

International Trombone Association (ITA)
GENERAL MEETING
Saturday, August 9, 2003 at 10:00 a.m.
32nd International Trombone Festival
Music Conservatory, Helsinki, Finland

MINUTES

I. Welcome and Call to Order

President Brickens introduced ITA Officers, members of the Board of Advisors and Past Presidents who were in attendance.

II. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes from the 2002 ITA General Meeting were approved unanimously by the membership.

III. Executive Manager's Report

Executive Director, Steven Greenall informed the ITA Membership that the second Annual Report will be available online. He briefly outlined the accomplishments of the association during 2002, which can be found in the report:

- The ITA Board was reorganized and restructured to include eight members
- The competitions was reorganized which resulted in more applicants
- Four outstanding *ITA Journals* were produced (the *Journal* will celebrate its thirtieth birthday in 2003)
- The financial status of the organization is still in good shape
- The website developed a "members only" section
- *Journal* articles are starting to be put online
- The webmaster is working on a business pages or "yellow pages" section on the website specific to trombonists
- An annotated list of articles from the past *Journals* was completed
- The International Trombone Festivals were separately incorporated from the ITA for liability reasons

This is only a portion of what it contains and Greenall encouraged the membership to take a look at the full Annual Report.

In closing he thanked the ITA Officers, Board, Board of Advisors, Past Presidents, Staff, Committees, and Volunteers for their unending help and encouragement.

IV. **Treasurer's Report**

ITA Treasurer, Edwin K. Myrick, Jr., reported that, like all investments in the past few years, those of the ITA had suffered some loss in value. He expects this loss to be recovered in the coming months and assured the membership that the financial status of the ITA is still good. The membership was assured that the finances of the association are being audited annually.

Myrick stressed again the importance of separating the International Trombone Festival corporation from the ITA corporation to help the ITA avoid liabilities.

In closing, he encouraged all to help to increase the ITA membership.

V. **Committee Reports**

Commissions Committee (Marta Hofacre for Woody Williams). Williams asked to step down as Committee Chair. No committee activity was reported.

1. **Composition Competition Committee** (Marta Hofacre for Andrew Glendenning). Glendenning assumed the Chair of the Composition Competition Committee from David Gier within the last year. The committee members had active discussions about the time frame, travel money prizes, internationalization of the competition, and restrictions. They proposed a biennial competition with more extensive advertising, a possible increase in prize money, the possible instrumentation for the next competition, different ways of judging the competition, and the need to arrange and encourage performances of competition composition winning works beyond the ITFs.
2. **Nominations and Elections Committee** (John Drew for Tom Plsek). As this was not an election year, the Nominations and Elections Committee was inactive. Chair Plsek provided an action plan for the coming year. He suggested a web-based ballot and election process and a call for nominations via email or the website. Plsek has served as Chair for four years and has asked to step down in that capacity but to continue to serve on the committee.
3. **Pedagogy Committee** (Jan Kagarice for Maureen Horgan). Kagarice reported that the Pedagogy Committee had reconvened in February of 2003 after a two-year hiatus and had been productive. Three members were added to make it more international in representation and to broaden its scope. It determined and defined the purpose and mission of the committee.

A survey was designed and posted on the ITA Website. The committee is in the process of categorizing the written comments to utilize this information in conjunction with the numerical data. One clear outcome of the survey was that the respondents were very interested in learning more about

methodologies of master teachers. The resultant focus for the coming year will be to identify those who are considered master teachers and formulate information about them.

4. **Publications and Literature Committee** (Mark Thompson for Bill Stanley). The primary activity of the Publications and Literature Committee the past year was to receive and consider compositions for publication by the ITA Press. During academic year 2002-2003 the committee considered twenty-one submissions, a substantial increase from the previous year. Of eleven of these twenty-one submissions reviewed, five were chosen for publication. Encouraging and uncovering works for submission will be given higher priority in the future. Under consideration are two series: literature for the developing trombonist and national anthems.

A continuing project of this committee is the source book *Solos for the Student Trombonist, 2nd edition*, coordinated by Mark Thompson, with contributions from some committee members and others. The contract for publication was signed and approved on 25 October 2002, and the final version of the manuscript has been at the publisher's (The Brass Press/Editions BIM) since 4 February 2003. Publication is anticipated in the fall.

5. **Research Committee** (Jim Roberts). No report.

VI. **Old Business**

There was no old business.

VII. **New Business**

Constitutional changes proposed by the ITA Board were presented to the general membership for its consideration.

ARTICLE IV – MEMBERSHIP

Current wording:

Section 5. PATRON MEMBERSHIP. Patron membership shall be open to any person, company, or firm. In the case of a company or firm, one person would be designated as the ITA member representing the firm or company. Patron members will receive all ITA publications free, special recognition in each issue of the *ITA Journal*, and the ITA Board may specify such other benefits as. Patron members are entitled to voting privileges but may not hold office in the ITA.

Proposed wording:

Section 5. PATRON MEMBERSHIP. Patron membership shall be open to any person, company, or firm. In the case of a company or firm, one person would be designated as the ITA member representing the firm or company. Patron members will receive all ITA publications free, special recognition in each issue

of the *ITA Journal*, and the ITA Board may specify such other benefits as. Patron members are entitled to voting privileges and may, as individuals, hold office in the ITA.

ARTICLE V – GOVERNMENT

Current wording:

Section 2. ITA BOARD. The ITA Board shall be responsible for:

- Festival site selection

Proposed wording: remove this responsibility from the list

Proposed wording: add this responsibility to the list

Section 2. ITA BOARD. The ITA Board shall be responsible for:

- Appointment of standing committee chairs

Current wording:

Section 2. ITA BOARD. ...Decisions are made by a simple majority of those voting. The President shall have a casting vote (if necessary).

Proposed wording: remove “The President shall have a casting vote (if necessary).”

Add new Section 5:

Section 5. STUDENT COUNCIL. The membership of the ITA Student Council will be determined by the ITA Board. Each Student Council member must be an ITA member. The Council will elect its own Chair (approved by the ITA President).

Current wording:

Section 5. STAFF POSITIONS. ITA Staff positions are (1) an Executive Director, (2) an Archivist, (3) an Historian, (4) a Webmaster, (5) an On-line Advertising Manager, (6) a Bookkeeper, (7) a Competitions Coordinator, (8) a *Journal* Editor, (9) an Assistant *Journal* Editor, (10) an Advertising Manager, (11) an ITF Director, (12) an ITF Exhibits Director, (13) a Membership Manager, (14) an ITA Press Manager, (15) a Resource Librarian, (16) a Membership Development Coordinator, (17) a Local Chapters Coordinator, (18) an Assistance for International Members Coordinator, (19) State Representatives, and (20) a “Weekend Warriors” Coordinator.

Proposed wording:

Section 5. ITA STAFF POSITIONS. The ITA Staff positions are: Advertising Manager (*ITA Journal*), Advertising Manager (ITA Website), Affiliate Societies Membership Manager, AIM Coordinator, Archivist, Archivist Assistant, “Ask the Experts” Moderator, Assistant *Journal* Editor (Audio/Visual Reviews), Assistant *Journal* Editor (Literature Reviews), Assistant *Journal* Editor (Programs and Literature Announcements), Associate *Journal* Editor (General), Associate *Journal* Editor (Jazz), Bookkeeper, Competitions Coordinator, Executive Director, Historian, *ITA Journal* Technical Assistant, ITA Press

Assistant, ITA Press Manager, Local Chapters Coordinator, Membership Assistant, Membership Development Coordinator, Membership Manager, News Assistant (CD Announcements), News Assistant (ITA), News Assistant (Job Openings, Auditions and Announcements), Publications Director, Regional Representative, Trombone News Coordinator, Web Assistant, Webmaster, “Weekend Warriors” Coordinator.

Current wording:

Section 6. STANDING COMMITTEES. The standing committees of the Association shall be: the Standing Committee on Commissions, the Standing Committee on the Composition Competition, the Standing Committee on Nominations and Elections, the Standing Committee on Pedagogy, the Standing Committee on Publications and Literature, the Standing Committee on Research, and the Standing Committee on the ITF Artistic Planning. The President with the approval of the ITA Board shall appoint Chairpersons of standing committees.

Proposed wording:

Section 6. STANDING COMMITTEES. The standing committees of the Association shall be: the Standing Committee on Awards, the Standing Committee on Commissions, the Standing Committee on Competitions, the Standing Committee on the Composition Competition, the Standing Committee on Diversity, the Standing Committee on Finance, the Standing Committee on Nominations and Elections, the Standing Committee on Pedagogy, the Standing Committee on Publications and Literature, and the Standing Committee on Research. The President with the approval of the ITA Board shall appoint Chairpersons of standing committees.

It was moved and seconded to accept the proposed changes to the ITA Constitution. The motion passed unanimously.

Jiggs Whigham provided information to the membership about the newly constituted ITA Student Council. The council will serve in an advisory capacity to the ITA Board. Whigham had already organized a meeting of interested students in attendance at the ITF and all expressed interest and enthusiasm. Students of all ages are welcome as a workable size of the council is yet to be determined.

Hal Reynolds presented a brief overview of the plans for ITF’04 in Ithaca, New York. First, he thanked Festival Director Valtteri Malmivirta and Organizing Director Petri Aarnio for their excellent work on the ITF’03 particularly their success at showcasing the talent in Scandinavia. He invited all to Ithaca, and described the conservatory and school with particular emphasis on the excellent facilities, which include three performance venues. He closed with a listing of artists slated to appear.

VIII. **Presidential Remarks**

President Brickens assured the membership that the ITA Board was working dutifully and thanked the membership for its support. He felt that the future looked bright for the organization.

As the ITA President, Brickens felt that he enjoys many “perks” one of which is presenting awards to outstanding ITA members. Ed Bahr was presented an ITA President’s Award for his 28-year (1975 to 2003) service as the editor of the audio/video reviews section of the *ITA Journal*.

In closing, Brickens challenged the membership to revisit the mission and vision statements of the ITA and consider them a “call to arms.” He hoped that all would be active recruiters of new members so that the association could continue to increase and improve its services and resources.

IX. **Adjournment**

Adjournment of the meeting was moved, seconded, and approved unanimously by the membership at 10:57 a.m.