



*Utah Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists  
Newsletter • February 2019*

## **Engage, Support, and Uplift Every Organist**

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### **Dean's Message**

Lori Serr

I, along with several of you, attended the recent member recital held in Spanish Fork on January 19. It was a great time to share organ music, renew acquaintances, and make new friends.

Thank you to Miranda Wilcox for her work in putting the program and performers together and to Jack Stoneman for arranging for practice times and hosting the recital in his stake center, and to all who made this event possible for our chapter!

I was impressed that 11 organists would so willingly share their pieces with those in attendance. As I was listening, I appreciated the purposeful and diligent practice that most certainly had occurred in the weeks previous. There is nothing like getting ready for a recital to motivate us to practice and prepare!

Now that a new year has begun we may be thinking about making changes and setting new goals and planning ways to stay motivated to accomplish them.

I'm reminded of a news article I read several years ago about New Year resolutions. On a busy street corner in New York City, a very large paper shredder was set up. People passing by were asked to write something down that they wanted to get rid of from their lives. Then they were invited to send it through the paper shredder to symbolize discarding whatever it was that they wrote on the paper. That may be one way of getting motivated to make a change! Whatever it is that motivates us to work on goals or compels us to make a change, I know that with consistent effort and work we can succeed. Remember this quote by the author Will Durrant:

**“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act but a habit.”**

There will most likely be some amount of failure along the way, but to succeed is to learn from our failures. Colin Powell said,

**“Success is the result of perfection, hard work, learning from failure, loyalty, and persistence.”**

And beware of making excuses to get motivated. George Washington Carver said,

**“Ninety-nine percent of failures come from people who have the habit of making excuses.”**

So good luck with all your endeavors and desires to improve and in getting motivated. And remember to have fun!

Don't forget to join us for the chapter's two February activities! You can find details about them in this newsletter.

# February Chapter Events



9 FEBRUARY 2019  
883 N 1200 E PROVO  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

## Pedals, Pipes & Pizza

All youth (and parents) are invited to see the inside workings of a pipe organ, ask questions, and try playing the organ followed by pizza.

**Utah Valley Chapter  
American Guild of Organists  
RSVP: [jensdorothy@gmail.com](mailto:jensdorothy@gmail.com)**

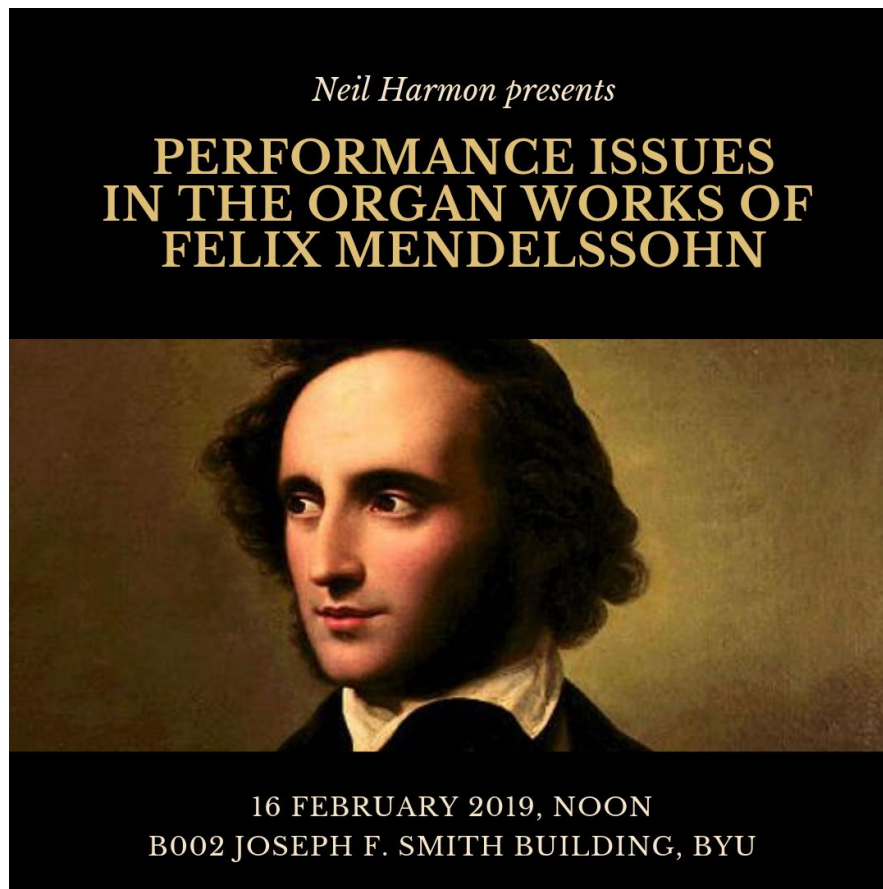
February 9

Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza!

883 North 1200 East in Provo

10:00 a.m.

All youth (and parents, too!) are invited to see the inside workings of a pipe organ, ask questions, and try playing the organ! A pizza lunch follows. This will take place in Ruth Eldredge's home at 883 North 1200 East in Provo (Ephraim and Verena Hatch's former home) from 10:00 a.m. to noon.



February 16 - Noon

LECTURE: "Performance Issues in the Organ Works of Felix Mendelssohn" by Dr. Neil Harmon

LOCATION: BYU Campus, Joseph F. Smith Building (JFSB), Room B002 (basement)

DIRECTIONS: The JFSB is the big square building west of the library with an inner courtyard, curved glass facade on one side, and children's play area on the other side. Classroom B002 is in the basement in the west hallway opposite the spiral staircase.



January 19, 2019: Performers in the Utah Valley American Guild of Organists Chapter  
Recital in Spanish Fork, Utah.

From left: Carla Cleavinger, Lori Serr, Mike Carson, Jack Stoneman, Linda  
Rehart, Miranda Wilcox, Neil Harmon, Heidi Rodeback, Holly Brinkle, Becky Meng, Jay  
Goodliffe. *Photo by Kari Nay*

# This 'n' That

## AGO/Quimby RYCO to Be Held

Our chapter, together with the Salt Lake City chapter, is hosting the AGO/Quimby Regional Competitions for Young Organists, also known as the RCYO. We have two competitors who will play for a maximum of 40 minutes each. The public is invited to come and listen to the performers and sing the required hymn each contestant will play.

Tuesday, February 26  
St. Mark's Cathedral, 231 E 100 S, Salt Lake City  
4:15 p.m.

Thank you to Jennifer Morgan in the Utah Valley chapter and Heidi Alley in the Salt Lake City chapter for co-chairing this event. We encourage all chapter members to come and hear what the current generation is doing!

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## Campbell Organ Festival

We are pleased to announce that [Dr. Neil Harmon](#), who joined the organ faculty at BYU in 2018, is the solo performer at the 2019 Campbell Organ Festival in Logan. The concert will be held in the recently renovated Daines Concert Hall in the Chase Fine Arts Center on the Utah State University campus on March 8 at 7:30 p.m.

[Tickets](#)

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## Greetings from the Seattle Chapter, AGO

We are excited to inform you that we will be hosting a Pipe Organ Encounter (POE) for piano students, ages 13 through 18, this summer. Registration is limited to 28 students, so if you know of any students who may be interested, please pass along this information to them and their teachers.

The POE will be held from July 14 through 19 at Seattle Pacific University. Please click the button below to learn more details, download our brochure, and begin the online registration process.

Thank you,  
Rita Stoess, Director

[Learn More](#)

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## Utah Valley Chapter Donates to the Parley L. Belnap Endowed Organ Scholarship Fund

The chapter's current board recently approved a \$200 gift to the Parley L. Belnap Endowed Organ Scholarship Fund at BYU. At a board meeting last summer, it was proposed that the chapter give Parley an honorary AGO life membership, but because of his declining health and inability to enjoy the benefits of membership, it was suggested that we donate the equivalent amount to the scholarship fund in his name. Parley passed away November 7, 2018.

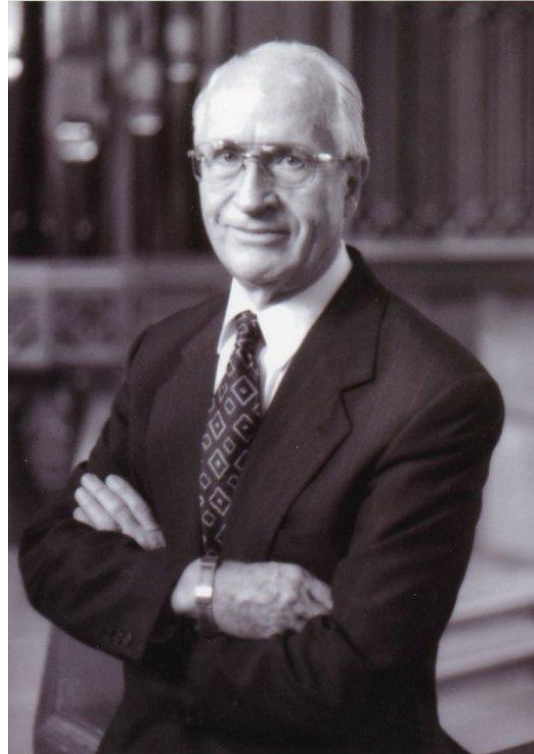
Information on donating to the fund is available by clicking the button below. Former students, colleagues, and friends of Dr. Belnap are invited to consider contributing to the fund. The scholarships will be used to aid organ students at BYU, where Parley taught organ and music theory for 33 years.

[Donate Now](#)

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## Dr. Parley L. Belnap: A Selection of Papers and Music

A new page on the chapter's website features a selection of papers and music of Dr. Belnap. These items were compiled and donated by Bona Belnap, Parley's wife, and Claudia Johnson, a former student of Parley's.



[Visit Page](#)

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## Upcoming Chapter Events



March 22

Bach's Birthday Recital in Honor of Carol Dean  
Provo Central Stake Center  
7:00 p.m.

The chapter's Bach recital is a long-standing, annual tradition. The Provo Central Stake Center houses the magnificent Bigelow Opus 16 tracker pipe organ, built and installed in 1987 by [Bigelow & Co. Organ Builders](#) of American Fork, Utah. This year we will honor [Carol Dean](#), who passed away June 5, 2018.

We encourage you to invite and bring guests who may enjoy an evening of the music of J. S. Bach.

If you would like to perform on the recital, please contact Miranda Wilcox at [mirandawilcox96@gmail.com](mailto:mirandawilcox96@gmail.com) to reserve your piece and a performance spot on the program.

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April 27

Super Saturday for Church Organists

Harris Fine Arts Center, BYU

Free admission

8:00 Prelude and Hymn Singing

8:30 Keynote Speaker

9:10 to 1:30 Break-out classes

1:30 Recital (30 minutes)

Complimentary light lunch provided.

Classes are designed for pianists, who want to learn to play the organ, and church organists of all skill levels.

Questions? Please contact Sheri Peterson at: [sheri.peterterson@gmail.com](mailto:sheri.peterterson@gmail.com).

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REMEMBER! Our chapter news and event details are always available on our website. You can also find contact information for our members on the directory page (directory password is Bigelow16). Visit often. Everything is just a click away.

[uvago.org](http://uvago.org)

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## AGO Membership Levels

The American Guild of Organists offers membership, dual membership, and chapter friend options, but understanding what these options mean can be confusing. Hopefully, this information will help you make the best membership decision for your situation. Questions? Please contact the chapter's membership coordinator, Jennifer Morgan, at [jenniferorganist@gmail.com](mailto:jenniferorganist@gmail.com).

### Membership Levels



**Note from Newsletter Editor:** We welcome chapter and guild news and other related items that would be of interest to our members and organ friends. Email all items, including photos, to Mike Carson at [mcarson@uvago.org](mailto:mcarson@uvago.org). Please send submissions by the 20th of the month for inclusion in the following month's newsletter. Thank you!



### Do you have Facebook? So do we!

"Like" our page to stay in touch with people, events, and important information regarding the Utah Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.