



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,

I look back proudly on the achievements of our chapter during the month of October. First, on Sunday, October 18th students from the organ studio of Dr. Iain Quinn at FSU gave a superlative recital to celebrate the 350th anniversary of the birth of Nicolaus Bruhns, on the Taylor and Boody organ at First Presbyterian Church. This informative program featured comments on Bruhns's life and works by FSU doctoral student Chris Orr. It was very rewarding to see our students so actively involved in an AGO event. Second, we experienced the best ever Halloween Spooktacular Concert on Friday evening, October 30th at St. John's Episcopal Church. The building was packed, the performances first-rate, and the free will offering most generous! I thank the members of the Board and the St. John's Adult Choir, who contributed baked goods for the reception; Sub-dean Roderick Gorby (who kept the event on track in my absence); and particularly members Elizabeth LaJeunesse and Betsy Calhoun at St. John's, who focused on matters of organization—and decoration! And many thanks to all who performed at this event: Elizabeth, Rod, Viktor Billa, Michael Corzine, Kim King, Curtis Smith, and special guests Valerie Arsenault, violin, Shawn McCauley, narrator, and Alex LaJeunesse, percussion. We couldn't have enjoyed such a great success without all of you!

Remember that AGO dues may be paid electronically through the ONCARD system (<https://www.agohq.org/membership/join-as-a-chapter-member/>). You may also visit www.tallahasseeago.org for information about upcoming events.

All the best,

Joe Kraus
 Dean, Tallahassee AGO

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

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/>.

Earlier this spring, the AGO National Council 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 (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 went out in April, reflected these changes.

UPCOMING AGO EVENTS

Our next Tallahassee chapter event will be our annual Epiphany party on Sunday, January 10th, 2016. The time and place, to be determined, will be announced in the December newsletter.

UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS

Every Sunday evening from September 13th through April 24th, 2016 (except for Sunday, December 13th and Sunday, December 27th), 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.

Sunday, November 15th, the Tallahassee Community Chorus presents *The Creation*, an oratorio by Joseph Haydn, at 4 p.m. in Ruby Diamond Concert Hall on the FSU campus. Tickets, which are \$22 for adults, \$15 for seniors, and \$6 for students, may be purchased online at <http://tchorus.org/shop/buy-tickets>, or at the box office beginning one hour prior to the concert.

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

Friday, November 20th, at 8:00 p.m., the Tallahassee Symphony Orchestra presents TSO Jazz at The Moon, 1105 East Lafayette Street, in Tallahassee. Back by popular demand, the wonderful singer Avis Berry and band leader Leon Anderson will host another great evening of jazz, featuring such standards as “All I Do Is Dream of You,” “A Foggy Day,” “Come Rain or Come Shine,” and—to honor the centennial of the legendary Count Basie Orchestra—some of the tunes made famous by his band will be performed. The concert will also feature Tallahassee trumpeters Longineu Parsons and Scotty Barnhart. Reserved tickets are \$25 and general admission is \$17, both plus service fees, and may be purchased at <http://tallahassee.moonevents.com/events/tso-jazz>. For further information, please visit the TSO website at <http://www.tallahassee-symphony.org>.

Saturday, November 21st, Opening Nights presents violinist Gil Shaham in a recital of Sonatas and Partitas by Johann Sebastian Bach, at 7:30 p.m. in Ruby Diamond Concert Hall on the FSU campus. Hailed as the “outstanding American violinist of his generation” by *Time* magazine, the Grammy-Award winning artist will perform Sonata No. 2 in A minor, BWV 1003; Partita No. 2 in D minor, BWV 1004; Sonata No. 3 in C Major, BWV 1005; and Partita No. 3 in E Major, BWV 1006, all for unaccompanied violin. For tickets, priced from \$15-\$65, visit the Opening Nights website at <https://openingnights.fsu.edu/tickets/>.

Sunday, November 22nd, The Tallahassee Bach Parley presents *To the Italian Taste: Music of Italian Composers or Written in the Italian Style* at 3:00 p.m. at St. John’s Episcopal Church, 211 North Monroe Street in Tallahassee. Sopranos Carla Connors and Phyllis Pancella will appear with the instrumentalists of the Bach Parley in works by Monteverdi, Geminiani, Picchi, Marini, and Handel. The concert is open to the public; a donation of \$10 is suggested. Free childcare is also available. For more information, visit www.tallahasseebachparley.org.

The Tallahassee Music Guild presents its 27th annual *Sing-Along Messiah* on Tuesday, December 1st at 7:30 p.m. at Faith Presbyterian Church, 2200 North Meridian Road. This year, the conductor and artistic director is Christopher Garven, with Viktor Billa, organist, and Kenneth Kronholz, trumpet. Vocal soloists are Yuliia Billa, soprano, Emily Howes, alto, Gabriel Hernandez, tenor, and Jonathan LaBarre, bass. Admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. You can purchase a *Messiah* score which you may keep, or, if you return it at the end of the evening, you will receive a \$5 refund. All proceeds from the concert go to scholarships for FSU and FAMU music students.

Saturday, December 5th, The FSU College of Music presents *A Seasonal Celebration*, a concert of music for the holiday season by all of the choral groups in the College of Music, including the Tallahassee Community Chorus. The concert will take place at 7:30 p.m. in Ruby Diamond Concert Hall on the FSU Campus. For information about this and other concerts in the College of Music, as well as to purchase tickets, visit www.music.fsu.edu/Concerts-and-Events.

The Tallahassee Civic Chorale, under the direction of Dr. Leslie Heffner, will present its fall concert entitled *Carols of the Season: Christmas, Hanukkah, and Winter*, on Tuesday, December 8th at 7:30 p.m. in Turner Auditorium at Tallahassee Community College, 444 Appleyard Drive in Tallahassee. Admission is \$9 for adults, \$7 for seniors, and \$7 for non-TCC students. TCC students, faculty, and staff are admitted free. For tickets call (850) 942-1893 or see any Chorale member. Tickets will also be sold in the lobby of the auditorium prior to the concert.

UPCOMING REGIONAL EVENTS

Our former dean, Jonathan Hehn, now Minister of Music and Arts at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church and Day School in Tampa, sends us a notice that Good Shepherd will be presenting a concert by the Newberry College Singers on Wednesday, December 28th, at 7:30 p.m. Further information will be included in the December Newsletter.

Famed organist Hector Olivera will be presenting two masterclasses in April 2016 at his home in Sarasota, Florida. For more information, visit the website www.hectorsfriends.com/2016-MasterClass.htm.

EXECUTIVE BOARD NEWS

The Executive Board of the Tallahassee Chapter of the AGO met on Sunday, October 18th, from 2:10 to 2:50 p.m., prior to the Nicolaus Bruhns anniversary recital at First Presbyterian Church. Agenda items included discussion of a vacancy on the Board (for a member-at-large), a treasurer’s report (including the latest information from the ONCARD membership system), and planning for the Halloween Spooktacular concert (publicity, program, and reception). Treasurer Roger Ponder reported that 26 members and friends have paid their dues, while 16 members and friends have not, allowing their membership to lapse. The Dean plans to contact the latter individuals to remind them of the benefits of membership in the AGO. The Treasurer also reported a bank balance of \$2620.08 (as of September 30th).

The Executive Board will hold their next meeting on Sunday, January 10th, prior to the chapter’s annual Epiphany party. The exact time and location will be announced in the December chapter newsletter.

MEMBER NEWS

Our chapter was greatly saddened by the death of long-time member **Fred Boska** on October 19th. He passed away due to heart disease, complicated by a liver condition. Burial was in St. Augustine; a long-time friend from Americus, Georgia (where Fred taught and where he often played the organ in the local movie theatre) is handling his affairs. There may be a memorial service in Tallahassee at some time in the future. We all remember with fondness the wonderful AGO Epiphany parties Fred hosted every year at his home in Indianhead Acres—the wide diversity of food, the well-stocked bar, the wonderful fellowship, and most of all, the great fun everyone had playing Fred’s glorious theatre organ far into the wee hours of the next morning! That organ now resides in the Maguire Centre at Westminster Oaks, where Fred spent his last years.

Our dean, **Joe Kraus**, was recently in St. Louis, Missouri for the national Society for Music Theory Annual Meeting, where he delivered a report to the Russian Theory Interest Group on the Moscow theory conference (which he attended in September) and participated in the Professional Development Committee’s CV Review Session (editing cover letters and vitas for SMT members joining the job market). He also performed several songs with countertenor J. Daniel Jenkins (from the University of South Carolina).

Paraclete Press, publishers of sacred music located in Orleans, MA, has announced that their November Composer of the Month is our own **Iain Quinn**! You can read Iain’s extensive biography by visiting their website at <http://www.paracletepress.com/iain-quinn-c.html>. You may also receive a 20% discount on any of Iain’s music by using promo code SMCOM20 when you order during the month of November.

REGIONAL & NATIONAL AGO NEWS

For your planning information, the next National Convention of the American Guild of Organists will be held July 19–23, 2016, in Houston, Texas. Registration is now open, with a Super Saver rate for regular members of only \$375, which is good through December 31, 2015. Savings for special and student members are also available. The main convention website is www.AGOHouston2016.com. One of our members, Dr. Iain Quinn, will be presenting a workshop at the convention. More details on the convention will featured in future chapter newsletters. Let’s plan to send a delegation from Tallahassee!

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.

November 15th—Prizewinners Perform...talented and aspiring young soloists show their promise as winners of various national and regional competitions sponsored by the American Guild of Organists.

November 22nd—On Fire!...an independent approach leads to compelling results in the hands of those who prefer “doing it their way”!

November 29th—All American...despite the organ’s origins abroad, our resident composers have rather nicely figured out the King of Instruments.

December 6th—Rounding Up...selected works by composers celebrating special centennial or sesqui-centennial anniversaries this year.

December 13th—An International Christmas Celebration...with greetings from England, Iceland, France, Austria, Poland, Italy, Canada, and the United States.

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 December and January newsletters would be any programs for the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Hanukkah, or Winter that your church or other organization might be planning to present.