



November 2017 Dean's Message

Hello All!

Welcome to the month of November! I trust you had an enjoyable month, perhaps even including one of the fabulous events we hosted: Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza, along with the AGO certification class taught by Andrew Unsworth.

Just within this week, the world celebrated the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, in which Martin Luther famously nailed the 95 theses on the church door. From this great event spurred a great portion of the organ repertoire, including the great hymns of Martin Luther, and the music of J.S. Bach, even down to the musical "mesmorizations" of Paul Manz and Frederick Swann. It even led to the roots of the LDS church and its music. Let us be thankful for this.

Speaking of being thankful, this is the month in which we celebrate Thanksgiving. It is time for which we give thanks for all our blessings, including the musical ones. We put aside our grumblings of the things we cannot change. This is an important principle. I am thankful for the organ opportunities I have, even though I "occasionally" wish I had a pipe organ on which to play, or a paid position a bit closer to home.

I hope that you have a great month, and I hope you can make it to our member recital on Friday!

Quinten

Upcoming Chapter Events

- Nov 3 Member recital, Pleasant Grove East Stake Center, 825 Loader, Pleasant Grove, 7:00 pm
- Jan TBA
- Feb TBA
- Mar 23 Bach Recital, Provo Central Stake Center, 7:00 pm
- Apr 28 Super Saturday, BYU Harris Fine Arts Center

Organ Recitals and Other Events

- Nov 11 Frank Asper Commemorative Concert, Salt Lake Tabernacle, 7:30 pm
- Nov 12 David Baskeyfield, [Eccles Recital](#), Cathedral of the Madeleine, 8:00 pm
- Jan 14 Martin Baker, [Eccles Recital](#), Cathedral of the Madeleine, 8:00 pm
- Dec 22 Gloria in excelsis Deo, Kathleen Stitt, director and organist, Stake Center at 303 W 3700 N, Provo, 7:30 pm
- Feb 11 Dexter Kennedy, [Eccles Recital](#), Cathedral of the Madeleine, 8:00 pm
- Mar 11 Crista Miller, Eccles Recital, Libby Gardner Hall, 8:00 pm



Chapter Recital, Friday, November 3

Come hear members of the chapter play!

- When: Friday, November 3, 7:00 PM
- Where: Paul Duncombe's Chapel (Pleasant Grove East Stake Center, 825 Loader, Pleasant Grove)

Directions

- 1) From 1-15 take Pleasant Grove Blvd off ramp (Exit 275)
- 2) Turn onto Pleasant Grove Blvd going towards the mountains
- 3) Go over freeway and proceed short distance to North County Rd/or W 700 N
- 4) Turn right on W 700 N (there is a Large Central Bank on the Corner)

- 5) Proceed several miles on W 700 N and cross State Street which becomes 1000 S (Arctic Circle on the corner)
- 6) Continue on 1000 S. This dead ends at Locust.
- 7) Turn left on Locust and go about 1 block and turn right on 900 S
- 8) Go up the hill less than a mile and turn left on Loader.
- 9) Church is immediately on your right.

Note: For those taking State Street from Orem. Go through Lindon and then turn right on 1000 S (Arctic Circle on corner), then continue as indicated on #6-#9 above. This part of Pleasant Grove borders Lindon.



AGO Certification Class

by Lori Serr

Tabernacle organist, Andrew Usworth, gave an very useful and informative presentation on AGO certification. About a dozen AGO members from our chapter met together in a classroom in the HFAC on the BYU campus where certain aspects of certifying were presented and discussed.

Andrew began by noting the origin of AGO certification and pointing out that around the time that the AGO was founded (1896), many universities did not offer degrees in organ performance. More emphasis was give to the study of music and the writing of it rather than performance. Since the AGO was founded as an education and service organization, the guild, as stated on the national web page, “was chartered by the Board of Regents from the University of the State of New York, to administer a comprehensive series of exams for professional certification.”

Certain aspects of the Service Playing exam and the Colleague were presented with most of the discussion centering on how to prepare for some of the more challenging requirements, such as transposition. (A list of the requirements for each exam is available on the web page as well as in the July issue of the TAO.) Some study material was suggested as well as using online resources.

One of biggest rewards for attendees was getting Andrew’s advice on how to practice. He suggested the value of focusing on one little thing. He uses a “key of the week” approach for practicing techniques in building

finger strength and keyboard facility with chords. He also uses hymns to experiment improvising and re-harmonizing. Some other advice was “little but often”, “slow-slow-slow” and to “apply the knowledge you have acquired.” Also , “when you’re ready, improvise the prelude and postlude in a church service and learn this by doing it.” (Which was a bit unnerving to some!)

He suggested the “creative non-caring” approach to help control our thoughts. And that "thoughts are external to you and you can choose a different thought." And "to learn to flourish under pressure." It was also suggested to work with a buddy and encourage each other often.

We are grateful to Dr. Unsworth and his expertise and the time he took to encourage us in our endeavors to work on new challenges and increase our skills towards certification .

If you are thinking about getting certified, please email Lori Serr (lori.serr@icloud.com) and which level of certification you are doing. Also include if you are interested in getting a study group together to work towards certification.

October 7: Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza photos, Provo Central Stake Center





Welcome New and Renewed Members

Aliza Hammond
Amy Foote
Ashley Rayback
Becky McClellan
Becky Meng
Daniel Splattstoesser
Dean Fletcher
Deborah James
Hayden Hedworth
Janet Olsen
Janice Sullivan
Kirby Cook
Laurel A. Thompson
Melanie Seely
Tricia Sederberg
Trina Compton
Ruth Ann Nielsen

Annette Forsyth
Denise Gubb
Jennifer Harding
Sonia Johnson
Jenette Swain
Cynthia Allred
Marci Schramm
Sherri D. Shepherd
Brandon Millet
Jill King
Elaine Mills
Julie Ward
Caleb Armstrong
Wendy Sessions
EdraLynn Munns Petersen
Steven Nay
Amber Myer