



AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

Newsletter

UTAH VALLEY CHAPTER

SEPTEMBER 2000

No. 1

Chapter Officers

Dean

Dr. Parley Belnap
756-3490
parleybona@juno.com

Sub-dean

Jim Carter
766-0925
jim.carter1@juno.com

Secretary/ Newsletter Editor

DeeAnn Stone
377-4728
ddstone.mark@aros.net

Treasurer/Registrar

Meg Griffith
492-3755
mackmeg@juno.com

BYU Faculty Representative

Dr. R. Don Cook, AAGO
378-3260
don_cook@byu.edu

BYU Student Representative

Cindy Wells
371-1908
bcwells@indigita.com

Historian

Lillian Heil
377-6076
fwh@burgoyne.com

Publicity/Public Relations

Laura Pettersson
373-3541

SECRETARY/EDITOR'S MESSAGE

As a new AGO year begins, I'm sure I speak for all of us in the chapter in expressing our appreciation to LuJean Moss, LeeAnn Brockbank, Mary Paz, and Doug Bush for their service as officers for the last two (or more) years. They each contributed much to the growth of our chapter and helped organize many activities to expand our appreciation and knowledge of the organ and the music played on it. Again, thank you for your generous service.

I am excited, too, to welcome the new officers who are also committed to reaching out to the organists in the valley through helpful workshops, inspiring recitals, and other events that bring organists together. Before I outline the upcoming activities this year (which you will find on page 3 of the newsletter), I would like to introduce each of the new officers and give a little background about each of them, since we have many new members of the chapter this year, whom we warmly welcome.

Dr. Parley Belnap has graciously accepted the position of chapter dean. Dr. Belnap taught organ and music theory at BYU from 1965-1998. After the retirement of J. J. Keeler, Dr. Belnap became coordinator of the organ area and was asked to give all his efforts to the organ program. The group organ class with multiple organs was started under his direction and a new full-time organ position was created to maximize this innovative program. He started the Workshop on Church Music in 1978 and continued as director until 1997, and was assisted by Ronald Staheli, Susan Kenney, and Douglas Bush. He developed the Organ Certification and Hymn Certification Programs for Independent Study at BYU, with the assistance of J. J. Keeler and Douglas Bush. Later the refinements of Richard Elliot and then Don Cook were adopted. He received his BA and MA in Music Theory and Organ from Brigham Young University and a DMA in Organ Performance and Pedagogy from the University of Colorado at Boulder. He has had wonderful organ instructors in the US and Europe. He states, "I have loved teaching organ at BYU and elsewhere." He is married to Bona Belliston, and they are the parents of 7 children and grandparents of 11 grandchildren. We are very fortunate that Dr. Belnap is willing to share his expertise with us as dean.

Jim Carter will be the new sub-dean. Jim is from Atlanta, Georgia. He double-majored at BYU in Organ Performance and Pedagogy and Elementary Education. He is a former teacher of BYU group organ classes and has organized and taught many stake organ training courses for stakes in Utah and Georgia. He currently teaches fourth grade in Lehi and directs a children's choir, in addition to teaching private organ and piano lessons. He and his wife, Rebecca, have four children who daily compete to see who can make the biggest mess.

CONGRATULATIONS

to Lori Serr, who passed her CAGO in July!

DeeAnn Stone has served as chapter secretary/newsletter editor since 1990. Born and raised in Provo, she graduated from BYU in 1972 with a BA in art education and taught art classes at Marsh Valley High School in Arimo, Idaho, for a short time and then worked as a secretary in Tempe, Arizona. She and her husband, Stephen, have eight children and four grandchildren. She started playing the organ in 1981 by taking a six-week organ course from Geoff Meyers. Then in January 1987, she was called as ward organist (having the opportunity and challenge of playing the Bigelow tracker organ in the Provo Central Stake) and began taking organ lessons from Carol Dean. She has also played the organ at the Provo Temple. In 1993, she completed level three of the BYU Organ Certification Program and has attended the BYU Workshop on Church Music every year since 1987.

Meg Griffith will be serving as Treasurer/Registrar. She was born in Ohio and joined the Navy after high school. She joined the LDS Church while serving in Rhode Island and was baptized at the Joseph Smith birthplace in Vermont. Later, she married Mack Griffith in the Swiss Temple while he was in the Army. His seminary teaching career brought them to Utah. They lived in Sandy for 33 years where they raised their 5 children. After attending the Belnap's, missionary homecoming meeting, she felt inspired to move to American Fork. Their house in Sandy sold in one day, and she ended up in an American Fork ward with a pipe organ! She has taken organ and other music classes at BYU and organ lessons from Carol Dean for six years. She is currently working on the BYU Organ Certification Program.

Dr. R. Don Cook will be the BYU Faculty Advisor. Dr. Cook is associate professor of music (organ) at Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, where he serves as organ area coordinator and as university carillonneur. He appears frequently as a guest organist at the Salt Lake City Tabernacle and performs actively as a carillonneur. He holds BM and MM degrees in organ performance from Brigham Young University and a DMA degree from the University of Kansas. He has also developed "OrganTutor," a very useful interactive software program used in the group organ classes at BYU. (See page 5 for more information)

Cynthia Wells will serve as the BYU Student Representative. Cindy is originally from Fountain Valley, California. She studied piano as a youth and took up an interest in organ while a freshman at BYU. She majored in Piano and Organ Performance, graduating in 1998. She is currently pursuing a graduate degree in Organ at BYU. She and her husband, Brent, have been married for just over a year and are living in Provo. She loves to read, cook, and sew (and anything like unto it--needlepoint, x-stitch, even some crocheting.) Her husband is also a music major (choral education-and has a fabulous voice!). They enjoy singing together, especially in choirs.

Lillian Heil will be our chapter Historian, preserving memories our activities. Lillian started her career as an organist in Hawaii in 1969. Gerald Dick was her first teacher. When he left, she took lessons from Barbara Adler at the University of Hawaii. It was then she joined the AGO. When Preston Larson came to Hawaii, she studied with him. In the fall of 1974, she came to Provo and was one of the first members of the AGO in Provo, serving as the secretary for a couple of years.

Laura Pettersson, who will be handling Publicity/Public Relations for the chapter, is married to Jim Pettersson, current bishop in the Rivergrove II Ward of the Provo Central Stake. They have four children: Michael and Shawn are serving missions in the Bahamas and New Zealand, respectively; Jennifer is a senior and Joseph is a freshman at Provo High School. Laura has served as ward music chair, Primary pianist and Relief Society pianist. She is currently serving as ward organist, choir accompanist, stake concert specialist, and assistant organist supervisor at the Provo Temple. She has served on the Provo Council PTA for many years in various capacities and currently serves as the Music Specialist, working with the elementary music programs. She enjoys traveling, camping, reading, music, and friends, and is currently learning the cello.

"The organ is in truth the grandest, the most daring, the most magnificent of all the instruments invented by human genius. It is a whole orchestra in itself. It can express anything in response to a skilled touch." --Honor ■ De Bolzac

"Always play as if a master were present." --
Robert Schumann (Submitted by Meg Griffith)

(Ed. note: I might add that we should play as if THE master were present.)

UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS

September 15 (Friday): To kick off our new AGO year, we will be having a *potluck dinner/tour of the M. L. Bigelow Organ Factory*--130 W. 100 S., American Fork. This will give us chance to not only see the new organ Mike Bigelow is building but also to meet and renew acquaintances. We are planning on having dinner at 6:00 pm, and everyone is invited to bring a dish to share. Please RSVP by Tuesday, September 12, to Meg Griffith at 492-3755 about what you will be bringing, so we don't all bring the same food. Some suggestions are: main dishes, hot side dishes, casseroles, green salads, fruit salads, rolls, chips, desserts. The chapter will provide plates, cups, napkins, plastic ware, and drinks. Please bring serving utensils for your dish.

If you are only able to attend the tour, it will begin between 6:45 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Please invite any friends or family (musical or not) who would be interested in seeing the new organ. Hope to see you there!

October 15 (Sunday): *Utah Valley Chapter's Pipes Spectacular: World's Largest Organ Concert* will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Provo Tabernacle. Please invite everyone you can to this concert. It will be enjoyable and FUN! Please see pages 3-4 for more information.

November 11 (Saturday): *University of Utah organ tour* 9-12 a.m.

December: *Christmas Concert*

January 17 (Wednesday): *The Organist as Accompanist* workshop with Ronald Staheli at the Oak Hills Stake center, located on the north end of the missionary playing field by the Provo Temple.

February: *Workshop on mental practice and imagery* with invited guest, Malva Freymuth. We need a place for her to stay. **If any of you are able to invite her to stay at your house, please let Jim Carter or Dr. Belnap know.**

March: *Hymn Sing.*

April 27 (Saturday): *Pipes and Pizza at BYU.* Organ Crawl and Pipes & Pizza, with a silent movie at the end.

May: *Member Recital and Potluck Dinner* This activity is to provide members a time to perform one or two songs without the pressure of trying to prepare a full recital on their own. [No date or place are scheduled, yet.]

RECITALS/LECTURES

All the following are free of charge:

September 10 (Sunday) 8:00 p.m. Ken Udy, organist for Wasatch Presbyterian Church in SLC, Eccles Organ Festival, Cathedral of the Madeleine, SLC

September 22 (Friday) 7:30 p.m. Haruhito Miyagi will play his sophomore recital in the Assembly Hall on Temple Square

September 23 (Saturday) 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Master class with Stefan Engels of Westminster Choir College, Princeton, New Jersey. Assembly Hall on Temple Square, SLC

September 24 (Sunday) 8:00 p.m. Stefan Engels, Eccles Organ Festival, Cathedral of the Madeleine, SLC

September 27 (Wednesday) 7:30 p.m. Don Cook, faculty recital, deJong Concert Hall, BYU. Featuring Samuel Barber's "Tocatta Festiva" for organ and orchestra. The orchestra for this performance is digital--a very unique recital indeed.

September 28 (Thursday) 7:00 p.m., MRH or deJong, Lecture/demonstration, "New and Old Approaches to Sound," by Dr. Chris Howard.

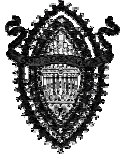
September 29 (Friday), 7:30 p.m. *A musical evening featuring the music of Johann Sebastian Bach* (1685-1750) at the Cathedral of St. Mark 231 East 100 South, Salt Lake City. Celebrate with us Bach's life and musical creations on the occasion of the 250th year of his death. Organized by the Chemnitzer Verreinigung, German American Society, German Chorus Haarmonie. Admission free. The program includes a sonata for violin and harpsichord, sonata for flute and harpsichord, prelude and fugue from the Well-tempered Clavier, Book I, Magnificat, two organ chorale preludes, bass solo from the St Matthew Passion, soprano solo from the B Minor Mass and a few other works.

October 8 (Sunday) 8:00 p.m. Daniel Roth, L'Eglise de Saint-Sulpice in Paris, France, Eccles Organ Festival, Cathedral of the Madeleine, SLC

FREE ORGAN

Contact Diamantina Boyd, 999 N. 300 W., Lehi. Baldwin Model 5A, AGO pedalboard. Phone number not available. Please contact LuJean Moss 374-2595 for more information.

NEWS FROM NATIONAL



AGO Names Prize Winners in National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance

NEW YORK CITY — The AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS is pleased to announce First, Second, and Third Prize winners in the National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance (NYACOP), held in Seattle, Wash. in conjunction with the AGO National Convention, July 2-6: First Prize - Ji-Yoen Choi, The Lilian Murtagh Memorial Prize, \$2,000, CD recording provided by NAXOS; second prize - Joby Bell, provided by the John-Paul Buzard Pipe Organ Builders, \$2,000; third prize - Yun-Kyong Kim, provided by the Noack Organ Company, \$1,000; Audience prize - Joby Bell, provided by the Martin Ott Pipe Organ Company, \$500.



NATIONAL FLAGSHIP CONCERT VIRGIL FOX MEMORIAL RECITAL

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2000 — 4 P.M.
THE RIVERSIDE CHURCH, NEW YORK CITY

NEW YORK CITY — The AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS (AGO) and the VIRGIL FOX SOCIETY collaborate to honor one of the most famous organists of the twentieth century—Virgil Fox—on Sunday, October 8, 2000 at 4 p.m. at The Riverside Church, 490 Riverside Drive (122nd Street), New York City. The **Virgil Fox Memorial Recital**, commemorating the 20th anniversary of Fox's death, will be the national flagship concert for AGO's Pipes Spectacular!—World's Largest Organ Concert.

Nine organists of national and international distinction will gather to perform—Steven Frank, Robert Hebble, Dorothy Papadacos, Frederick Swann, Robert Tall, Tom Hazleton, Mark Miller, Timothy Smith, and Carol Williams—hosted by J. Michael Barone, program host and producer of Minnesota Public Radio's *Pipedreams*. All are donating their services in support of this momentous occasion, and in support of the Virgil Fox Scholarship Fund that will be established with proceeds from the recital. Tickets are

available through Telecharge, 212-239-6200, 800-432-7250, or www.telecharge.com.

As a concert organist, recording artist, and church organist, **VIRGIL FOX** contributed more toward the education of the general public about the organ and organ music than anyone else in the twentieth century. He was known for his showmanship, his passion for music, and his aggressively charismatic style of sharing it with others. Virgil Fox became a member of the American Guild of Organists in 1946, and from 1946 until 1964, served as organist of The Riverside Church, New York City. In 1962, he played the first solo organ recital at Lincoln Center's Philharmonic Hall, New York City, and made the first recording of the new organ there. In 1973, he played to a sold-out house in the 3,000-seat Concert Hall of the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, D. C. Perhaps the most daring concert Virgil Fox ever played was at the mecca of rock music, New York's Filmore East, where, in 1970, he gave an all-Bach program combined with a light show. For nine years the "Heavy Organ" show, combining music with lights, was taken across the country to various cities, colleges, and festivals. Virgil Fox is credited with bringing the music of Bach to many young people with an innovative and exciting style. Through Pipes Spectacular, the AGO will embrace Virgil Fox's legacy of education and outreach.



PIPES SPECTACULAR! — WORLD'S LARGEST ORGAN CONCERT will be a unique celebration of the organ in America that will increase appreciation for the enduring majesty of the *King of Instruments* while re-focusing public attention on the importance of music education, particularly for young people, and the arts in our culture.

On Sunday, October 15, 2000, the AGO will present more than 2,000 performers in more than 200 concert venues throughout North America. A family audience of more than 200,000 people is expected to attend these concerts. In addition, special TV and radio organ music programming promoting the event will reach an estimated audience of 300,000 people or more. This one-day nationwide celebration of the pipe organ is designed to increase public awareness of the organ, and to help raise funds for the AGO's education and professional development programs.

The events comprising the World's Largest Organ Concert will feature the organ in its historic and evolving roles as a solo, accompanying and ensemble instrument — showcasing the talents of the nation's

leading professional organists in collaboration with some of the country's most distinguished musical artists. Concert programs will feature the organ with dance companies, brass and other instrumental ensembles, acclaimed choral groups and vocal soloists, marching bands, symphony orchestras, and many other musical organizations.

Concerts will be presented in urban, suburban, and rural communities throughout the United States and in a diverse array of settings—from performing arts centers and concert halls to churches, universities and outdoor pavilions. In addition to the great variety of instruments and performers presented with the organ, programs will feature "informances," organ "crawls," multimedia presentations, and audiovisual enhancements. A nationwide listing of Pipes Spectacular concerts was published in the September issue of *The American Organist Magazine* and on the AGO Web site at www.agohq.org.

The **VIRGIL FOX SOCIETY** was established in 1979 at the request of Virgil Fox's manager, Richard Torrence, to provide a central source for information about the life and career of Virgil Fox. The Society publishes a quarterly newsletter, sponsors concerts, promotes the release of Virgil Fox's recordings on CD, and acts as an archival facility for unreleased recordings and videos. For membership information or to make a contribution to the Virgil Fox Scholarship Fund, please contact Steven Frank at 718-456-9741 or visit the Society's Web site at www.virgilfox.com.

This information is submitted by F. Anthony Thurman, *Director of Development and Communications* at the National Headquarters of the American Guild of Organists and the *American Organist Magazine*. For further information, please contact Dr. Thurman by TEL (212) 870-2310, FAX (212) 870-2163 or E-MAIL fathurman@agohq.org. Please visit our WEB SITE at www.agohq.org.

ORGANTUTOR Organ 101

The new LDS version of Don Cook's "OrganTutor Organ 101" is available. It consists of the BYU Group Organ text, "Organ Essentials," bundled with the OrganTutor CD-ROM.

Cost: \$60. For more details, see the web site www.ardpublications.com or call Don at 798-2931.

From The Frantic Organist Web Site

< <http://www.franticorganist.com/> >

By Vernon Moeller from Texas

(Ed. Note: I got a good laugh from the following story. Thought you might enjoy it, too.)

It was a hot summer Sunday morning. The AC was on, but it wasn't doing much good. We were all sticky in our choir robes, and I was having a hard time fighting off the sleepies, as the minister droned on and on, intent on impressing us with his theological vocabulary, but missing by a mile. I was a sub that

morning, so I was anxious for the service to end so I could get my check and drive home with my car's AC on full-blast. A peek over my left shoulder revealed that the congregation was nearly asleep, and the choir was anything but alert. Greg would cross his left leg over his right, wait a minute, then reverse himself, and so on. Mrs. Grigsby kept rearranging her jewelry.

The paid alto section

leader was re-organizing her music. Jesse was doing his usual trick of looking through the hymnal finding all the letters of the alphabet, so you could see him mouthing, "...M, N, O, P, (long pause), Q (big smile),..." and so on. Valerie would fluff her choir robe up in the air now and then, pumping a little bit of cool air over herself, while revealing a shapely pair of legs, which did not go unnoticed by the bass section, whose eyes shot over in her direction in almost perfect unison, every time she shifted and started lifting her choir robe. You know their antics - you've been there.

As I sat between the console and the choir director, leaning my chair back against the wall that separated the choir from the minister's area and pulpit, I started counting pistons, stop knobs, etc. While doing so, I noticed a toe stud that was unlabelled. What could that possibly be? They had all the normal ones: Gt-Ped, Sw-Ped, Ch-Ped, 10 Generals, Sw-Gt, Ch-Gt, Sfz, and this one, stuck way up high in a corner. It was shinier than the rest, so I figured either it was newer, or that it never got used. What could it be?

Just a reminder— AGO DUES RATES 2000-01

The renewal period for membership in the national AGO begins on April 1. Each chapter sets the local renewal period and deadline for payment of dues. 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-issue) subscription to *The American Organist Magazine*, which runs December 2000 to November 2001.

Yearly national dues are: regular \$40; special \$27; student \$17; partner \$21.

Chapter dues are a donation of \$10 to \$25.

When I pressed the other toe studs, stops would move in and out, or manual couplers would flip this way and that, so I could have figured out what each toe stud did without benefit of its label, but this one had me stumped.

"Aw, what the heck," I thought. "If all those other toe studs do things that I can figure out, I might as well just push this one here like this and..."

"WHANG-A-LANG-A-LANG-A-LANG!!!!!"

It was a Zimbelstern!!!!

Quick as a shot, the choir director threw her body over my lap (an otherwise enjoyable position for me) and struck the toe stud with her fist!!! Then I got a look which could have frozen me into stone as it said, "You're no better than the 3rd graders I deal with every day!" I instantly started studying the floor, but I couldn't help it. As I started smiling uncontrollably, I glanced up now and then, to find most of the choir members, red-faced as could be, all of them choking back laughter, most of them with tears in their eyes. A couple of the basses were bent over at the waist, studying their shoes, but the way their backs were heaving up and down, I knew they were having a good laugh at my self-induced predicament. A peek at the congregation revealed the same looks on most of their faces, while a few had obviously dozed off, and they sat there with shocked looks on their faces, as if they were saying, "I know I dozed off, but I didn't think they'd wake me with an alarm clock!"

Later, as we were changing out of our damp choir robes, a tenor who has sung in the choir for a good 40 years came up to me and said, "Vernon, I always enjoy hearing you play, but today, I'd have to say that I enjoyed your *not* playing even more!" And with that, the whole choir erupted into good-natured laughter. BTW, it's been several years since I've been asked to play there again. You don't suppose.... NAH!

9/3/00 Program No. 2035 Pictures at an Exhibition
a promenade through an aural gallery of sketches and landscapes, scenes and moods painted by the persuasive provocation of organ pipes.

9/10/00 Program No. 2036 Cramer On Cramer
Reports from the road by peripatetic University of Notre Dame's organ professor, Craig Cramer, recorded in South Dakota, Minnesota, Ontario, Washington, Germany and France.

9/17/00 Program No. 2037 Southern Comfort
Concert performances by Todd Wilson, Karel Paukert, Katharine Pardee, John and Margaret Mueller, and Donald Sutherland from an American Guild of Organists celebration in Atlanta.

9/24/00 Program No. 2038 Playing for the Prize
When the pressure's on, young organists Ann Elise Smoot, Heather Hinton, John Schwandt, Justin Bischof and Peter Krasinski show their stuff, as recorded in concert and competition in Denver.

10/1/00 Program No. 2039 American Premieres
A kaleidoscopic collection of twentieth-century music by composers from the United States in first broadcast performances.

American Guild of Organists



Utah Valley Chapter

Dr. Parley Belnap, Dean

1290 E. 300 N.

American Fork, UT 84003

News for Newsletter

PLEASE CONTACT DEEANN
STONE WITH ANY ITEMS
YOU WOULD LIKE TO
HAVE PRINTED IN THE
NEWSLETTER—LETTERS
TO THE EDITOR; NEWS OF
UPCOMING MUSICAL
EVENTS; HUMOROUS
MUSIC RELATED
STORIES; HELPS AND
IDEAS FOR SERVICE
PLAYING; MUSIC ITEMS
FOR SALE; NEW MUSIC,
ETC.

Praise God with Song

By Elder Bruce R. McConkie (Quorum of the Twelve)

[Distributed on the [LDSWorld-Gems mailing list](#) on August 20, 1999]

"Music is part of the language of the Gods. It has been given to man so he can sing praises to the Lord. It is a means of expressing, with poetic words and in melodious tunes, the deep feelings of rejoicing and thanksgiving found in the hearts of those who have testimonies of the divine Sonship and who know of the wonders and glories wrought for them by the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Music is both in the voice and in the heart. Every true saint finds his heart full of songs of praise to his Maker. Those whose voices can sing forth the praises found in their hearts are twice blest. 'Be filled with the Spirit,' Paul counseled, 'Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.' (Eph. 5:18-19.) Also: 'Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.' (Col. 3:16.)"

(Bruce R. McConkie, *The Promised Messiah*, p. 553)

