

international
year of the
organ
2008-2009
American
Guild of
Organists



American Guild of Organists

Newsletter

Utah Valley Chapter

2008-2009

Summer 2008

No. 2

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MESSAGE from the INCOMING DEAN

Greetings to all!

First, let me offer my appreciation in everyone's behalf to the outgoing dean and all the other officers who served so faithfully and effectively over the past two years. Nancy and her crew did a marvelous job encouraging our chapter members to stretch and grow in using their gifts and talents. I personally enjoyed so many of the meetings. The Super Saturday in April was truly "super"!

As your incoming dean, I wish to say "thank you" for giving me this opportunity. I'm sure my future associations with each of you will continue to enrich my life, as they already have. I hope to be able to get to know many of you better as the year goes on.

The incoming board has already been working diligently this summer to prepare a year of impressive events for us. Please save September 11 for the Opening Gala. In just a few days we are sending out over 80 invitations. We hope you'll be pleased and excited about the dinner and program we have planned. (If you do not receive the invitation by August 1, please contact me so I can confirm your mailing address.)

Some of you have participated in our monthly informals, coordinated by Ruth Ann Hay and hosted by various members and friends of the guild. It was my attendance at some of the informals over the past couple of years that revived my interest in the guild. I could see how my involvement with this "organ"-ization could help my confidence grow as I participated with my musical friends and performed for my colleagues in a relaxed, "informal" atmosphere. I am now slowly working on the literature requirements for certification. I've used some of the certification pieces in my service playing, and have enjoyed it very much.

My hope and wish is that you will review the events as they are announced in the newsletter and consider attending those that interest you. Remember, the purpose of the guild is to offer "mutual support, inspiration, and education" to each other as we strive to improve our talents and abilities. There is so much we can learn from each other.

Best regards,
Mike Carson

MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the American Guild of Organists is to promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles, to encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music, and to provide a forum for mutual support, inspiration, education, and certification of Guild members.

Become a Member of the Guild

We extend a special invitation to everyone who receives this newsletter to join the guild. While membership is not required to participate in our great events, we would like to encourage your participation. If you do not desire to join as a "regular" member and receive the benefits of being affiliated with the national guild, please consider joining as a "friend" of the guild with your donation of \$25 or more, all of which stays in our local chapter. If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact any of the board members. If you have not already sent your membership in to our treasurer, Joan Barnett, please do so as soon as possible. She would like to receive dues by the end of July to meet her deadlines with National. The membership form is attached along with this newsletter, or you can find it on the chapter Web site.

Mark Your Calendars!

We cordially invite area organists, organ enthusiasts, and the general public to attend a variety of organ-related activities, which are sponsored by our organization throughout the year. Most of the events are free. More information will be provided in the newsletter as the details of each event are finalized.

- September 11 - Opening Gala and Installation of 2008-2010 Officers. Save the date! Watch for your invitation in the mail.
- September 13 - Senior Recital of Mark Campbell, student of Dr. Douglas E. Bush, at the Cathedral of the Madelyn, 8:00 p.m.
- October 22 - Thomas Dahl Organ Recital at the Salt Lake Tabernacle, 7:30 p.m. (Thomas Dahl is organist of the Petrikirche in Hamburg)

August "Informal"

Thanks to Ruth Ann for continuing to organize the "Informals" for us. These are informal get-togethers where we share music, encourage each other, and learn to become more comfortable playing for one another in a very low-key setting. We have had good success. We talk about our pieces and what we are doing musically and otherwise. You are not required to perform to attend. We would love to have you join us!

We will meet August 15 at 7:30 p.m. at the "white church" in Mapleton (31 W. Maple Street). It has an Allen organ. Below are the driving instructions from Lori Serr.

[Heading south on I-15 take the 2nd Springville exit. Turn east and drive over freeway, past WalMart, heading into Springville. This is 400 South. Continue east on 400 South until Main street in Springville. Turn south on Main Street and follow signs to Mapleton. Main Street in Springville has a fork in the road; the left goes to Spanish Fork and the right goes to Mapleton. Stay to the right as the road changes into a four-lane highway. Continue on this road for a couple of miles until Maple Street and turn east (look for a Conoco gas station on the corner and a Model A Cafe across the road). Continue east on Maple Street for a few more miles until Main Street in Mapleton. The white church is on the corner of Main street and Maple street. (Maple street is Center Street.) Park on the south side in the parking lot and enter through the south "funeral door."]

Important Web Sites

Utah Valley Chapter AGO Web site:
www.uvago.org

BYU Organ Information (including off-campus programs):
www.organ.byu.edu

Salt Lake Chapter AGO Web site:
www.slicago.org

Fall 2008 Eccles Organ Festival

Sunday evenings at 8:00 p.m. All performances are free of charge and open to the public. Please call 328-9941 for more concert information.

- September 7 - Cristina Garcia Banegas, University Music School of Uruguay
- September 21 - Daniel Kerr, Brigham Young University - Idaho
- October 5 - Todd Wilson, Cleveland Institute of Music
- October 19 - Delbert Disselhorst, University of Iowa
- November 2 - Olivier Vernet, St. Nicholas Cathedral, Monaco

Organ for Sale

Rodgers Model 610
Tone Generator
Comes with PR-30 instrument
Asking price: \$8500

Call Grace Nordgren
801-373-4923

World's Oldest Playable Organ

(Contributed by Meg Griffith)

For a long time it was believed that what is probably the world's oldest playable organ dated back to 1390. There is, however, no documentary evidence before 1433 of the use of an organ, which is in Sion, Switzerland. The instrument is now thought to have been built around 1435. Its manual compass ranges from C to c'. The pedal board consists of one octave. It has an iron draw stop action (from CD insert notes of this organ).

The following is an enlightening and colorful account by Dr. Douglas E. Bush, who has had experience with this historic organ:

"Perched on one of two craggy hills above the small city of Sion in the south of Switzerland (not far from the Matterhorn) is a medieval church with battlements like a castle. (On the summit of the other hill are the remains of an ancient fortress.) Visitors are obliged to park at the base of this hill and then hike the path to the old stone structure. One enters the church through a small door, suggesting that those who built the church were either not tall in stature or they purposely intended that one would have to 'bow' upon entering the church. Mounted in a 'swallow nest' on the west wall, the famous little organ stands (only about 12 feet tall). Access to the organ is gained by climbing a stone staircase that takes one up behind the wall. The keyboard compass is approximately four octaves, and the pedalboard has only pull-down notes for the bottom octave. One appreciates a sense of history when playing the organ--not only is the sound bold, vigorous, and beautiful (as is nearly always found with very old instruments), but the keys in the tenor range of the keyboard are so worn that the 'white' keys are all 'saddle-scooped' from centuries of playing. Even though the present keyboard is several centuries old (probably dating from the early 1500's), it is clear that the configuration of the first keys was different, more like the organs depicted in 15th century paintings where the keys come directly from the organ case and not in a now-standard 'console' arrangement. A fine Swiss organ builder living in a neighboring village in the Alps above Sion recently restored this beautiful little organ. (Approximately five of its eight stops date from the early 1400's, and the texture of the fabric upon which the pipe metal was poured is still visible in the old lead pipes!) When restoring the organ, he took care not to 'modernize' it, but rather repaired wind lines, cleaned the entire instrument, and gave it a thorough maintenance job, hopefully allowing it to sing praises for a few more centuries! The organ is a treasure."

The International Year of the Organ

This is a year-long celebration of the organ, instigated by the National Headquarters of the AGO. It runs from July, 2007, to June of 2009. The year will include various events here and abroad and will entertain, inform, and engage new audiences for organ music, while giving seasoned listeners a fresh perspective on the organ's expansive repertoire. Included in the events will be Organ Spectacular! when AGO chapters in the USA will present more than 200 family-oriented concerts

involving more than 2000 performers on October 19, 2008. Similar events will also be held abroad. Utah Valley's Organ Spectacular! will be held on Wednesday, October 22, 2008, when the chapter will co-host with BYU the Thomas Dahl recital in the Salt Lake Tabernacle at 7:30 p.m. It is fitting that we welcome an international organist for this "International" year.

Recipe of the Month

(by Carol Dean)

White Wheat Bread (1+ hours from start to finish)

(2 regular/1 small loaf)

3 cups warm water	Mix
1/3 cup honey	
1 T. dough enhancer	
2 T. quick-rise yeast	
8 ½ to 10 cups flour (some may be white flour)	

1 ½ T. powdered lecithin	Mix
2+ T. vital wheat gluten	
1 T. salt	
1/3 cup canola (or olive) oil	
2/3 cup Quik oatmeal	
1/4 cup powdered milk (not liquid)	

(3 regular/1 small loaf)

5 cups warm water	Mix
½ cup honey	
1 ½ T. dough enhancer	
3 T. quick-rise yeast	
13 ½ to 15 cups flour (some may be white flour)	

2 T. powdered lecithin	Mix
4 T. vital wheat gluten	
1 ½ T. salt	
½ cup canola (or olive) oil	
1 cup Quik oatmeal	
1/3 cup powdered milk	

During the first "mix" group, add 3/4 amount of flour, During the last "mix" group, slowly add flour until dough pulls cleanly away from sides of mixing bowl. Knead five minutes. Shape into loaves (a bit of oil on your hands and shortening on insides of bread pans). Let rise approximately 25 minutes. Bake at 350 degrees for 20-25 minutes. Dump bread out on bread board. Spray with "I Can't Believe It's Not Butter" spray on top and sides and let cool.

[For this recipe to turn out, you must use white wheat. Dough Enhancer and Vital Wheat Gluten may be purchased at Macey's grocery stores. Powered lecithin can be obtained from Blend Tech, an outlet for homemade bread equipment. Drive west on University Parkway, go through the light (to the west) at the juncture of University Parkway and Geneva Road. Drive past two sets of buildings on your right. As you approach the third set of buildings, you will see the Blend Tech Outlet Store on the east side of the building.]

