



Newsletter

American Guild of Organists
Utah Valley Chapter
2009-2010



November 2009

No. 3

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Happy 30th Anniversary, UVAGO!

In the fall of 1979, a group of organists gathered at the home of Ephraim and Verena Hatch in Provo for the purpose of forming a local chapter of the American Guild of Organists. The chapter was named the Utah Valley Chapter, officers were selected with Gerald Dick as the first dean, and a petition was sent to National Headquarters for the official chartering of the chapter. The charter was issued October 9, 1979, and was signed by Roberta Bitgood, then-National President of the AGO. Charter members included: Dr. Parley L. Belnap, Michael C. Bigelow, Heidi Brown (Alley), Janice Burton, Dr. Douglas E. Bush, Robin Cardon, R. Don Cook, C. Gerald Dick, Gladys Farmer, Verena Hatch, Lillian Heil, J. J. Keeler, Erla Knudson, Lawrence E. Weidmann, Steven Wright, and Zara Tonks.

Dean's Message

This month has been a whirlwind of activity for me personally. On October 7, I flew to upstate New York to attend the wedding of my 27-year-old son in Glens Falls. It was a beautiful wedding, held in a sandstone Episcopal church with high ceilings and elegant stained-glass windows. It was great to be with my five children from my first marriage for a whole week. Tyler and Brandi, the newlyweds, asked if I would provide some music for their recessional. I arranged "Wondrous Gift" as an instrumental for piano and string trio and called it "Wondrous Gifts." (Isn't that what composers do, recycle their songs?) Anyway, so there I was playing the recessional with a string trio seated at the church's newly acquired nine-foot Steinway concert grand in my tux. It was a thrill, to say the least.

As soon as I returned from New York, I went to work on the guest list for the chapter's 30th anniversary dinner party and worked with Gayle to plan the menu and make the final preparations for that event. I'm writing this on October 29, the night before the party, and I'm looking forward to the program and meeting with the 53 guests who will be attending.

My Pleasant Grove stake has started its weekly rehearsals for "Christmas in the Grove," a joyous musical celebration of the birth of the Savior. The program, which will be held in the Alpine Tabernacle in American Fork on December 13, features three choirs: adult, youth and children, with over 100 singers participating. This will be the 16th year. Each year the songs are new, but the format is similar: songs about the Christ side of Christmas with little or no speaking, just singing, singing, singing! Our former stake president dubbed it the "Stake Presidency's Christmas Devotional." It's been directed by Kathryn Laycock Little every year since its inception, and I've helped accompany on piano and organ for the past eight years. The success of it lies at its heart: our charismatic music director, who loves the music and the people, and they know it.

I'm sure most of you will be involved in preparing for Christmas programs in your churches over the next few weeks. That's one reason why the chapter's board decided to forego having any chapter meetings in December this year. Instead, we want you to be able to devote your time and talents in your schools, churches, and homes and then share your experiences with all of us in the chapter newsletter. We invite you to send us a brief description of any special Christmas programs or concerts you'll be helping with, so we can publish them in the next few newsletters. Send them to Carol Dean, our newsletter editor, and she'll see that they're included.

As the Thanksgiving season approaches, I feel gratitude for you who enrich the lives of congregants and audiences with inspiring service music and programs, for choral directors in churches and schools who instruct and inspire their singers and listeners, and for piano, organ, and instrumental teachers who nurture students at every age level and ability. I'm grateful, too, for the dedicated board members of the Utah Valley chapter who keep us moving forward throughout the year. Thank you for giving me the opportunity and privilege of serving with you in this wonderful organization.

Upcoming Events

- Nov. 6 Richard Elliot Organ Recital, 7:30 p.m.,
Tabernacle on Temple Square, 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
- Nov. 18 Emily Cloward Organ Recital (BYU student of
Dr. Bush), 7:30 p.m., Provo Central Stake Center,
12th W. 5th N., Provo
- Nov. 24 Salt Lake Chapter Thanksgiving Hymn Festival
(featuring two anthems by local composers), 7:30
p.m. Wasatch Presbyterian Church, 1700 East and
1700 South, SLC

Richard Elliott's Program for November 6

Mars, from <i>The Planets</i>	Gustav Holst arr. Peter Sykes
Est-ce Mars?	Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck
Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ	Johann Sebastian Bach
Toccatà in F Major	Johann Sebastian Bach
Chorale Prelude on O Traurigkeit, O Zerzeleid (1 st version)	Johannes Brahms
Herzlich tut mich verlangen	Johannes Brahms
Prelude and Fugue in G Minor	Marcel Dupré
La cathédrale engloutie, from <i>Préludes</i>	Claude Debussy arr. Richard Elliott
Toccatà from Suite, Op. 5	Maurice Duruflé

UVAGO 30th Anniversary Celebration

The 50+ people who were able to attend the Utah Valley Chapter's 30th Anniversary Celebration spent a very worthwhile Friday evening on October 30. A half hour of visiting with chapter members, partners, and friends—past and present—was followed by a luscious dinner and the sharing of an anniversary cake. After the dinner, we all retired to the chapel for the program. Our dean, Mike Carson, honored members of the original group of organists who started the Utah Valley Chapter, as well as those who had served as deans over the years. He then introduced Joan Stevens who graciously shared with us a wonderful message of the role that love for the music and our instrument, the organ, plays in meaningfully serving others. (A copy of her message will be attached to an email or future newsletter). This was followed with a short concert by Seth Bott, student of Don Cook and winner of the Region IX AGO/Quimby Regional Competition for Young Organists this past year. Seth exudes a contagious love and excitement for the organ and its literature, and everyone enjoyed hearing his performance.

Thank you to Gayle Farnsworth and Suzanne Crowther and their husbands for setting up such lovely tables and decorations for the evening. Others who helped with setting up and serving the dinner were: Steve Wright, Ruth Ann Hay, Carol Dean, Tanja Clark, and Mike and Cheryl Carson. Claire Rogers provided a beautifully decorated table displaying the framed original charter of the Utah Valley chapter, along with history books and other memorabilia provided by our historian, Florence Hawkinson. David Hawkinson took a photo of the entire group with the anniversary cake for *The American Organist* magazine. Thank you to all who had any part in making this memorable evening possible.

Newest Chapter Members

Since October 1, the following friends have renewed their memberships:

Parley Belnap American Fork	Dr. R. Don Cook, AAGO Spanish Fork
DeeAnn Stone American Fork	Florence Hawkinson Provo
Sandra Mangum Orem	

November's Chapter Event

Nov. 13: Dr. Kenneth Udy - A Workshop on Hymn-based Organ Literature
Grove Creek Stake Center
1176 North 730 East, Pleasant Grove
7:30 p.m.

Here's a chance to invite your organist friends to attend an entertaining and informative chapter meeting. We are thrilled to have Dr. Kenneth Udy, University Organist at the University of Utah, present a workshop on hymn-based organ literature. Udy has been a professional organist for over 25 years. He currently serves as director of music and organist at Wasatch Presbyterian Church and at Kol Ami Synagogue in Salt Lake City, and he frequently appears as a guest organist at the Salt Lake Tabernacle and with the Utah Symphony.

We ask that chapter members bring a food item or treat to provide the refreshments. Mark your calendars and bring a friend. You'll be glad you did!

Thanksgiving Hymn Festival

Please mark November 24, 2009 (Tuesday) on your calendar and come to the Salt Lake Chapter AGO Thanksgiving Hymn Festival. Hymns will be sung, organ music performed, "The Joyful Noise Handbells" will perform, and there will be a choir to sing two songs of the thanksgiving season that were composed by local composers. "My God, I Thank Thee" was composed by Richard Wunder, who is a member at Wasatch Presbyterian Church, and "A Hymn of Thanksgiving" was composed by Dr. Robert Cundick.

Photos from the October informal at Robin Cardon's home in Midway can be viewed on the UVAGO Website.

October Informal

Submitted by Ruth Ann Hay

Ten people met at the home of Robin and Louise Caron on the evening of October 16. We enjoyed delightful conversation, renewed old friendships, ate apple crisp, shared music, and enjoyed the Cardon chalet on the hill overlooking scenic Midway in full autumn colors. A definite highlight was hearing Robin play a hymn she composed entitled, "Hymn of Thanksgiving." It has full cadences every four measures and is handy to play as an extension to the prelude. Thank you, Robin and Louis, for opening your home to us and providing such a lovely evening. We will meet on November 20 at Lella Pomeroy's chapel in Springville. Details are forthcoming.

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.slago.org

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

Tabernacle Organist Bonnie Goodliffe Hits Milestone

Bonnie Goodliffe played her first recital on the Tabernacle organ on October 21, 1979, which means she very recently celebrated her 30th anniversary as a Tabernacle organist. In commemoration of achieving this milestone, she was invited to play the regular noon recital on that date this year. We wish to offer our congratulations to Bonnie for her dedicated service as a Tabernacle organist.

Bonnie Goodliffe has an extensive background in organ performance, music theory and composition and has served in key positions with the American Guild of Organists. She is a Fellow of the American Guild of Organists, was an AGO Regional Education Coordinator from 1993 to 1999, and most recently served as a member of the AGO National Certification Committee. Bonnie has presented workshops at AGO conventions and has written several articles published in the AGO's official magazine, *The American Organist*.

She studied piano and organ at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music; the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria; and at Brigham Young University. Bonnie received both her bachelor's and master's degrees in music from BYU. She and her husband, Glade, a CPA and business consultant, are the parents of seven children.

Member Spotlight Mark Clark

This month's member spotlight is on Mark Clark, who is the publicity chairman for our chapter. Mark has been a member of the AGO for many years and served as sub-dean of the Utah Valley Chapter from 1990-1992 under Thom Hinckley.

Mark was raised in Burley, Idaho, where he began piano study at the age of eight with Afton Cunningham. (As a note of interest, this is the same teacher that Kim Croft studied with while he was growing up in Idaho.) Later, around the age of 12, Mark began studying the organ with the same teacher. At that time, the only organs available were Hammonds and a small Wicks at the stake center. Luckily, Afton was professionally trained and taught "proper" organ technique. During junior

high and high school, Mark was called to be the priesthood and Sunday School organist (back when they had Sunday School opening exercises). He also substituted occasionally in sacrament meetings.

At the age of 19, Mark was called on an LDS mission to Northern Germany (Hamburg). He was assigned as pianist for a mission choir that toured around singing at various locations. On many occasions, Mark would go with his companion into some of the big churches and cathedrals seeking out the organist. He would ask if he could play the organ (in one case an Arp Schnitger). He would show his picture of Alexander Schreiner at the Tabernacle organ, which would always break the ice. He would then play at full tutti in these great German Lutheran and Catholic cathedrals either "Come, Come Ye Saints" or "We Thank Thee, Oh God, for a Prophet." It became a good method for getting people interested in what they as missionaries were doing in Germany.

After returning from Germany, Mark attended BYU, where he studied electronic engineering technology and computer science. While there, he studied organ with Douglas Bush for two semesters. Later, after marriage to Tanja Clark (they have one daughter and a grandchild) and graduation from BYU, Mark began studying organ privately again with Dr. Bush. He had many opportunities to perform in Doug's Orgelbuchlein recitals on the Bigelow organ at the Provo Central Stake Center. Mark also, along with Doug Bush, did the dedicatory recital of the rebuild of the Park Ward organ. Mark currently is ward organist at the Timpview Ninth Ward (for 19 years so far) and is stake organist for the Timpview Stake.

Mark has a Rodgers 835 organ in his home and is currently enjoying the software program called Hauptwerk. This program allows you to use the Rodgers organ to play digitally sampled historic organs. For example, from his console Mark can play full digital samples of Arp Schnitger, Silberman, Cavaille-Coll organs, and other historic and not so historic instruments (even the Mighty Wurlitzer).

Mark has many hobbies and interests. While in college, he obtained a private pilot license and, when he can afford it, enjoys flying small planes around Utah and Idaho. He also enjoys driving his off-road vehicle on many of the trails in Southern Utah. Mark has worked as a senior software engineer for 21 years at Novell, Inc, developing software programs for corporations.

Mark enjoys activity in our chapter, the highlight of which was the recent opportunity to play the Salt Lake Tabernacle organ in a chapter informal recital in May. It is a pleasure to have Mark in our group, and we appreciate his active participation.

"A Wesleyan Sermon"

The First United Methodist Church (FUMC) in Salt Lake City is pleased to announce "A Wesleyan Sermon" as their signature Organ Recital Series. Just as the Cathedral of the Madeleine has the Eccles Organ Festival and Temple Square has their daily organ recitals, beginning Sunday, November 8, at 5:30 p.m., the Music Ministry at FUMC will host a 30-minute program, which will consist of great organ music, hymn singing, and a short reading from one of John Wesley's published sermons.

“A Wesleyan Sermon” will be held on the second and fourth Sundays of each month. Organists from the community will be featured at these recitals. The first performer will be Scott R. Mills, principal organist at First United Methodist Church. Ron Richardson, FUMC music director, will be featured on November 22. The church is located on the corner of 200 South and 200 East in Salt Lake City. For more information, call the church at 801-328-8726.

The Development of the Great Manual

Submitted by Meg Griffith

“It would be hard to determine whether the Great or Positiv is the older division of the pipe organ, since they both have their roots in antiquity.” The purpose of the Great manual is for the basic foundation stops of the organ which are the center of the organ’s design. This division was designed by the 15th century. An example of a modest division in 1480 had ranks of Principals but no Mixtures.

By the 16th and 17th centuries, all four families of tone were represented--Principals, Flutes, Strings, and Reeds). The Great manual by this time had both vertical and horizontal tonal elements (vertical being tones containing lower to higher pitches and horizontal consisting of different sounds of the same pitch). By the 18th and 19th centuries, variations and different views occurred, but the Great remained the “home” for the major Principal Chorus and the tonal center of the organ. Many instruments had 40 rank Greats during J. S. Bach’s time! During the Romantic era, there was a decline in the size of the Great depending on the size of an instrument as other divisions developed. Reeds were often ignored.

The history of the Great can be thought of as originating in the Low Countries and spreading throughout Europe from there. In Germany, the Low Countries, and France, large tonally mature instruments were common from the early Baroque 17th Century. In northern Europe, other divisions were nearly equal in size to the Great. In Italy and Spain the Organo Grande was large compared to other divisions and many instruments had only one manual. Even on small organs, the Principal Chorus remained complete.

By 1910 the Great had lost most of its upper pitches and were replaced by flutes and strings. A revival of vertical design returned in the 1960's with the Organ Reform Movement, and the Great again had its original stop list of a balanced 8.4.2. 1-1/3.IV. Builders realized that both horizontal and vertical concepts were necessary for musicality to the instrument. “The Great still maintains its position as the foundation of the organ, and the division from which all else in the organ is derived or centered upon.”

(Sources: *The Organ, an Encyclopedia*, by Douglas E. Bush and Richard Kassel; *The Registration of Baroque Organ Music*, by Barbara Owen; *Grove’s Dictionary of Music and Musicians*; and class notes on a lecture on the history of the organ by Douglas Bush.)

SLAGO Membership Directory

The Salt Lake City Chapter has published a very nice membership directory for 2009-2010. The 8.5 x 5.5.-inch directory includes membership contact information for Cache Valley, Ogden, and Utah Valley chapters, as well as contact information for National Guild and Bonneville District officers.

Salt Lake had extra copies published and are offering them for \$1.75 each to anyone who would like one. If you’d like a directory mailed to you, please send a check for \$1.75 plus \$.61 for postage to Allan Darrington, 2866 Hawker Lane, West Valley City, UT 84128. The directory has listings for 46 Utah Valley chapter members.

Recipe

Pomegranate Salad

1 cup each:

whipped topping (more if desired)
pomegranate seeds
chopped apples (red skinned more colorful)

3/4 cup each:

chopped pecans
coconut

Stir all together and chill before serving.