



Newsletter

American Guild of Organists
Utah Valley Chapter
2009-2010



September 2009

No. 1

Dean's Message

It feels good to begin the new AGO year. I'm looking forward to many fine chapter events, which were planned by our officers during the summer board meetings. Each board member is doing their part to keep the chapter running smoothly, and I appreciate each one and their unique gifts and talents, which are offered freely and willingly.

Just as a recap, we enjoyed some very fine chapter meetings during the summer. To begin with, in May several chapter members enjoyed the opportunity to play the Salt Lake Tabernacle organ as part of our monthly informals. Needless to say it was a thrilling experience, the first time for many of us. Thank you to Ruth Ann Hay, who coordinated the event, and to Brian Mathias, who was there to assist the performers and pull stops.

In June, Ruth Eldredge, an honors music graduate from BYU in 2007 and a recent Masters of Musicology graduate from Oxford University (England), presented a lecture/demonstration at the State Hospital Chapel in Provo on Bach's Two-part Inventions, entitled "What Can We Learn from Learning the Inventions?" It was an informative presentation, and, along with our own members, we were happy that a few area piano teachers were in attendance.

On July 10, the chapter hosted an informal gathering at the home of member Claudia Johnson in Cedar Hills to meet Region IX Councillor Frances Nobert, who was in Utah to attend a Bonneville District leadership meeting the following day. Dr. Nobert played several selections on the Rodgers organ for everyone in attendance, and the group enjoyed socializing and refreshments afterward. Claudia's home was a beautiful, comfortable setting for us, and we were delighted that several Salt Lake City chapter members joined us.

In August, during the week of the BYU Organ Workshop, chapter members were invited to attend a pre-workshop session taught by Dr. Douglas Bush, "A Musical Approach to Playing Baroque Organ Music." The three-and-a-half hour session just whizzed by. It is always a pleasure to hear Doug's lectures, and we feel very fortunate as a chapter to be included.

Also during that week, chapter member Lella Pomeroy, CAGO, played a delightful hymn-sing in the Madsen Recital Hall to a large group of enthusiastic workshop participants and many people from the community. She used a double quartet of singers to enhance the program and many wonderful hymn settings and harmonizations to embellish the singing.

Lella has put together an opening chapter event for September 18 to honor the music of Dr. A. Laurence Lyon, noted LDS composer, who passed away two years ago in September. More details are provided in this newsletter. I hope you will plan to attend and bring a friend. Many of Dr. Lyon's family members and friends will be in attendance and participate on the program. This event will be something that will appeal to the general public, so please take the opportunity to print the attached flyer and post it on your meetinghouse boards and distribute it to anyone who might be interested.

The Utah Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is alive and well, thanks to your enthusiastic support and participation in its events and meetings. Our mission is to promote the organ, encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music, and to participate in forums for the mutual support, inspiration, education, and certification of our members. I value my associations with you and sincerely appreciate your friendship.

Mike Carson, Dean

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Upcoming Events

- Sep. 11 September "Informal", 7:30 p.m., Oak Hills Stake Center
- Sep. 18 Chapter Opening Event – A. Laurence Lyon Tribute, 7:30 p.m., Oak Hills Stake Center, 925 E. N. Temple Drive (church west of Provo Temple with carillon tower)
- Sep. 19 Bret Zumsteg Organ Recital, 7:30 p.m. Assembly Hall, SLC
- Oct. 30 Chapter Event – 30-Year Anniversary Party! 6:30 p.m., Edgemont South Stake Center, 2950 N. Canyon Road, Provo
- Nov. 6 Richard Elliot Organ Recital, 7:30 p.m., Assembly Hall, SLC
- Nov. 13 Chapter Event - Hymn-Based Organ Literature, presented by Dr. Kenneth Udy, U of U Organist, 7:30 p.m., Grove Creek Stake Center, 1176 N. 730 E., Pleasant Grove

2009 Eccles Organ Festival Cathedral of the Madeleine (Sundays at 8:00 p.m.)

- Sep. 13 Douglas O'Neill, Organist of Cathedral of the Madeleine
- Sep. 27 Peter Panyavsky, Vienna, Austria
- Oct. 11 Carole Terry, University of Washington
- Oct. 25 David Higgs, Eastman School of Music
- Nov. 8 Frédéric Champion, First Prize, 2008 Canadian International Organ Competition

We Welcome Your Membership!

It's not too late to [join](#) or [renew](#) membership in the American Guild of Organists (AGO) for the 2009-2010 program year. The Guild extends an invitation to organists and organ enthusiasts of all ages to join with us in promoting the organ. We value our associations with you and sincerely appreciate your support.

"Regular" Voting Members

All dues for voting membership are collected by local AGO chapters. The local portion of dues is retained by the chapter to support its programs and functions. The national portion is forwarded to AGO National Headquarters to support regional and national programs and operations and to provide a one-year (12 issues) subscription to *The American Organist* magazine (TAO), the official journal of the American Guild of Organists. Those joining or renewing as "Regular" members before Sept. 15 will not miss a delivery of the magazine.

Friends of the Chapter

Dues rates for "Chapter Friends" are set and retained by the local chapter. A minimum \$25 donation provides you with chapter affiliation only and does not include a subscription to TAO.

Open to All

Membership is open to all interested individuals. A completed application form must accompany dues with each renewal. Forms and information are available on the Utah Valley AGO Web site or from the local chapter registrar, Joan Barnett, at 801-375-7880. Please send your dues to Joan. Her address is on the membership form.

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.

September "Informal"

We invite you to plan and prepare to join with us this year in sharing music, ideas, and friendship with one another in our chapter "Informals." Our first informal of the new AGO year will be held at the Oak Hills Stake Center on Friday, Sept. 11, at 7:30 p.m. This chapel is located one block west of the Provo Temple on North Temple Drive. (This is the same chapel where the A. Laurence Lyon tribute will be held a week later on Sept. 18.)

This year, in addition to playing repertoire, we would like to encourage the playing of hymns. If you play your own arrangements of hymns for preludes and postludes--specifically arrangements that are not written out but played from the hymn book--please consider coming and sharing them with us. Please be prepared to either bring copies of instructions or to explain what you do on each line or verse or how you put several hymns together. If you haven't ventured to do that yet, we invite you to come and get some ideas!

Our usual evening is the third Friday of each month. If you would like to volunteer your organ or your chapel for these events, please contact Ruth Ann Hay, who coordinates the informals. Her e-mail is on the front page of this newsletter. If you would like to participate, but the third Friday of the month doesn't work for you, please contact Ruth Ann, as well. If there is enough response we can make adjustments.

We look forward to seeing each one of you this year as we learn and grow together.

7-Layer Salad Cheryl Carson

In a rectangular dish layer chopped lettuce, chopped green onions, chopped celery, frozen peas, and chopped boiled eggs. Combine Miracle Whip with a little milk and one tablespoon of sugar for every cup dressing and mix until sugar is dissolved. Pour dressing over layered salad. Top with grated cheddar cheese and sprinkle with Bacos.

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

Region IX Blog Address:

www.agor9.blogspot.com

National AGO Web Site:

www.agohq.org

Source of Music for the LDS Organist:

www.wardorganist.com

Resources for the LDS Organist:

www.LDSorganists.info

David Chamberlin's music

www.chamberlinmusic.com

Free music for the LDS Organist

www.ldsorganist.org

Spotlight on Florence Hawkinson Chapter Historian

Though born in Southern California, I really didn't spend enough time there to consider myself a "native" of the state. In and amidst our bi-annual moves, my mother insisted each of her seven children take piano lessons for at least one year. After that, we could choose a different instrument or stop music instruction altogether. I began my piano lessons around 4th grade and never even considered not continuing. My first teacher, who leaned towards jazz instruction, was my favorite. The one who insisted I practice my scales every day for 20 minutes was my least favorite. (And she was only my teacher for an incredibly miserable two weeks!)

I will be forever grateful for the teacher who insisted I learn at least one hymn while I was with her. Hymns have become a great source of comfort and guidance to me. This experience has also provided me with a lifetime of service opportunities. Primary was the beginning place for my church service when I was 15. As a missionary on the Navajo Reservation, my hymn playing skills increased dramatically as I was voted branch pianist by nearly every one of my companions.

In the summer of 2006, the Relief Society president in our ward announced that the bishop was looking for pianists who were willing to learn to play the organ. Having been recently released from a particularly demanding calling, I thought, "I guess I don't have anything better to do" and naively volunteered.

About a month later, Ruth Ann Hay, a member of my stake, saw me playing the organ. (Actually, it was more like playing around at the organ.) She asked me about my organ experience; and by the end of the conversation, I had acquired my first

organ teacher. She has been a wonderful teacher and friend who has introduced me to the organ, Bach, and AGO.

When I was in the early stages of studying the organ, a friend suggested that one is either an organist or a pianist and asked which I considered myself. I really wasn't sure at the time. However, when filling in as Relief society pianist a few months later, I knew I was an organist when, at the end of the opening hymn, I reached for the General Cancel button, and was surprised to not find it!

Currently I am studying with Doug Bush and plan to keep at this organ stuff as long as I can. It has been a great experience, and I expect it will continue to be a source of joy, pleasure, and confidence for many years to come.

I received a B.S. in Architecture from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and work for an architecture firm in Springville. My husband and I are the parents of two children. I am currently serving as an organist in my ward in Provo.

Condolences

We extend our sincere condolences to chapter members and past sub-dean David Worlton at the passing of his mother, Ivy Russon Worlton, in July.

We send our best wishes to board member Mark Clark for a speedy recovery from emergency triple bypass surgery on August 25.

Mark Your Calendars!

We extend an invitation to three upcoming Utah Valley AGO events. We hope you'll save the dates, plan to attend, and bring a friend!

September 18 (Friday): A. Laurence Lyon Tribute

Oakhills Stake Center

925 E North Temple Drive, Provo

7:30 p.m.

This program features music for organ, piano, strings, and voice of this well-known LDS composer and an appearance by the UVU Chamber Choir, Dyanne Riley, director. Dr. Lyon passed away two years ago. Some of his family members will be in attendance and participate in the tribute. In addition to over 200 published compositions, 30 of which were recorded and performed by the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, Laurence Lyon wrote the LDS hymn tunes for "Each Life That Touches Ours for Good" and "Saints, Behold How Great Jehovah."

November 13 (Friday): Dr. Kenneth Udy---Hymn-based Organ Literature

Grove Creek Stake Center

1176 North 730 East, Pleasant Grove

7:30 p.m.

Kenneth Udy is University Organist at the University of Utah. A professional organist for over twenty-five years, Dr. Udy currently serves as Director of Music and Organist at Wasatch Presbyterian Church and at Kol Ami synagogue in Salt Lake City. He frequently appears as a guest organist at the Salt Lake Tabernacle and with the Utah Symphony.

A Special Invitation for You and Your Guest

October 30 (Friday): Utah Valley Chapter 30-Year Anniversary Party!

Edgemont South Stake Center
2950 N Canyon Road, Provo
6:30 p.m.

It's time to party! We're celebrating the 30-year anniversary as a chapter of the Guild. You and a guest are invited to gather with us at 6:30 p.m. to mingle and enjoy dinner at 7:00. After dinner, which will be provided by UVAGO board members, we'll enjoy recognitions of the first charter members and past deans, followed with an address by Joan Stevens, dean from 1984-1986, and an organ performance by Seth Bott, recent winner of the *AGO/Quimby Regional Competition for Young Organists* and student of Dr. Don Cook.

Taking Care of Business---The AGO Annual Fund

In December 1982, the National Guild established the AGO Annual Fund—a campaign to generate contributions beyond dues from individual members, chapters, and businesses in fields related to organ and choral music. Monies raised through the Annual Fund support the general operating expenses of the national organization. Because of the generosity of those who regularly contribute to the Annual Fund, the challenges before the Guild have been better met, and its financial foundations have been strongly reinforced.

Benefactor	(\$1,000+)
Sponsor	(\$500-999)
Patron	(\$250-499)
Donor	(\$100-249)
Member	(\$50-99)
Contributor	(\$25-49)
Friend	(\$1-24)

At the August 2009 UVAGO board meeting, officers approved a regular chapter contribution to the AGO Annual Fund in the amount of \$100. In addition, individual members are encouraged to contribute. Contributions may be made to honor a friend, loved one, or teacher. The annual list of donors is published in the December issue of *The American Organist* magazine.



The Utah Valley Chapter of the
American Guild of Organists
presents

**A Tribute to the Music of
A. Laurence Lyon, PhD
(1934-2006)**



**Friday, Sept. 18, 2009
Oak Hills Stake Center Chapel
925 E North Temple Dr, Provo
7:30 p.m.**

Dr. Lyon has over 200 compositions and arrangements in print, including works for strings, chorus, voice, piano, and orchestra. Over 120 performances of his choral and organ works have been featured on the Mormon Tabernacle Choir's weekly broadcasts since 1975. He is the composer of LDS hymns #28, "Saints, Behold How Great Jehovah," and #293, "Each Life That Touches Ours for Good." He served for over 30 years as a professor of music at Western Oregon University. Friends, colleagues, and some of his family members will perform this special program of Dr. Lyon's music to honor his musical legacy and celebrate his unique contributions to LDS music.

EVERYONE is welcome!

**Special guest appearance by the
UVU Chamber Choir
Dyanne Riley, director**

For more information, call Lella Pomeroy at 801-491-0950.

