



**American Guild of Organists  
Sarasota-Manatee Chapter  
Executive Committee Meeting**

**January 5, 2026 11 a.m.**

**St. Armands Key Lutheran Church, Sarasota**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**CHAPTER OFFICERS**

Michael Bodnyk

*Dean*

Jason Branham

*Sub-Dean*

Bryan Cordell

*Secretary*

Glen Olsen

*Treasurer*

**AT-LARGE MEMBERS**

**2026**

James Guyer

Jim Johnston

**2027**

Brandon Kouri

Glenn Priest

**2028**

Sam Nelson

Vacant

*Membership –*

*Historian –*

*Newsletter – Sam Nelson*

*Publicity –*

*Advertising –*

*Webmaster – Bryan Cordell*

*Chaplain –*

*Education –*

*Placement – John Ferreira*

**AGENDA**

- 1. Call to Order** – Dean Michael Bodnyk called the Executive Committee (EC) meeting to order at 11:05 a.m.
- 2. Roll Call/Quorum** – 8 Members Present
  - a. Michael Bodnyk, Dean
  - b. Jason Branham, Sub-Dean (ZOOM)
  - c. Bryan Cordell, Secretary
  - d. Glen Olsen, Treasurer
  - e. Jim Johnston, At-Large Member (ZOOM)
  - f. Sam Nelson, At-Large Member (ZOOM)
  - g. Glenn Priest, At-Large Member
  - h. Brandon Kouri, At-Large Member (ZOOM)
  - 1 Member Absent: James Guyer, At-Large Member
  - Meeting quorum established (minimum of 25%)
  - 2 guests attending this session:
    - Shawn Kenney (Chairman of the Board, American Theater Organ Society-ATOS)
    - Dr. Steven Ball, AGO member, Organist/Choirmaster St. Boniface Episcopal, Sarasota
- 3. Approval of Minutes** – Secretary Cordell summarized minutes to 2 previous sessions. These session minutes have been distributed by e-mail and posted to the chapter website:
  - a. November 11, 2025 (Executive Committee)
  - b. November 25, 2025 (Executive Committee-Virtual)

Sam Nelson moved to approve the minutes as presented, Glenn Priest seconded. Hearing no further discussion or questions, motion carried
- 4. Dean's Report** – Michael Bodnyk
  - a. Welcomed everyone back from the busy holiday season and now turning our focus to the new year
  - b. Emphasized greater outreach to those on the geographic fringes of the chapter (north Manatee, south Sarasota) in smaller churches. Not sure they are seeing practical benefits of AGO membership in their worship experience, especially smaller congregations. Perhaps we could offer more to assist them, specifically with more relevant music resources, perhaps handbell workshops (John Behnke as a local resource), etc. Reaching these folks should be a focus going forward



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**5. Sub-Dean's Report – Jason Branham**

As the lead for the Program Committee, presented emerging programming options to consider for the remainder of the chapter year:

**a. *Jan 11 – Nancy Siebecker Hosted Social w/Jeremy Filsell***

- Event will include social reception with brief organ concert/discussion led by Jeremy Filsell on his past experiences as organist and director of the Men/Boy Choir at St. Thomas Episcopal Cathedral, NYC
- Requesting a not-to-exceed (NTE) authorization of \$500 to cover refreshments, chair rentals, and honorarium for Jeremy Filsell. Extensive discussion followed on the chapter funding this event after the particulars were already settled prior to EC approval. Going forward, the EC needs to be involved at the front end of planning, not the back end when costs are incurred and the chapter is being requested to pay for these expenses. Sam Nelson did offer that while he was continuing role of Dean during the chapter suspension phase, he did ok the \$500 NTE authorization with Nancy. Discussion also included a request for Jeremy Filsell to broaden his topics to include other items that might be more relevant to local organists (transcriptions, arrangements, etc. for service playing)
- Based on these discussions, Dean Bodnyk made a motion to authorize the \$500 NTE amount with the stipulation that receipts be provided to Glen Olsen as treasurer for any amounts spent. Secretary Cordell seconded, motion carried

**b. *Feb 21 – Cross Chapter Organ Crawl***

- North chapter members would meet at First United Methodist and Christ Episcopal in Bradenton to survey the organs there. South chapter members would meet at (TBD) churches to survey the organs there. Suggested churches in the south chapter area would include St. Mark's Episcopal and Emmanuel Lutheran (both in Venice). Then all participants would travel to Sarasota and meet at either Church of the Redeemer, Episcopal or First Presbyterian to survey the organs there and have a chapter wide social. Details on all churches and locations are still being finalized
- Requesting an NTE of \$250 to cover the cost of refreshments. Dean Bodnyk made a motion to authorize the \$250 NTE amount with the stipulation that receipts be provided to Glen Olsen as treasurer for any amounts spent. Secretary Cordell seconded, motion carried



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**c. Annual Banquet (May-June)**

- Continuing discussions on date and location. Initial thoughts would be either St. Boniface Episcopal (MP Moller organ) or The Classical Academy-TCA, Sarasota (Wurlitzer theater organ). Both venues would require outside catering. Both venues would likely require a facility charge. Initial estimates would be \$500-\$1000 for a facility charge and \$50/person for catering. We would fund any member + 1 guest. Dr. Steven Ball would be the host organist at either venue. May 18, June 1 and June 8 would be possible dates for the banquet
- There is strong interest in the TCA location with the Wurlitzer as this would be something new and different for a chapter banquet site

**ACTION:** Bryan Cordell and Steven Ball will be meeting with the TCA leadership team later in the week on Jan 9. Inquire if TCA would be interested in hosting this event, dates available, and costs

**d. Other**

- Choral workshops were offered as another possible event on the calendar
- Secretary Cordell noted that we are approaching the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Sarasota chapter (1957) and 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the merger of the Sarasota-Manatee chapters (1967). Perhaps design some events around those milestones

**6. Secretary/Webmaster's Report – Bryan Cordell**

- a. Official Secretary Records Released Since Last Meeting:
  - i. Minutes: November 11 (Executive Committee Meeting)
  - ii. Minutes: November 25 (Executive Committee-Virtual: Vote on Jason Branham, Sub-Dean)
- b. Membership Status (2025-Final): **56 CURRENT Members** (Net +1 for 2025)



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**ADDS: +10**

- Adamski, Rafal
- Bacacio, Erica
- Bowker, Kristene
- Brady, Rev. Fr. Michael
- Branham, Jason (transfer)
- Davies, Lew
- Filsell, Jeremy (transfer)
- Galuska, Andrew (transfer)
- Knoppers, Landon (dual)
- Seevers, Donald (dual)

**DROPS: -11**

- Culver, Jim
- Guliano, John
- Hogsed, Jones
- Hunder, Jane
- Jensen, Barbara
- Marren, Shawn
- Murphy, Lorraine
- Shields, Mary
- Stephenson-Moe, Ann
- Walton, Jim
- Wilson, Rev. Charleston

**DROPS-REJOIN: +2**

- Feigley, William
- Phillips, Steven

**NOTE:** Within the 2025 Calendar Year:

- *John Behnke dropped, then re-joined*
- *Joe Masters was re-added by National AGO, then transferred out to NC*

**Membership Directory Updates:** Jan 8, Jun 30, Oct 10, Nov 1, Dec 15

- c. Website Changes/Updates (100+ content changes for 2025):
  - i. Update/refresh all parts of the site
  - ii. Home Page announcements, event promotions, chapter calendar, newsletters
  - iii. Posting chapter governance docs (agendas, minutes, finances, etc.)
  - iv. Membership directory updates
  - v. Placement info: Sub list, Position Descriptions for job openings
  - vi. Posters/brochures for posting
  - vii. Maintaining gallery photos from chapter events
  - viii. Providing security for sensitive information



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**7. Treasurer's Report – Glen Olsen**

- a. No financial report for the previous quarter (ending Dec 31, 2025) is available yet as transactions are still being posted with the national AGO database. Will try to send a report out later this month as an amendment to the minutes for today's session
- b. Filed the chapter's non-profit status with the IRS on Dec 12, 2025
- c. Initial research indicates that TRUIST BANK would offer the best services and cost/fee structure for our chapter's banking needs. Will finalize a recommendation for our February EC session. Need to agree on a chapter address. Sam Nelson confirmed that Church of the Redeemer would host the chapter's archives, however, would not agree to using the church's address for our chapter. A suggestion was made to possibly use a P.O. Box for this purpose. Would that be a possibility?

**ACTION:** Glen Olsen to research options for establishing a chapter address and make a final recommendation for voting on the chapter's banking institution at the next EC meeting in February

**8. Old Business**

- a. ***Youth Scholarships***

**ACTION:** Jason Branham to contact Jeffrey Urbaniak (friend in Minnesota) to attend our next session via ZOOM. This individual started a successful scholarship program for the Arrowhead AGO

- b. ***Partnership with ATOS – Wurlitzer theater organ @ TCA, Sarasota***  
Dean Bodnyk invited Shawn Kenney to offer a few remarks. Shawn expressed appreciation for being invited to this session and highly encouraged more collaboration between all organ themed organizations to include AGO-ATOS joint efforts. More focus on recruiting new (younger) members and retaining current members is needed. Keeping the organ relevant in a shifting culture remains a challenge and is a charge to all of us. Looking forward to near-term collaboration on efforts with the local Wurlitzer

**ACTION:** Bryan Cordell (as local ATOS point of contact) will notify EC members of open console opportunities and other events with the Wurlitzer

- c. ***Chapter Communication Protocol*** – Discussions noted that the Dean and/or Sub-Dean are the primary points of communication with chapter members. Newsletters and Constant Contact e-mails will be distributed by Sam Nelson; website content will be updated and maintained by Bryan Cordell. Every effort will be made by these 4



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individuals to ensure cohesive and consistent messaging/content is maintained for the chapter

- d. **2028 At-Large Member Vacancy** – deferred until the February meeting
- e. **Nominating Committee for 2026-27 Year** – deferred until the February meeting

**9. Next Meeting**

Date: Monday, February 9, 2026

Time: 11 a.m.

Location: St. Armands Key Lutheran Church, Sarasota

**10. Adjournment** - Seeing no other agenda items for discussion, Dean Bodnyk made a motion to adjourn. Secretary Cordell seconded. Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,  
Bryan Cordell, Secretary



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**ATTACHMENT 1**

**Financial Report (Q2, 2025-2026)**

**IN-PROCESS**

Posted separately as a password protected file