



The Windchest Omaha Chapter, American Guild of Organists

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DEADLINE
For the next issue of
THE WINDCHEST
is
February 25th, 2014

Gina Simpson, Editor
ginas@chirock.com

Dean's Message

What are the benefits of the AGO? I imagine we all have slightly different answers to that question. It seems to me there are three major benefits, and when we plan our chapter objectives we should try to balance them about equally.

The first major benefit is education. Chapter meetings can provide personal up close education, occasionally with master teachers. Practice techniques, organ construction, religion and the arts, the Italian organ and lessons from fifty years of experience in the AGO are subjects that we have presented over the last two years. Our monthly TAO magazine provides material for learning that we can peruse at our leisure. Listening to recitals attentively can teach us new ways to play music, and perhaps occasionally ways we don't want to play music. The Guild provides a certification process, where we can get goals, practice discipline, and receive acknowledgment for our attained skills. We also strive to educate the general public about our wonderful and sometimes quirky instrument, and that can be rewarding when we see others enjoying the organ we love.

The second major benefit is an opportunity for performance. Yes, many of us play regularly in church and have the opportunity there to perform for others. But, there is nothing quite like performing for one's peers to keep us on our toes. Our chapter has proven over the years to be quite non-competitive and sympathetic to the differing backgrounds, training, and goals found among our membership. So, our performances for each other need not be cutthroat, nerve-wracking experiences, but opportunities to grow.

The third major benefit is an opportunity to get to know other organists in the area and learn about their ideas, skills, and problems. We can encourage others and be encouraged by them. At our chapter social events we can relax and enjoy ourselves around people having a similar interest in the king of instruments.

So, I hope over the years you have gotten these benefits from the Guild and will continue to receive them as we move forward. Have a good year!

David Schack,
Dean, Omaha Chapter, AGO

OUR NEXT MEETING

AGO OMAHA CHAPTER MID-WINTER CONCLAVE

Saturday, February 8, 2014

From 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Countryside Community Church
(Scott Chapel, Upper Level Café)
8787 Pacific Street, Omaha

8:30 – Registration, Coffee and Rolls,
Conversation

9:00 – Nebraska Organs
J. Gordon Christiansen, DMA
Director of Music/Organist
St. Paul's Lutheran Church,
Council Bluffs, IA

10:15 – Break

10:45 – Travelogue of organs in Germany
and
Russia
Michael Bauer, DMA
Professor of Organ and Church
Music,
University of Kansas, Lawrence

Noon – Lunch with speakers and registrants

FUTURE MEETINGS

Friday, March 21, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

Harald Vogel
Cathedral Organ 10th Anniversary Concert
St. Cecilia Cathedral, 701 North 40 Street

Monday, March 31, 2013 at 7:30 p.m.

St. Thomas Episcopal Church
Choir of Men and Boys
St. Cecilia Cathedral, 701 North 40 Street

Omaha Chapter of the AGO on Facebook

Facebook is a great way to promote organizations and their events in social media. We would like your help in utilizing this free tool to promote the Omaha Chapter of the American Guild of Organists! This is how you can help:

1. "Like" our page. Search "Omaha Chapter of the American Guild of Organists" search bar at the top of the Facebook page.
2. Invite your Facebook friends to like our page. Generally, the top panel in the right hand column will give you the opportunity to request your friends to like our page. Scroll through the list and select "invite." It is very simple!
3. "Share" AGO events with your friends. It is also very simple to do. When we post something that you think the friends on your page might be interested, please click "share" on the posting and you can have the option of sending it to specific friends or posting it to your wall. Then all of your friends will see it!
4. Send me things you would like to post on our page. I will be using David McCain's calendar as a guide, but if there is something not included which would be of interest to our friends, please send it!
5. Take photos at your events and AGO events. Postings with photos are more attractive!
6. Check our page weekly as I will be updating it each Tuesday or Wednesday.

Please send information to me at:
encouraged.organist@gmail.com

Thanks for your help!

Jeff Hoffman

New Website for Hymns & Responses

Jodi Korth wanted to share the following with our members:

A new website will interest you! The website includes audio samples and sample texts of recently composed, 50 hymns and worship responses.

The quickest way to get to the website is to use your address bar. Type in:

www.songsfordisciples.com

On a Google-type search, the website is about the fourth or fifth entry. It is not clearly marked.

The hymns and responses are not available for sale at this time. We are awaiting news from a publisher. However, if you find a hymn or response you would like, we will make it available free for a one-time use.

Lynn Zeigler
Charles Kniker, Ames, Iowa

P.S.: If you would like to purchase one of Lynn's CDs of organ music, go to the CD tab at the top of the home page.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Marty Wheeler Burnett – new home address

932 North 145th Circle
Omaha, NE 68154-1106

Barbara Fremder – new cell #, no home

Cell: 402-659-3802

Jill Hagen – new position & new email

Organist, Trinity Lutheran Church
330 West Halleck Street
Papillion, NE 68046
Church #: 402-339-3788
Email: greenbayfan61@gmail.com

Gilbert Ward – new position & new email

Organist/Accompanist
Countryside Community Church
Email: gilbertw@countrysideucc.org
(personal email remains geward@q.com)

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2014 AGO Pipe Organ Encounters (POEs)

Nine summer educational programs for teenagers and adults have been announced by the AGO. Generous funding from the Associated Pipe Organ Builders of America (APOBA) and the American Institute of Organbuilders (AIO) will support the summer programs. Complete contact information for each Pipe Organ Encounter can be found in The American organist magazine and online at agohq.org. The summer schedule follows:

POE for ages 13 – 18

June 8 – 13, Fort Collins, Colo.
June 9 – 14, Indianapolis, Ind.
June 29 – July 4, Wilmington, Del.
July 7 – 11, Manhattan, Kans.
July 18 – 18, Easton, Mass.

POE (Advanced) for ages 13 – 18

June 29 – July 4, Ann Arbor Mich.

POE (Technical) for ages 16 – 23

June 8 – 13, Stowe, Pa.

POE+ for Adults

June 8 – 13, Rockford, Ill.
July 13 – 17, Seattle Wash.

AGO Awarded \$15,000 Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts

The AGO has been awarded a grant by the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA) to support the 2014 AGO National Convention in Boston, Mass. June 23 – 27, 2014. The \$15,000 NEA “Art Works” grant is directed to support performances, educational workshops, publication of the Boston Organ Book, and new music premieres. The grant carries a mandate that it be matched dollar for dollar from other funding sources. The 2014 AGO National Convention is the fifth consecutive AGO National Convention that has garnered funding from the arts endowment.

Silent Auction at 2014 AGO National Convention in Boston

The AGO National Council will sponsor a Silent Auction at the AGO National Convention in Boston in June 2014. The proceeds will benefit the Annual Fund which covers the expenses of educational programs, Pipe Organ Encounters, professional certification programs competitions, conventions, January Jubilees, and other costs of running the organization. The auction will be run online so that all AGO members and friends may participate, and not just those attending the national convention.

A number of members of the Council have already given items and services for the Silent Auction. These include two round-trip coach airfares to Europe, two expensive bottles of wine, workshops, and CD recordings. We would like to invite Chapters to promote the auction, including donation of items that might be of interest to the AGO membership. This might include time share vacations, new scores and books, complimentary registration to a regional convention, a recital or workshop. (Editor’s Note: I have more details, so let me know if you have an interest in donating to the Silent Auction.)

AGO Headquarters would like to have a complete list of auction items, and a photograph of each item by May 1, 2014. The online auction will begin June 1, 2014 and end on June 30, 2014.

2014 AGO National Convention

June 23 – 27, 2014
Boston, Massachusetts
Agoboston2014.org