

international
year of the
organ
2008-2009
American
Guild of
Organists



American Guild of Organists

Newsletter

Utah Valley Chapter

2008-2009

September 2008

No. 3

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Dean's Message

Like you, I am looking forward with great anticipation to our chapter's Opening Gala on September 11. Our dear friend and colleague, Dr. Parley Belnap, will receive a Lifetime Service Award for his dedicated service and distinguished achievements in organ education. Parley is a charter member of our chapter and served as dean from 2000-2002. In addition, we are honored to have as our guest speaker Dr. John Longhurst, a Fellow of the American Guild of Organists and long-time Tabernacle Organist from 1977 to 2007.

The semi-formal event will be held at The Chillon in Spanish Fork with a reception beginning at 6:30 p.m. and a buffet dinner being served at 7:15. Lella Pomeroy will oversee the installation of the new chapter officers for 2008-2010, followed by the presentation of the Lifetime Service Award and remarks by our guest speaker.

All members and friends of the chapter are invited to attend with their guests. RSVP to Joan Barnett with payment of \$17.50 per person by August 28. Please call or e-mail me with questions. If for some reason you did not receive your invitation, please forgive me and come anyway!

Best regards,

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The Chillon
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We Welcome Your Membership!

If you have not already sent your membership in to our treasurer, Joan Barnett, we invite you to do so as soon as possible. While membership is not required to attend our chapter events, we would like to encourage your participation. If you do not desire to join as a "regular" member and receive the benefits of being affiliated with the national guild, please consider joining as a "friend" of the guild with an annual donation of \$25 or more, all of which stays in our local chapter. If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact any of the UVAGO board members. All the information is on the membership form, which can be printed from the Utah Valley AGO Web site.

MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the American Guild of Organists is to promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles, to encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music, and to provide a forum for mutual support, inspiration, education, and certification of Guild members.

International Year of the Organ Event

Oct. 22 - Thomas Dahl Organ Recital at the Salt Lake Tabernacle, 7:30 p.m.

Thomas Dahl is organist and director of music at the large St. Peter's Church (Petrikirche) in downtown Hamburg, where he also directs the Hamburg Bach Choir. He studied church music, composition, musicology, and music pedagogy in Hamburg with Heinz Wunderlich, in Stuttgart and Paris with Daniel Roth, and in Chicago with Wolfgang Rübsam. Additionally, he studied with Jean Guillou and Harald Vogel. He has received numerous prizes at international competitions for organ and organ improvisation, and in 1995 he won first prize at the International Improvisation Competition in Knokke-Heist in Belgium. His concert activities have taken him throughout Europe and to the United States, including such places as Catalonia, Madrid, Westminster Abbey, Moscow, Rome, Paris, and Cologne. He has recorded several CDs featuring music of Mendelssohn, Brahms, Vierne, Reger, and various Hamburg composers. His concert in the Salt Lake Tabernacle will be his first appearance in the western United States.

Important Web Sites

Utah Valley Chapter AGO Web Site:
www.uvago.org

BYU Organ Information (including off-campus programs):
www.organ.byu.edu

Salt Lake Chapter AGO Web Site:
www.slago.org

Region IX Blog Address:
www.agor9.blogspot.com

National AGO Web Site:
www.agohq.org

YouTube Site of Amazing Organ Performances

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iWD6uEKYOO>

Dr. Parley L. Belnap's Keynote Address

Dr. Belnap's keynote address for the 2008 BYU Organ Workshop is attached to this newsletter for your convenience. It was truly an inspired message for all who were privileged to hear it, as I'm sure it will be helpful to all who just now have the opportunity to read it. As is typical at any workshop, participants are commonly overheard discussing how overwhelming it is to attend a workshop such as this as they learn that organ technique is not the same as piano technique. Many commented to Carol Dean at private lessons during the week that Dr. Belnap's talk gave them hope and a desire to stay positive as they strive this next year to implement organ principles into their service playing.

Upcoming Events

- Sept. 7 - At 3:00 p.m., KBYU-FM 89.1 will broadcast the Pipedreams Benefit Concert, which was held at the Cathedral of the Madeleine on June 27. The concert featured the five staff Tabernacle Organists performing works by Bach, Clarke, Franck, Sousa, Tournemire, Vaughan Williams, Vierne, and Wagner. Thanks to the generosity of the audience, the concert assisted Classical 89's ongoing funding of Michael Barone's "Pipedreams" radio program, which airs on Sunday evenings from 9:00 to 10:30 p.m.
- Sept. 11 - Opening Gala and Installation of 2008-2010 Officers. (See front cover for all the details.)
- Sept. 12 - Senior Recital of Mark Campbell, student of Dr. Douglas E. Bush, at the Cathedral of the Madeleine, 8:00 p.m.
- Oct. 22 - Thomas Dahl Organ Recital at the Salt Lake Tabernacle, 7:30 p.m.
- Nov. 21 - Dr. Douglas E. Bush lecture, "Hugo Distler: a 20th-Century Voice from the Past" at Provo Central Stake Center (12th W. 5th N., Provo) at 7:30 p.m. (celebrating Distler's 100th birthday). Dr. Bush and Brian Mathias will play some of Distler's music for us.

Fall 2008 Eccles Organ Festival

Sunday evenings at 8:00 p.m. All performances are free of charge and open to the public. Please call 328-9941 for more concert information.

- Sept. 21 - Daniel Kerr, Brigham Young University - Idaho
- Oct. 5 - Todd Wilson, Cleveland Institute of Music
- Oct. 19 - Delbert Disselhorst, University of Iowa
- Nov. 2 - Olivier Vernet, St. Nicholas Cathedral, Monaco
- Nov. 16 - Cristina Garcia Banegas, University Music School of Uruguay

Organs of Gottfried Silbermann

(Submitted by Meg Griffith)

Gottfried Silbermann (1683-1753) was the greatest German organ builder of the late Baroque period. He was a contemporary of Johann Sebastian Bach and was acquainted with Bach and J. L. Krebs.

Silbermann built organs in Freiberg, Saxony, where he had a workshop and worked with his brother, Andreas, until 1708. When he left his brother, they had an agreement to work in different regions. Gottfried stayed close to home, building 46 organs in central Germany, 41 in Saxony, and five others near Thuringia and Brandenburg. Four organs had three manuals, 22 had two manuals, 11 had one manual with pedal, and several were positives (portable, one-manual organs). He declined invitations to build instruments in Copenhagen, Moscow, and St. Petersburg. There are 31 surviving instruments, original or restored. Among his most important organs are those at Freiberg Cathedral (1710-1714 extant) and his "masterpiece" in the Katholische Hofkirche, Dresden (1750-54 pipework extant).

His organs are known for their beautiful, clear sound. Unlike his contemporaries, he did not build over-blowing stops, string-toned stops of cylindrical or inverted conical construction, or manual registers made entirely of wooden pipes. "Most of the stops on Silbermann organs are of a type common to the French and German schools, the instruments having a tonal wealth of craftsmanship among the finest of their time." Silbermann himself described his manual and pedal divisions as having scalings sounding "large and grave" (Hauptwerk), "sharp and penetrating" (Oberwerk), "delicate and sweet" (Brustwerk), and "strong and penetrating" (Pedal).

[Sources: *The Organ Encyclopedia* by Douglas Bush and Richard Kassel and *Norton/Grove Concise Encyclopedia of Music*]

Member Spotlight

Mike Carson, New Chapter Dean

(Submitted by Trudy Barnes)

Micheal Ray Carson was born in Lehi, Utah, the fourth of five children. He loved and felt nurtured by his natural surroundings on a small farm, enjoying the close-knit community. "I had a wonderful childhood, with a good dose of freedom for play," he says. At the age of seven, Mike begged his mother, through tears, to give him piano lessons. At age eight, he begged her, through tears, to let him quit! But, with his mother's encouragement, he continued with the piano and began playing the organ for Mutual at age 12.

Mike graduated from Lehi High School in 1970 as Sterling Scholar in music. There he had accompanied choirs, ensembles, soloists, and the school musicals. He also sang in All-State Choirs, played the cello in the Utah Valley Youth Symphony, and studied piano with Jackie Frost Halverson and Dr. Paul C. Pollei. Mike then attended BYU with an

emphasis in piano performance and music education, studying with Dr. Pollei and Professor Robert Smith. After serving an LDS mission in the England North Mission, he returned to his piano studies and was principal cellist in the BYU Symphony Orchestra under Lawrence Sardoni and Glenn Williams.

After nearly three years at BYU, he began working in the retail print music business in Provo and Orem. Over the next 24 years he was a valuable resource to students and teachers in the musical community. He is currently front-desk administrative assistant for the City of Cedar Hills.

Mike and his wife, Cheryl, have a unique combination of 11 children (yours, mine, and ours) and 10 grandchildren. Mike is the father of five, and Cheryl is the mother of four adopted children from their first marriages. Together, they had a girl and a boy, now ages 16 and 13, who presently live with them in Pleasant Grove. Cheryl is an author, and together they have self-published four books on subjects such as forgiving others, unconditional love, adversity, and living debt free.

Music is Mike's life. More than a hobby, it is his part-time vocation, as well as his way of worship. He teaches private piano and organ students, has performed in recording studios, and serves as a church organist and choir director, having conducted ward, stake, and regional choirs. As stake cultural arts directors for five years, Mike and Cheryl instigated the Grove Creek Stake's "Music for a Sunday Evening" concert series, which featured the talents of stake and area musicians.

"Music can be a lonely endeavor, considering the many hours of isolated practice required," he muses. One of his goals for UVAGO is to create an environment where people can feel comfortable while discovering the joy of learning from each other.

Mike is a fine leader and dedicated musician. His musical talents and willing service have blessed many lives in the community. We are honored and grateful to have Mike as our new chapter dean.

Recipe "Granola"

Mix these dry ingredients:

6 cups quick or rolled oats (or a combination)	
6 cups Rice Krispies	½ tsp. salt
½ cup wheat germ	1 cup sliced almonds
2 to 3 tsp. cinnamon	

Heat the following mixture and pour over top of dry mixture:

1 cup honey (add more for chewy, less for crunchy)	
1 T. vanilla	¼ cup canola oil

Drizzle over granola mixture. Bake at 250 degrees for 30-40 minutes, stirring frequently. Cool. Store in airtight container.