



Newsletter

American Guild of Organists

Utah Valley Chapter

2008-2009

March 2009

No. 9

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Dean's Message

Wow! Where has this month gone? And there's another one coming up just like it with the same dates on the same days of the week! At least March will have three more days in it. I will try to put them to good use.

I'd like to encourage everyone to either play in or attend the chapter's annual member recital in commemoration of J.S. Bach's birthday in March. All the details are contained in this newsletter. These recitals are always very enjoyable, and it is amazing to hear the remarkable talents of our very own members.

Lori Serr and her committee are planning a great Super Saturday, which is scheduled for April 25 in the Harris Fine Arts Center at BYU. This annual chapter event is provided for local church musicians of all ages and abilities. Plan to attend and bring at least one friend. The planning committee will provide publicity materials so you can notify the musicians in your individual church units of the workshops and offerings.

Another item of interest is the LDS Church's annual call for submissions of original church music. This event was established to encourage musical talent and bring new musical works to light. Some submissions may be published in Church magazines. All items for the annual review must be postmarked by March 31, and award recipients will be notified by July 1. For detailed information, go to www.lds.org then to Gospel Library>>>Music>>>Other Music, and then click on Church Music Submissions.

And finally, I asked DeeAnn Stone if she would provide some details in this newsletter about her updated "Resources for LDS Organists" website. Her site is a treasure trove of resources on hymn playing and other helps for organists. Be sure to check out the newly added section for Primary music directors.

As we plan our personal activities over the next few months, I hope there will always be joy in our service and fulfillment in our efforts. Whatever talents you possess, share them liberally and joyfully; your gifts will return to you ten fold.

Salt Lake Chapter Mendelssohn Celebration

Thanks so much to the Salt Lake AGO Chapter for planning and presenting a wonderful evening at Cathedral Church of St. Mark - Episcopal to commemorate Felix Mendelssohn's 200th birthday. All six of his organ sonatas were presented with Douglas O'Neill performing Sonata I; Andrew Unsworth, Sonata II; Clay Christiansen, Sonata III; Linda Margetts, Sonata IV; Sujin Yoon, Sonata V; and Ken Udy, Sonata VI (not in that order). Janice Clayton of the Salt Lake Chapter started the program with a very interesting lecture summary of Mendelssohn's life; and after intermission, shared some anecdotes regarding Mendelssohn's works as well. Her excellent presentation is attached to this newsletter. Janet Griffin chaired this event; and the printed program she prepared, which included Doug Bush's typically first-rate program notes on the six sonatas, was excellent.

National Convention in Salt Lake City in 2014

Salt Lake City has been awarded the privilege of hosting the AGO National Convention in 2014. Linda Margetts of the Salt Lake AGO Chapter is the chairman of this event. Anyone desiring to help in any way with the planning and preparations for this event, contact Linda at: margettsls@ldschurch.org

Chamberlin Hymn Sing of February 22

You were all notified by email that the Chamberlin Hymn Sing in the Alpine Tabernacle in American Fork had to be cancelled because of problems with the organ. Hopefully, the organ will soon be restored to dependable working order and another date set for this event. You will be notified as soon as that occurs.

Upcoming Events

- Mar. 13 - Informal at Provo Central Stake Center (a chance to practice on the Bigelow prior to the Bach Recital), 7:30 p.m.
- Mar. 20 - AGO Member Bach Recital, 7:30 p.m., Provo Central Stake Center, 12th W. 5th N., Provo
- Mar. 21 - Douglas E. Bush Annual Bach Recital (right on Papa Bach's birthday), BYU Madsen Recital Hall, 7:30 p.m.
- Mar. 27 - Shinji Inagi Graduate Recital, Cathedral of the Madeleine, 7:30 p.m.
- Mar. 28 - Felipe Dominguez Bach Recital (mostly organ music but also two oboes/organ trio), Provo Central Stake, 7:30 p.m.
- Apr. 11 - Brian Mathias, Graduate Recital, Assembly Hall, SLC, 7:30 p.m.
- Apr. 14 - Jenya Tyltina, Organ Recital, Cathedral of the Madeleine, 7:30 p.m.
- Apr. 17 - Informal at Alpine Tabernacle, AF, 7:30 p.m.
- Apr. 25 - "Super Saturday" at BYU HFAC, 8 am to 2 pm
- May 15 - Informal at the SLC Tabernacle, 7:30 p.m. (for dues-paying members of UVAGO)

Chapter Bach Recital

Claire Rogers reports that very few chapter members have contacted her with their Bach selections for the March 20 recital at Provo Central Stake. She needs to hear from you soon. Be sure to take advantage of the March 13 Informal at Provo Central to get a bit more used to the Bigelow tracker organ. Also, members attending the recital, please plan to bring potluck treats for everyone to share following the recital.

Super Saturday - April 25

Utah Valley AGO "Super Saturday" will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the HFAC, BYU on April 25, 2009. There is no charge for this event, and a light lunch will also be free. After signing in, go to the Madsen Recital Hall by 8:15 for a short hymn sing, followed by the keynote address given by our very own Don Cook. Workshop sessions include: basic manual and pedal techniques, choral accompaniment, organ repertoire, organ registration, and hymn playing. Guild members are needed to help with registration, flyer distribution, luncheon, etc. Please call Lori Serr, chairman, at 489-8222 if you can help.

Important Web Sites

Free music for the LDS Organist

www.ldsorganist.org

[David L. Bytheway has posted reharmonizations of a dozen or so hymns in pdf form on this site. These are not difficult even though they are in five-voice texture.]

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

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

Member Spotlight

Joan Barnett

Submitted by Mark Clark

This month's member spotlight is on Joan (pronounced Jo-ann) Barnett, our chapter treasurer/registrar. Joan has been a member of the Utah Valley Chapter since 1982 and is in her eleventh year as chapter treasurer/registrar.

Joan started piano lessons when she was eight years old and eventually studied with Robert Cundick, Reid Nibley, and Paul Pollei. She was fascinated with the organ and remembers as a teenager hearing Frank Asper, Alexander Schreiner, and E. Power Biggs on the radio. She attended many organ recitals in the Salt Lake Tabernacle. Joan took church organ courses and became Sunday School organist when she was fifteen years old. Later she studied organ for several years with J J Keeler. Until Joan had a family, she taught school. When all her children were in school, she went back to college and earned a master's degree in musicology.

Joan has been a ward organist for many years and has also served as a stake organist. Her hobby is making hymn arrangements and harmonizations and writing hymn preludes. She also enjoys giving piano lessons to many of her grandchildren. Joan is married to Dean Barnett, a retired BYU physics professor, and they have six children.

We appreciate Joan's many years of service in the chapter. She is very dedicated to her assignments and always willing to help in any way she can.

Newest Chapter Member

Our newest chapter member is Laura Pettersson, Provo. Welcome!

Bulletin from AGO National HQ

Special reduced National AGO dues rates are available for **new members only** (this also includes those who have already joined our local chapter as “friends,” and have not as yet joined the National Guild) for the remainder of the 2008-2009 membership year. Join during the period between February 1 and March 31, 2009, and you will receive nine monthly issues of *The American Organist* magazine, beginning with the March 2009 issue.

AGO membership is initiated through local chapters. The chapter portion of the dues is also reduced and is set by each chapter. The overall reduction of the National portion is approximately 23%; the reduction of the Utah Valley chapter portion is 33%. Simply contact the UVAGO chapter registrar, Joan Barnett, and indicate at which level you would like to enroll. The categories and dues amounts are listed below:

Regular: national portion \$40 + chapter portion \$22 = \$62

Special (over 65, under 21)/disabled: \$27.50 + \$16.50 = \$44

Student (with school ID): \$18 + \$6 = \$24

Partner (2nd member at same address): \$22 + \$22 = \$44



NEA Funding Will Support New Music Commissions and Premier Performances at the AGO National Convention in Washington, D.C., July 4–8, 2010

PHOENIX RISING
Region IX Festival 2009
(June 22-25)
www.agoinfoenix.com

Artists include Gillian Weir, Frederick Swann, Linda Margetts, Kimberly Marshal and many others. Many new and exciting instruments to be heard include Aeolian-Skinner, Bigelow, Casavants, Shantz, Sipe, Visser, and many others. Visit the Web site.

Mark Clark, our publicity chairman, has designed a nice ad for the official festival program, commemorating the 30th anniversary of the Utah Valley AGO Chapter.

February Informal

Submitted by Ruth Ann Hay

Eight people met at the home of Richard Adams for the February Informal. The event lived up to its name. Richard has a collection of five fascinating organs and we all tried them out. Richard explained how he accumulated them and gave detailed explanations of each, taking them apart so that we could see their mechanisms. He has a harmonium, a Moller Artiste, which he purchased from the Christian Science Church. He found a Casavant tracker on Ebay and a Reed organ from a music store in Salt Lake to which he added an electropneumatic wind chest. It dates from around 1902 and has beautiful wood decoration and a pedal in the shape of a shoe. Another was an obvious home-made tracker built of plywood with unnamed stops. We welcomed some spouses who came with members and all had a great time.

Make it a date night and join us on March 13 at the Provo Central Stake Center for our next informal “rehearsal” on the Bigelow organ for the Bach recital on March 20.

Be sure to let me know if you want to play the Salt Lake Tabernacle organ on May 15 (restricted to dues-paying members). Participants will be assigned a time slot and Brian Mathias, a BYU student and Tabernacle guest organist will assist with the stops, if needed.

Recipe

Doug Bush's Lemon Pie

Have a 9- or 10-inch pie shell baked and ready.

Grate the rind and squeeze the juice from one lemon. Add 1 cup, plus 3 T. water. Combine 3 T. cornstarch, dash of salt, 2 eggs, and 1 cup sugar. Beat together, then add to lemon-water mixture.

Cook over medium heat until thickened and bubbly (stir constantly as it will scorch). Let it boil about a minute or so. Add a little yellow coloring if too pale.

Pour into shell, chill, and serve with whipped cream or cover with meringue (also good with lime instead of lemon).

Updated "Resources for LDS Organists" Website

By DeeAnn Stone, February 25, 2009

Over the last few months, I've been updating and reformatting "Resources for LDS Organists," and moved it to a new URL- www.LDSOrganists.info. I made these changes to hopefully make it more user-friendly and also to include additional information and helps. For this month's newsletter, Mike Carson suggested I write up a brief summary of how to use the website.

Basically, I now have two sections at the website. One section contains hymn playing resources and helps for organists, and the other section is for Primary Music Directors. (Since I have served in Primary for many years and have accumulated a lot of materials and ideas, I thought I'd share these with others, and I've still got a lot more things to add to this section.)

To begin with--

In order to see how to use "Resources for LDS Organists," you might want to go to the website itself so you can follow along with my comments below.

Let's suppose you already have certain hymns you want to play for church and would like to find arrangements or free accompaniments to play for them, but don't know where to find any, or you just want to know what's available to play for those hymns. Here's what you can do in your search:

On the left-hand column of the home page of "Resources for LDS Organists," you can either click on "CONTENTS for organists," which gives an overview of hymn playing helps, or go directly to the "Hymn Arrangements & Free Accompaniments" link, where--after you get to that page--you can click on a letter of the first word in the hymn title to find the hymn settings for that hymn.

Also on this page, I have PDF documents that I've recently updated that contain all this information and that can be downloaded. Essentially, this is the booklet that I used to print off for people, and it's now over 300 pages long.

After you click on a letter, a clickable list of hymn titles is found at the top of the page. Clicking on these hymn titles will give you information about the hymn--such as hymn number, title, key, time signature, hymn tune, author and composer--plus the hymn settings I have found for each hymn, which are listed alphabetically by arranger and include the page number, title of book, and key.

If you already own some of the books listed under each hymn, this list will help you remember where to find a particular hymn arrangement. If you see something that you'd like to buy, you can click on the arranger's name, which will take you to the "Composers / Arrangers" page, which has an alphabetical list of each composer or arranger at the top of the page. Clicking on a name will show all the volumes or books that I've found for that particular arranger, plus a list of the hymn arrangements or free accompaniments found in each volume, the publisher, year published, catalog number, and price (which mostly likely has changed). After you know the publisher--so you can order a book or collection--click on the "Music Publishers" link at the top of each page.

The "Music Publishers" page contains addresses, phone numbers, fax numbers, e-mails, and websites for each publisher. I just updated this, so it should be current.

That's the nuts and bolts of how to use the hymn resources section of the website, so you can find hymn arrangements and free accompaniments to play for church.

Other helps and resources found on the home page are:

Left-hand column:

-- Organ Teachers

--Hymn Playing Helps (handouts of members of the chapter given at various organ workshops, and other information)

--Music Ordering Service (Claire Rogers)

--A link to our chapter website

--MP3 recordings of hymns and other organ music. (If any of you have some MP3 recordings of hymn settings that you'd like me to add to this section, let me know. I could have samples of your music and a link to buy it.)

--Various YouTube videos of LDS hymn-related music

--Organ Related Links

Center column:

- Specifications of the Bigelow tracker organ, and background information about it from my perspective
- Updates of newly added material, etc.

Right-hand column:

- Children's Songbook arrangements (organ and piano)
- Helps for Primary Music Leaders
- A link to the LDS Church music section on the website-where there's a wealth of information
- Site Map
- Miscellaneous links to Phoenix Records (Denis Sorenson's music from the Original 3Ds) and America's Revival (A national website our family runs. Sorry, I had to put in a plug for this, considering the dire condition our nation is in right now.)

Information under the section for "Contents for Organists" and "Aids For Planning Music For Worship Services":

- Hymns and Hymn Tunes (a list of hymns with corresponding hymn tunes)
- Hymn Tunes and Hymns (a list of hymn tunes with corresponding hymns)
- Hymns by Key
- Hymn Texts
- Meters of the Hymns
- Hymn Topics (a list of various topics with corresponding hymns)

Other information on the Contents page:

- Sources for Information
- Trivia Corner (an analysis of how many hymns were written by LDS and non-LDS composers and authors)

That's the basic outline of what's available at "Resources for LDS Organists," and how to use it, although I could explain in more depth how some of the other features can be used in planning worship music. I hope this website is helpful to you, your students, members of your ward or stake, friends, relatives, and others you know. Help me spread the word about the website, so people are aware of the resources there.

Let me know at dstone@uvago.org if you have any updates or suggestions for the website. I'm here to help.

P.S. To help pay for the server and related costs of maintaining the website, donations would be most welcome.