

American Guild of Organists

Newsletter

Utah Valley Chapter

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Dean's Message

Dear Friends,

Let me start my official greeting to you as your dean for a second year by thanking you once again for helping my first year as dean be so successful. I, for one, enjoyed it much more than I thought I would. Much of that, of course, can be attributed to the very capable, energetic, and enthusiastic people who serve with me as officers; and I wish to publicly thank them for last year and, in advance, for this coming year. However, our chapter is not an officer's club, and each one of you has contributed even if all you did was come to a meeting once in awhile. We have another great year of activities planned, and I heartily invite you to participate.

Our opening meeting on September 24, at the home of Bob and Gaylyn Stephenson, will be a special treat. That would be true even without the Bigelow organ in their music room, because they are such wonderful, gracious people. However, since they do have the organ, we'll be able to have some fun as well (details elsewhere in this newsletter).

At the national level, the AGO has embarked on a membership campaign title "Each One-Reach One." I would encourage each of us to take this to heart and make an effort to bring a friend with you to one or more of our meetings this year. That friend need not be an organist; he/she could be anyone who has any kind of interest in the organ or church music in general. One of our members has already made a huge contribution to the "Each One-Reach One" idea by organizing "informal recitals." If you are one who hates to play in front of people who (you think) are "all better than you are," but wish you had a chance to play under just a tiny bit of the friendliest possible pressure for practice, you belong in this group! Honestly, friends, this is a very safe environment. Because being a "professional" disqualified me (see, already you should feel better!), I can't speak from personal experience, but ask the others and check it out for yourself. Thanks to all of you who are helping this to happen.

Finally, let me put in a plug for the Midwinter Conclave in Las Vegas. If ever there was a place for LDS organists to rub shoulders with the "organ world" beyond Utah, this is it. For those who may not be aware, there is a thriving group of LDS organists in Las Vegas. One of the events is being held in a stake center. Of course, the Conclave, while sponsored by the Las Vegas Chapter, is a regional function (including Arizona, California, Hawaii, even Australia, Korea, and Singapore), and the topics probably have no direct correlation to the LDS organ scene, still it promises to be an exciting and wonderful event (details elsewhere in newsletter). I hope some of us will be able to attend.

Pay your dues (if you haven't already)! Welcome aboard for another great year in AGO!

– David Chamberlin

Opening Chapter Event

Our opening social this year will be held at Dr. Robert and Gaylyn Stephenson's home, 2530 Lincoln Lane (about 4100 south) SLC, Saturday, September 24, 2005 at 7:30 p.m. David Chamberlin and Doug Bush are planning an evening of "fun" organ music and some hymn singing together in the intimate setting of Stephenson's music room which houses a 10-rank Bigelow tracker organ, Opus 29. We need to car pool as much as possible, so if you are planning to go, contact Carol Dean via email or call 226-4664 and leave a message. Again, use mapquest.com or yahoo.com to find your way there. You will receive a reminder closer to the event. We will be bringing potluck snacks/treats and sharing them after the hour of "organ fun."

Salt Lake Chapter's Opening Social

We have been invited to participate with the Salt Lake Chapter at their opening social if any of us would like. They are meeting at the Joseph Smith Memorial Building Chapel in SLC, Saturday, 9/10/05, from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. to hear a presentation about the organ by Herbert Klopfer. From 5:00 to 6:00 we will move to the Relief Society Room where a potluck dinner will be shared.

Upcoming Chapter Events

9/24/05	Organ Fun/Food at Bob Stephenson's home on Bigelow organ, SLC
10/16/05	Festival of Hymns - David Chamberlin, Zions Lutheran Church, SLC
November	Member Romantic Recital
12/18/05	Community Christmas Choir - Douglas Bush, Director
January	Sharing of Voluntaries - David Chamberlin
2/12/05	Tour of Hymns - Tom Hinckley and Ward, 7:00 p.m, Santequin
March	Member Bach Recital
April	Super Saturday
May	Closing Member Recital/Picnic, Utah State Hospital Chapel

Local Recitals

10/22/05	Sophomore Recital, Lydia Meyers, 7:30 p.m., Madsen Recital Hall, BYU
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Eccles Recitals

Location - Cathedral of the Madeleine, SLC, 8:00 p.m.

9/11/05	Johannes Unger, Asst. Organist, St. Thomas Church, Leipzig, Germany
9/25/05	Sophie-Véronique Cauchefeur-Choplin, Asst Organist, St. Sulpice Church, Paris, France
10/09/05	Elizabeth Berghout, Professor of Organ and Carillon, U of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas
10/23/05	Joseph Adam, Organist, St. James Cathedral, Seattle, Washington
11/06/05	Robert Parkins, University Organist, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina

St. Paul's Recital Series

8/26/05	Linda Margetts, Organist, 7:30 p.m., St. Paul's Episcopal, 261 S. 900 E., SLC
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Region IX Mid-Winter Conclave

The long-awaited Region IX Mid-Winter Conclave in Las Vegas is eager to welcome you on January 8, 2006. For discounted registration fees before October 1, 2005 use the form you received with the brochure last spring, or download the information from the Conclave website at www.agoregixconclave.com.

We look forward to greeting you at the Sunset Hotel and Casino! To reserve your hotel room, phone 888-786-7389 on or before December 9, 2005, and give the group code number SCIAGO. The cost for Sunday through Thursday nights is \$69 per night, double occupancy, and \$129 for Friday and Saturday. Airport shuttle service is available through the hotel.

Pre-Convention Event

Sunday, January 8, 4:00: Annual Twelfth-Night Handbell Festival at 4:00 p.m. at Faith Lutheran High School

Convention Themes

The Organ Works of Emma Lou Diemer
The Organ Works of Jean Langlais
The Celebration of the 250th Birthday of Mozart

Convention Highlights

Festive Opening Worship Service, AGO/Quimby RCYO Winner, Gala Luncheon featuring Las Vegas Mayor Oscar Goodman, UNLV Beckerath organ

Concerts

Chelsea Chen, Emma Lou Diemer, Kevin Kwan, Ann Labounsky, Millennia Too, Murray/Lohuis Duo, Frances Nobert/Paul Hesselink, Pipedreams Live with Michael Barone, Clark County Elementary School Orff Ensemble Las Vegas Master Singers, Nevada School of the Arts Advanced Strings, and University Children's Chorale

Region VI Convention

The web address for information on this convention in Colorado Springs is: www.csago2005.org

AGO National Pedagogy Conference

This conference held at University of Notre Dame in Notre Dame, Indiana on September 11-14, 2005, will focus on works of Dieterich Buxtehude in anticipation of the Buxtehude year in 2007. The conference will be part of the year-long events to celebrate the new Fritts Organ at Notre Dame. You can register online at www.marketplace.nd.edu/ccce

Performers will include: John Brock, Buxtehude Chamber Music Conference with Matthew Dirst, James David Christie, Craig Cramer, William Porter, Christa Rakich, David Yearsley, and Wolfgang Zerer. Lecturers will include: Kerala Snyder (three lectures), John Brock (keyboard fingering), Leon Couch (rhetoric in Buxtehude), Michael Dodds (modal theory and Buxtehude), Ibo Orgies (tuning and temperament issues), and Pamela Ruitter-Feenstra (improvisation)

Countdown to Chicago!

We hope you can join us in magnificent Chicago! In addition to world-class ensembles, performers, dining and shopping, you will have the chance to experience one of the most wonderful fireworks displays anywhere! It is also a chance to celebrate the centenary of the Chicago Chapter of the AGO. We invite you to visit our Web site; you can access it from the AGO National Headquarters home page, <www.agohq.org>. Visit it early and often for exciting updates and venue information! See you in the Windy City!

Dr. Dennis E. Northway, Ch.M
Promotions Chair
ChicAGO 2006 Convention

Message from Nat'l Executive Dir. of AGO

As we approach the end of the AGO's fiscal year, I would like to bring you up to date on several significant Guild achievements over the last few weeks and mention some important initiatives we will be undertaking in the year ahead.

In June and July, the AGO celebrated the King of Instruments by sponsoring seven regional conventions, seven Pipe Organ Encounters for teens, and three POE+ events for adults. By all accounts, these 17 chapter-sponsored events were stunningly successful! I hope you were able to take part in one or more of them.

Preparations are now being finalized for two major Guild conferences this fall. The 13th National AGO Pedagogy Conference, focusing on Buxtehude and North German organ music, will take place Sept. 11-14 at the University of Notre Dame. "Music in Worship: A Prophetic Voice Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" will be held Oct. 9-11 at the Perkins School of Theology. You can register online for these events at www.agohq.org.

"Each One-Reach One" is the theme of the AGO's 2005-2006 campaign for membership growth. Every member, chapter, and national committee of the Guild is being encouraged to support efforts to recruit new members during the coming year. Headquarters will be providing tools, resources, and incentives to stimulate the program.

Later this year, the AGO will release a master video on the career and teaching methods of Gerre Hancock. Early in 2006, we will publish a new national membership directory.

The AGO's current fiscal year will end on August 31, 2005. Before our year comes to a close, I invite you to take an active role in financially supporting the world's largest and most dynamic organization dedicated to the organ. Your contribution to the AGO will help us grow and keep us strong so that we can most effectively serve our members and accomplish our mission. Please consider making a contribution online today at <www.agohq.org/contributions> or mailing a check to the AGO Annual Fund. If you've never made a contribution to the Guild before, now is the best possible time to do so. Thank you for your continued support.
James E. Thomashower
Executive Director
American Guild of Organists
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1260
New York, NY 10115

BYU Organ Workshop

The organ workshop at BYU (August 2nd-5th) was very successful with 155 participants. Many of our guild members participated as instructors for the workshop. I would like to extend a special "thank you" to DeeAnn Stone for preparing a computer video presentation to explain what the American Guild of Organists offers and who spent many hours during the week in the display area supervising the video and being on hand to pass out information and answer questions.

Thank you, DeeAnn!!!!

DeeAnn lost her father this month. Our condolences!

Pipedreams

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

- 8/21/05 **Connecticut History**. . . a glimpse into America's organbuilding past, exemplified by the work of a dozen builders found in and around New Haven.
- 8/28/05 **Organs Here and There** . . . some instruments of recent vintage in venues near and far.
- 9/04/05 **Forgotten Frenchmen** . . . famous names may dominate the scene, but these often overlooked composers demonstrate a remarkable degree of individuality and imagination.