

President's Message

Jan Hladik



My hope for each of you is that you will find a way to have joy during this holiday season in spite of the destruction around us. Picking up and moving forward to the future is important for all classes from individuals to nations. The future of the Society is in your hands, whether we move forward with our mission or let things fall by the wayside.

As in each of my messages, this is an appeal for the filling of areas and positions that are vacant. Positions that are vital to the operation of the Society. First I'll mention the News of Note. We depend on it for details of the luncheon meeting, news of projects, Amy's article from the Symphony office, info about other members, and business that support the NON. What will your connection to the Society be without it? An editor is needed by the end of April as the May NON will be the last issue compiled by Barb Coons. We need someone who knows how to put a newsletter together, if they want to use a different format, that is fine. If you don't know, but are willing to learn, Barb Coons will be your mentor. But you need to start now to learn the process.

Hostesses are needed to signal available seats at their table, encourage attendees to review the minutes and treasurer's report before the business meeting, make sure everyone at the table knows each other and encourage attendance at events. You don't have to do it every month, just let Barbara Carne know 502-777-0202. We don't know how many tables there will be until the final lunch count, so be flexible. When attending the luncheon it is easy to come half an hour early and make all feel welcome.

There is someone thinking of working with the Prescott Scholarship, but she needs lots of help and backing. If you are willing to work with her, please let me know.

There were sign-ups sheets available for the various task needed at the "For the Love of Music" gala February 16. These are not a difficult or long-term commitments so sign up at the January luncheon. Get a friend to look over the lists to see what would work best for you. Many hands make light work. It is going to be a great evening and you want to be a part of it as it is our major fund raiser for this season.

One of the members who had committed to making a pot of soup for the January 14 soup night has had to decline so I'm sure that Kim Wittstadt would appreciate someone filling in. Just a regular sized crock pot will do it. Every cookbook has a section on soup, chowder and stew, beside you probably have a family favorite tucked away in a recipe box. And if you haven't signed up, do so soon, our "cold" January is a great time to enjoy soup and Kim knows how to throw a great party.

We've had a variety of entertainment at the luncheons and it adds an extra touch to the meetings. Of course the Fashion Show is the entertainment in March. But that leaves us with 3 months. I have been advised of one possibility. Do you have an idea that you could follow-up? Could you contact the Symphony manager to see if any of the local musicians are available. Remember there is a \$50 Honorarium for a 15 minute performance and lunch if they choose to join us.

Let's start the new year with renewed energy and commitment to our mission.

Jan

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Executive Director's Message

Amy Ginsburg



I hope your holidays were merry and bright and you're ready to revel in the Southwest Florida Symphony concert experience with us! Here's what's coming up in January:

The Music of Elton John: Remember When Rock Was Young

Conductor, Radu Paponiu
Friday, January 20th at Charlotte Performing Arts
Center, Punta Gorda, 7:00pm
Saturday, January 21st at Barbara B. Mann Hall, 7:30pm

Masterworks 1 featuring guest violinist Gil Shaham

Conductor, Radu Paponiu
Saturday, January 28th at Barbara B. Mann Hall
7:30pm

In addition to featuring a world renowned guest violinist at Masterworks 1, we will celebrate our Board President, Tom Uhler's "21st birthday - the sequel!" If you've ever considered joining Conductor's Circle Club, this would be the year to do it. You'll get an invitation to Tom's birthday celebration in the President's Club at BBMann where you can celebrate with all of us; Maestro Paponiu, our guest artists, board of trustees and Who's Who of Southwest Florida, all year. If you're interested in learning more, shoot me an email and I'll be happy to provide additional information.

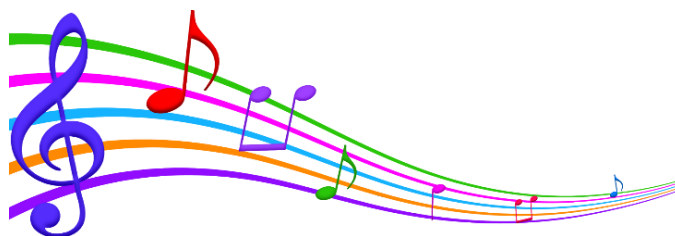
And now, a challenge: Did you know that most of our musicians, more than 70% of them, travel from outside of Southwest Florida to perform with us? This is how we deliver the highest caliber of professional orchestral music to our community. We import talent from all over the country to achieve the magical sound we create at each and every concert.

Ordinarily, we have dedicated host families for many of them - families who have provided accommodations for

our artistic staff for many years. I am among those households. My daughter and I have made lifelong friends with and learned a great deal from the musicians who have stayed with us over the years. Unfortunately, the hurricane has severely damaged many of the homes where our musicians have stayed in the past, which displaces them when they come to Southwest Florida. Right now, I am providing shelter to displaced neighbors who have sustained damage to their property, making their home uninhabitable for the time being. Even hotels where our artistic staff have stayed in the past are at capacity; housing insurance adjusters, contractors and other disaster relief personnel, so hotel rooms are either cost prohibitive or inaccessible to musicians for the foreseeable future. Here's how you can help. If you have a spare/guest bedroom, full guest bathroom and a parking space for one vehicle, providing housing for a member of our orchestra could quite literally save our shows this year. Even if you're unable to provide this assistance in subsequent years, this year, we are in serious need. As a token of our appreciation, we'll be glad to provide those who host musicians with two complimentary tickets to the concert in which the musician you're hosting is performing. Even if you're already a ticket holder, this is a great way to introduce your friends and neighbors to the joy and excitement of our concerts! And who knows? You might also make a lifelong friend like so many of us who host musicians.

If you'd be willing to open your home to a Southwest Florida Symphony musician this season, click [HERE](#) to fill out our host program registration form and our personnel manager will reach out to you ASAP.

Thank you so much for considering. Again, if anyone has questions about our host program or you'd like to speak with our staff to get more information, you're welcome to call or email me any time.



Southwest Florida Symphony Society Luncheon

Friday, January 6, 2023

The Landings Yacht, Golf and Tennis Club

4425 S. Landings Drive
Fort Myers FL 33919

Doors open at 11:30
Meeting begins at 12:00

Please pay at Registration Desk
\$30.00 Cash or Check
\$31.50 Charge

*****For Reservations*****

***** Call 239-666-1230 *****

Reservation Deadline

Friday, December 30, 2022

If you make your reservation after the deadline, you will be put on a wait list and be notified if space becomes available.

Cancellations after the reservation deadline and no-shows will be billed. Call Madeline Seefeld to cancel (239-292-9910).

NOTE: After a discussion and vote at the September SWFLSS Board of Directors meeting, the lunch price has been raised to \$30.00 for cash or check, \$31.50 for charges. This is necessary to simply cover the cost of the luncheons.

Menu: Italian chicken cutlets with fresh lemon mist, harvest rice, chef's vegetable, rolls and butter. The dessert will be chef's choice. Water, iced and hot tea, and coffee are included.

Special Drinks: Cash or Credit Card

Program: The guest musician will be the Orchestra's new Concert Master, Orin Laursen. He will play a short violin piece and then explain his new position. He will also take questions.

Directions: Enter the Landings from McGregor Blvd. at the first light south of College Parkway. The guard at the gate will direct you to parking. **Please have your driver's license ready when you approach the gate house in case you need it.**



Thanks to Ruth Messmer Florist and owner Heather Messmer for providing a floral centerpiece for the President's Table each month. After the luncheon, the flowers are taken to a member who needs support and cheering.

Luncheon Collections

At every luncheon we collect used computer ink and toner cartridges which are recycled at the office supply stores for credits towards future purchases for the Symphony office or for the Society directly.



\$\$\$

**CASH DRAWING TO BENEFIT
SCHOLARSHIP FUND**
Remember to bring your dollars!!!

Symphony of Treats

Merry Christmas to all our Symphony Society friends! It's that time of year when we say goodbye to this year and hello to a New Year. We hope that this New Year will bring much success to our Society in our quest for fundraising to support our wonderful Symphony. After all, that is our mission. As such, we, the Treats Committee, are looking forward to entertaining you with a variety of fun activities. We sincerely hope that you will enjoy the Treats and that you will support them. It has been a tough time for many of you from Hurricane Ian and Treats has felt the effects as well. Please review your Treat booklet and sign up for your favorite(s). Send any reservations directly to me (Kim - address below) and make your check to SWFL Symphony Society. Credit cards also accepted.

Linda knight hosted the **Christmas in the Garden** at the Berne Davis gardens in Fort Myers on December 14. There were 15 guests, all of whom made a lovely holiday arrangement. There is nothing better than having lunch with friends and then making a floral arrangement. Thank you, Linda, for being a fine hostess.

We have a neat Treat, called **Soup Night** on January 14 at 5:30 p.m. and **YOU ARE INVITED!** It is sure to be a winner for members and their guests. Our very own members will be making their favorite soup. Come to the Bell Tower Symphony Artistic Center for this event. Cost is \$60/pp and includes soup and all the trimmings, wine, dessert, games, a raffle and, of course, music. Send your check to me (Kim-address below)

made out to SWFL Symphony Society or credit card. Come and meet the lovely Pat Short, a new member, who is the co-host for this evening. We look forward to seeing YOU at **Soup Night**.

Unfortunately, the **Far Eastern Dinner Party** at the home of Reina and Bob Schlager has been cancelled due to the extensive damage caused by Hurricane Ian. We wish them luck in their repairs and look forward to their party, hopefully, next year.

The first **Come, Hear the Music** will be on Saturday, January 28 in the lobby of the BB Mann Hall. Cost is \$20/pp and includes coffee and a sweet treat and, hopefully a visit with Radu, our conductor, and then attending the rehearsal from 11-12 noon.

We wish you a merry and blessed Christmas and many good wishes for the New Year.

As always, thank you for supporting the Symphony of Treats.

Kim, Sue and Rosanne

Kim Wittstadt
410- 262-8224
e-mail: rkh Wittstadt@hotmail.com
8224 Carrbridge Circle, Towson, Md. 21204
(until Jan. 1), then Florida address



Birthday	Name
01/07	Mary Ann Sedlock
01/08	Shirley Marsh
01/09	Diane M. Thompson
01/21	Tom Uhler
01/22	Alison B. Field
01/25	Carolyn Wilson
01/28	Suzanne Flynn
01/29	Reina Schlager
01/31	Patricia Obermiller

Dates to Remember

Dec. 30	Deadline for Jan. Luncheon Reservations
Jan. 4	Board Meeting
Jan. 6	Luncheon at The Landings Yacht, Golf & Tennis Club
Jan. 14	TREAT—Soup Night
Jan. 27	Deadline for Feb. Luncheon Reservations
Jan. 28	TREAT—Come Hear the Music #1
Jan. 28	Masterworks 1—Gil Shaham, Violin
Feb. 1	Board Meeting
Feb. 3	Luncheon at Heritage Palms Golf & Country Club




FOR THE *Love of Music*

A Gala evening with friends who support the Southwest Florida Symphony Orchestra

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 16TH 2023, 6PM | LA VENEZIA BALLROOM, CAPE CORAL




FOR THE *Love of Music*

Sponsorships

RENAISSANCE
Host and Event sponsor - \$1500
 Complimentary table for 6 people, one specialty wine bottle for dinner table, preferred table placement, name in program, name mentioned from the stage, name in the SWFLSS yearbook and website in the 2023/24 season, name on signage at event 6 sets of raffle tickets for the basket drawing.

BAROQUE
Venue and Entertainment sponsor - \$1000
 2 complimentary tickets to the event, preferred table seating, one bottle of specialty wine for the table, name in program, name mentioned from the stage, name in the SWFLSS yearbook and website in the 2023/24 season, name on signage at event, 3 sets of raffle tickets for the basket drawing.

CLASSIC
Benefactor - \$500
 One complimentary ticket to event, Name in program, name mentioned from the stage, name in the SWFLSS yearbook and website in the 2023/24 season name on signage at the event.

ROMANTIC
Partner - \$150
 Cost for dinner, entertainment, and open bar.

20TH CENTURY
Supporter
 A gift from your heart, unable to attend.

TO MAKE RESERVATIONS
 Mail check to SWFL Symphony Society, 7500 College Pkwy, # 200, Ft Myers FL 33907
 Call for Credit Card reservations Joanne at (317) 409-0845





THE SOUTHWEST FLORIDA SYMPHONY SOCIETY
PRESENTS

SPRING INTO FASHION SHOW AND LUNCHEON

SAVE THE DATE !!
MARCH 3, 2023



News from the Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is pleased to announce that Madeline Seefeld accepted an appointment to serve as Secretary until the end of the 2022-2023 season. She takes the place of Richard Quodomine, who recently passed away. Thank you, Madeline, for stepping up to perform this vital function.

Are you also ready to step up to help the Society?

The Nominating Committee is tasked with nominating officers for 2023-2024. We need a few good people to serve! If you are willing to consider serving on the Executive Committee, please contact any member of the Nominating Committee right away. We can provide information on what would be entailed with the various positions. The future of the Symphony Society depends on our ability to fill these vital positions.

Nominating Committee
Anne Wardlow, Ellen Schneider, Kim Wittstadt

DIRECTORY UPDATE

New Address

Coons, Barb (Kaye)
Member since 1982 H
E-mail: kayebarb3344@gmail.com

**Symphony Society
Board of Directors Meeting
10:30 a.m.**

Wednesday, January 4, 2023

**All members are welcome
To attend**

**SWFL Symphony Orchestra
Office Conference Room
7500 College Parkway**

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floristruthmessmer@gmail.com



Additional advertisements are welcome. The rate is \$10 per month or \$80 a year for a business card size ad. Contact Editor Barb Coons (239-549-8283 or kayebarb3344@gmail.com) to place an ad or with questions.

"News of Note" is published 9 times a year — September through May. Contact Editor Barb Coons (239-218-1555 or kayebarb3344@gmail.com) for more information.

239-542-9511  239-851-0982

Clifford Law Firm, LLC.
Trusts, Estates, Probate, Divorce
Cape Coral, FL
Ellen W. Clifford
Attorney-At-Law
ellenwclifford@embarqmail.com

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Abigail Allison, Accompanist

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four hand piano & chorus
Jan 8, 2023



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ChoralArtistry.org

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Special Thanks to:



The Symphonic Choral DBA Choral Artistry is an independent 501 (c)3 non-profit corporation. Sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.

Congratulations!



If you know of a Society member who should receive a card of support or happiness, please notify the Corresponding Secretary:

June Gibson
junemgibson@gmail.com
239-936-7792 (home)
617-759-0085 (cell)

Thinking of you

Luncheon—December 2, 2022

The December luncheon was at the Magnolia Room at Pelican Preserve. Guitarist Mark Aulick got everyone into a holiday mood as he played a selection of seasonal songs and led a sing-along.



Left: Anne Wardlow presented a check to Amy Ginsburg representing the Key Signatures proceeds of \$18,250.00.



Right: Guitarist Mark Aulick entertained.