



THE



TALLAHASSEE ORGANIST

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

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DEAN'S MESSAGE

Dear AGO Members and Friends,

The season of Lent is upon us. Although we can observe this time of the Church year in many different ways, I was struck by an article I read recently in *Time* called "Pope Francis's Guide to Lent: What You Should Give Up This Year." Instead of the more conventional forms of penance and self-denial, Francis recommends that "we fast from indifference toward others," and begin to "feast on love." He goes on to say that "Lent is the perfect time to learn how to love again. Jesus—the great protagonist of this holy season—certainly showed us the way. In him, God descends all the way down to bring everyone up. In his life and ministry, no one is excluded." Words worth considering during our Lenten activities!

The Scholarship Recital by members of the organ studio of Prof. Iain Quinn last Saturday was truly an impressive event! On Tuesday, March 3rd, Dr. Quinn will perform a solo recital at 8 p.m. in Opperman Music Hall on the FSU campus. And save the date for Dr. Quinn's all-Bach recital at First Presbyterian Church on Sunday, April 19th at 3:00 p.m.

All best,

Joe Kraus

Dean

Tallahassee Chapter
American Guild of Organists



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

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The AGO National Council has just announced new dues rates for all dues categories, effective with the 2015–16 membership year. The new rates are: \$100 for Regular members, \$75 for Special 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. So, if you have not yet renewed your membership, you will save \$3 by doing so prior to April 1st, 2015, when renewal notices will be mailed out.

UPCOMING AGO EVENTS

Tuesday, March 3rd, an Organ Recital will be presented by Dr. Iain Quinn, Assistant Professor of Organ at FSU, at 8:00 p.m. in Opperman Music Hall on the FSU campus. The recital will include works by Czerny, Másson, Mozart, Hindemith, Reger, and Quinn. The recital is free and open to the public.

Sunday, April 19th, Dr. Iain Quinn, assistant professor of organ at the FSU College of Music, will present an all-Bach recital at 3:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church in Tallahassee. More information will be forthcoming in the March AGO newsletter. Save the date!

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

Every Sunday evening from September 7th through April 26th, 2015 (except Sunday, December 14th), St. John's Episcopal Church, 211 North Monroe Street in Tallahassee, presents a weekly Service of Compline from 8:00–8:30 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.

Sunday, March 1st, St. John's Episcopal Church will present a *Service of Evensong* sung by the choirs of St. John's at 4 p.m. in the church sanctuary. The pre-service organ recital at 3:30 p.m. will be played by Gray Hodsdon, Sacred Music Intern at St. John's. Admission is free; childcare is provided.

Sunday, March 1st, the Artist Series presents pianist ALESSIO BAX in concert at 4:00 p.m. in Opperman Music Hall on the FSU campus. Hailed by International Piano as “a pianist of refreshing depth,” Bax creates “a ravishing listening experience” with his “lyrical playing, insightful interpretations, and dazzling facility.” “His playing quivers with an almost hypnotic intensity,” says Gramophone magazine, leading to what Dallas Morning News calls “an out-of-body experience.” Mr. Bax, First Prize winner of the Leeds and Hamamatsu international piano competitions as well as a 2009 Avery Fisher Career Grant recipient, has appeared as soloist with over 100 orchestras worldwide. His Tallahassee concert will feature Ludwig van Beethoven's Sonata in E Major Op. 27, No.2

("Moonlight"), Sonata No. 3 in F-sharp minor by Alexander Scriabin, and Modest Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*. For tickets, please visit the Artist Series website www.theartistsseries.org, phone (850) 224-9934, or visit Beethoven & Company at Timberlane Shops on the Square, 1415 Timberlane Road. Tickets are: \$23.00 adult, \$5.00 student over the age of 12, free for students under 12 when accompanied by an adult.

Wednesday, March 4th, the Seven Hills Guitar Series presents a recital by the Amadeus Guitar Duo, which consists of Dale Kavanaugh from Canada and Thomas Kirchhoff from Germany, at 8:00 p.m. in Dohnanyi Recital Hall on the FSU campus. Tickets will be \$10 at the door.

Thursday, March 5th, the Thomasville Entertainment Foundation presents a concert by piano legend Peter Nero, as he pays homage to one of the 20th century's most popular and revered American composers, George Gershwin. The concert will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the Thomasville Center for the Arts (formerly the Thomasville Cultural Center). For tickets, visit www.tefconcerts.com or call the TEF box office at (229) 226-7404. Single tickets are \$38 for adults and \$15 for students.

Saturday, March 7th, the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra presents "Orient Express" under the direction of conductor Darko Butorac, at 8:00 p.m. in Ruby Diamond Concert Hall. Soloist for this concert will be the Israeli-American cellist Amit Peled, who will perform Max Bruch's *Kol Nidrei* Op. 47 and David Popper's *Hungarian Rhapsody* Op. 68. The concert also includes Blagojevic's *Balkan Dance No. 2*, Bedrich Smetana's "From Bohemia's Woods and Fields" from *Má Vlast*, and Zoltán Kodály's *Háry János Suite*. For tickets and more information, contact the TSO box office at (850) 224-0461 or visit their website www.tallahasseesymphony.org/tickets.

Sunday, March 15th, The Tallahassee Bach Parley presents Kids Go for B'roque at 3:00 p.m. in Longmire Recital Hall on the FSU campus. The performers, age 18 or younger, will be chosen by audition on Saturday, March 7th. For more information, visit www.tallahasseebachparley.org.

Sunday, March 22nd, the Tallahassee Bach Parley will present their spring concert entitled "Bach and Sons" at 3:00 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church in Tallahassee. For more information, please visit www.tallahasseebachparley.org.

EXECUTIVE BOARD NEWS

The Executive Board of the Tallahassee Chapter of the American Guild of Organists met at 2:20 P.M. on Saturday, February 28th, at Trinity United Methodist Church immediately preceding the recital by the students from the organ studio of Prof. Iain Quinn. The following members were present: Joe Kraus, dean; Carol Marchant, secretary; Roger Ponder, treasurer, and member-at-large Patty Herrington. The minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

Roger gave the treasurer's report which shows that our current balance, as of 2/28/2015, is \$1830.16.

We received \$74.00 from the AGO National office for another renewing member, and an anonymous gift of \$250 from someone who was unable to attend our Halloween Spooktacular in October 2014 and missed contributing to the chapter at that time. Our only expense this month was \$156.58 for the maintenance of our website.

The collection taken at the Scholarship Recital on February 28th amounted to \$201—\$151 in cash and a check for \$50 made out to the FSU Organ Scholarship Fund.

Dean Kraus stated that the Sacred Music Conference was very well received, in particular the Hymn Sing and the performances by Pamela Ruiten-Feenstra. He feels that our \$800 contribution toward the conference was money well spent. He reminded us of Iain Quinn's upcoming recital on Tuesday, March 3rd, at 8:00 p.m. in Opperman Music Hall at FSU, and his all-Bach recital on Sunday, April 19th, at 3:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, to be followed by a reception in the church hall.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m. The next executive board meeting will be held on Sunday, April 19th at First Presbyterian Church at 2 p.m., immediately preceding Dr. Quinn's all-Bach recital.

MEMBER NEWS

Will Scarboro and his fiancée Patricia Crispino will exchange their wedding vows on Sunday, June 21st, at 4:00 p.m. in the gazebo at Dorothy B. Oven Park, 3205 Thomasville Road in Tallahassee.

On Saturday, February 21st, at 10:00 a.m., the Pensacola (Florida) AGO chapter sponsored an organ master class taught by **Dr. Iain Quinn** at Christ Church (Episcopal), 18 West Wright Street. The master class was open to all church organists in the Pensacola area. The next day, Sunday, February 22nd, at 4:00 p.m., Dr. Quinn presented a concert on the 43-stop, 60-rank Kney pipe organ at Christ Church; the concert was co-sponsored by the Pensacola AGO chapter and Music at Christ Church.

REGIONAL & NATIONAL NEWS

On Friday March 6th, the Central Florida Chapter of The American Guild of Organists will present a concert of *Rising Young Stars*, Central Florida's up-and-coming student organists. The concert will be at 7:30 p.m. at Winter Park Presbyterian Church, 400 South Lakemont Avenue, Winter Park, Florida, 32792, phone 407-647-1467.

The 2015 Convention of the Southeastern Region (formerly Region IV) of the American Guild of Organists will be held July 1–4, 2015, in Charlotte, North Carolina. For information about the convention schedule, concert venues, recitalists, workshop presenters, fees, etc., please visit the convention website www.agocharlotte2015.org.

For your planning information, the next National Convention of the American Guild of Organists will be held July 19–23, 2016, in Houston, Texas. The 2018 National Convention will be hosted by the Kansas City, Missouri, chapter of the AGO.

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.

March 1st – Dupré and Rachmaninoff...virtuosic music by two of the towering legends of the early 20th-century keyboard, explored by Jeremy Filsell.

March 8th – Cleobury of King's...after more than three decades as director of the Choir of King's College Chapel, Cambridge, Stephen Cleobury knows his job, and still keeps on his toes as an organ soloist.

March 15th – Bach in America...though his roots are inextricably in Central German soil, transplanted Bach and his music never ceases to flourish here in the United States.

March 22nd – Spring's Bach...in celebration of the Vernal Equinox and a special birthday, we delight again in more of the ever resilient music of Johann Sebastian Bach.

March 29th – The Stations of the Cross...a multi-performer, multi-venue presentation of Marcel Dupré's provocative and profound musical interpretation of Paul Claudel's vivid fourteen-poem cycle, *Le Chemin de la Croix*.

April 5th – Music for Easter...whether in Baroque chorale preludes, Victorian anthems, or contemporary meditations, compositions for the Resurrection Festival always uplift.

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 April and May newsletters would be any programs for the seasons of Lent, Easter, and Pentecost that your church or other organization might be planning to present. Thank you.