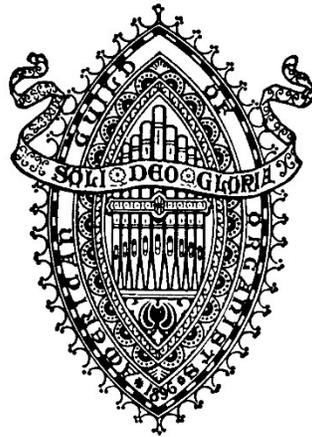


The American Guild of Organists  
Cleveland Chapter  
Annual Report and Meeting  
2016-2017



Sunday, May 21, 2017  
Brecksville United Methodist Church  
65 Public Square  
Brecksville, OH

## **Agenda**

4:30 PM      Members Recital

5:30 pm      Reception

6:00 pm      Annual Meeting

Call to Order

Approval of minutes from 2016 Annual Meeting

Dean's Report

Treasurer's Report

Old Business

New Business

Election Report

Installation of Officers

Adjournment

## **Cleveland Chapter AGO Annual Meeting Minutes**

**Sunday, May 1, 2016**

### **Westlake United Methodist Church**

After an excellent Member Recital, the meeting was called to order. The minutes from the May 3, 2015 meeting were accepted (Robson, Tornberg).

#### **Dean's Report – Paul Guyer**

Paul offered thanks to the outgoing officers and Executive Board members, and to the many members of the Board and the Chapter for their help in the Chapter's accomplishments this year. Of particular note are the new website, the Facebook group (now with 49 members), and our successful use of the OnCard registration system. Paul will stay on as Registrar this year due to his familiarity with OnCard.

He congratulated the Chapter on the increased membership this past year; instead of the decline we have seen over past years, membership increased by two people. Paul believes his visits to several organ studios this year contributed to the increase in membership and the success of the Facebook group.

The anonymous donor is continuing to support WCLV's airing of *Pipedreams*.

#### **Pipe Organ Encounters – Barbara MacGregor**

Barbara received notification that places remain in this summer's POE in Lexington, KY. She passed out brochures in case members know of any interested students.

#### **Treasurer's Report – Don Jackson**

Don informed the membership of the good price we received on the ad for the Christian Lane recital, which ran for several concerts in the Cleveland Orchestra program booklet. Members reported that the ad was attractive and easy to notice, giving us good exposure to a fine audience.

We had a financially decent year. The Yearbook came in under budget, and membership was stable. The Fidelity Account held its value pretty well and contains approximately \$30,000 that can be used for special purposes.

## **Committee Reports**

### **SubDean/Program Committee**

Incoming SubDean Rick Nelson sent a report that much progress has been made on the programming for next year. The season will begin with an Anthem Reading and Potluck at Lakewood Congregational Church (Cliff Hill). Several distinguished recitals are in the works, one of which will be a Bach's Birthday observance at Trinity Cathedral. The year will wind up with a Member Recital at University Circle Methodist Church on May 21, 2017.

### **Examinations and Scholarships**

No members took AGO exams this year. One \$250 scholarship was awarded.

### **Upcoming Regional Convention**

Barbara reported that a year from now, the Youngstown Chapter will host the AGO Regional Convention. Volunteers are needed. Cleveland members are encouraged to attend.

### **Election**

Paul asked for opinions on the use of SurveyMonkey for this year's elections. Response from the membership was positive because of how easy it was to use, and the chapter saved a lot on postage. The members who do not use email were sent paper ballots.

### **Installation of New Officers**

The following officers were installed for terms beginning in 2016:

Dean: Nicole Keller

Treasurer: Don Jackson (returning)

Executive Committee: David Uschold

Jason Lorenzon

Incoming officers Richard Nelson (SubDean), Fern Jennings (Secretary), and Leah Templeton (Executive Committee) will be installed at the first opportunity.

A joint meeting of incoming and outgoing officers will be held at Paul's home on May 10.

The meeting was adjourned.

## Dean's Report

It was indeed a privilege and a pleasure to serve as Dean of this chapter. Cleveland is a city full of such a rich cultural and musical heritage, and the organ and choral communities have played an enormous part of that heritage's development, continuation, and future evolution. I extend special thanks to our Sub Dean, Rick Nelson, for his steady support, collegiality, and leadership of the Program Committee; to our Treasurer Don Jackson, for his never-failing diligence and attention to the Chapter's fiscal responsibilities; to our Registrar and Webmaster, Paul Guyer, for his incredible attention to detail; to our Secretary, Fern Jennings, for her superb work as scribe and much needed assistance throughout the year; to our Weekly Update & Newsletter Editor, Tim Robson, whose weekly creativity helps us stay connected; and to the members of our Executive committee - David von Behren, James Leek, Jason Lorenzon, Barbara MacGregor, Joy Parker, James Storry, Leah Hottel Templeton, David Uschold, and Brian Wentzel for their steady leadership, ideas, and time spent making this past year so successful.

Thanks to the significant work and achievements of our predecessors, the focus of this year's work was mainly on our programs, regular chapter business, and fruitful discussions around the future of the chapter. You will find details of these items in the reports in the following pages. In addition, we are pleased to support the 2017 Great Lakes Regional Convention in Youngstown with an advertisement sending our best wishes to the success of the convention – many thanks to Jim Storry for his production and follow up in this endeavor.

Of particular note this year is the work of the Nominating Committee for their efforts in procuring a new class of officers and committee members, several of whom have never served in our chapter before. Many thanks to Max Bunker, Tim Hemry, Barbara MacGregor, and James Storry for finding these wonderful individuals to lead us into the future.

In addition to our Executive Committee members who are leaving at the end of their term – Barbara MacGregor, James Leek, and Brian Wentzel – we wish a fond farewell to David von Behren, who has resigned from the Committee in order to pursue graduate studies at Yale in the fall. We are fortunate to welcome John DiSanto to the Committee to complete David's term.

I also extend sincere thanks to Ginny Roedig, who has resigned her position as Exam Coordinator after many years of service. This spring, she facilitated and administered one CAGO exam as her final work for the chapter.

I do hope you will read the following detailed reports with interest, as it is but a small glimpse of the enormous amount of work done on behalf of all chapter members. Our chapter is in excellent shape to take on the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Keller, Dean

Continuing Executive Committee Members

*Term Expires 2018*

Joy Parker

James Storry

John DiSanto

*Term Expires 2019*

Jason Lorenzon

Leah Hottel Templeton

David Uschold

**Treasurer's Report**

**(insert)**

## **Sub Dean's Report**

The Cleveland Chapter enjoyed the following programs in 2016-17. Reports and photos were submitted to TAO for each event.

We met on September 18 at Lakewood Congregational Church for the season's opening gathering. Adam Zagotti, Youngstown Dean and 2017 Regional Convention Coordinator, gave an overview of the Great Lakes Regional Convention before members enjoyed a potluck dinner, which was hosted by Don Shultzaberger and Max Bunker.

The Cleveland Chapter co-sponsored with Fairmount Presbyterian Church a recital by Frederick Swann on October 2 before a large and enthusiastic audience. This recital was part of his final tour.

We were hosted by Dr. and Mrs. Eugene Blackstone on October 23 for a recital on the organ in their home overlooking Lake Erie, which consists of 4 manuals and 137 ranks (7406 pipes) and began as an Aeolian-Skinner instrument. Recitalists were Garrett Law and David von Behren, students of Todd Wilson at the Cleveland Institute of Music. A gala reception was enjoyed by many.

On November 16, the Chapter co-sponsored with the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist a recital by Katelyn Emerson, 2016 NYACOP winner. Another large and enthusiastic audience enjoyed this wonderful and personable young artist.

We celebrated Karel Paukert with a program entitled "Karel Paukert: Up Close and Personal" on January 29 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Cleveland Heights, where Paukert has been Organist and Choirmaster since 1979. Tim Robson, before a full church, began the afternoon by leading an interview and Q&A session about Paukert's early life in Czechoslovakia, his time in Western Europe (including a stint as oboist with the Iceland Symphony Orchestra), and finally his emigration to the U.S. The session included conversation about Karel's musical mentors and anecdotes about the many famous musicians he hosted during his career at the Cleveland Museum of Art, focusing particularly on organists. Paukert then played selections by Domenico Zipoli on the Hradetzky organ in the gallery, followed by J. S. Bach on the renowned 1952 Holtkamp. The world premiere of Frank Wiley's stunning Labyrinths preceded Janacek's Postludium from his Glagolitic Mass. An elegant reception lasted into the evening.

The Chapter and Trinity Cathedral co-sponsored Jonathan Ryan's recital of J. S. Bach's Clavier-Übung III on March 21, 2017, the 332nd birthday of the composer. Chorales were interspersed by the Trinity Chamber Singers under the direction of Todd Wilson. This program was a homecoming for Ryan, who completed his undergraduate studies with Todd at the Cleveland Institute of Music. Many were on hand to celebrate Bach's birthday with some of his most sublime music.

On April 1, First Baptist Church hosted the Quimby Regional Competition. Congratulations to Mitchell Miller, the first place winner and Garret Law, second place winner. Mitchell will go on to compete at this year's regional convention in Youngstown. Judges were Anne Wilson, Valerie Thorson, and Jeremy Tarrant.

The Chapter met at Severance Hall for our April 18 meeting. We were hosted by Joela Jones, Chapter member and Principal Keyboardist of the Cleveland Orchestra. Joela described in detail the various aspects of her work and shared accounts of the Cleveland Orchestra conductors under whom she has played: George Szell, Lorin Maazel, Christoph von Dohnányi, and Franz Welser-Möst, relating situations which involved the organ. The 26 chapter members present toured the console and pipe chamber, and 6 of them played the 1931 94-rank E. M. Skinner instrument which was renovated in the 1990s by the nearby Schantz company.

The Brecksville United Methodist Church (Joy Parker, host) was the venue for the members' recital and the annual meeting on May 21. Performers were Clayton Heuer, Charlotte Beers, David Uschold, and Jason Lorenzon. Outgoing officers Nicole Keller (Dean) and Rick Nelson (Sub-dean) were thanked for their service, and the following new officers were installed.

Tim Robson, Dean

Ruth Draper, Sub-dean

Executive Committee

Dr. Eugene Blackstone

David Kazimir

Bob Soeder

Submitted by Rick Nelson, Sub-dean

## Registrar's Report

We have 138 members as of May 4, 2017.

Our membership is split into the following categories:

	2016-17	2015-16	2014-15	2013-14	2012-13
<b>MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY</b> (category totals overlap)					
Regular	58	66	65	74	77
Special	56	55	51	50	56
Young Organist	6	6	6	4	5
Partner (obsolete)	-	4	3	3	3
Dual	8	8	5	5	5
Young Organist / Dual	2	0	0	4	1
Chapter Friends	8	7	10	13	17
Honorary	4	4	4	4	4
<b>PAID OR INVOICED</b>	<b>138</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>168</b>

Our Honorary Members are:

Tony Bianchi  
Karen McFarlane Holtkamp  
Karel Paukert  
Todd Wilson

Member Richard Niskala passed away this year

Paul Guyer, Registrar

## Installation of Officers

*Installing Official:* The Cleveland Chapter of the American Guild of Organists presents for installation the following duly elected officers and executive committee members:

Tim Robson, Dean  
Ruth Draper, Sub-dean

Dr. Eugene Blackstone  
David Kazimir  
Bob Soeder

You have been chosen by your colleagues to guide this Chapter during the coming year. This selection shows confidence in your wisdom, character, creativity, and leadership.

Installing Official addresses the officers: Will you severally promise to uphold the National By-Laws of the American Guild of Organists and honor their enactment? If so, respond, "I will."

Will you unite in your common charge as officers to continue the advancement of organ and choral music? If so, respond, "I will."

Will you endeavor to elevate the status of church and temple musicians, encourage continued education, and strive for the enlightenment of the community in which you serve? If so, respond, "I will."

Will you faithfully fulfill the duties of your individual office to the best of your ability? If so, respond, "I will."

*Installing Official addresses the general membership:* Fellow members, will you support these officers in their service to the Guild? If so, respond, "We will."

Now that our elected representatives have pledged to serve the purposes of the Guild, and we the membership have endorsed their leadership, let us welcome our new Chapter officers. Congratulations!