



QUARTER NOTES

FASO'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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Greetings!

I am very pleased to greet all FASO members in my first article as president of the FASO Board of Directors. The best place to begin is to thank Paula Abernethy for serving the past two years as our president. Paula's dedication to FASO and the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra, her creativity, and her hard work make her a role model for me and all future presidents. Thanks, Paula!



Last year was a great year for FASO. We were able to give the ASO \$22,000! We provided hundreds of hours of support -- from the Opening Night Gala, to Feed the Strings on Tuesday nights before concert performances, to staffing the coat-check service before and after concerts. Your Board was tireless in organizing events, large and small, needed to generate critical financial support for the ASO.

Now we look ahead to another season of superbly performed music at ASO concerts. FASO will sponsor a wide array of fun-filled activities that will give all of us the chance to express our appreciation and support for our wonderful Annapolis Symphony Orchestra.

Stay tuned for future issues of **Quarter Notes**, e-mail alerts, and even the snail mail (!) for news about the activities we are planning. Starting in September, we hope to have a fun event for you to enjoy every single month.

Have a great summer and I look forward to seeing each of you in the fall!

Michael J. Kurtz
President



ALL-IN-ONE ANNUAL MEETING / MEMBERSHIP PICNIC / WINE TASTING

We had record attendance at our annual meeting at Great Frogs Winery on May 15, almost 100 folks. Could it be because the meeting was also a wine tasting and a catered picnic? Oh, yes! Another reason for the big crowd was the drawing for our Trip Raffle, a very successful fundraiser chaired by Teddi Schulman. Thanks Teddi! And congratulations to Tessie Ballard who won the drawing. She had a choice of a trip valued at \$6,000 to either Santa Fe, New Mexico or Sonoma, California. She tells us she's chosen Santa Fe.

Pictured here is a happy moment: At left, Tessie accepts her winnings from Teddi, at the drawing. Between them in the background, leading the applause is Stephen Holt, member of the Board of Directors whose company, Premier Planning Group, sponsored the annual meeting event at Great Frogs. Thanks Steve!

Another important item of business at the annual meeting was the donation of our latest contribution to the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra, represented at the event by executive director Jeth Mill. Pictured here, outgoing president Paula Abnernehy does the honors. With this check, the ASO has received a total of \$22,000 from FASO this year.

The annual meeting also marked the start of a fiscal year, and the introduction of our new president Michael Kurtz and new board members as well.

Michael is an archivist, author and professor at the University of Maryland. He spent the past year as FASO's membership chairman and was the genius behind our delightful annual meeting. He is author of the book "America and the Return of Nazi Contraband," which provided source material for the book upon which the movie "Monuments Men" was based.

Luckily, outgoing President Paula Abnernehy is staying on. She will be Vice President for Ways and Means in the coming year.

We welcomed four new members to the FASO board, some of whom are familiar faces from days of past service: Joan Russell, Sage Mumma, Gloria Pressman and Jeanne Block Bessmer. Joining the Nominating and Board Development Committee are directors Anna Greenberg and Teddi Schulman, and, as a non-board member, Joe Dickey. Welcome to all.

And, a grateful farewell to those directors whose terms expired.



FUN AND FUNDS

How did we do it? How did FASO raise \$22,000 to give to the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra? Here's how: During our 2014-2015 year, just ended, we raised funds in big ways and small ways, all of them fun. Our biggest income-producer was the Concert of Tastes, which we held last November at DoubleTree Hotel. See the "Save the Date" listings for more on the better-than-ever upcoming Nov. 15 Concert of Tastes.

On the opposite end of the financial scale, we ran the coat-check room at ASO concerts all last season and turned over to the ASO all the money from the tip jar. Every penny counts!



We also raised funds by showing a movie (and chatting with the producers) March 15, about the theft of the Mona Lisa, by holding a wine-tasting at Great Frogs Winery on May 15, by raffling off an all-expense-paid vacation trip. Generous members of the board held fundraisers at their homes -- a Mexican Fiesta and a Mardi Gras party -- and, thanks to Carrol's Creek, the Killarney House and the Smokehouse, we enjoyed really nice meals from which the restaurants gave FASO

back a percentage of the sales. Our annual Champagne Sunday party on April 12 at Harbor Hills Yacht Club, and our Annual Meeting at Great Frogs Winery also brought in money for the ASO. This photo shows student musicians from the Chesapeake Youth Symphony Orchestra performing at Champagne Sunday. Wow, were they good!

Meanwhile, we also gave of our time and talents. On every Tuesday of concert week, FASO members bring in food to provide dinner to the string section so that the musicians can survive their extended evening rehearsals. We call it "Feed the Strings." FASO members helped



with the important process by which the ASO auditions hopeful new orchestra members. FASO members travelled with the ASO's music van to many local schools to help introduce musicians and instruments to schoolchildren. Finally, in cooperation with the CYSO we donate \$1,500 each year to a talented middle-school or high-school student to pay for private lessons. This year's winner is a



young bassoon player from Bowie, Patrick Heinecke.

Pictured at left, board member Marthena Cowart enjoys the music at Champagne Sunday. At right is Don Dement, the source of (almost) all the photos in this issue of Quarter Notes and most of the pictures in previous issues as well. Don's term is expiring, to this editor's great regret. Thank you, Don Dement, for being so generous to FASO with your time and talent.

■ Carol Richards, editor

Save these Dates

Sept. 6, Pops in the Park, 5:30 p.m. outdoors at Quiet Waters Park. Free. (Rain Date, Sept. 7, 5:30 p.m.)

October 2 and 3 Opening Night Celebration parties. Follow the search lights, walk the red carpet, enter Maryland Hall to the sound of herald trumpets, enjoy food and specialty cocktails prior to the concert. Plus, post-concert champagne and dessert party. Tickets required. Call 410-269-1132 for more information.

October 2 and 3, Lexus Classic Series 1. William Wolfram, guest pianist. Wagner, Overture to Tannhäuser; Sibelius, Pohjola's Daughter; Falla, Interlude and Dance from La Vida Breve; Bernstein, Symphony No. 2, The Age of Anxiety. 8 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

November 13 and 14, Lexus Classic Series 2. Netanel Draiblate, guest violinist. Debussy/Busser, Petite Suite; Dvorak, Concerto for Violin in A Minor; Brahms, Symphony No. 3 in F Major. 8 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

November 15, Concert of Tastes, our big annual fund-raiser. This year it has a new look, a new date and a new venue. The Concert of Tastes will be held on the third Sunday of November, from 6 to 9 p.m. in the Key Auditorium reception rooms at St. John's College. Ample free parking. Food tastings from fine restaurants, open bar, wine-food pairing lessons, Golden Chance raffle, live music, live auction. Mark your calendars now. Look for invitations in the mail.

December 18, Holiday Pops featuring Steve Lippia. A simply Sinatra Christmas, celebrating Frank Sinatra's 100th birthday. 8 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor

March 4, 5 and 6, Lexus Classic Series 3. Lynn Harrell, guest violoncellist, Shostakovich, Concerto for Violoncello No. 1 in E-flat Major. Mahler, Symphony No. 1 in D Major. March 4 and 5, at 8 p.m., Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor. March 6, at 3 p.m., The Music Center at Strathmore, José-Luis Novo, Conductor

April 1 and 2, Lexus Classic Series 4. Michael Roll, guest pianist. Beethoven, Coriolan Overture; R. Schumann, Concerto for Piano in A Minor; Ives, The Unanswered Question; Schubert, Symphony No. 5 in B-flat Major. 8 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor

May 6 and 7, Lexus Classic Series 5. Smetana, The Moldau; Fung, Dust Devils; Britten, Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra; Franck, Symphony in D Minor. 8 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

May 14 and 15, Family Concerts, with Michael Boudewyns and Sara Valentine, Really Inventive Stuff. L. Mozart, Toy Symphony; Britten, Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra. Concerts at 2 and 3:30 p.m. in Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

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