



AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

Cleveland Chapter

June 2007

FROM THE DEAN

THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE!!!!!!

Do you hear the clapping? Sixty of us have heard it! It was in appreciation of Gerre Hancock's after-dinner speech. You should have been there. Only 1/3 of our membership was – 60 of us to be exact. Then there was the wonderful concert starring Gerre, Todd Wilson, Kevin Kwan, the Covenant Brass, tympani and choir. Todd is a wonderful, expansive, genial host and plays a “mean” Toccata too! You missed a great concert and a wonderful dinner (prime rib/baked potato/veggies/soup/pie) orchestrated by Marcia Snavely, our expert Sub-Dean and her committee of Ginny Roedig and Carmen Massaro. They did a magnificent job this entire year and should be applauded ad infinitum for their efforts. In fact, this entire past year is a credit to their expertise and originality. Just wait until you see what's in store for us next year.

But first we must acknowledge three of our outgoing Executive Board members who have given three years of service to your Guild: Karen McFarlane Holtkamp, Robert Day and Donald Jackson. Not only have they been active members of your board, but have been faithful servants on your behalf. Please thank them when you see them for devoting three years of their lives to your educational betterment and musical well-being. Well-done and thank you!

In addition, we must recognize those who have chaired committees in order to keep this Guild Chapter running smoothly: Marcia Snavely (Program), Bob Moncrief (Quimby competition), Carol Neff/Alan Higbee/Gratian Nugent (Scholarship Committee), Gerry Mass (Placement), Fern Jennings (AGO exams), Carol Nagle (Member Care), Linda Gardner/Evelyn Muranko (Newsletter), Robert Day (Nominating), Bob Schneider (Professional Concerns), Don Jackson

(Publicity), Tim Robson (Yearbook & Website), Juanita Schubert (Finance), Leslie Bauer (Registrar/Secretary). I hope I've not forgotten anyone because every one of you is important to our Guild.

Now we come to what you can do. Remember that I had mentioned that only 60 of us were in attendance for our annual dinner. We have a total of 181 members this past year-down from just over 200. That's a 10% reduction in members – and in money for programs. You can do something about it and we're counting on you to step up and help the Guild. It's not too much to ask. Please look around you. Odds are there is a church very near you without a Guild organist. In this newsletter, I have enclosed a letter to be signed by you and a Membership Application. If you would, kindly sign the letter, address it to the organist or just in care of the church and either drop it off at their office or mail it. You may choose which. Let's hope that organist chooses to join our Chapter and increase our ranks. YOU will be the one who deserves the thanks and credit! If we all did that, what a wonderful result in camaraderie, education and programming we could have.

In the meantime, enjoy a wonderful summer; rest, rejuvenate and return on September 23 for our annual picnic at Ginny Roedig's home (she's right on the beach in Mentor Headlands).

Grace and Peace,
Michon (Missy) Koch
Dean



AGO CLEVELAND SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2006-07

The Executive Board of our AGO chapter allocated \$1500 for scholarships for people living and/or studying in the Cleveland area. We had ten applicants, nine auditions, and awarded eight scholarships. Two people were awarded \$300 each, and six people were awarded \$150 each.

Auditions were held on Saturday, April 14, at Mayfield United Methodist Church in Chesterland. Committee members were Carol Neff, chair; Gratian Nugent; Alan Higbee; and Missy Koch. We thank these members for their time and efforts to make this a success. We heard excellent playing, as well as a couple of people that have recently begun to learn the organ—they showed great promise!

The AGO Scholarships are an important element of our chapter! The funding comes from memorial gifts, and interest earned on money invested from the Regional Conventions that we have hosted. Encouraging the continuing study of the organ is one of our primary goals as AGO members!

Carol Neff,
Chair, AGO Scholarship Committee



DAWN REILLY WINS ALUMNI AWARD

Cleveland AGO Chapter member and former officer Dawn Reilly has been awarded the Outstanding Alumni Award from the Heidelberg College Alumni Association. According to the Alumni Association, "This award recognizes lifetime accomplishments and contributions to a given profession, community and society at large," and is considered the highest award of the Heidelberg Alumni Association. Congratulations, Dawn!

AGO COMMITTEE ON THE NEW ORGANIST

By Naomi Rowley

Dear AGO Deans of Ohio,

As Director of the AGO's Committee on the New Organist, I'm very pleased and proud of the outstanding POE that is being sponsored by the Southeast Ohio Chapter. It will be held July 15 – 20 on the campus of Ohio University. Already 9 students have registered for this tremendous event! And we're eager to have the numbers climb to maximum capacity enrollment in the near future! The POE Director Paul Barte is very willing to provide brochures with registration forms. His contact information is barte@ohio.edu, Paul Barte, School of Music, Ohio University, Athens, OH 45701-2979, 740/593-4253.

As Deans for Ohio, your immediate assistance in helping "swell the ranks" of registrants for this spectacular event will be very greatly appreciated. Please be certain all the members of your respective chapters become immediately involved with the "swell the ranks" campaign. If every chapter recruited one registrant, the enrollment quota would soon be filled! In addition, chapters are encouraged to provide scholarships to cover registration fees or ask churches to assist in this manner. Encourage all to "act today, don't delay."

Thank you in advance for your assistance with this very important outreach endeavor of the Guild. The future of our profession depends on recruiting and educating the next generation of organists through events like the Southeast Ohio POE.

Sincerely,

Naomi Rowley, Director
AGO Committee on the New Organist

THANKS AND MORE THANKS!

Many thanks to everyone for making my inaugural year as Program Chairman such a gratifying one. Everyone was so supportive and helpful. Special thanks to Carmen Massaro and Ginny Roedig, Program Committee members who took responsibility for several of the events. Thanks to the hosts for our varied concerts and meetings: Greg Heislman, Robert Moncrief, Diane Cieslak, Don Jackson, Robert Schneider, Bob Meyers, Joe Kolecky, Ron Morgan and Todd Wilson.

And thanks to the Chapter members, who participated, shared and attended the many programs. As I said at our annual meeting, “we have appreciated your comments and encourage you to continue communicating your needs and ideas for our Chapter and its programs. It takes all of us to make things happen! “

Next year’s program suggestions by the Program Committee have been approved by the Executive Committee. Some events are still being discussed, so they will be more defined as the summer and fall roll around. Following is the Tentative Program List. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

AGO TENTATIVE PROGRAMMING CALENDAR 2007-2008

September: Sept. 23, 2007, PICNIC at Ginny Roedig’s home on Lake Erie, 9525 Headlands Rd., Mentor, OH 44060

October: Oct. 17, 2007, Co-sponsorship of WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL CHOIR (ENGLAND) with Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist (Greg Heislman, host)

January: Jan. 26, 2008, WORKSHOPS at Rocky River Methodist (Jeff Acker, Carmen Massaro, host)

February: Date TBD. Possible co-sponsorship of concert, approval pending.

April: April 6, 2008. HYMN FESTIVAL at Plymouth Church (James Riggs, host)

May: May 4, 2008. ANNUAL DINNER MEETING at Fairmount Presbyterian (Robert Moncrief, host)

Hope to see you at all of these events. In the meantime, have a great summer!

Marcia Snavely



ALLELUIA CORNER

In March it was my pleasure to serve as a member of the committee to hear and judge candidates for our chapter's AGO Organ Study Scholarships. The Chair of that group, Carol Neff, sent me gathering of the candidates' writings revealing reasons why they were seeking scholarships for further study.

As I read these candidates' words concerning their feelings about music and its power to become a vital part of one's life and career, I thought you would recognize some of these observations too. I certainly did.

... "Music is ... a way to let out emotion and it is a subject that can never be completely mastered – there is always something to improve upon. ... The music I make on this instrument is now a part of me, and I cannot imagine living without this joy." LH

... "I have been learning about music all my life, and in the past few years I have come to realize that I could not live without it. Studying music is very inspiring to me, for I am constantly exposed to not only wonderful performers and interpretations of music but I am also able to see inside the music itself, and that is something I cannot capture in words. ... It is my hope to be able to touch at least one person in all of my performances, and to continue to learn and grow in this incredible world." KH

... "Music study is important to me because it brings me joy... I find meaning in making music to bring joy to others. I am brought closer to God... I would learn more about the human expression of music as both a personal and universal language." MD

... "My musical study at CSU and Akron has shown me how far a musician can explore his own potential. And it never ends." MH

... "I have decided to pursue a degree in organ and sacred music in order that I may help preserve its rich traditions and further its cause. ... With generous assistance like that of the AGO Cleveland Chapter, young musicians can be assured that their study and work is supported by a community that cares about church music." KJK

... "Music is very important to me, and has become the focus of much of my time apart from school and extracurricular activities... I often find myself drawn to leadership roles regarding music... I enjoy singing classical and early music very much... had the rewarding experience of singing with Apollo's Fire. " AP

... "My ambitions, goals and dreams can be summed up in two words: Gloria Deo. From my earliest years I have loved music. Music is a prayer, often prayed without words, raising heart, mind and soul to God." MS

... "Since the moment I was born, music has always been a part of my life. My mother has a passion for choral music... which eventually lead to my passion for the pipe organ." MC

The charm of all these observations is that they may echo the thoughts that most of us have about music, and why we are held fast in it's marvelous power midst all else that rages about us. To be able to express one's deepest feelings through the genius of composers, the skills of organ builders and the instruction of dedicated teachers is a wondrous gift that never stops giving.

Cheers,
Gratian M. Nugent



REMINDER

The deadline for submitting articles to the newsletter is midnight on the 15th of every month for the next month's issue. There will be no issue in July. All articles should be sent to newsletter@agocleveland.org.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Please send all job postings to Gerry Mass, 440-884-4904, Fax: 440-884-1661, email: gerry@gerardskeyboards.com

Mayfield United Methodist Church, 7747 Mayfield Rd., Chesterland, OH 44026. Part-time Director of Music for traditional worship with worship planning responsibilities. Candidates should have excellent music and related skills (and experience directing a church choir) in a multi-staff team setting. Salary is \$18,000-\$25,000 per year depending on experience, education, and time commitment. Salary will be set according to AGO guidelines. Interested persons should apply to Search Committee at the church address above or e-mail resume to dcummings@mayfieldchurch.org

East Shore Church United Methodist, 23002 Lake Shore Boulevard, Euclid, OH, 44123, 216/261-9735. Director of Music/Choir Director. The Director of Music has the responsibility to oversee and coordinate the total music program of the church. This is a part-time position for an estimated eight to ten hours a week. Requirements are education and/or prior experience or knowledge in selection of music that is appropriate for the liturgy. Our music department includes a chancel choir (20-25 voices), handbell choir (separate director), men's quartet, and praise quartet. Schantz organ. Salary: \$8,500.00 per year (negotiable). Please send resumes to the church address above or fax to 216/261-9735, or e-mail: Bev@EastShoreChurch.com

United Methodist Church of Chagrin Falls, 20 South Franklin Street, Chagrin Falls, OH, 44022. Organist. Two Sunday services at 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM. Thursday evening choir rehearsal (no choir rehearsals Memorial Day through Labor Day). Extra services on Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Christmas Eve. Will consider pianists with some organ experience. Salary is approximately \$9,500.00 per year with ten services off per year. Interested persons should contact Director of Music David Gilson by phone (work) 216/795-3163 or (home) 216/397-0785.

Brecksville United Methodist Church. A) Music Ministries Co-Ordinator for Sunday 9:00 AM Service, B) Music Ministries Co-Ordinator for Sunday 11:00

AM Service, C) Accompanist, Keyboardist.

A) Musical and worship leader as well as directing a Praise Team (vocal and instrumental with rehearsals before worship, and bi-weekly), one weekly administrative meeting. Salary: \$12,000 - \$15,000 per year.

B) Musical leadership for this traditional Sunday service. Direct chancel choir (twenty voices) and Thursday evening rehearsal. Salary: \$9,000 - \$12,000 per year.

C) Accompaniment for 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM services. Thursday evening rehearsal. Must be proficient on organ and piano. Weddings and funerals feature separate compensation. Salary: \$9,000 - \$12,000 per year. Fuller descriptions are available at www.brecksvilleumc.com. Please send resumes and/or questions to resume@brecksvilleumc.com.

Lake Shore Christian Church, 28010 Lake Shore Boulevard, Euclid, OH 44132, 216/289-2226. Organist. Weekly Sunday service at 10:30 AM. Thursday evening rehearsal at 7:30 PM from first Thursday of September to first Thursday of June. Four extra services during the year. Extra compensation for weddings and funerals. Allen organ, grand piano, spinet piano, and keyboard. Salary: \$5,936 per year (negotiable). Interested persons should contact Rev. Norman Witthuhn at church address and/or above or at 216/374-5370

CONCERTS

For Complete listings, see our web site: www.agocleveland.org. All concerts are free unless otherwise noted.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Trinity Lutheran Church, located on West 30th Street at Lorain Avenue, in Cleveland, and features Trinity's world-famous Beckerath pipe organ. All concerts begin at 12:15 PM.

Wednesday, June 6 & 13: Florence Mustric and David Betts, trombone, perform "Trombone Troubadour", music by Galliard, Pergolesi, Handel, and others.

Wednesday, June 20 & 27: Robert Myers and Matt Wirfel, trumpet, perform "June Weddings", music by Clarke, Lemmens, and J.S. Bach



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QUICKGUIDE: CLEVELAND CHAPTER AGO 2006/07

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