

# American Guild of Organists

# Newsletter

Utah Valley Chapter  
2004-2005

March 2005

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## Dean's Message

First of all, thanks to my fellow officers and all you members who have helped make my first year as dean an enjoyable one. Special thanks to Carol Dean for "putting me on notice" to write this. I'm still learning how to do this job, and I thank all of you for your support and patience.

Certainly one of the best things about being dean has been prioritizing our chapter's monthly events on my personal schedule. I haven't missed a single one this year, and I have honestly enjoyed them all. Based on personal experience, therefore, I heartily encourage everyone to attend, participate, and enjoy.

By now you should all know about our Super Saturday coming up on April 9th. There's a flyer on our website for you to print and share with as many people as you can reach. (Go to <http://www.geocities.com/uvagonewsletter/calendar> and click on either MS Word version or PDF version). We'll have printed copies available for you to take at our March meeting as well. Also on the Web (same link, above) are course descriptions (click on Course schedule). That page will be updated before the end of the month with class times and locations.

Don't miss our March meeting where we'll share our favorite Bach pieces. I'm learning a new one myself – one that I have wanted to play for a long time. Learn a new one or share an old favorite, but come join us for Bach's 320<sup>th</sup> birthday. Look for details elsewhere in this newsletter.

Finally, let me direct you to Robert Kirby's opinion column that appeared in the Salt Lake Tribune on February 19<sup>th</sup>, titled "Bringing some zip to our musical snooze-fest." I found it thought-provoking and fun. (Thanks to Carol Smart of the Salt Lake Chapter for calling it my attention). Check it out online at:

[http://wwwsltrib.com/kirby/ci\\_2577690](http://wwwsltrib.com/kirby/ci_2577690).

You can read my response at [http://www.chamberlinmusic.com/re\\_kirby.php](http://www.chamberlinmusic.com/re_kirby.php). Let's not forget why we have organs in churches and why each of us are organists. If we need to improve our skills (who doesn't?), let's do that. If we need to work on being humbler servants (again, probably most of us), let's do that. If we need to be more confident in the positive difference we can make, let's inspire each other to do that. That's what our chapter is for.

Best wishes,  
David Chamberlin

### March Chapter Event

I am waiting to hear from all you Bach-night participants regarding what piece you will be sharing with us on Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m. at Provo Central Stake Center. It's coming up quickly, so please call me at 226-4664 (day) or 375-4873 (night). Those of you who are a bit worried about playing on a tracker with a flat pedal board, just call me and arrange for a practice time. Having potluck refreshments brought by the performers at our February function lent a nice variety and was much easier on me, so let's plan on the same again.  
--Thanks! Carol Dean

### BYU Organ Recitals

**Larry Blackburn**, Graduate Recital, Friday, March 4, 7:30 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, SLC

**Yevgeniya Tyltina**, Sophomore Recital, Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 p.m., Madsen Recital Hall

**Dr. Douglas Bush**, Faculty "All Bach" Recital, Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m., Madsen Recital Hall

**Amy Nielsen**, Sophomore Recital, Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m., Madsen Recital Hall

**Alisa Rogers**, Senior Recital, Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 7:00 p.m., Cathedral of the Madeleine, SLC

### Future Chapter Events

<u>March 19<sup>th</sup></u>	Evening of Performing Bach's Organ Works, Provo Central Stake Center
<u>April 9<sup>th</sup></u>	Super Saturday at BYU with Richard Elliott as keynote speaker
<u>May</u>	Closing Member Recital/Potluck at Glenn and Mary Potter's home in Park City (three-manual Rodgers)

### Pipe Organ Encounter 2005

June 19-25-2005 at University of Denver for students ages 13 to 18. Cost is \$295 before 3/31/05; \$325 after. Contact Sara James, registrar at 303-526-0516 or at [sajcpa1@mindspring.com](mailto:sajcpa1@mindspring.com)

### Region VI Convention

The web address for information on this convention in Colorado Springs is: [www.csago2005.org](http://www.csago2005.org)

### Collaborative Conference

A Collaborative Conference sponsored by The Saint Cecilia Schola Cantorum, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and the Westfield Center for Keyboard Studies entitled, "The Organ as Mirror of Religion and Culture: Temperament, Sound, and Symbolism," will take place April 5 to 10, 2005, at Saint Cecilia Cathedral, Omaha, Nebraska, in celebration of the new dual-temperament organ by Martin Pasi (Pasi Organbuilders Opus 14).

This conference will feature lectures by Quentin Faulkner, Calvin M. Bower, Hans Davidsson, and Anthony Ruff, recitals by Hans Davidsson, David Dahl, Marie Rubis Bauer, and Kevin Vogt, and liturgy sung by the Saint Cecilia Schola Cantorum with improvisations by Susan Ferré. The event will focus on the consideration of new applications for historic principles of organ building, especially as concerns current cosmology, religious culture, and symbolism.

Pre- and post-conference events sponsored by Westfield include "A Temperamental Journey," April 5-7, an excursion to the National Music Museum in Vermillion, SD, including an introduction to the Pasi organ by Bill Porter, extemporizations, demonstrations on historic keyboards by Maryse Carlin, Greg Crowell, David Dahl, Ulrika Davidsson, Susan Ferré, John Koster, Bill Porter, Christa Rakich, and Susanne Skyrme, a concert by Andrew Willis, and panel discussions on questions of temperament.

A post-conference "Symposium on Temperament, Sound, and Symbolism," on April 9<sup>th</sup>, will focus on the design and construction of the Pasi organ, with lectures by Ibo Ortgies, Charles S. Brown, and panel discussions with John Brombaugh, Gene Bedient, Martin Pasi among others, a final concert by Robert Bates, and "Meet the Creators" reception.

For more detailed information, brochures, registration, and lodging information, visit [www.unl.edu/music/](http://www.unl.edu/music/) or [www.westfield.org](http://www.westfield.org), or contact George Ritchie, School of Music, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, NE 68588-0100, 402-472-2980.

Dennis Northway, ChM  
Promotions Committee  
[denden1958@runbox.com](mailto:denden1958@runbox.com) if you have questions

## Pipedreams

Broadcast Sunday evenings at 9:00 p.m. on KBYU-FM

- 3/06/05      **Our Lady of the Angels . . .** stellar recitalist Cherry Rhodes demonstrates the full sonic capacity of the Dobson pipe organ at the new Cathedral in Los Angeles.
- 3/13/05      **Glory to Bach in the Highest . . .** a reminder of the variety of Bach's own music, and the instruments, playing styles, and compositions that he inspired.
- 3/20/05      **Bach on the Bench . . .** concert performances of music by J. S. Bach presented by American organists on American instruments.
- 3/27/05      **Death and Resurrection . . .** our spirits find renewal in springtime through music for the Easter festival.
- 4/03/05      **Celebration in Switzerland . . .** inaugural concert performances on the new 124-rank C. B. Fisk instrument at the Lausanne Cathedral, the largest American-built pipe organ in Europe.
- 4/10/05      **Pro Organist! . . .** a conversation with recitalist and recording engineer/producer Fred Hohman, who introduces performances from his enterprising CD/video label *Pro Organo*.

Claire Rogers shared the following poem by George W. Stevens, printed in the November 1983 TAO:

### The Organist

I wonder how the organist  
 Can do so many things;  
 He's getting ready long before  
 The choir stands up and sings;  
 He's pressing buttons, pushing stops,  
 He's pulling here and there,  
 And testing all the working parts  
 While listening to the prayer.

He runs a mighty big machine,  
 It's full of funny things;  
 A mass of boxes, pipes, and tubes  
 And sticks and slats and strings;  
 There's little whistles for a cent  
 In rows and rows and rows;  
 I'll bet there's twenty miles of tubes  
 As large as garden hose.

There's scores as large as stove pipes and  
 There's lots so big and wide  
 That several little boys I know  
 Could play around inside.  
 From little bits of piccolos  
 That hardly make a toot  
 There's every size up to the great  
 Big elevator chute.

The organist knows every one  
 And how they ought to go;  
 He makes them rumble like a storm,  
 Or plays them sweet and low;  
 At times you think them very near;  
 At times they're soaring high,  
 Like angel voices, singing far  
 Off, somewhere in the sky.

For he can take this structure, that's  
 As big as any house,  
 And make it squeak as softly as  
 A tiny little mouse;  
 And then he'll jerk out something with  
 A movement of the hand,  
 And make you think you're listening to  
 A military band.

He plays it with his fingers and  
 He plays it with his toes,  
 And if he really wanted to  
 He'd play it with his nose;  
 He's sliding up and down the bench (*bad technique!*)  
 He's working with his knees;  
 He's dancing round with both his feet  
 As lively as you please.

I always like to take a seat  
 Where I can see him go;  
 He's better than a sermon, and  
 He does me good, I know;  
 I like the life and movement and  
 I like to hear him play;  
 He is the most exciting thing  
 In town on Sabbath day.

