



2008 Election Issue

2007 President Board of Directors

The end of another great Oktoberfest season has come to an end. Another 100 hours filled with memories to add to our 35 year history of fun and fellowship with friends, family, customers, and countless strangers who experienced with us Gemütlichkeit—that good feeling you get when surrounded by good friends, good music, and good bier that only the LGB&D can offer.

LGB&D Annual Membership Meeting & BOD Elections

Tuesday January 8, 2007

The annual membership meeting and BOD elections is Tuesday, January 8, 2007 from 7:30—9:00 PM at Western Blvd Presbyterian Church Cafeteria 4900 Kaplan Drive, Raleigh NC. [See details.](#)

Candidate—2008 Band Director

Antonio Gutierrez, 2007 Band Director

2007 was another year remember as we complete our 36th year as the LGB&D. It was also a very successful recruiting year with five new musicians joining our extended family and hopefully a few more in the wings. I must admit I had mixed feelings about running again for band director. I felt that I had paid my dues and that it was time for someone else to lead. With my new position in my professional association, the National Association of Health Underwriters, as Region-V Media Relations Chair, combined with the up coming 2008 elections, I felt I had to refocus my efforts on promoting sensible health care reform, in addition to growing my business. However, I feel that my greatest strengths are in my people skills, listening and helping resolve interpersonal issues with the organization and making everyone feel welcome and important. It wasn't until late in the season, with the prodding of others, that I decided to run again. However, I will need more help than ever this year.

If I am elected as your 2008 Band Director, I will (in order of priority):

- Increase efforts to recruit new members.
- Solicit the help of our band members to help complete the music archive project and get new music books ready for our Germany trip.
- Help groom others for leadership positions.
- Prepare the band for our trip to Germany.

With your help we can keep the LGB&D a growing vibrant family-friendly organization.

Candidate—2008 Dance Director

Gary Dixon, Dancer

"Another season is before us and I hope all the band and dancers had a relaxing off-season to recuperate from our hectic 2007 season. Before I discuss running for Dance Director, I would like to thank Amy Sagan for her dedication and hard work as our Dance Director for the past four years. Amy not only has brought the dance group to a new level in performing, but her enthusiasm will be missed -- we all thank you!

I was Dance Director from 1998 to 2003 and a member of the Little German Band and Dancers since 1992. This past year, I was elected to the board as a "member at large" delegate. My platform for this past year was -- recruitment of new members. Even though I did not have a direct hand in some of these, I am excited to tell you the Dance Group has added two new (male) members, while the band added four new members to its roster. This is a good start but we must continue to recruit new members in order for the group to perform at a high level and be around for another 37 years.

If elected to the position of Dance Director. I would like to continue making the Dance Group grow, not only in numbers, but also in new repertoire. The continuation of our "Kinder" group under the leadership of Joyce Loring and her many assistants is a priority. Other goals I have include:

Concentrate on perfecting our existing dances while have fun -- we are a volunteer group.

Placing all of our dance music on the band website for dance members to download onto their own CD to help us practice at home.

Producing an "updated" dance instruction and schuhplattle DVD for new and existing members.

Produce and develop our "whip" dance (not what you are thinking ...) and have it in place by next fall.

Have a great quality team of dancers ready for our European Trip in June 2008.

Well, there you have it -- my main goals for this year if elected. It would be a pleasure serving you the dancers again next year."

Candidate—2008 Business Manager

Jeri Yost, Audio, Truck Driver

It's been quite a few years since I've last held a leadership position with the Band. I've been interested in serving on the Board again for the past couple of years and with Kay's decision to not run for BM this year it was an easy decision for me to volunteer to take on a Board member position again.

As Business Manager I will do my best to build upon the good relationships we have with our repeat customers and actively seek out new customers so that we always have an opportunity to do something new and interesting each year. I will work with the Board to make booking more shows in the Spring and more local shows a priority.

Also, I want to make some minor changes in the way that the Band operates as a business. As the "audio-meister", I submit to the Board a budget proposal each year that looks into the future three years. This gave the Board the Audio budget request for the current year and insight into what I was thinking about for future years. As the Business Manager, I will do something similar. I will ask the Board to prepare a multi-year budget that will be used for planning purposes and to measure progress. Each budget year will focus on profit targets, not revenue/expense targets, and will also include major expense targets in the budgeting process. These changes will give the Business Manager specific objectives to work towards based upon our projected annual financial goals, not just a general desire to show a profit on each gig.

My proposed changes, in general, will be transparent to the membership and our customers, and will not subtract from the "fun-factor" that comes from being a member of our group.

I hope to get your vote and look forward to serving as the Business Manager.

New BOD Candidates Wanted

This election newsletter reflects the current slate of candidates that have expressed an interest in serving on the LGB&D Board of Directors.

However, nominations can still be made at the annual meeting. So if you are still interested in serving in one of these very important positions, please contact Kay McEwen.

Proposed Bylaw Changes

Members will be asked to vote on proposed bylaw changes to:
Section 2.5 "Notice of Meetings"
Section 2.9 "Proxies"

For details, go to:

<http://members.prosit.org/bylaws.php>

Candidate—2008 Member at Large

Doug Walker, 2007 Music Director, Conductor, Webmaster, Trumpet

I am running for Member at Large this year. Members at Large generally have no fixed set of responsibilities, and so generally need to choose some things to be responsible for. If elected, I will take primary responsibility for making sure that communications between the Board and the Trip Committee for next year's Germany trip are as good as they can be. I will also assist in defining some policies and procedures around the way the Business Manager operates and reports to the Board, since that topic has come up recently in Board meetings and I have recent experience with that job.

In addition, we typically elect a Chairman/President from among the Board members. Normally, the job of President is pretty meaningless for us. We have a decentralized kind of leadership, with the Band Director, Dance Director, Business Manager, and others sharing roles that would normally be done by a President in other organizations. However, in Germany things tend to be done a bit differently. I think it would be valuable for our main interface to them to have a job title that they will understand (even if it doesn't mean what they think it means). Hence, if elected to the Board I would also run for Chairman/President to help our dealings with our German hosts.

Many of you are probably aware of my qualifications for the Board, but I'll recap anyway. I have been elected to the Board 13 times, in the roles of dance group director (4 years), band director (4 years), member at large (1 year), and business manager (4 years). Five of those years I also served as President/Chairman. In addition, I served as Board Secretary two years when I was not an elected Board member.

Candidate—2008 Member at Large

Howard Oaks, MD., Baritone Player

Here are my goals and objectives if elected.

Goal : Become more familiar with LGB&D operations so I will be better equipped to assist as needed.

Objective 1: Learn the truck inventory, packing/unpacking order; past problems with equipment loss/damage/accessibility, goals.

Objective 2: Learn the sheet music/song recording history, evolution, current iteration, plans for modernization.

Objective 3: Learn the sound system components, past problems, goals.

Objective 4: Learn the job booking process, business operations at the job sites, flying chicken acquisition/distribution

Candidate—2008 Member at Large

Doug Kelly, Tuba, Truck Driver

Hi There. For those of you that may not know me, I am Doug Kelly. I play tuba along with other varied sound makers. One of my friends suggested that I run for one of the "at large" positions that are open for the Little German Band and Dancers. I must let you know that I've only been with the band for one year but I've learned a lot in that year by participating in numerous "gigs". I have had some experience in board positions in recent years having been the President of a very successful radio control airplane club a few years ago that averages 100 members per year. This position's duties included the site acquisition, maintenance, advertisement of events, obtaining insurance for the club field, dealing with problems within the membership, and being the liaison officer between the governmental agency that owns the property and the club when problems arose. I held this post for four years.

As I mentioned, I have only been with this band for one season but I would like to learn more about the organization and one of the ways to do that is to get involved. I won't make any special campaign promises because at this point I don't feel that would be appropriate. All I can promise is that I will represent you and work in the best interest of the Little German Band and Dancers. All of you and I know just how special this group is.

I had no idea that a stranger in this organization could be accepted or appreciated as you have made me feel. Mona, my bride, and I have enjoyed the "family" atmosphere that is the LGBD. I look forward to many years of continued service to this "family".

Your vote for me will be greatly appreciated.

