

The American Guild of Organists
Cleveland Chapter
Annual Report and Meeting
2014-2015



Sunday May 3, 2015
Church of the Covenant

Agenda

5:00 pm Psalm Festival

6:00 pm Reception

6:30 pm Annual Meeting

Call to Order

Acceptance of Minutes from 2014 Annual Meeting

Dean's Report

Treasurer's Report

Committee Reports

Old Business

New Business

Election Report

Installation of Officers

Directions to the Executive Committee

Announcements

Adjournment

Old/New Executive Committee Meeting Monday June 1, 2015 7:00 PM
St. Therese Parish, Garfield Heights.

AGO Cleveland Chapter

Minutes Annual Meeting: May 18, 2014

Lakewood Congregational Church

A progressive recital by members Paul Guyer, Brian Wentzel and Barbara MacGregor (with guest instrumentalists) preceded the reception/meeting.

- I. Meeting called to order at 5:15. Members and guests introduced themselves, and copies of the Annual Report were distributed.
- II. Minutes from the 2013 Annual Meeting were noted in the Annual Report.
- III. Dean's Report (see details in printed report)
 - reinstatement process after the loss of non-profit status has been time-consuming
 - dues collection process is changing (centralizing at AGO National)
 - chapter scholarship distribution has changed
 - Fern expressed her gratitude to all, especially officers and outgoing committee members
- IV. Treasurer's Report (see details in printed report)
 - decline in membership = decline in income to the chapter
 - we often spend more than we take in (and change in dues collection will affect this)
 - Magellan fund account carries highest balance in years
 - Savings account earns a minimal amount – new leadership may want to explore more beneficial options for this money
 - IRS non-profit filing fee was substantial (\$850)
 - perhaps the responsibility for maintaining non-profit status should be specified in Executive Committee documents
- V. Committee Reports
 - Barbara MacGregor (Sub-Dean/Program Committee) expressed her thanks to all who hosted events and were involved in programs this year
 - Scholarship Committee Report, Examinations Report, and Registrar's Report are included in the Annual Report.

VI. Old Business (none)

VII. New Business

- Continuing and newly-elected leaders are listed in the Annual Report. New officers were installed, with the questioning of candidates and the membership. Paul Guyer, incoming Dean, gave a brief address, offering his thanks to the outgoing leadership team and mentioning the need to utilize technology and social media in service to the AGO mission.

VIII. Miscellaneous

- Max Bunker, host of the next Executive Committee meeting, indicated that the correct apartment number for his residence is 1408 (not 1418, as indicated in the Annual Report). The correct date of the meeting is Monday, June 2.
- Fern offered thanks to those members who prepared refreshments, and a drawing was held for the door prize. Meeting adjourned at 5:51.

Respectfully submitted by Meg Matuska, 5/20/14.

Dean's Report

It has been my privilege and pleasure to serve as your Dean this past year. It's been a real opportunity to meet and work with many wonderful and talented individuals and to be a part of a great organization.

I'm so grateful for the help of so many people who volunteered their time and talent this past year.

They include:

- Tim Robson for his many hours spent putting out the Weekly Update every week.
- Matt Skitzki and the Program Committee, Barbara MacGregor, Carmen Massaro, Cliff Hill, and Bob Moncrief for putting together an outstanding schedule of events this past year.
- Don Jackson for keeping all our finances in good order.
- Jan Jones for taking the minutes for our meetings.
- Chris Toth for doing the work of the registrar during the challenging ONCARD transition.
- Bob Moncrief for hosting and coordinating the Quimby competition.
- Fern Jennings for leading the nominating committee and producing an excellent slate of candidates for this year.

The chapter had several achievements this year that I'm especially proud of. The first two on the list were initiated by Fern and were completed this year.

- Website – the new website was implemented this fall with a very positive response.
- Restoration of IRS tax exempt status – many hours of work from Fern and Don went into this.
- Facebook group – a new discussion and posting group started this year, currently there are 26 members in this group.
- ONCARD – we successfully weathered the transition and are now enjoying the benefits.
- Restoration of Pipedreams – thanks to our anonymous benefactor Pipedreams is now once again on the air at 10:00 PM Sunday evenings on WCLV
- Quimby competition – hosted a wonderful competition that highlighted the talent of two up and coming organists.
- Reaching out to students – visited Todd Wilson's studio to reach out on behalf of the chapter. I hope to do more this fall and visit Oberlin, BW, Kent, and U of Akron.

It's been challenging to keep up with writing a weekly article for the newsletter, keeping the website calendar up to date, and responding to emails and phone calls. Out of curiosity I counted well over 800 email messages received and sent during the past year.

At the January meeting of the Executive Committee we brainstormed challenges and opportunities for our chapter over the next five years. Our thoughts and ideas clustered around two areas, diversity and communication. The AGO is not unlike our society in general in that regard. We need to keep our organization welcoming and helpful to people of all ages, differing tastes, differing musical abilities, different denominational affiliations, different cultural and ethnic backgrounds, the list goes on. Technology has radically changed the way we communicate. We need to take full advantage of the opportunities this presents. At that meeting in January committee member Barbara MacGregor was able to "attend" the meeting from Florida via Skype on a laptop in the meeting room. A first as far as I know.

Thanks are due to outgoing executive committee members Clifford Hill, Patrick Wickliffe, and Christopher Toth. Your service, hours, talent, and wisdom shared are greatly appreciated.

I'm proud of our chapter, its officers, and its members for their many efforts to advance the mission of the AGO. As a reminder and focus for us -

The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to enrich lives through organ and choral music.

To achieve this, we:

- *Encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music;*
- *Inspire, educate, and offer certification for organists and choral conductors;*
- *Provide networking, fellowship, and mutual support;*
- *Nurture future generations of organists;*
- *Promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles; and*
- *Engage wider audiences with organ and choral music.*

With gratitude,

Paul Guyer

Continuing Executive Committee Members

Term Expires 2016

Annie Kaschube

Grant Wiswell

Carol Wipper

Term Expires 2017

Barbara MacGregor

James Leek

Brian Wentzel

TREASURER'S REPORT

Donald Jackson

April 26, 2015

The Executive Committee has done an excellent job this year as guardians of Cleveland Chapter resources. Like many membership organizations, we are seeing a decline in our numbers which means a decline in funding. We continue to cosponsor public organ concerts with members' churches so that funds are available for educational and other events. The cost of a single public concert is equal to our full spending budget for one year. It is commendable that the Executive Committee has provided a variety of programs by balancing the utilization of volunteer and financial resources.

One example of this relates to the projection system allocated in this year's budget. Originally, we allocated \$1,700 to purchase equipment to use at concerts where the organist is not visible to the audience. Before the first concert we found a company that provides this service at a very reasonable rate and decided to go this route instead as it would require less effort by member volunteers.

The implementation of the ONCARD membership renewal program has made my job much easier. Having worked in IT and knowing that software to replace our paper driven renewal process was available back in the 1990's, I was pleased to see this implemented. It will be a useful tool for chapter members and executive committees. The learning curve on the software was minimal. It has significantly reduced the amount of paper that is shuffled and filed and cut trips to the bank.

Our Fidelity investment account has done well this year, rising to a market value of \$30, 629. This is a more than \$3,000 increase and the highest value in the past 10 years. The basis is proceeds from a convention that Cleveland Chapter hosted. Past Executive Committee votes have limited use of these funds to pay for scholarship and competition awards. The limited use is a common practice in non-profits.

The accompanying reports for the end of the last fiscal year were approved by the executive committee and filed with national. I have also included a year-to-date income statement for the current fiscal. The large dollar amounts in the Other Income and Expense lines relate to a donation received to pay for a one year broadcast of Pipedreams on WCLV. Feel free to ask questions about other items.

CLEVELAND CHAPTER, AGO

Income Statement

June 1 through June 30, 2014

	<u>This Period</u>	<u>2013-14 Total \$</u>	<u>2013-14 Budget</u>	<u>Notes</u>
INCOME				
Membership Dues		12,037.00	12,000	
Fees/Donations at Programs		0.00	0	
Advertising Fees		855.00	1,000	
Interest/Dividends	221.33	396.21	0	
Other		246.00	0	
AGO National Reimburs.		204.95	100	
<i>Dedicated Income</i>				
Programming Gifts		0.00	300	
Recital Gifts		0.00	0	
Scholarship Gifts		713.00	500	
Competition Gifts		0.00	0	
TOTAL INCOME	<u>221.33</u>	<u>14,452.16</u>	<u>13,900</u>	
EXPENSES				
Dues to National/duals		6,709.00	6,701	
Chapter Programs		2,147.18	3,000	
Newsletter		9.20	75	
Office/ Misc. Admin.		301.42	450	
Dean's Expense		0.00	100	
AGO Exams	284.52	317.44	100	to be reimbursed
Other/Contingency	2,550.00	3,500.00	0	new website
Website		0.00	100	
AGO Annual Fund		500.00	500	
Scholarships		0.00	1,500	
Quimby Competition		0.00	0	
Exam Incentives		200.00	500	
Yearbook		875.98	1,000	
TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>2,834.52</u>	<u>14,560.22</u>	<u>14,026.00</u>	
NET INCOME	-2,613.19	-108.06	-126.00	
Transfers from Investments	4,850.00	4,850.00	0	
ADJUSTED NET INCOME	<u>2,236.81</u>	<u>4,741.94</u>	<u>-126</u>	

Account Balances

	<u>6/30/2014</u>
Checking	3,829.05
Savings	4,958.15
Fidelity Market Value	27,303.11

CLEVELAND CHAPTER, AGO

Income Statment

July 1, 2014 - April 24, 2015

	<u>2014-15</u> <u>Year-to-Date \$</u>	<u>2014-15</u> <u>Budget \$</u>
INCOME		
Membership Dues	4,487.50	4,900
Fees/Donations at Programs	600.00	0
Advertising Fees	615.00	750
Interest/Dividends	0.26	0
Other	1,825.00	200
AGO National Reimburs.	384.52	200
<i>Dedicated Income</i>	0.00	0
Programming Gifts	143.00	0
Recital Gifts	0.00	0
Scholarship Gifts	45.00	500
Competition Gifts	0.00	0
TOTAL INCOME	<u>8,100.28</u>	<u>6,550</u>
EXPENSES		
Dues to National/duals	220.00	200
Chapter Programs	1,012.08	600
Newsletter	0.00	50
Office/ Misc. Admin.	121.75	400
Dean's Expense	0.00	100
AGO Exams	0.00	200
Other/Contingency	2,630.00	850
Website	2,425.00	525
AGO Annual Fund	0.00	500
Scholarships	575.00	1,000
Quimby Competition	1,150.00	1,150
Exam Incentives	0.00	500
Yearbook	769.09	1,000
Projector for Concerts	400.00	1,700
TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>9,302.92</u>	<u>8,775.00</u>
NET INCOME	-1,202.64	-2,225.00
Transfers from Investments	2,000.00	3,600
ADJUSTED NET INCOME	<u>797.36</u>	<u>1,375</u>
Account Balances		
Checking	3,391.42	
Savings	4,958.42	
Fidelity Market Value	30,629.00	

CLEVELAND CHAPTER, AGO
BALANCE SHEET
June 30, 2014

Assets

Cash Checking		3,829
Savings		4,958
Fidelity Investments (cost basis)		24,836
Market Value	27,303	
Receivable: Exam reimbursements		285
Prepaid National Dues		145
Total Assets		<u><u>34,052</u></u>

Liabilities

New Website final installment		2,425
Member dues received for subsequent fiscal year		48
Scholarship Donations		0
Member donations for 2014-15		0
Total Liabilities		<u>2,473</u>

Fund Balance:

Beginning Fund Balance		31,687
Operating Income or (Excess Expense)		-108
Fund Balance		
Net Fund Balance		<u>31,579</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance		<u><u>34,052</u></u>

Sub Dean's Report 2015

We kicked off the year on a crisp final summer day with a picnic on the Lake Erie shore. Don Shultzaberger graciously hosted 59 members in his lovely Lakewood home. We continued in October with a choral anthem reading session at Church of the Gesu in University Heights.

Dr. Roberta Gary educated us in Body Mapping in a masterclass at Church of the Covenant. She explained to a diverse group of college students and professionals what musicians need to know about movement and the body. Later that month, NYACOP winner Jonathan Rudy gave an outstanding performance at St. John's Cathedral.

We celebrated the New Year with an Epiphany Party at the home of our dean Paul Guyer (where I discovered our shared passion for Lego blocks). Twelve members braved a fierce snowstorm to party!

Robert Moncrief hosted the Quimby Competition in February at Fairmount Presbyterian Church. The competitors were Cory Burris, sophomore at Oberlin and student of Jonathan Moyer, from Phoenix Arizona and Garrett Law, sophomore at CIM and student of Todd Wilson, from Sylvania Ohio. Mr. Law placed first and Mr. Burris second. Congratulations!

James O'Donnell, Organist and Master of the Choristers of Westminster Abbey, performed at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in March. By all accounts the performance was masterful. We ended the season with a Psalm Festival hosted by Jonathan Moyer, followed by our Annual Meeting.

As in all years, the Program Committee sought high quality and balance. We had events on the east side, west side, and downtown. We had social events, educational events, and performances. We had students, professionals, and fans. Thank you to the Program Committee, Barbara MacGregor, and David von Behren, for their guidance in program matters and to Cleveland chapter members who served as hosts or contact persons for the year's events. It takes the work of a full chapter to have quality programming and I enjoyed working with everyone. It was a very good year!

Matt Skitzki, Sub-Dean

Examinations Report

There were no applicants for either the service playing or CAGO exams in the fall of 2014. The Cleveland Chapter will administer 4 CAGO exams in May 2015. Two candidates have registered as students, one candidate has registered as a member and one as a non-member. For the spring 2015 testing period, there were no applications for service playing. As a regional center, we also had no applicants for the AAGO or FAGO exams in this time frame.

Ginny Roedig, Education and Exams Coordinator

Quimby Competition Report

The Quimby Competition was held on Saturday February 28, 2015 at Fairmount Presbyterian Church, Cleveland Heights. The competitors were Cory Burris, sophomore at Oberlin and student of Jonathan Moyer, from Phoenix, Arizona and Garrett Law, sophomore at CIM and student of Todd Wilson, from Sylvania, Ohio. Mr. Law placed first and Mr. Burris second. Mr. Burris played Bach's Trio Sonata VI in G Major (Vivace, Lento), Toccata from Boellmann's Suite Gothique, and Wadsworth's Variations on an Old American Tune. Mr. Law played Bach's Trio Sonatas V in C Major (Allegro, Largo), Franck's Choral III in A Minor, and also Wadsworth's Variations on an Old American Tune. The candidates also each played a hymn with the audience singing along. Judges Nicole Keller, Timothy Robson, and Anne Wilson were challenged to make a decision between two very strong candidates. Mr. Law will compete on the regional level at Indianapolis this summer.

Robert Moncrief, Coordinator for the chapter Quimby competition

Registrar's Report

We have 144 members as of April 15, 2015.

Our membership is split into the following categories:

	2014-15	2013-14	2012-13	2011-12	2010-11
MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY					
Regular	65	74	77	87	98
Special	51	50	56	62	58
Student	6	4	5	7	10
Partner	3	3	3	2	3
Dual	5	5	5	8	8
Student Dual	0	4	1	0	2
Chapter Friends	10	13	17	10	13
Honorary	4	4	4	3	3
TOTAL	144	157	168	179	195

Our Honorary Members are:

Tony Bianchi
Karen McFarlane Holtkamp
Karel Paukert
Todd Wilson

The following members passed away during the year:

Ginny Mitchell

Christopher Toth, Registrar

Installation of Officers

Installing Official: The Cleveland Chapter of the American Guild of Organists presents for installation the following duly elected officers.

Dean, Paul Guyer, CAGO

Sub Dean, Matt Skitzki, SPC

Secretary, Janice Jones, SPC

Treasurer, Don Jackson

For Executive Committee (Term Expires 2018):

David von Behren

Joy Parker

James Storry

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. (Applause is appropriate.)