

International Trombone Association
ANNUAL MEETING
Wednesday, May 30, 1979, 4:30 p.m.
International Trombone Workshop
George Peabody College, Nashville, TN

MINUTES

I. Welcome and Call to Order

The Annual Meeting of the International Trombone Association was called to order by President Tom Ervin at 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 30, 1979 at Peabody College in Nashville, Tennessee. President Ervin extended a welcome to all returnees and newcomers to the ITA.

President Ervin introduced the attending dignitaries; Tom Everett, "founder" of the ITA and its president for the first four years of existence; Buddy Baker, Immediate Past President; Neill Humfeld, First Vice President who will become President next year; Henry Romersa, founder of the International Trombone Workshop and L. Howard "Zeke" Nicar, facilities coordinator for the ITW.

II. Acceptance of Minutes

Secretary/Treasurer Stan Adams was introduced and moved for the acceptance of the minutes of last year's meeting as printed in the September Newsletter. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

III. Treasurer's Report

Secretary/Treasurer Adams also presented the annual Treasurer's Report and it was also unanimously approved.

IV. Committee Reports

1. **Resource Library** (Robert Tennyson). The first of the Committee Reports was that of the Resource Library chaired by Robert Tennyson. Dr. Tennyson stated that last year at this time the Library was searching for a permanent home and that now it has one and is thriving. It is located at the University of Arizona in Tucson. Cataloging is underway and lists will be available soon. Dr. Tennyson warned that it is not to be a source to photocopy half of the world's trombone literature but a source to become aware of what is available. Two-thirds of the existing library was donated free by worldwide publishers. The issue of tapes has not yet been resolved. Anyone having access to obscure literature (manuscripts, etc.) was asked to contact Dr. Tennyson. President Ervin announced that a label design had been chosen. The catalog will have an initial listing with addendum sent periodically to the membership, most likely in loose leaf form. All lending materials would be available through the inter-library loan system. The University of Arizona Library will attempt to obtain everything written for trombone or that has a prominent trombone part. There will have to be some items with restricted circulation for various reasons.

2. **Literature Committee** (Vern Kagarice). Mr. Kagarice, Chair of the Literature Committee, informed the body of its completed project Solos for the Student Trombonist An Annotated Bibliography. The book is available from Brass Press, and all royalty proceeds are to be used for advertising the book in trade magazines. A number of people have expressed interest in working on the Literature Committee. Therefore, some sub-committees chaired by members of the current committee will be formed. Each sub-committee will develop a publishable project in the area of the chair's expertise. The sub-committee chairs and areas are tentatively as follows: Leon Brown, etudes; Irvin Wagner and Vern Kagarice, trombone ensemble/choir; Robert Tennyson, early music for trombone; and Milt Stevens and Karl Hinterbichler, avant-garde literature.

3. **Scholarship Committee** (Vernon Forbes). Scholarship Committee Chair, Vernon Forbes was unable to attend the Workshop and Steve Anderson gave the committee's report. Forty-one tapes were submitted this year, the largest number ever. There were four members on the committee this year, the first time Mr. Forbes had not been solely responsible for the decisions. This year the committee had broken down the applicants into two unofficial categories, younger players with a great deal of potential and older, more developed players. The ages of applicants ranged from 16 to 29 years old. Next year there will be specific guidelines concerning age divisions. Those applicants 18 and under will compete for the ITA Scholarship and ages 19 to 25 will compete for the Frank Smith Memorial Scholarship. The Frank Rosolino Memorial Jazz Scholarship which was awarded for the first time this year will continue. Past winners will only be eligible in another category. There was a suggestion of requiring an entry fee to help defray the committee's expenses with any remaining funds to go into the scholarship account. Tax deductible donations to the Scholarship funds are always cheerfully accepted.

4. **Membership Committee** (John Upchurch). Chair, John Upchurch of the Membership Committee reported that the Membership Committee really consisted of the general body of the ITA in that everyone was doing a terrific job of recruiting friends and neighbors into the ITA. Occasionally people will send local musicians union's directories to serve as contacts for prospective members. Any ideas on how to help make the membership grow were welcomed. Mr. Upchurch stated that Billy Robinson was the unofficial west coast chair for the Committee. Ideas were developing where there would be a membership coordinator in each state (or more than one in largely populated states) who would be responsible for recruiting in that state. There was a question from the floor concerning membership brochures and members were asked to write to Secretary/Treasurer Adams after July 1st for updated applications.

5. **Commissions Committee** (Bill Cramer). Dr. William Cramer gave a brief history of the activities and works of the Commissions Committee. The membership of the committee will most likely be restructured. Last year's commission, Henry Brant's *Symphony for 80 Trombones* was not premiered at the ITW due to Mr. Brant's illness but was performed by Billy Robinson's Bay Bones in San Francisco. There was no commission for this year.

6. **Composition Contest Committee** (Neill Humfeld). Chair Neill Humfeld of the Composition Contest Committee also gave a brief history of the different contests that had been sponsored in the past. He gave a progress report on the project at hand which was that of joining with the other brass organizations and commissioning a major composer to write a work for brass quintet. There have been a lot of problems and delays but six names had been suggested. They are: Oliver Messiaen, Samuel Barber, Jacob Druckman, Leonard Bernstein, Gunther Schuller, and Jan Bach. The project has been temporarily tabled due to Dr. Humfeld's work on preparing ITW'79. Four of the six had been contacted by letter and he had received one reply. The original idea was to have a piece ready by the proposed 1980 International Brass Congress which may or may not happen.

7. **ITA Series** (Irv Wagner). Irvin Wagner, Chair of the ITA Series, stated that the main problem with the Series is that it is not properly supported by the membership. The publisher needs to sell 100 copies of any piece in the Series in order to break even and therefore make the Series a worthwhile and profitable venture. He listed the works currently in the Series and asked that more works be submitted. The committee is not accepting transcriptions but is looking for works that might not be made available otherwise.

V. New Business

President Ervin expressed the need for volunteers to help in any way possible to further the cause of the ITA.

Vern Kagarice, Editor of the ITA Newsletter reported that Steve Glover had recently asked to be relieved of his printing duties of both the ITA and ITG publications so it is necessary to find a replacement soon. He gave the deadlines for sending in material as July 1, November 1 and February 1 for the three Newsletters. Mr. Kagarice made apologies to those who had sent in recital programs that hadn't gotten into print

explaining that all were used as space allows in the back of any issue. He also reported that he purposely omitted the names of arrangers of transcriptions of commercial items in certain instances in order to protect those people from possible legal problems. A classified advertisement section is in planning (no "Jobs Wanted" ads. please) which would allow up to 35 words free to ITA members.

ITA Journal Editor, Larry Weed informed the body the deadline for sending material was October 15 and that the supply of articles was getting a little short. He stated that unusual charts don't always reproduce very well and cautioned on sending them in for publication. Mr. Weed is also looking for people to assist him on the Research Committee. There had been a suggestion for a list of the articles printed in past Journals to be made available. Plans were to include one in the last Journal but there was not enough room. Past issues of the Journal are available from Secretary/Treasurer Adams. (*Note: Volumes II, III, V, VI and VII are available for \$3.00 each plus 50 cents postage*).

Bill Cramer informed the body that there are many trombonists behind the iron curtain interested in the ITA but due to very difficult or impossible money exchanges, many are unable to join. Members were advised to write to Karl Hinterbichler in order to get paired up with a foreign member and establish a sponsorship program. Bartering is the usual procedure, receiving recordings or music in exchange for payment of ITA dues.

President Ervin proposed to establish a new position in the near future and that being an ITA Archivist. The ITA has seven or eight years of memorabilia that needs to be cataloged and permanently housed.

President Ervin made some brief remarks concerning the possibility of a 1980 International Brass Congress. People have been writing to Harvey Phillips asking when he is going to do it again. Mr. Phillips feels that it would be better if someone besides himself would take charge and have the event organized. The main problems existing are where it would be held, who would be in charge of handling facilities and financial problems. All ideas are welcome but there is nothing definite at this time.

President Ervin informed the body that Vanderbilt University had recently purchased Peabody College and that there were some unresolved questions concerning the future of the ITW at Peabody. (*Note: A tentative agreement was reached with Vanderbilt before the conclusion of ITW and it will be at the same location in 1980*).

The position of Life Membership in the ITA was brought up at last year's meeting and President Ervin indicated that it was getting closer.

Leigh Gettier presented a trombone shipping case that he had designed and built and stated that there were plans for a more practical, less cumbersome version than the one he was showing. He asked everyone to fill out a questionnaire on the new design in order to make his presentation to a possible manufacturer more positive.

The question of the availability of back issues of ITA publications was addressed by President Ervin. Plans are being made to get the original of issues no longer available or photocopying surviving early issues in order to make them available for purchase by the membership.

Dr. Robert Tennyson made a plea for everyone to buy the Solos for the Student Trombonist, An Annotated Bibliography. If members who have a lot of influence at the state level would purchase the list, a move could be made towards better standardization of state competition lists. The ideal would be for the one list to exist for the entire nation in regard to state and local solo contest.

President Ervin announced that there would be a meeting at 8:00 p.m. Thursday for ITA officers, planners of the ITW and faculty to discuss the future of the Workshop.

Billy Robinson made a brief report on the performance of the Brant *Symphony for 80 Trombones* by his Bay Bones. It was performed at Saint Mary's Cathedral in San Francisco by players from all over the country. The concert was reviewed in the March 5th issue of Time magazine. The performance was recorded by CRI and is to be placed on the flip side of a 33 String Bass Ensemble composition. The composition is available from Carl Fisher. If anyone is interested in performing the *Symphony* Dr. Brant is making plans for a performance in the Los Angeles area in February of 1981. Those interested should contact Mr. Robinson.

Jeff Williams reported that NACWPI is interested in co-sponsoring along with ITA, ITG, etc. ensembles and/or lecture/demonstrations to the MENC Convention in Miami and that persons interested should contact Mr. Williams or Neill Humfeld.

VI. Awards

The ITA Award was presented to S. Thomas Beversdorf who was unable to come to the Workshop and personally accept the award.

The Elmer Fudpucker Award was introduced by Zeke Nicar and a history of past recipients was listed. This year's award went to Dr. William Cramer.

V. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

These Minutes are published in the Newsletter,
Volume VI, Number 4, September 1, 1979, page 2

Retyped 7/28/98 by Marta Hofacre