

July 6, 2020 Sarasota-Manatee Chapter Member News



Dear Members and Friends,

July 1st is the official date for our 2020-2021 slate of officers and executive committee members to assume leadership responsibilities for the coming year.

Your Officers are:

Dean – Nancy Siebecker

Sub-Dean – Amy Cerniglia

Secretary – Cynthia Roberts-Greene

Treasurer – Susan Crumpler

Your Executive Committee members are:

Class of 2021 – Jim Culver and Janet Davis

Class of 2022 – Steven Phillips and Robert Reeves

Class of 2023 – Dick Benedum and Sam Nelson

We especially want to welcome Sam Nelson and Steven Phillips as new executive committee members and thank our one “retiring” committee member, Carolyn Reynolds, for her many years of dedicated service and cheerful support.

We are happy to announce Sam Nelson as our new Membership Coordinator. He will lead our Executive Committee members toward our goal of personally reaching out to members and non-members as we determine how to plan for the coming year.

Below please find a synopsis of the Events Committee’s virtual meeting June 30th during which we discussed possibilities for virtual programming in the fall, and tech support for those wanting to participate but struggling to access ZOOM. We are prioritizing connection in our programming this year, hoping to engage members across our chapter while still following CDC guidelines for the duration of the pandemic.

Nancy Siebecker, Dean and Amy Cerniglia, Sub-Dean

AGO Events Committee Planning

Amy Cerniglia, Dick Benedum, Greg Chestnut, James Guyer,
Jim Hawkinson, Sam Nelson, Nancy Siebecker

During the fall, we hope to offer more online / distanced connections.

- September banquet?
 - Outdoors may be more safe and result in higher attendance
 - Indoors would allow for a livestreamed installation service, plus members might be able to ZOOM into the banquet
- Engaging members via ZOOM
 - Sending a how-to video or asking members to let us know if they are able to use ZOOM so that we may be able to help them connect
 - Preparing questions for discussion with breakout rooms if necessary to accommodate high turnout
 - How to make music during the pandemic?
 - How are you approaching safety concerns for singing during the pandemic?
 - What would you like to know about virtual choirs (or, can you share your past experiences with virtual collaborations, if any)?
 - Sharing resources
 - Discussing pandemic planning for a variety of musical genres
 - Handbells
 - Organ
 - Choir
 - Percussion
 - Polling Chapter members asking their top 3 or 5 choices for discussions.
 - A smaller number of members may oversee conversations in breakout rooms or serve as technological assistance (muting others where necessary, initiating breakout rooms)
- A webinar from one speaker on a topic relevant to our members, keeping in mind the diverse backgrounds and employment situations in our chapter
 - Someone from overseas i.e. Timothy Brown, choirmaster of Clare College Cambridge
 - Presentation on organs in a place like Seoul or Tokyo

Some may be exhausted from ZOOM while others may need more help connecting to ZOOM than a how-to video. We will continue to stay in touch with members via the blasts and encourage them to let us know if we can provide any more help in learning ZOOM.

In the Spring, we may be able to think about other options.

- A visit to the new carillon in Venice
- John Behnke reprising his handbell workshop planned for last spring
- A webinar or in-person lecture at Redeemer with Dr. Andrew Shenton (Arvo Pärt scholar, founder of adult RSCM courses at Princeton) on conducting techniques, working with young voices, repertoire suggestions, something else?



Now streaming from Methuen: a treasured organ with nine lives

By [Jeremy Eichler](#) Globe Staff, Updated June 11, 2020, 12:59 p.m.

Here's something for your summer reading pleasure concerning the resurrected 6,000 pipe "Great Organ" of the Boston Music Hall. Starting back in 1863, it has been the source of countless fabulous concerts and is now performing on YouTube.

<https://www.bostonglobe.com/2020/06/11/arts/now-streaming-methuen-treasured-organ-with-nine-lives/>