

TALLAHASSEE SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY

ORGANIZATION AND SCOPE

Tallahassee Scientific Society was established on May 23, 1989, in response to a growing concern among some local scientists and technologists that interest, literacy and educational programs in the sciences were at a low ebb in our community. Not the least of the unfortunate results of this situation was the fact that important decisions on technical matters were often made without the benefit of the appropriate scientific background. Among the objectives for which the Society was formed was the correction of this situation. The Society became incorporated as a non-profit organization under the laws of the State of Florida in September, 1990, and formally acquired 501 (c) (3) status with the Internal Revenue Service in 1994. In the same year, we were certified by the State of Florida Department of Revenue as a Tax-Exempt Organization - on the understanding that we do something about clean air and pure water in Florida.

Our Society faces tremendous opportunities today, and it is not only prudent, but also very necessary that we embark upon them without delay. Because of the nature of our membership, and our terms of reference, we stand at the crossroads of technical education and technological development in our region. Considering that our local community is made up of a few persons who are very highly specialized in the sciences and technology, and a vast majority of persons whose involvement in this area ranges from no interest to limited knowledge, our Society has the opportunity - and the responsibility - to bridge the gap.

Among the Society's activities are:

- Quarterly meetings of members (a joint activity with Sigma Xi), for the presentation of papers on subjects of common interest.
- Enhancing Science Education - through our subsidiary, Leon Association for Science Teaching; and assisting in the procurement of Science Teaching materials and equipment for schools.
- John Gorrie Traveling Lecture, taken annually to communities within a fifty-mile radius of Tallahassee.
- Lannutti Memorial Lecture - an annual lecture presented to Tallahassee's professional scientific and technological community. This lecture memorializes Dr. Joseph Lannutti, a past member of the Board, who was instrumental in several scientific developments in our community.
- Science and Technology Expositions.
- Science in the media - scientific literature and information on radio and television, as well as in the newspapers.
- Applications of the Sciences - organizing tours of technical operations to observe the commercial application of scientific principles and methods.