



THE TALLAHASSEE ORGANIST

The Official Newsletter of the Tallahassee Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

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DEAN

Joseph Kraus
jkraus@fsu.edu

SUB-DEAN

Rod Gorby
roderickgorby@gmail.com

SECRETARY

Patty Herrington
pherrington@fsu.edu

TREASURER/REGISTRAR

Roger Ponder
rponder@fsu.edu

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Adam Cobb
z.adam.cobb@gmail.com

WEBSITE EDITOR

Rod Gorby
roderickgorby@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Patty Herrington
pherrington@fsu.edu

DEAN'S MESSAGE

Dear AGO Members and Friends,

Happy New Year! It is my sincere hope that you can look back on your many Advent and Christmas celebrations—both at church and elsewhere—with a feeling of satisfaction and fulfillment. Our Dean's Epiphany Party on Sunday, January 8th was a very nice event, with good food and great fellowship.

If you haven't yet registered for the Tallahassee Sacred Music Conference, there is still time! Remember that this year's conference is also sponsored by the AGO as a January Jubilee—an outreach activity to familiarize participants with our organization, and to encourage people to join us as new members. The conference runs from Friday afternoon, February 3rd through Saturday morning, February 4th at First Presbyterian Church (with one session at First Baptist Church). Highlights include a hymn festival (free admission) accompanied by Michael Corzine, workshops by John Neely and David Arcus, and a screening of the new film *Sacred Sound* (produced and directed by Robin Arcus). A complete schedule may be found on page two of this newsletter, as well as online at our AGO website:

www.tallahasseeago.org.

You can REGISTER ONLINE for the conference at:

<http://www.churchmusicinstitute.org/event/ago-january-jubilee-2017>.

If you would like to sing in the Hymn Festival Choir, there will be a single rehearsal at First Presbyterian Church on Thursday, February 2nd from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Don't miss out on this marvelous biennial event!

All best,

Joe Kraus

"The deadline for newsletter submission is the 15th of every month!"

Visit your chapter website: <http://www.tallahasseeago.org/>

TALLAHASSEE SACRED MUSIC CONFERENCE 2017
in conjunction with
AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS JANUARY JUBILEE
Conference Schedule

Thursday, February 2nd

7:00-9:00 p.m. Hymn Festival Choir Rehearsal (First Presbyterian)

Friday, February 3rd

Noon-5:00 p.m. Conference Registration
1:00-2:00 p.m. Keynote: "How Church Music Forms Us Over a Lifetime"
The Rev. John Neely
2:00-3:00 p.m. Panel: Planning Worship Together
(double session) The Revs. Brant Copeland and John Neely
Vocal Techniques for Adult Choirs
Larry Gerber
3:00-4:00 p.m. Panel: Pastor-Musician Working Relationships
(double session) The Revs. Brant Copeland and John Neely
Congregational Improvisation in Worship
Jonathan Hehn
4:00-5:00 p.m. Organ Service Playing, I: Basics
(double session) David Arcus
The CMI eMusic Library
Charlotte Kroeker
5:00-7:00 p.m. Dinner on Your Own
7:00 p.m. Hymn Festival (First Presbyterian sanctuary)
8:20 p.m. Social Hour

Saturday, February 4th

8:00-8:15 a.m. Morning Prayer
8:15-8:30 a.m. Coffee
8:15-10:00 a.m. Screening: *Sacred Sound* (film)
Produced and directed by Robin Arcus
10:00-11:00 Working Effectively with Electronic Organs (First Baptist)
(double session) Michael Corzine
Adapting Music for Your Liturgical Needs
Olivia Ahyoung
11:00-12:00 noon Organ Service Playing, II: Improvisation
(double session) David Arcus
Choral Reading Session
Charlotte Kroeker
12:00-12:30 p.m. Closing Worship

All events will take place at First Presbyterian Church unless otherwise noted.

Registration for the full conference is \$85 for adults, \$45 for students; hymn festival is free and open to the public.

To register online, go to <http://www.churchmusicinstitute.org/event/ago-january-jubilee-2017/>.

Visit your chapter website: <http://www.tallahasseeago.org/>

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Remember that new AGO memberships and renewals are now on a “rolling” yearly basis: in other words, you have twelve months of membership from the time you actually pay your dues. To take care of this, access the ONCARD system to pay electronically or to download a membership form to pay by postal mail (sent to the National AGO Office). You can search your e-mail for “It’s Time to Renew Your AGO Membership,” or go to this link online:

<http://www.agohq.org/membership/join-as-a-chapter-member/>.

Last year, the AGO National Council announced new rates for all dues categories, which became effective with the 2015–16 membership year. The new rates are: \$100 for Regular members, \$75 for Special (Senior) members, \$40 for Students, and \$75 for Partners. This is an increase of \$3 in each category, \$2 of which will be retained by the local chapter and \$1 of which will go to National. Renewal notices, which were sent upon expiration of your last year’s membership, reflected these changes.

LOCAL 2017 AGO EVENTS

The 2017 Tallahassee Sacred Music Conference/AGO January Jubilee will be held beginning on **Friday, February 3rd at 1 p.m. and ending on Saturday, February 4th at 12:30 p.m.** The conference will be held at First Presbyterian Church, 110 North Adams Street, with one additional event at First Baptist Church, 108 West College Avenue. Special guests will be Robin and David Arcus, and the Rev. John Neely. See page two of this Newsletter for the complete conference schedule.

On **Saturday, January 21st at 3 p.m.**, chapter sub-dean Rod Gorby will perform in recital at Trinity United Methodist Church, 120 W. Park Avenue, Tallahassee. He will be playing works by Hindemith, Jongen, Duruflé, Franck, and Langlais. Rod will also participate in a chamber recital of works for organ and other instruments on **Tuesday, January 24th at 7:30 p.m.** in Opperman Music Hall on the FSU campus. He will perform the Rayner Brown Sonata for Clarinet and Organ with Olivia Steinman, the Suite for Violin and Organ by Josef Rheinberger with Marisa Votapek, and “Sonare” by Anthony Plog with trombonist Steven Ivany. Check out these very interesting programs!

On **Tuesday, April 11th at 7:00 p.m.**, there will be a special presentation by Dr. Charles Brewer, musicology professor in the FSU College of Music, on the *St. John Passion* by J. S. Bach. This presentation, a fitting event for inclusion in Holy Week, will be held at First Presbyterian Church, 110 North Adams Street. The *St. John Passion* will be performed on April 30th, 2017, by the Tallahassee Community Chorus under the direction of Dr. Andre J. Thomas.

On **Sunday, June 11th at 3:00 p.m.**, a recital will be given by Dr. Iain Quinn, organ professor in the FSU College of Music, to benefit the FSU Organ Scholarship Fund. This recital will take place at Trinity United Methodist Church, 120 West Park Avenue, and is co-sponsored by The Tallahassee Bach Parley.

Visit your chapter website: <http://www.tallahasseeago.org/>

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

Every Sunday evening from September 11th, 2016, through April 30th, 2017 (with the exception of December 25th and January 1st), St. John's Episcopal Church, 211 North Monroe Street in Tallahassee, presents a weekly Service of Compline from 8:00 to 8:30 p.m. This ancient monastic service includes beautiful chants by the all-male choir, interspersed with scripture. Membership in the Compline Choir is open to any interested male singer by audition—contact Mike Norris at norris.mr@gmail.com.

On Thursday, January 19th, at 7:30 p.m. in the Thomasville Center for the Arts, the Thomasville Entertainment Foundation will present the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, featuring Israeli violinist Vadim Guzman in the Violin Concerto, Op. 35 by Tchaikovsky. For more information and to purchase tickets, please go to www.tefconcerts.com or telephone 229-226-7404.

On Saturday, January 21st, at 8:00 p.m. in Ruby Diamond Concert Hall on the FSU campus, The Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra will present *Mozart in the Jungle*, a concert offering a sampling of Mozart's genius, starting with his Symphony No. 25 written at the age of 17, and ending with his last symphony, the "Jupiter." Between these two works will be a selection of his greatest arias. Tickets may be purchased at the door one hour before the concert, or by going online to www.tallahasseesympphony.org, or by calling 224-0461.

On Sunday, January 22nd, at 9:00 and 11:15 a.m., St. John's Episcopal Church, 211 North Monroe Street, presents a special service entitled *Gospel Mass*, with settings by Brandon Boyd, sung by the St. John's Choirs led by guest conductor Boyd and organist Nathaniel Gumbs. At 3:00 p.m., Mr. Gumbs will present an organ recital that will include works by Bach, Eschaich, Karg-Elert, Garrett, Schumann, and Widor. Nathaniel is currently a doctoral candidate in organ performance at the Eastman School of Music.

On Sunday, January 22nd, the Artist Series presents *Fandango!* at 4:00 p.m. in Opperman Music Hall on the FSU campus. This exciting new chamber group, comprised of flute, guitar, violin, and cello, will present a spicy mix of Latin, Spanish, Sephardic, Balkan, and classical sounds. The members of the group hail from Spain, the USA, the former Yugoslavia, and the UK, and have played both separately and together throughout the world. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit the Artist Series website www.theartistsseries.org, or you may telephone 850-445-1616.

On Saturday, January 28th, the Tallahassee Community Chorus presents its Unity 12 concert, *Praise and Redemption—the Power of Song*, at 7:30 p.m. in Ruby Diamond Concert Hall on the FSU campus. The concert will feature the world premiere of *Sanctus* by Artistic Director Andre J Thomas. This movement was commissioned by the Chorus and is part of what will eventually become the Andre Thomas *Mass*. Also on the program will be selections from the Sacred Concerts by Duke Ellington, which combine elements of jazz, dance, and African-American spirituals. Tickets may be purchased online at tchorus.org/events, or by phone at 850-597-0603.

Visit your chapter website: <http://www.tallahasseeago.org/>

On Sunday, January 29th at 3:00 p.m., the Tallahassee Bach Parley, with guest soprano Phyllis Pancella, presents *Love and Lamentation* at St. John's Episcopal Church, 211 North Monroe Street. The concert will include music by Bach, Handel, Purcell, Buxtehude, and Schmelzer. There is a suggested donation of \$10; free childcare is available.

On Saturday, February 11th, at 3:30 p.m., the Big Bend Community Orchestra presents a free concert directed by Dr. Shelby Chipman in Turner Auditorium at Tallahassee Community College, 444 Appleyard Drive.

On Sunday, February 19th, at 3:30 p.m., St. John's Episcopal Church, 211 North Monroe Street, will present the lovely service of Evensong. Preceding the service will be a short organ recital by Amy Nungesser, organist at the First Baptist Church of Tallahassee.

On Sunday, February 26th, the Tallahassee Youth Orchestra will present a Guest Artist concert at 7:30 p.m. in Ruby Diamond Concert Hall on the FSU campus.

On Tuesday, February 28th, the Thomasville Entertainment Foundation will present *Apollo's Fire in A Night at Bach's Coffeehouse*, with music director Jeannette Sorrell. The concert will take place in the Thomasville Center for the Arts. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit their website www.tefconcerts.com or call 229-226-7404>

UPCOMING REGIONAL EVENTS

The Jacksonville, Florida, chapter of AGO is proud to announce that the 2017 Southeastern Regional Convention of the American Guild of Organists will be held in Jacksonville and St. Augustine, June 11–14, 2017. For more information about the convention and to register, visit the convention website at www.agojax2017.com. For news about other AGO and organ events in Jacksonville, go to www.jaxago.org.

NATIONAL AGO NEWS

For your planning information, the next National Convention of the American Guild of Organists, entitled “Bach, Blues, and BBQ”, will be held in July of 2018 in Kansas City, Missouri. For information and to sign up to receive the convention newsletter, visit the convention website at www.agokc2018.com.

Closer to home, the 2020 National AGO Convention will take place practically in our own front yard, in Atlanta, Georgia! Let's all plan now to attend!

Visit your chapter website: <http://www.tallahasseeago.org/>

EXECUTIVE BOARD NEWS

The Executive Board of the Tallahassee Chapter of the AGO last met on Sunday, November 13th, at 5:30 p.m., preceding the presentation by Rod Gorby and Margaret-Mary Owens at Faith Presbyterian Church. The main topic of discussion was the upcoming Tallahassee Sacred Music Conference.

MEMBER NEWS

Margaret-Mary Owens and Amy Nungesser both gave their senior organ recitals at the end of the Fall 2016 semester in the FSU College of Music. Margaret-Mary graduated and will be pursuing her career as a graduate student in organ performance. Amy will graduate at the end of Spring 2017 after giving her senior piano recital, and will remain at FSU for graduate work.

Enjoy organ music in its infinite variety each week with *PIPEDREAMS* from American Public Media, each Sunday 7:00–9:00 p.m. on WFSQ (91.5 FM) and on the internet at any time (24/7) at www.pipedreams.org.

January 22nd—News for the New Year...an international sampler of recently released recordings of organ music.

January 29th —A Pipedreams Anniversary...while passing yet another landmark, we share a bit of history with these selections from the program's 30th birthday party.

February 6th—Pipedreams Live! in Holland (MI)...a belated report of a visit with Professor Huw Lewis and his students following the renovation of the 1929 Skinner organ in Dimnent Memorial Chapel at Hope College.

February 13th—Three (Not So) Easy Pieces...publishing a set of three works in a single volume makes sense, as does playing them together.

February 20th—The Peeters Principle...a reflection on the life and work of the famous and well-travelled Belgian organist and composer, Flor Peeters (1903-1986).

February 27th—Just Stringing Along...whether with a single partner or an ensemble of violins, violas, cellos and basses, pipe organs large and small prove themselves amiable companions.

March 6th—The Search Goes On...an exploration of the many sorts of compositions that you will find under the generic, historic title “ricercar”.

Visit your chapter website: <http://www.tallahasseeago.org/>

ADD YOUR VOICE

If you have information about any upcoming events, news about chapter members, information about open choral or organ positions, corrections to previous newsletters that you'd like to share, or anything else of musical interest, please e-mail these items to the newsletter editor at pherrington@fsu.edu. Of special interest for the future would be any programs planned for St. Patrick's Day, Springtime, or the liturgical seasons of Lent, Easter, and Pentecost that your church or other organization might be planning to present.