American Guild of Organists

UTAH VALLEY CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

JULY 1992 No. 1

DEAN'S MESSAGE

In an endeavor to better meet the needs of my family and gain a better balance in my life, I am cutting back at school to one class per semester and taking the maximum time allowed to obtain my Master's Degree in Organ Performance and Pedagogy. Therefore, it might seem illogical that I would accept this assignment to serve as your Dean at this time. It seems, however, that everyone is feeling the crunch of time responsibilities these days; and after a fruitless effort to enlist the help of Choices No. 1, 2, 3, 4 . . . to "infinitus," the Nominating Committee came to me knowing that when it comes to the "organ" and the wonderful people involved, I could not refuse. I am honored to serve as your Dean this coming year and highly respect those who have accepted to serve with me. In fact, I consider them some of my dearest friends. In review, the officers for the 1992-93 year are:

Carol Dean, Dean
Beth Groo, Sub-Dean
LuJean Moss, Secretary
Joan Barnett, Treasurer/Registrar
DeeAnn Stone, Newsletter Editor
Thomas Hinckley, Educational Concerns Coordinator

In all the classes I have taken at BYU in my undergraduate music coursework, my most enjoyable classes were the organ literature classes taught by Dr. Parley Belnap. He exposed us to all composers and literature from earliest known organ music to the present and made these organists and their music come alive. My desire for our Chapter this year is to experience some of what I experienced in Dr. Belnap's classes. We will also honor Dean Hinckley's goal of upgrading the quality of music in our church services by gearing the literature we explore to that appropriate for the church service.

Enclosed with this newsletter you will find an "Organ Literature Survey" form which we would like filled out completely and returned as soon as possible (absolutely no later than August 1st). We want to experience as wide a sampling of literature from each of the following categories as we have time for in an evening and will want each of you, as well as students from BYU, to perform a selected piece at least once during the year.

The dates and categories of our meetings are:

September 15--German Baroque (except J.S. Bach)

October 21--Holiday Music (Thanksgiving and Christmas)

November 19--English, French, and Italian Baroque

December 8--Johann Sebastian Bach

January 20--Music for Special Occasions (Funerals, Easter, National Holidays)

February 18--German Romantic

March 16--French Romantic

April 21--European Contemporary

May 20--American Contemporary

It is crucial that we receive the literature surveys back promptly to enable us to plan the repertoire for each evening and give you plenty of time to bring back under your fingers music previously learned or give you a deadline for music you are presently polishing.

We hope none of you will be intimidated by the experience of sharing your pieces with the rest of us. We have non-organists all the way to professionals in our group, but we are blessed to have a spirit of brotherly encouragement in our Chapter and want all to experience the joy of the organ at whatever level of development we may be.

We would like to utilize and become acquainted with as many different buildings and organs this year as possible. Thom Hinckley has graciously agreed to pick one hymn each month and share with us his knowledge and enthusiasm for the hymns which have provided

the basis for so much of our rich organ literature. The AGO member representing the building where we will be meeting will have the opportunity to accompany that hymn for us at the beginning of each Chapter meeting.

We also want to become better acquainted with our Stake Organists in the Valley this year and will highlight three per month, both in our newsletter and also in our meetings.

The yard sale talked of in the May Newsletter never materialized. I was going to gather the items and let my children sell them; but after Spring Term ended at BYU, I went into "vacation mode" and changed my mind. My hubby tells me he used to think I had only one gear--"high." Now he knows I have another--"neutral." Rest assured that my laziness will not result in your paying more out of your pocket for dues in 1993-94. We will freeze the price for another year. When you return the "Literature Survey," feel free to include your dues at that same time. I will gladly forward them to Joan Barnett for you.

Dr. Don Cook, Organ Faculty Member and Carillonneur at BYU, will provide the entertainment for our Opening Social on Friday, August 28 at 7:30 p.m. by playing a Carillon Concert for us while we eat our box suppers on the grass. The drinks and dessert will be provided by the Chapter. We have also extended an invitation to the Salt Lake Chapter to join us.

We are looking forward to a worthwhile and exciting year with all of you.

AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
UTAH VALLEY CHAPTER
Carol Dean, Dean
1111 West 450 North
Provo, UT 84601

EUROPEAN ORGAN TOUR

Dr. Douglas E. Bush will be leading another organ tour to "Bach Country" and Austria this next spring (April/May, 1993). He wants a group of around 20 people. If you are interested in a "once-in-a-lifetime" experience, call him for costs and dates at 373-1675.

ORGANIST NEEDED

The Provo Community Church (175 North University Avenue) is looking for an organist by September 1st. They have just purchased a new Rodgers with the latest PDI technology, and will pay $50 per Sunday for an organist to play for the Service and Choir Practice following (from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.). If interested, call the Church at 375-9115 or Kathy Kurtz evenings at 226-8320. They also might have need for a Choir Director.

INFORMATION FOR NEWSLETTER

Contact DeeAnn Stone, 377-4728, or mail to 1510 W. 500 N., Provo, UT 84601

