

NAoAB Biography

TOM WALDROP – Vice President

Tom was born in Asheville, NC but spent most of his childhood in Charleston, SC. He entered band in the fourth grade in 1966 and has played in bands since. He entered Clemson University to study Forest Management in 1974. Tom met his future wife, Gensie, at his first rehearsal of the Clemson Tiger Band. Gensie plays flute and piccolo and Tom plays tuba. Tom served as Tiger Band Commander (president) in the 1977-1978 academic year. The couple was married in 1978. After completing B.S. and M.S. degrees they moved to Knoxville, TN where Tom pursued a Ph.D. in Forest Ecology. Tom worked for the U.S. Forest Service in several locations as a Research Scientist but spent most of his career in Clemson, SC. He retired in 2016.

Gensie and Tom own a small nonprofit business devoted to putting band instruments into the hands of young students who cannot afford to buy or rent them. They run a repair shop to restore donated instruments. Since Tom's retirement, TomGen Music has donated over 300 flutes, clarinets, saxophones, French horns, trumpets, baritones, tubas, and drums to schools across the southern U.S. and to one school in Haiti.

Tom has been a Board member or officer of the Clemson University Tiger Band Association (CUTBA) for over 20 years. He served in all officer positions including a four-year period as president. Tom says that the most difficult job was that of Treasurer. Under his leadership the CUTBA-sponsored Alumni Band grew to almost 400 members and has become popular for alumni of all ages. He served on the University Alumni Council and has assisted in two revisions of the CUTBA By-Laws as appointed by the Clemson Alumni Association. He was elected as an ex officio officer of CUTBA in 2017. Tom Waldrop looks forward to the growth and success of the National Association of Alumni Bands.

Learn more about CUTBA at cutba.org.