school district named its 2,000-seat performing arts center after him and his wife Mary Ann, who worked as the center's events coordinator.

He is the first educator to receive the Alumnus Award, an achievement he hopes will encourage more recognition for teachers.

Mr. Klett also learned recently that he will receive the 2007 Bandmaster of the Year Award, the highest honor bestowed by the Texas Bandmaster's Association.

When Mr. Klett arrived in Georgetown in the mid-1960s, he was the high school's only music teacher, and the band program had just 26 students. By the time he retired, GHS had 180 students in three bands, as well as an orchestra and several choirs.

Early in his career, he also taught Texas history and physical education, worked with homebound students and drove bus routes.

"There were so many great things that happened there — and



File Photo

Mary Ann and Rodney Klett in the performing arts center at Georgetown High School that bears their names.

the reason is that I had so many great kids to work with and the community was behind me," said Mr. Klett.

Under his direction, the Eagle band received 36 sweepstakes awards, won the state marching contest six times and won the state wind ensemble contest eight times.

In 1984, Mr. Klett's marching and concert bands played at the National Bandmasters Association's National Convention — the first time two bands from the same school had been asked to perform.

His students also earned the international Sudler Flag of Honor and were three-time winners of the

state's 4A Honor Band designation, among other honors.

Mr. Klett himself received the City of Georgetown's 1996 dedication of "Rodney Klett Week" and, in 2000, the Texas Bandmasters Association Lifetime Meritorious Achievement Award.

For their retirement, the Kletts moved to McKinney to spend time with their grandchildren.

But Mr. Klett's dedication to music education hasn't faltered, as he spends several days each week working with high school and middle school band students. He also travels the state as a competition judge and band consultant.

TBA Bandmaster of the Year 2007

Rodney A. Klett

Rodney A. Klett is in his third year of retirement after thirty-nine years as a Texas band director/music coordinator.

Mr. Klett was born in Fredericksburg where he was in the school band under the direction of Tom C. Rhodes. Mr. Klett earned a Bachelor of Music degree from Texas A&M University-Kingsville in 1965, where he studied with Dr. Joseph Bellamah. In 1976, he finished a Master of Music education degree from Texas State University, where he studied with James Sudduth.

After graduating from TAMU-Kingsville, he taught in Comfort, Texas for one year. In the summer of 1966, Mary Ann and Rodney were married and then moved to Georgetown where he remained until retirement—except for his years of military duty. In the fall of 1968, Mr. Klett was called to active duty and served three years with an Army Reserve unit in San Antonio and three years with the Texas National Guard Band in Austin.

Under Mr. Klett's direction, the Comfort and Georgetown bands compiled 37 Sweepstakes awards. The Georgetown band won the UIL State Marching contest six times, UIL State Wind Ensemble Contest eight times, Texas State Solo and Ensemble Sweepstakes award six times, placed in the top seven in the TMEA Honor Band competition six times and was selected the State AAAA Honor Band three times. In 1983, the band was honored by receiving the first Governor's Cup at

the State Marching Contest and the prestigious Sudler Flag of Honor, an international award recognizing high school bands for outstanding musical excellence.

Over the years, the Georgetown band was named outstanding band at numerous national music festivals through Texas, Louisiana, Tennessee, Florida and Colorado. In 1984, the band was invited to the National Band Association's convention in Knoxville, Tennessee for marching and concert

performances. It was the first band ever asked to perform both.

All of Mr. Klett's Honor Band performances were special, but the 1992 performance will always be unforgettable because his daughter Melody, a senior that year, was a member of that band.

Mr. Klett is indebted to the many individuals who gave their time and dedication to the Georgetown music program. The years of success are due to the love and support of his wife Mary Ann, his daughter Melody Ann, the outstanding school administrators (especially Superintendent Jack Frost), the Georgetown community, band parents, band students and associate directors. Mr. Klett would like to recognize in particular Reynaldo Meza, Jr. According

to Mr. Klett, the two men "most definitely complemented each other in developing the Georgetown band program." Others who were instrumental include Richard Sullivan (Perry MS Carrollton-Farmers Branch) and Dr. Michael Schaff (Associated Professor of Music

Education at the Crane School of Music).

Rodney Klett's personal achievements include being a five-time recipient of the National Band Association's "Citation of Excellence", the Denius-UIL Sponsor Excellence Award in 1993 and the TBA

Lifetime Meritorious Achievement Award in 2000. In 1986 the city of Georgetown named May 26-June 1 "Rodney A. Klett Week" and in 2003, the Georgetown ISD named the new 1200-seat performing arts center at Georgetown High School in honor of him and his wife Mary Ann.

On September 12, 2006 Mr. Klett received a phone call telling him that he had been selected as a "Distinguished Alumnus" of Texas A&M University-Kingsville. Later that afternoon, a letter arrived informing him that he was chosen as the TBA Bandmaster of the Year for 2007. As you can imagine, September 12 will always be a special day in Mr. Klett's life!

(continued)



TBA Bandmaster of the Year 2007

Mr. Klett's professional memberships include TBA, TMEA, NBA, Phi Beta Mu, Texas Music Adjudicators Association (charter member) and a Life Member of Texas State Teachers Association. He has served on the board of directors and as president of Phi Beta Mu, Alpha Chapter; on numerous UIL state committees; and as TMEA Region Band Chairman for Region XVIII.

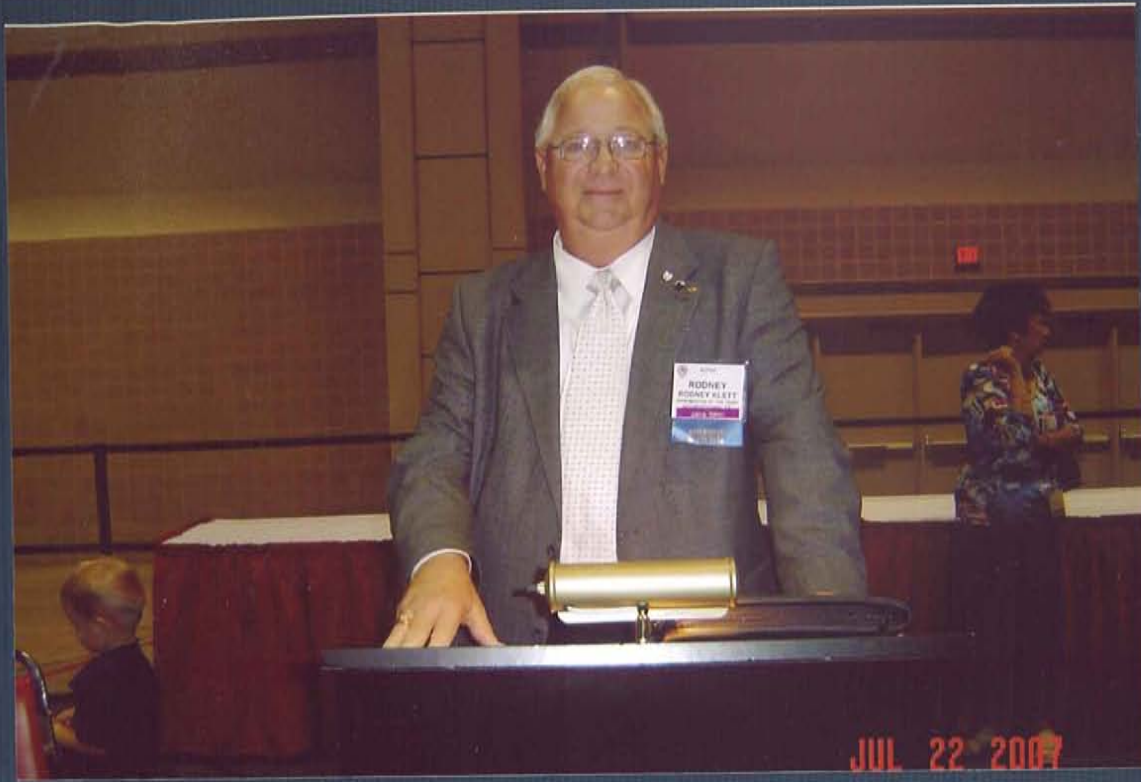
Now living in McKinney, Mr. Klett continues to work with band programs in the surrounding area three or four days a week as a clinician, adjudicator and guest conductor.

Mr. Klett loves to be with his grandchildren, play golf, fish and simply enjoy life. He and Mary Ann will celebrate their 41st wedding anniversary during the 2007 TBA Convention/Clinic. Their daughter Melody is a full-time stay-at-home mother to Madeline and twin boys Reid and Shane. Her husband Matthew Robinson is a civil engineer for Greater Texas Land Resources in the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

Mr. Klett has never missed a TBA Convention/Clinic. When he was informed that he had been selected Bandmaster of the Year, he could not help but think back to 1965—his first TBA Convention/Clinic held at the Gunter Hotel. Forty-two years later, there have been many changes, but the award still remains the highest and most prestigious professional honor a Texas band director can be awarded.

There are not enough words to express Mr. Klett's true feelings of gratitude and humility for such a tremendous honor.

Thank you TBA board.



A wonderful honor for a wonderful man/teacher/individual. Thanks for caring. Erlene (Aggie) Fisher



TEXAS BANDMASTERS ASSOCIATION, INC

2007

Bandmaster of the Year

RODNEY KLETT

*In Recognition of
Unsurpassed Contributions
to the Band Movement
in the State of Texas*



ACTIVE

**RODNEY
RODNEY KLETT**
BANDMASTER OF THE YEAR
GEORGETOWN, TX

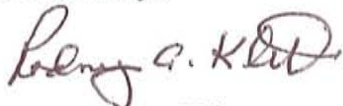


**BANDMASTER
OF THE YEAR**

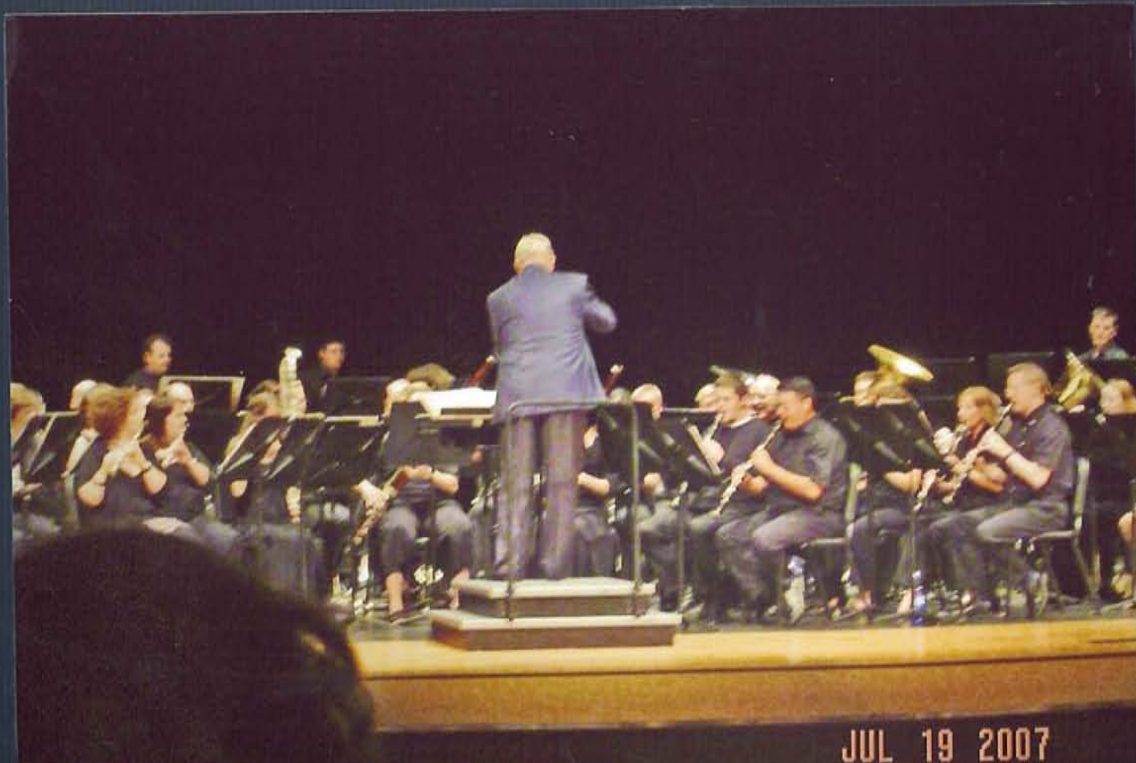
Mr. Henry Schraub,

Thank you very much for inviting me to conduct "Blue and White Forever" by Gabe Musella. This composition was commissioned by the Georgetown Band Boosters Association in recognition of my 38 years of teaching in Georgetown, Texas. The very talented members of the Greater Ft. Worth Community Band are to be commended as well. This was a great honor and a real pleasure to work with such a dedicated and hard working group. It was also a lot of fun to be able to conduct once more in the Lila Cockrell Theater. It brought back many wonderful memories.

Gratefully,



Rodney A. Klett



GIFTS



TO
MR. KLETT
FOR 10 YEARS OF
OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP
MAY 7, 1977-GHS



IN APPRECIATION OF
SERVICES AS
Decorative flourish
BAND JUDGE
Decorative flourish
GONZALES COME AND TAKE IT
1979



RODNEY A KLETT
ONE OF THE BEST
78-79

GHS