



Utah Valley Chapter American Guild of Organists

The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to enrich lives through organ and choral music.

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The Dean's Message

September 2013

Dear Members and Friends,

Welcome to another AGO year! I hope you all had a wonderful summer and accomplished some of the things you set out to do. During the summer our board met a couple of times to make plans for the 2013-14 year. I would like to share a few of the highlights from our meetings.

First, we decided to build upon our focus from last year and "Widen the Circle." We invite everybody to help expand our circle of activity by inviting family, friends, and acquaintances to our monthly events. We would like to continue to enlarge our sphere of influence by including youth and the community at large.

Second, for our closing social we will be having a hymn sing. Rather than one or two people playing all the hymns, we would like to have many organists play. In February we will have training workshop for those interested in playing in the hymn sing. The workshop presenters will provide the participants assistance in preparing a hymn for the program, so that all the participants will be prepared for the hymn sing and have a successful experience. In a couple months we will ask for volunteers.

Third, in addition to providing training for the hymn sing participants, the community will be invited to our February hymn playing training. By doing so, we hope to address the needs of Super Saturday attendees who requested more advanced classes. Also, a need was expressed for additional training during the year. David and Jennifer are hosting a workshop on Saturday, September 14th in American Fork for local organists to ask questions and get feedback.

Please see the calendar for a full listing of events for 2013-14. If you would like to help with anything, please let Jack or me know.

I look forward to your association again this year. Together we can "Widen the Circle."

Sincerely,
Sheri

Upcoming Events

Utah Valley Chapter Meetings

Sept 14	Super Saturday Follow-up Training Workshop, American Fork Stake Center, 240 S Center St, 9:30-11:30 am
Sept 27	Demarest Recital: Lella Pomeroy and Glen Hicks, LDS Chapel, 2557 Dalton Dr., Springville, 7:00 pm
Oct	Master class with Ullrich Böhme, BYU, TBA
Nov 16	Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza, Provo Central Stake Center, 10:00 am
Jan	Organ Tour in SLC
Feb	Hymn Sing Workshop
March	Chapter Bach Recital
April	Super Saturday
May	Chapter Hymn Sing

Organ Recitals

Sept 8	Nathan Laube from the Eastman School of Music Cathedral of the Madeleine, 8:00 pm
Sept 22	"Organ Plus," Douglas Bush and Kenneth Udy St. Mark's Cathedral, 231 E. 100 S., SLC, 8:00 pm
Oct 6	Jean-Baptiste Robin from Chapelle Royale du Château de Versailles Cathedral of the Madeleine, 8:00 pm
Oct 20	Dongho Lee from Christ Church in Charlotte, North Carolina Cathedral of the Madeleine, 8:00 pm
Oct 23	Ullrich Böhme from Thomaskirche in Leipzig Tabernacle, Temple Square, 7:30 pm
Nov 3	Isabelle Demers from Baylor University Cathedral of the Madeleine, 8:00 pm

Please Join Us: Demarest Recital by Lella Pomeroy and Glen Hicks

Please join the chapter for a lecture performance of the "Life and Times of Clifford Demarest" by Glen Hicks and Lella Pomeroy on Friday, September 27 at the Springville Dalton Drive Chapel. This promises to be an enriching evening, musically as well as historically. See Glen's "At the Bench" column for more information about this little known American composer and the attached flyer.

Call for Music

We all enjoyed Blaine Olson's duets last year, and I would like to invite anyone in the chapter who would like to share hymn arrangements, introductions, preludes, etc. to email them to newsletteruvago@gmail.com.

Organ Teacher List on Chapter Website

The chapter will be posting a list of local organ teachers on the chapter website. Please contact DeeAnn Stone at ddstone@renewamerica.com, if you would like your name to be included on the list.

At the Bench

by Glen W. Hicks

As an organist I am drawn to the music of certain composers for my instrument. I like Buxtehude and Bach for their complexities. I enjoy Dupré and Langlais for their dissonance. I am always energized by the roughness of the Iberians, Cabanilles and Braga. And Guilmant just thinks the way I do. My list could go on and on, but there is one among them that never fails to make me smile. Clifford Demarest is my go-to composer for the sheer sentimentality and happiness that his music emotes. I came to know Demarest through my dear friend and mentor, Lella Pomeroy. She introduced me to his *Fantasia* for organ and piano which led me to explore other works and the life of this obscure American composer. I have had the privilege of studying many of these works and each one is a gem filled with melodic charm and simple joy. His music is from a by-gone era of warm summer nights and front porch swings, of baseball games and apple pie! I do not excuse my sentimentality when speaking of Demarest and his music; I am helpless to its charms!

When I chose to embark on the journey of writing Demarest's biography, I never imagined the personal experiences I would have. The most profound of these occurred on Memorial Day of this year when I stood alone at Demarest's grave in the beautiful Brookside Cemetery in Englewood, NJ.

[see p. 3]



At the Bench continued

The quiet stillness of the scene, combined with the vibrant green of the vegetation and the century-old headstones that surrounded me, created a feeling of reverence and I couldn't help but feel gratitude for this man who shared his talents and left a legacy of music that beautifies my life and brings me joy.

Clifford Demarest: A Brief Biography

The American composer, Clifford Demarest, was born August 12, 1874 in Tenafly New Jersey to A.G. Demarest and the former Ellen Van Gieson. He was a pupil of Raymond Huntington Woodman (1861-1943, who studied with Dudley Buck and César Frank). In May 1896 he was appointed organist and choirmaster at All Saints church, Great Neck, New York. Later he was organist of the Church of the Messiah, New York City. He was a Fellow of the American Guild of Organists and was its president from 1917 to 1920. He died on May 13, 1946 in New Jersey.

Clifford Demarest wrote a number of anthems, songs, and part-songs, as well as some pieces for piano and for organ. Among his works: *Fantasy* (or *Fantaisie*) in C minor (1917), *Grand Aria* (1922), *Rhapsody* (1925), *Air Varié* (1946) - all of them organ/piano duets.

Opening Social and Tour of Blaine's Organs

Photos by Kari Nay

On Friday, August 30th, the chapter enjoyed a potluck at the Sunset Stake pavilion and headed to Blaine's house for a tour of his two organs. Blaine is building an ever-expanding pipe organ in his living room. It might be the largest organ in Utah Valley. Each of the thirty-three ranks of pipes has a story. He began with a 10-rank Wicks organ, collected more ranks from organs across the country, and recovered the console from the previous organ in the Ogden tabernacle. Blaine also has a four-manual Johannes Rembrandt 497 to practice on while his pipe organ is under construction. The Johannes has tracker touch keyboards, adjustable voicing, and the equivalent of 85 ranks of pipes.



Kymerly Stone's Senior Recital

Photos by Kari Nay

Kym performed a fabulous senior recital at St. Mark's Cathedral followed by a debut performance at the regional AGO in Bakersfield in June. Congratulations Kym!



Resources for Organists

"The LDS Organist"
(created by Jennifer Morgan)
www.organlessons.blogspot.com

"Pedal Points"
(created by Florence Hawkinson)
www.ldsorganist.wordpress.com

Doug Bush's hymn arrangements
douglas_bush@byu.edu

David Chamberlin's hymn
voluntaries
www.chamberlinmusic.com

Free music for the LDS organist
www.ldsorganist.org

Music for the LDS organist:
www.wardorganist.com

Resources for the LDS organist
www.ldsorganists.info

BYU organ information
www.organ.byu.edu

Local organ builder of fine
mechanical action organs
www.bigeloworgans.com

AGO Salt Lake City Chapter
www.slicago.org

AGO Utah Valley Chapter
www.uvago.org

AGO Region IX Blog
www.agoregionixblog.blogspot.com

AGO National Headquarters
www.agohq.org

American Guild of Organists -
Utah Valley Chapter
www.facebook.com

Super Saturday Follow-up Training Workshop

Saturday, September 14, 9:30-11:30 am

American Fork Stake Center, 240 S. Center St.

- Preparing for each specific Sunday (not just winging it)
- Effective prelude and postlude - adapting the hymns.
- Proper tempo and volume
- Technique (proper use of pedals, legato fingering)
- Q&A

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Or email: gladjudith@gladehunsaker.com



The Utah Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists Presents:

The Life and Music of
Clifford Demarest



Glen W. Hicks

Lecturer/Organist

Lella E. Pomeroy

Organist



September 27, 2013

7:00 pm

**The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
2557 Dalton Drive, Springville, UT.**

Free and open to the public. Refreshments will be provided.