

# QUARTER NOTES

## FASO'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Published by and for Friends of the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra

**MARCH 2015**

Dear FASO Members,

The snow is falling outside as I sit at the computer writing this. What a winter it has been! I am looking forward to warmer weather, and some great warm FASO events to go with it.



First a big thank you goes to all of you who have supported FASO and our fundraising efforts this season. We had a lovely dinner at Carroll's Creek Restaurant in January, and a very festive Mardi Gras party in February. (Special thanks to the hosts and chefs Tessie Ballard, Ginger From, and Bernadine Crosby). And our coat check room at the ASO concerts has generated a few hundred dollars and provided a good service to patrons.

Art lovers and mystery buffs will enjoy the upcoming film showing "Mona Lisa is Missing," which tells the true story of the heist of the famous painting. Come enjoy the film and meet the producers on March 15 at 3 p.m. at the Eastport Yacht Club. Seating is limited, so kindly let me know if you are coming. This fundraiser is \$20 per person.

Who would enjoy a luxury trip for two to either Sonoma Valley or Santa Fe? It could be yours if you are the winner of the FASO trip raffle. Tickets are on sale now until April 12. See below for more information.

Check the "Save the Date" in this newsletter for our April and May events, which include a special dinner at Killarney House, our annual Champagne Sunday at a beautiful new venue, and a unique annual meeting in May.

Come on out and help us support the ASO! I hope to see you often this spring!

Paula Abernethy, president

## WINE TASTING/ ANNUAL MEETING/ MEMBERSHIP PICNIC



### **Who says annual meetings have to be boring? Not FASO.**

Mark your calendars for a very special FASO annual meeting! This year we will have a picnic for members, and prospective members, on May 15<sup>th</sup> at Great Frogs Winery, 3218 Harness Creek Road in Annapolis. The picnic will be from 5-8:00 p.m., and will feature a wine tasting provided by Great Frogs. A complimentary wine glass and holder, as well as a delicious buffet served by the Broadneck Grill, will be made possible by the generous support of our event sponsor, the Premier Planning Group.

The cost is \$30 per person. To make a reservation, please make checks payable to FASO and mail to: P.O. Box 1974, Annapolis, MD 21404. You may also pay by credit card by calling the ASO box office at 410-263-0907. You may also pay at the picnic.



### **HAIL TO THE KING AND QUEEN OF MARDI GRAS**

FASO's annual Mardi Gras fund-raiser was a smash success. Great food. Great fun.

Pictured here are King Dennis Henderson and Queen Donna Mill.

Thanks to the hosts, Tessie Ballard, Ginger From and Bernadine Crosby.

## **FASO WANTS YOU!**

### **Got ideas? Want to help? Here's your chance to shape FASO's Future**

The Nominating And Board Development Committee (NABD) is looking for new people to serve on FASO's Board of Directors. As a FASO member we ask you to volunteer or help us to find members who are willing to serve at least two years and who are willing to work. Oh yes, and who are willing to have fun and fellowship with other FASO volunteers.

Nominate yourself or someone whom you'd like to see on the board. Contact Tessie LaRose Ballard at (410) 798-8234 or [leelarose2@gmail.com](mailto:leelarose2@gmail.com) OR, contact any FASO NABD committee member or any member of the Board of Directors.

Tessie looks forward to hearing from all of you with the names and contact information of potential FASO Board of Director or FASO members.



## MARCH 15 FUND-RAISER: “MONA LISA IS MISSING”



Come enjoy this prize-winning 86-minute movie and chat with the filmmakers. Sunday, March 15 at 3 p.m. at the Eastport Yacht Club. \$20. Park for free at the office building across the street. Cash bar. PLEASE RSVP. We need a head count!

RSVP by emailing or calling PaulaAbernethy [paula.abernethy@gmail.com](mailto:paula.abernethy@gmail.com) 410-703-3554.

To pay, you can call the ASO office to charge it by March 12, 410-269-1132 OR send a check to the FASO P.O. Box by March 12. (PO Box 1974, Annapolis MD 21404) OR pay at the door, but RSVP ahead due to seating limitations.

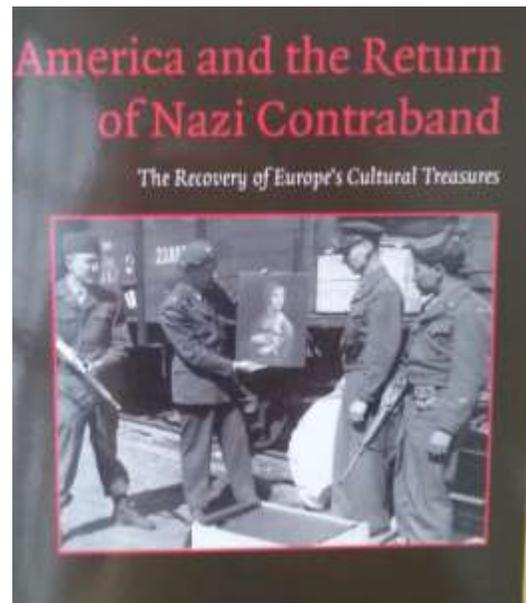
## WIN A \$6,000 TRIP FOR 2 TO SANTA FE OR CALIFORNIA’S SONOMA VALLEY

The winner of our big raffle will get to choose between two appealing locations, Santa Fe, N.M., an internationally known arts center, and the Sonoma Valley wine region. Arts? Or wine? Your choice. Winners get round trip air fare for two, four-night stays in luxury hotels complete with breakfasts. In Santa Fe, add a visit to the Georgia O’Keeffe Museum and dinner at La Casa Sena. In Sonoma, there are tours and tastings at two wineries including Chateau St. Jean, and a blending seminar at Imagery Estate Winery. Raffle tickets are available from any FASO board member or call Teddi Schulman, 410-757-8095. Ticket cost: One for \$20, three for \$50 or 10 for \$100. Drawing will be April 12 at our annual Champagne Sunday event.

## MEET THE MONUMENTS MAN

No, it’s not George Clooney, it’s FASO board member Michael Kurtz. He is author of the book that is pictured here. If you’ve seen the movie, you know it is the story of how members of the U.S. Army’s Monuments, Fine Arts and Archives unit spread out over Europe to rescue and return works of art and objects that had been looted by the Nazis and hidden away in deep mines and caves.

Kurtz was way too young to be a Monuments Man himself but in 1979, when he was a graduate student at Georgetown U and needed a topic for his Ph.D. thesis, he chose to look into the records at the National Archives of the U.S. Army of Occupation in Germany. What he found in a vast storage building in Suitland, Md., was a trove of boxes containing the records of the Army’s Monuments Men unit and of a brother group, the Art



Looting Investigation Unit, that was part of the OSS (now the CIA).

The boxes had never been indexed or processed. When he opened them up, he never knew what he would find. Michael Kurtz turned out to be the first person to do a study on U.S. policy on the restitution of looted material. No, he didn't find any da Vincis or Michelangelos, he found the records of their whereabouts. But he also found reports of the OSS interrogations of looters. And he found a diary of a Jewish German man in Berlin who wrote, on the last page, that the Gestapo was coming and so he was now going to commit suicide. Emotional stuff.

He earned his Ph.D. with this thesis, and it immediately found a publisher. Later, when the Berlin Wall fell and newly-found records became available, he rewrote the book, which came out in paperback in 2009. Robert Edsel used Kurtz's material in his book "The Monuments Men," which was the basis of the recent movie directed by and starring George Clooney. "I did not get to meet George Clooney," said Kurtz, "but that didn't bother me very much."

You can meet our "monuments man" at almost any FASO event, or by coming to the Wine Tasting/ Picnic/ Annual meeting on May 15. He's the chairman. It'll be monumental.

### **Save these Dates**

**March 15. FASO Film fest. "Mona Lisa Is Missing"** Sunday, 3 p.m., Eastport Yacht Club. \$20. Park for free at office building across the street. Cash bar. Q and A with filmmakers.

**Mar. 27 and 28, Lexus Classic Series 4.** Elgar, the Sanguine Fan; Prokofiev, Concerto for Violin No. 2 in G Minor, op. 63; Shostakovich, Symphony No. 9 in E-flat major, op. 70. Vadim Gluzman, guest violinist. 8 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

**April 7. Dinner at Killarney House.** Bring friends from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Killarney will donate a sum for each diner. Reservations can be made at (410) 798-8700. You can order to go or eat there, Let Killarney know that you are dining for FASO when you arrive.

**April 12, Champagne Sunday. Harbor Hills Yacht Club.** Watch for invitations.

**May 8 and 9, Lexus Classic Series 5.** R. Schumann, Manfred Overture; Lieberson, Neruda Songs; Sibelius, Symphony No. 5 in E-flat major, op. 82. Kelley O'Connor, mezzo-soprano. 8 p.m. Maryland Hall, José-Luis Novo, Conductor.

**May 15, FASO Wine Tasting / Membership Picnic / Annual Meeting.** Great Frogs Winery, 3218 Harness Creek Road in Annapolis. 5-8 p.m. Tickets, \$30. Food, wine, music, fun. Renew your membership. Recruit new members.

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