



Newsletter

American Guild of Organists
Utah Valley Chapter
2010-2011

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.

November 2010

No. 3

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Dean's Message

A few years ago I attended a piano recital. The young students were scheduled to play in order of ability, starting with the least experienced. Six-year-old Caleb was the first to play. It was a standard beginner's tune. The staff was large. The rhythm was simple. Yet when he started to play, I was amazed at what I felt. His energy, enthusiasm, and love for the music shone through loud and clear. He was doing more than just hitting his fingers against the keys. He was playing *music*.

The recital continued through the attitude-laden middle schoolers and on to the more musically mature—each performer displaying more experience and technical ability than the one before. Though most of the pieces were technically well executed, not one of the offerings exceeded the performance that Caleb had given. Yet after seeing the level of difficulty that had been mastered by others, I thought Caleb might need some assurance that his performance had been appreciated and enjoyed. It would be so easy to feel insignificant compared with the more advanced musicians. I sought him out with the intent of lifting his spirit.

"Thanks, Caleb," I greeted him. "I really enjoyed your performance. I loved hearing you play."

"Thank you," he replied with bright eyes and a grand smile; "I did my best!"

I realized very quickly that this young boy did not need me to lift his spirits or to teach him that experience does not equal worth. He knew it already. The real question was, did I know it? Not just with my head, but did I know it in my heart? Did I know it when, with less than a year of organ training, I played my simple first recital piece alongside seasoned organists? Did I know it when I struggled to learn my one Bach piece for the March recital and others had 20+ years of previously learned Bach repertoire from which to choose? Did I know it when I, without a music degree to my name, was asked to serve as dean of our chapter? Probably not. But I know it now. How did I learn this? There are many contributing factors, but probably one of the greatest is the sincere acceptance and encouragement I have received from fellow AGO members.

I believe that many of our chapter members (both more and less experienced) have already learned what I learned from Caleb—one's level of experience has very little to do with one's ability to play music, to reach others, to share, to be appreciated, and to be of worth.

No matter your level of experience, I invite you to attend our chapter activities in the spirit of Caleb. Know that the value of your contributions have nothing to do with your training, or lack thereof. Bring your heart, your enthusiasm, your love of music. Just bring *you*. That will be wonderful. That's what we need, because being you is something no one else can do.

Florence Hawkinson, Dean

Upcoming Events

- Nov. 3 Carillon Tour (tour and introductory hands-on with the BYU Carillon), presented by Dr. Don Cook, Wednesday, 6:30 p.m., BYU Bell Tower
- Nov. 7 Eccles Organ Recital, Gail Archer, concert organist, Sunday, 8:00 p.m., Cathedral of the Madeleine, 331 E. South Temple, SLC
- Nov. 9 Andrus Madsen Organ/Harpsichord Recital, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Assembly Hall, SLC
- Nov. 11 Sophomore Recital of Jonathan Evans, student of Dr. Don Cook, Thursday, 7:30 p.m., Provo Tabernacle
- Nov. 14 Salt Lake City AGO Chapter Annual Thanksgiving Hymn-Sing, Sunday, 5:30 p.m., First United Methodist Church, 203 E. 200 S., SLC
- Nov. 18 November Informal, Thursday, 7:30 p.m. at the home of Rebecca Brand, 826 E. 700 N., American Fork (directions below)
- Dec. "Serve where you are" - there will be no chapter meeting this month

November Chapter Meeting

The BYU Centennial Carillon Tower

is one of the most distinctive buildings on campus. Given by university friends and alumni, it was built in 1975 to commemorate the BYU centennial year. The bells were cast by the Dutch belfoundry, Petit and Fritsen, and were installed by I. T. Verdin from Cincinnati.

The tower contains a 52-bell carillon that is played from a mechanical baton-style keyboard. Carillonneurs use the sides of the hands and the feet to play carillon compositions and arrangements of classical pieces, folk songs, hymns, and more. It is usually played on weekdays at noon, and before and after devotionals or other university events. An automatic system marks the hour and the half-hour. The bronze bells, cast in Holland, range in weight from 21 to 4,730 pounds, with a total weight of 26,695 pounds.

We, in the Utah Valley AGO Chapter, are blessed to have Dr. Don Cook as one of our members and to enjoy his telling us about and letting us have access to the BYU Centennial Carillon this Wednesday, November 3, at 6:30 p.m. Don played the BYU carillon as a student from 1979-82, under the supervision of Gordon Johnson. From 1982-85, he studied carillon with Albert Gerken at the University of Kansas and became a member of the Guild of Carillonneurs in North America in 1984. In 1991, Don was appointed to the organ faculty at BYU and to University Carillonneur and, in addition to playing the bells himself, has trained and supervised many students over the years. Currently the associate carillonneurs are:

Joseph Peeples (organ graduate student)
Stephan Burton (math major)
Ian McKinley (piano major)

Directions to Rebecca Brand's House for the November Informal

Exit I-15 at the Pleasant Grove/American Fork exit heading east toward American Fork. Turn left at the first light and swing past the HeeHaw farm and toward State Street. Cross State Street, pass the American Fork

Hospital and drive up the hill. At the four-way stop by the Mt. Timpanogos Temple, turn left, pass the temple, and head west down the hill. Watch for a black mailbox on your right and turn left into a long driveway just past that mailbox. Enter the house from the west door.

Andrus Madsen Organ/Harpsichord Recital in the Assembly Hall, SLC

Andrus Madsen will play the organ and harpsichord in the Assembly Hall on Temple Square. Featured will be music of Johann Pachelbel. Madsen studied with Douglas Bush, Arthur Haas, and Peter Sykes. He holds a BM in organ performance from BYU, an MM degree in musicology, and MA and DMA degrees in harpsichord performance from the Eastman School of Music. He is the director and founder of the ensemble, Newton Baroque, and plays with Les Tourbillon, Saltarello, LaSylva, and also appears from time to time with A Far Cry and Open Gate. Born in Provo, Utah, in 1969, Andrus currently resides in Newton, Massachusetts, where he is the Minister of Music at Second Church in Newton.

Utah State Hospital Sunday Evening Recitals

Chaplain Mike Benedict is anxious and willing to have musicians perform Sunday evening recitals at the State Hospital chapel for a very appreciative, non-critical audience. The recitals should last 25 to 45 minutes. Please contact Mike at 801-368-3368 to schedule.

Claire Rogers performed the service of organizing recitals for the Utah State Hospital in the past. This would be a good opportunity for BYU organ students to have a practice run-through of a graded recital by abbreviating their program to no more than 45 minutes and presenting an organ recital (or any other instrument/vocal) as a service for the patients at the Utah State Hospital.

AGO Member Directory

A Salt Lake City and neighboring chapters membership directory is now available and costs 25 cents more than the \$1.50 quoted last newsletter. Anyone wanting a directory may mail a check made out to **AGO, SLC** for \$1.75 to:

Salt Lake Chapter AGO
Allan Darrington
866 Hawker Lane
West Valley City, UT 84128-1128

If Allan mails out a minimum of ten directories to one address, the cost per directory will be \$1.35. Any questions, email Allan at adarr@abdservices.com.

Salt Lake City AGO Chapter Annual Thanksgiving Hymn-Sing!

Sunday, November 14 at 5:30 p.m.
First United Methodist Church
203 East 200 South
Salt Lake City

This will be in conjunction with the semi-monthly recital series at First United Methodist Church, *A Wesleyan Sermon*. There will be hymns to sing, choral music to inspire, organ music to delight the ear, scriptures and a short Wesley sermon for the soul.

Tabernacle Organist Receives Two Coveted Awards

The tradition of highly acclaimed organists on Temple Square—Alexander Schreiner, Frank Asper, Joseph Daynes, Robert Cundick, and John Longhurst—has continued with the 13th full-time organist, Andrew Unsworth, distinguishing himself at the 2010 Professional Certification Examinations of the American Guild of Organists. Unsworth received two of the three coveted awards from the American Guild of Organists at the exams as well as his Associateship Certification.

Unsworth was selected among 82 candidates to receive the S. Lewis Elmer Award presented to the individual who earned the highest overall score of any in the upper-level examinations and the Associateship prize awarded for outstanding presentation in intensive examinations. That he received both is unusual and a clear measure of his exceptional performance.

Unsworth was raised in Potsdam, New York, in a family of musicians. He received a bachelor of music degree from Brigham Young University and was awarded M.A. and Ph.D. degrees by Duke University. Before his appointment on Temple Square in 2007, Unsworth worked as assistant director of music and organist at the Cathedral of the Madeleine in Salt Lake City and as assistant professor of music history and organ at Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas.

In addition to accompanying the Tabernacle Choir with his colleagues, Richard Elliott and Clay Christiansen and part-time organists Bonnie Goodliffe and Linda Margetts, he also participates in the daily organ recital series on Temple Square playing the acclaimed 206-rank Aeolian-Skinner organ in the Tabernacle and the Schoenstein organ in the Conference Center.

[**Editor's note:** Andy and I were in school together at BYU when he was finishing his bachelor of music in organ, and I was doing music pre-requisites for my master's degree. We took an 8:00 a.m. counterpoint class from Dr. David Sargent (anyone knowing Dr. Sargent knows we always started off our MWF mornings with great, good humor and a positive start to our day). I was always amazed with the quality of the counterpoint assignments Andy was able to create. So it's no surprise to me that he won these awards.

The above article was taken from the *Mormon Tabernacle Choir Newsletter*. If you want to receive it each Friday, email: newsletter@mormontabernaclechoir.org.]

AGO Service Playing Certification

Attached to this newsletter is a flyer regarding the AGO Service Playing exam. After reading the above article, some of you may be inspired to start working on the first AGO professional certification, which is the Service Playing Certification (similar in requirements to the level 3 BYU Independent Study organ course).

Our board member over Education—Lori Serr—would be happy to answer any questions you have regarding preparation for this exam.

Pipedreams

We might imagine that after 28+ years on the air, American Public Media's *Pipedreams* is a known quantity to everyone. In reality it's not. And even though the internet offers a convenient, time-independent access point for online *Pipedreams* listening (18,500 discrete users monthly), the largest audience by far is reached through radio broadcast transmissions (over 220,000 weekly).

Michael Barone, host/producer, is urging all of us to spread the word about *Pipedreams*. In previous years, the programs for the next month were listed in the AGO newsletter. I think most of you are much more computer literate these days, so I am simply adding the *Pipedreams* Web site below:

Important Web sites:

Utah Valley Chapter AGO Web site:

www.uvago.org

Pipedreams:

www.pipedreams.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

David Chamberlin's music:

www.chamberlinmusic.com

Source of music for the LDS organist:

www.wardorganist.com

Free music for the LDS organist:

www.ldsorganist.org

Recipe of the Month

Bran Muffins

Cream together:

1 cup shortening

4 unbeaten eggs

2 ½ cups sugar

Add:

5 cups flour

5 tsp. soda

1 ½ tsp. salt

6 cups Bran Buds

2 cups boiling water

1 quart buttermilk

Optional:

dates

raisins

nuts

blueberries

Bake for 20 minutes at 400°. Batter stores for six weeks.



Region IX Convention

in association with the Peninsula Chapter

July 3-7, 2011

San Francisco

Fifteen featured organists from Region IX, including Korea and Australia (partial list)

Angela Kraft Cross
Robert Huw Morgan
Roger Nyquist
Dorothy Young Riess
Amy Johansen
Andrew Unsworth
Namhee Han
Kimberly Marshall

Twenty featured organs at nineteen venues throughout the Bay Area (partial list)

St. Luke's Episcopal Church (Aeolian-Skinner)
Temple Emanu-El (Skinner)
First Congregational Church, Palo Alto (Letourneau)
Christ Church, Portola Valley (Visser-Rowland)
All Saints Episcopal Church, Palo Alto (Flentrop)
Stanford Memorial Church (Fisk and Murray Harris)
Old First Church (Hutchings/Vischer)
Mission Dolores Basilica (Allen)
St. John the Evangelist (M.P. Möller/DeCamp)
St. Mark's Episcopal, Berkeley (Flentrop)
First Congregational, Berkeley (Fetty-Madden)
St. Mary's Cathedral (Ruffatti)
LDS Interstake Center (Swain & Kates)
Cathedral of Christ the Light (Letourneau)
St. Mark's Lutheran (Taylor & Boody)
Grace Cathedral (Aeolian-Skinner)

Seven instrumental and vocal performance groups (partial list)

Millennia Consort with Allison Lueddecke
L. Norton
Artists' Vocal Ensemble (AVE)
American Bach Soloists

Twenty-one workshop presenters addressing a variety of interesting, relevant topics (partial list)

Enhancing Congregational Song
Works for Organ & Narrator
MIDI
Vocal Technique for the Young Singer
The Art of Accompanying
The Mystique of Cavallé-Coll
Organ Improvisation

Commissioned Pamela Decker organ work to be premiered

Exhibitor booths and exhibit rooms

Three worship services reflecting the diversity of the San Francisco Bay Area

Pre-convention chapter and regional competitions for young organists

Competition - Saturday, July 2
Winner's Recital - Tuesday, July 5

www.sfago2011.org

Celebrating 100 Years