



Utah Valley Chapter of the
American Guild of Organists

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88-89 No. 9

1160 BIRCH LANE, PROVO, UTAH 84604

May 1989

REGISTRAR'S MESSAGE

As another year draws to a close for the AGO, I express appreciation on behalf of the officers of our chapter to each one of you who has participated in or helped with, in any way, this year's guild activities. We are grateful for your willingness to share your time, talents, and hard work. Without the efforts of each of you, our year would not be a success.

One of the pleasures I have discovered in being a member of the AGO is meeting other people who share an interest in music and in the organ. At the first chapter meeting I attended, Parley Belnap encouraged the members of our chapter to attend an AGO national convention. I had the opportunity to act on his suggestion and attend the national convention in Houston last summer. Although the musical aspect of the convention was great, the most enjoyable part was meeting new people from across the country and around the world who share a common interest in the organ and music. I encourage each of you to plan to attend a national convention. I promise you that, regardless of your proficiency as an organist, you will find it to be an exhilarating experience.

Best wishes for a pleasant summer!

- Val Weight

NATIONAL EXAMS

Richard Elliott has agreed to help those of us who would like to begin preparing for one of the certification exams in 1989-90. As officers, we are strongly encouraging you to set the goal to participate in this preparation which will help each of us to expand and improve the talents we have been given. The exams are a measuring stick for what we are learning, and provide direction for our study. Contact Claire Rogers, or any of the officers, so we will know for which exam you wish to prepare, what area you feel you will need help with, so that this can be well planned to begin in the fall and give us plenty of time to prepare well.

SPOTLIGHT

We heartily welcome the BYU students who are a part of our Chapter. R. David Johns is one of these who feels so strongly about the organ that he wants to be involved on all levels. His earliest memories in connection with love for the organ date back to when he was five or six years old and used to watch "Music and the Spoken Word" on a 9" x 9" black and white T.V. His mother would point out Alexander Schreiner to him, and also his uncles who sang in the Tabernacle Choir.

David's first experience with music service in the Church dates back to when he would listen to the organist for priesthood meeting in his ward play the hymns without using the pedals, and the thought crossed his mind, "I'll bet I could do as well or better than that." He had been taking piano lessons off and on since he was seven, so he obtained a copy of Brother Keeler's book on organ technique and went to work. He was playing for priesthood meeting by the time he was fourteen. Presently, in his BYU ward, he serves as Ward Music Chairman and Choir Director.

David was born in Provo, but at age eight his family moved to Fremont, California. When he was a senior in high school, his family moved to Idaho Falls where he took organ lessons from Esther D. Young. He attended one year at Ricks studying with Darwin Wolford before serving his mission to Geneva, Switzerland (French-speaking mission). When he returned, he completed his associate degree in French at Ricks, and went to California to work. While there, he studied with Kevin Buttle, a student of Roger Nyquist at the University of Santa Clara. He then attended Utah State for a year where he studied organ with Dr. James Drake, before coming to BYU to enroll as an organ performance major under Dr. Parley Belnap.

Welcome to the Chapter, David! We hope you will encourage other organ performance majors and other organ students at the "Y" to join us in our activities.

CHAPTER SPONSORED RECITAL

Our chapter will sponsor another in our on-going series of organ recitals. David Ralphs will play on Tuesday, May 23, 8:00pm, in the Provo Tabernacle. Featured works will include "Symphonie Gothique" by the great French symphonic organist Charles Marie Widor, and "Fantasia and Fugue in G" by Sir Charles Hubert Humphrey Parry. There will be a \$2 donation accepted at the door (\$1 for chapter members) to help offset expenses.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- May 7 Robert Nakea Piano Recital, 8:00 pm., Provo Central Stake, 5th North & 12th West
- May 14 Concert, Cathedral of the Madeleine, 7:30 pm, 311 East S. Temple, SLC, includes a performance of Vivaldi's "Gloria". No admission charge.
- May 17 CHAPTER MEETING - Assembly Hall Organ Lecture by Robert Cundick, Tabernacle Organist, & Louis Whitman, Organ Architect, 7:30 pm., Assembly Hall, SLC
- May 20 Musica Reservata, Early music ensemble, 7:30 pm, Assembly Hall, SLC
- May 21 Nielsen Recital, 8:00 pm., Provo Central Stake
- May 21 SL CHAPTER ORGAN RECITAL, 7:00 pm., St. Paul Church, 261 South 900 East, SLC
- May 23 DAVID RALPHS ORGAN RECITAL, 8:00 pm., Provo Tabernacle
- June 3 AGO POTLUCK PICNIC with Ogden, Cache Valley and SL Chapters, 1:00 pm., Sugar House Park, 21st South 1300 East, SLC
- June 26-30 AGO Regional Convention, San Jose, CA

Congratulations to Richard Elliott for a wonderfully varied program of not-too-often-heard music that was extremely well performed.

Thank you to all who participated in our annual recital. Everyone played well, we heard an excellent selection of organ literature and there was a good attendance, all of which contributed to a successful evening.

Now is the time to begin planning for next year's recital so you will have plenty of time to prepare.

Congratulations to Shane Fellows on receiving his mission call to the Vienna, Austria Mission. Good luck to you!

The PIANO TECHNICIANS GUILD Regional Convention will be held May 19-20 at the Airport Holiday Inn, 1658 West North Temple, SLC. Fee - \$55 for members, \$65 for non-members. The AGO has been issued a special invitation to attend. For further information, contact Gary Dunn, 967-5215 or Jim Hill, 485-8597.

FOR SALE

1976 Wickes Classic Six Pipe Organ, 2 manuals and pedals. Excellent condition, Dimensions 10'3" x 7'2", fits under 8' ceiling. \$15,000, buyer to remove from private residence. Contact Larry or Teresa Walters 865 Valencia Boise, ID 83706 208-344-3022