



American String Teachers Association
with National School Orchestra Association
FLORIDA CHAPTER

The String Section

DEleventh Cellobration held, in spite of Wilma

It was the 11th hour when we knew we could have Cellobration. Having cancelled for hurricanes twice in our 10-year history, we were determined to have it. Guest clinician was booked, but electricity was out most places. About 60 hours before it was to start, we found a kind church where the power had just come back on. Although numbers were down, the quality of the event remained intact. The Naples school bus arrived as in previous years, and volunteers, particularly the parents of cellist Ian Cork of Palm Beach, who gathered and officiated over lunch for us.



Clinician Elliott Cheney works with elementary age Cellobration participants.

About 50 students worked with Elliott Cheney, from Salt Lake City, and generous local teachers Claudio Jaffe, Ross Harbaugh, Nancy Beebe, particularly. Two master class sessions were held, and a final concert pulled together where everyone was pleased. Our traditional raffle and silent auction were held, thanks to the generosity of the following, who sent valuable items, in spite of the uncertainty because of the hurricane: G Henle USA, TaTa Classical Accessories, Last Resort Music Publi-

cations, Shar Products, Alfred Publishing, Cellobration Music, SMHD Publications, Mel Bay Publications, The String Center, E&E Music, and Super-Sensitive Musical Strings.

Plans are in progress for the 12th "big one," set for Nov. 3-4. To receive updated information, contact jodyatwood@aol.com. "No electricity" doomed our T-shirts and decals in November, but they are available through Jody.

It should be noted that FL-ASTA member Ellen Niemi, in Bradenton, held a "cellobration," sponsored by the Lakewood Ranch Music Club, with an afternoon of reading cello choir music, some socializing and closing with a public concert in the evening. She also expects to meet again this year.

As of this writing, Dr. Tom Silliman, in the Melbourne area, is hosting his third annual Cello Day, the first week of February.

-Jody Atwood



Nancy Beebe, working with the intermediate student participants.

Volume 2, Issue 2

Spring 2006

ASTA's Mission

The American String Teachers Association is a membership committed to advancing string education and performance. Our members include teachers, faculty, performers, string industry representatives, students, and string enthusiasts. We are all passionately committed to the future of string education not only in our country but around the world.

Inside this issue:

Message from the President-Elect	2
2006 Annual Luncheon Report	3
Treasury Report	4
Public String Instruction in Turkey	6

Inserts: ASTA Membership Form; FOA/FL-ASTA Summer Conference Registration Form.

S Message from the President-Elect

It is amazing how fast two years have gone! It seems as if yesterday I received the call letting me know I was nominated to be President-Elect of FL-ASTA. I would like to thank everyone for having confidence in me to get this job done. In May, I will take over as your state President. I am **very** excited about the future of our chapter! I am hoping that we will continue all of the projects we currently have in place, and will strive to expand our state's offerings by inventing new programs.

A state chapter's success depends on the participation of its membership. By being involved in our state chapter-sponsored activities, you are promoting FL-ASTA and helping make our chapter strong. If you would like to take on a leadership role serving as a chairman or committee member, please do not hesitate to contact us. The more, the merrier!!

Please continue to use ASTA and FL-ASTA as a resource for any projects you have. If you have an event you are planning, be sure to let us know so we can help you publicize it. Your event will be placed on our website along with a link to the event's information. Also, there is grant money available to members who sponsor an event and brand it with FL-ASTA's name.

One special announcement is that FL-ASTA will be uniting with the Florida Orchestra Association (FOA) to put on our first ever FOA/FL-ASTA summer conference. This conference will be filled with great sessions to jump start the new school year! This year the conference will be held at the Orlando Airport Marriott from July 18-19.

Registration for this two-day event is only \$30 and hotel rooms at the Marriott will be under \$100. More information will be coming very soon, so please keep a watch on the website. I am looking forward to seeing you there!!

Sincerely, *Chuck Laux*

S Meet your Florida Officers for 2004-2006

The FL-ASTA nominating committee is currently accepting nominations for officers. If you are interested in being a part of that committee, or being nominating, or if you would be interested in chairing a committee, please contact Heather Leppard at heather@leppard.com.

President		Luncheon Chairs	
Dr. Camille Smith	csstring@ufl.edu	Cynthia Heidel	cheidel@mac.com
President-Elect & Webmaster		Scottie Garrison	
Charles Laux	chuck.laux@flastansoa.org	Awards Chair	
Secretary		Melanie Punter	bassmel1@yahoo.com
Trish Schweim	tricia.schweim@polk-fl.net	Grants Chair	
Treasurer		Carolyn Bloom	evergladestrings@yahoo.com
Valerie Arsenault	vcp1615@fsu.edu	Solo Competition Chair	
Past President & Commission Project Coordinator		Alvaro Gomez	krogom@hotmail.com
Jody Atwood	jodyatwood@aol.com	Certificate Program Chair	
Newsletter Editor		Patrick Clifford	stringendostring@aol.com
Heather Leppard	ASTANewsletter@leppard.com	Studio Chair	
NHSHO Chair		Vacant	
Michael Sedloff	Cello57@aol.com		

D FL-ASTA-NSOA Annual Luncheon Report from 2006

The beautiful, sunny day of the annual luncheon meeting Friday, January 6, was extended inside the light-filled ground floor City Center Room at the Hyatt Regency Hotel for a second consecutive year. Following welcoming remarks by president Camille Smith, conversation was shared over the *Bronzed Chicken and Shrimp Salad* (I can personally attest the *Grilled Vegetable Napoleon* alternative was equally scrumptious and elegantly presented). While we savored the "encore" *Chocolate Raspberry Bash* dessert, Dilek Gökürk, a doctoral candidate at the University of Florida, presented a program on "Public School String Instruction in Turkey." Her lecture-demonstration included examples from current method books and her ideas for the future of string instruction in her native country. Note: the Junior Youth Orchestra of Gainesville, co-directed by Camille Smith and Dilek had been scheduled to perform; unforeseen circumstances prevented the group from appearing.

Melanie Punter, awards chair, made introductions and presented plaques to this year's outstanding FL-ASTA/NSOA members. Honored in their respective category were: Anne Falik, Coral Springs, School Orchestra Teacher; Eden Vaning-Rosen, Clearwater, Studio Teacher; Cynthia Heidel, St. Petersburg, Service. Congratulations to Anne and Eden for recognition of their work, and a humble "thank-you" from me. A brief general meeting followed with closing remarks by president-elect Chuck Laux. Several attendees lingered for more socializing before rejoining their All-Staters, attending conference sessions or visiting exhibit booths.

Thanks to all attendees for contributing to the event's success, and to Camille Smith for presiding, Dilek Gokturk for her presentation, and Melanie Punter for chairing awards. Thanks as well to Valerie Arsenault, treasurer, for assisting at registration, and Chuck Laux, for taking photos. A special thanks is extended to co-chair Scott Garrison for much assistance behind the scenes. She and I had many conversations about menu selection; as with just about everything, prices have risen and we hoped the increased cost would not deter our members and guests from attending.

In planning ahead for 2007: The board is considering other options for the annual gathering in order to increase attendance -- perhaps a breakfast meeting earlier in the week (a late afternoon-early evening reception was also suggested). Either alternative has pros and cons, and we certainly don't want to "lose" those who regularly attend and look forward to the present venue. Let us hear from you if you have strong sentiments one way or the other; contact me or another board member with your suggestions. The Event Information and Form for January 2007 will be on the FL-ASTA with NSOA website at www.flastansoa.org as details are finalized, as well as in the Fall newsletter.

Collegially yours,

Cynthia Heidel, Luncheon Chair
cheidel@mac.com



Eden Vaning-Rosen accepting her award for Studio Teacher of the Year, with Melanie Punter, FL-ASTA Awards Chair.

Cynthia Heidel accepting a deserved award for service to the FL-ASTA chapter. Without her hard work during the year, the Annual Luncheon would not be possible.



Anne Falik accepting her award for School Orchestra Teacher of the Year.

Florida ASTA with NSOA Treasury Report: June 30, 2005 to January 24, 2006

Bank balance June 30, 2005		\$9606.02
Income		
Rebates/Grants	<u>+\$589.81</u>	+\$589.81
Expenses		
Conferences	-\$688.01	
Newsletters	-\$737.77	
Service Projects	-\$950.43	
Meeting Expenses	-\$961.07	
Postage	-\$12.19	
Photocopying/Printing	-\$34.29	
Miscellaneous	<u>-\$82.76</u>	
		-\$3466.52
Bank balance January 24, 2006		\$6729.31

Respectfully submitted,

Valerie Arsenault, Treasurer

Cellobration Decals for sale

Cellobration decals are now available: they look great on a cello case! Four inches square. \$2.50 including postage. Send check written to FL-ASTA to:

Cellobration, PO Box 5575, Miami Lakes, FL 33014.

Note-able Dates

March 8-11, 2006

ASTA with NSOA National Conference in Kansas City, Missouri. For more information, visit:

www.astaweb.com

April 1, 2006

UNF String Competition - Solo Competition for High School Students
<http://www.unf.edu/coas/music/>

June 12, 2006

Submission deadline for Summer Newsletter

Please submit articles, pictures, ideas, or suggestions for what you would like to see in the FL-ASTA newsletter to ASTANewsletter@leppard.com.

July 6-8, 2006



Orchestra Teacher Workshop,

Florida Southern College. See www.flastansoa.org for information.

July 17-18, 2006

FOA/FL-ASTA Summer Conference,
Orlando Airport Marriott

Nov. 3-4, 2006 Cellobration 12

**** Do you have important dates you want to include? Submit them by June 12th, and they'll be included in**

Members:

Do you have an article or teaching tip you would like to share with the state? Please let us know. Send your ideas to Heather Leppard, newsletter editor: ASTANewsletter@leppard.com.

Members:

Do you have a business you would like to advertise on our website or newsletter??

Send an e-mail to Chuck Laux (chuck.laux@flastansoa.org) for more information.

Advertising on our website is free for FL-ASTA members (another great membership benefit) and by advertising in our newsletter, your fee helps offset the costs of printing.

D Audio Recording for Music Educators

At the 2006 FMEA conference, Chuck Laux (FL-ASTA President-Elect) presented "Audio Recording for Music Educators" which covered some basics on how teachers can re-

cord their students. Some topics included choosing the right equipment, steps to recording, and stereo microphone techniques. There were approximately 70 teachers in

attendance for the session. A website has been created with all of the information presented. Visit <http://www.lauxweb.com/ar4me/>

D FOA/FL-ASTA Summer Workshop

For the first time ever FL-ASTA and the Florida Orchestra Association are joining forces to offer a great professional development opportunity to string teachers and players in the state of Florida. These two organizations are working together to offer a joint Summer Conference July 17-18, 2006 at the Orlando Airport Marriott. The Summer Conference is taking the place of the Fall Workshop that FOA has done in the past, and will definitely be a great opportunity for string teachers to come together and learn from master teachers and guest clinicians. The clinicians have not been confirmed yet, so keep an eye on our website, www.flastansoa.org, for updates. See the insert inside this newsletter for more information and a registration form.

Photo Gallery



Chuck Laux, who takes over as FL-ASTA President in May addresses members at the luncheon to give his vision of the future of FL-ASTA.



FL-ASTA Board Members Valerie Arsenault and Cynthia Heidel greet guests as they arrive at the luncheon.



Jeanne Halberg, Anne Falik, and Trisha Schweim at the FL-ASTA Annual Luncheon in January.



John & Ellen Cavanaugh, of Super-Sensitive Musical String Co. (a FL-ASTA String Industry Councilmember) arrive at the Luncheon.

D Public School String Instruction In Turkey

Note: This is excerpted from the paper presented at the FL-ASTA luncheon on January 6, 2006 by Dilek Göktürk, a FL-ASTA member and a doctoral candidate at the University of Florida in music and string education. If you would like to read the full article and see the references, please visit our website at www.flastansoa.org

Brief Historical Background

Modern Turkey, now referred to as the Republic of Turkey, was founded on October 29, 1923. The new republic was constructed upon the heritage of the Ottoman Empire, which was more than 600 years old. Following the establishment of a new government, the founder Mustafa Kemal Atatürk adopted an aggressive program of social and cultural change in modern Turkey and achieved these reforms by using European countries as models. This movement was called the westernization. During the "Westernization" period, new military technology and an educational system was adopted from France. The Modernization movement caused the Ottoman Empire to become a modern, efficient state in which emerged liberal and secular thoughts that blended Islamic values with Western liberalism. Although there was access to music education in public schools, string education was not considered as a particular part of school curricula. Only financially advanced families' children took the advantage of private violin instruction.

Although music has been a subject in Turkish public schools since the foundation of the Republic in 1923, string education was first offered in 1989 in the Anatolian High School of Fine Arts in İstanbul. Until that date, string instruments were taught primarily at conservatories, university music schools, and privately. Today, there is still little access to string instruction in the public schools, except for the 52 fine arts high schools.

Although several string students graduate from university music education programs each year, most of these prefer teaching general music rather than strings in the public schools. In addition to this, the quality of the instruction at the fine arts high schools is questionable due to number of poorly trained teachers.

Another reason for the current lack of public school string teachers in Turkey is the string students' desire to be performers rather than teachers. Added to this, is the lack of practical field teaching experiences.

Most Distinctive Differences Between the String Methodologies of Turkey and the United States

- There is more use of more folk materials in string method books in Turkey than in the United States.
- In Turkey, traditional European methodology is used for string teaching. For instance, long-

bowed approach as opposed to Suzuki's short-bowed approach that had been used in the United States until 1960s.

- In Turkey, string students do not begin playing two strings at the same time. Instead, they learn to play one string at a time. In this approach, the violin student learns to play A string at first, then D, E and G strings one by one. For viola and cello, s/he plays D string at the very beginning, and after that s/he learns how to play on G, A and C strings at a time. Unlike in Turkey, string students play two upper strings at the beginning level in the United States.
- There is no string education in Turkish public school system except Anatolian Fine Arts High Schools, which were founded in 1989. Yet, strings have access in all levels of public school system in the United States.



Dilek Göktürk, presenting the results of her research to FL-ASTA members at the Annual Luncheon Meeting.

D Adult Chamber Music Workshop Sponsored by FL-ASTA

The organizers of the January 6-8 "Be Better with Bergonzi" Adult Chamber Music Workshop, sponsored by the Alhambra Community Orchestra of Miami in conjunction with the University of Miami's resident quartet, the Bergonzi, report that this second annual event was highly successful and thank the Florida ASTA Chapter for assisting in its success. ASTA members Pam-

ela McConnell and Ross Harbaugh received a small grant, in accordance with the state policy of assisting an event presented by ASTA members that addresses the Chapter's mission statement.

Forty musicians attended, resulting in a recital at the end of the workshop presented by 9 ensembles. They were prepared by work-

ing with rotating clinicians (the Bergonzi and two additional University of Miami faculty), a win-win situation. In addition to South Florida residents, participants came from Vero Beach, Fort Myers, the Melbourne area, Satellite Beach, Heathrow, Gulfport, Bonita Springs, Indialantic, North Carolina and Pennsylvania.

--Jody Atwood



Held during a cold snap, Bergonzi violist Pamela McConnell demonstrates protection for viola fingers during a Florida winter. Ross Harbaugh and Scott Flavin, respectively, are to her right, workshop chair Helen Hauser, of the Alhambra Orchestra is to her left.



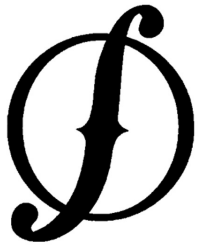
FLASTA members made up 75% of the Mendelssohn Piano Quartet. From upper left: Ira Gutzeit, Tom Angell (PA), Jody Atwood and Brian Mirsky.

D FL-ASTA Member's Sessions at National Conference

Join ASTA members from around the country, and even the world, at ASTA with NSOA's 2006 National Conference in Kansas City, MO March 8-11, 2006. For more information on the conference, see the flier printed inside this newsletter or visit <http://astaweb.com>.

While you're there, be sure to check out these great sessions being presented by FL-ASTA members!

Michael Allen, *A Pedgogical Model for Beginning String Class Instruction*
Chuck Laux & Bob Morris, *Add A New String Section to Your Orchestra*
Eden Vaning-Rosen, *Expressive Vibrato: The Window to the Soul*



FL-ASTA/NSOA

10779 Spring Brook Lane
Orlando, FL 32825



D From the Editor

It was a pleasure to see so many FL-ASTA members at the Annual Luncheon in Tampa this past January. For those of you who missed it, we certainly look forward to you joining us next year, possibly for a breakfast! (For more information on how the Luncheon went, see Cynthia Heidel's report inside this newsletter).

The FL-ASTA board members would like to encourage you to apply for grant funding from the chapter. As you read in Jody Atwood's report on the "Be Better with Bergonzi" Adult Chamber Music Workshop, part of our mission is to support such programs. So if you will be doing any kind of workshop, summer camp, program, or research initiative that furthers the mission of ASTA, please apply for funding from FL-ASTA. For more information on state grants, see our website at www.flastansoa.org.

Good luck to the FL-ASTA members who are presenting sessions at the 2006 ASTA National Conference March 8-11 in Kansas City, Missouri. We hope that everyone from the state of Florida who attends will come

back with valuable tips to share with their colleagues and friends. We would love to include several articles on the ASTA conference in the next newsletter, so if you attend, please consider writing an article to share what you learned there (and of course to encourage others to attend next year!) I know from personal experience that this is the best conference a string teacher or performer could attend.

Between newsletters, keep up to date on string happenings in Florida by visiting us at our website, www.flastansoa.org.

We would love to hear more about what is going on with string education in your part of the state! Please submit articles and photos to share with the membership in upcoming newsletters. The next submission deadline is June 12th. Please make submissions to Heather Leppard, newsletter editor, at ASTANewsletter@leppard.com or mail them to 10779 Spring Brook Lane, Orlando, FL 32825.

Cheers, Heather Leppard, Newsletter editor
