



American Guild of Organists

Cleveland Chapter

March 2007

FROM THE DEAN

LENT – LENTO?

By now, we surely must be enjoying the burgeoning spring weather – dare we hope? As organists, we are staring at the season of Lent and are busily planning all the services. For some of us, there are mid-week Lenten services in addition to that marathon called Holy Week. (We won't even mention the ever-popular Easter Sunrise service.) This is a busy season that passes in a blur – hardly slow like our musical expression “lento”. I plan ahead and, of course, difficult pieces can take months. Then there are the choir rehearsals, soloist rehearsals and the times when a minister decides to program a 24-hour prayer vigil in the middle of our practice session. (On occasion, I signed up for the vigil just to get the sanctuary for myself.) Lent is anything but slow and is constantly changing and fluctuating. Some say it's a time for reflection.

Do you reflect on our Guild? Do you attend our activities, enjoy them and, even more, thank those who have exerted themselves on your behalf? We have had some marvelous activities lately. First, there was our initial Colleague Class which was suggested and organized by Don Jackson. Some of our members shared their insights and pieces with us at Diane Cieslak's church and the morning was well-spent and very enjoyable. About 12 of us lunched afterwards and the day flew by. Thank you all!

Secondly, there was our Choral Festival which was magnificently arranged and organized by our Sub-Dean, Marcia Snavely. Special thanks go to the directors and choirs of First Baptist, Forest Hill Presbyterian, Church of the Saviour, Heights Christian and the Federated Church's ensemble for their performances. One man was heard to say that he would drive any distance to hear a concert such as that. The mass choir was stunning! Almost 200 voices were lifted in song under Dr. C.M. Shearer of

KSU. Upon my asking, the choristers said they enjoyed his direction very much. (The Cleveland Orchestra Chorus had better watch out. I think we were every bit as good in performance.) Swelling the chorus' ranks were selected parts of choirs from our other churches and individual members who enjoy singing. Bob Schneider was so generous to us. Thank you, Bob! I cannot thank all of you enough for your fine work! It gladdened my heart!

So, this month, we are resting and planning for next year. I hope that you have contacted Marcia and let her know of your suggestions or favorite Guild activity to help with planning next year's programs.

Next month's program is Sat., April 21st and will be an organ crawl featuring three area churches followed by lunch afterwards. Our last meeting(s) of the year will be Sat., May 5 for a master class and Sun., May 6 for our annual dinner meeting. Gerre Hancock will delight us with his playing and wit at Church of the Covenant. We are very grateful to Todd Wilson for his generosity to us.

So, this month, take it slowly. Plan carefully and set aside some time for yourself to regenerate in the spring weather. Soli Deo Gloria!

Blessings,
Michon (Missy) Koch, Dean

Next Executive Committee Meeting:

Monday, March 19, 2007 at 7:30 p.m.
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
3740 Mayfield Rd (at Crest)
Cleveland Hts. 44121
(216)382-4545

Next Chapter Meeting:

Saturday, April 21, 2007
Organ Crawl
Details TBA

CHORAL FESTIVAL, FEB. 11. 2007,

REVISITED

Among the many emails received the day after the Choral Festival:

“I wish to thank you, each one, for your part in the enormous gift given to me last evening at the First Baptist Church. It was a beautiful and wondrous experience. I loved every minute; I only wish hundreds and hundreds had availed themselves of the opportunity. The sounds had to have reached heaven. Thank you for your time. Thank you for your efforts. Thank you for your gifts so freely given.”

Anne Randall, attendee

“Thank you for the opportunity to share good music with lovers of singing. I had a good time too.....”

C.M. Shearer, Conductor, Mass Choir

Special thanks to the participating choirs, their directors and accompanists:

Anne Wilson and the Forest Hills Chancel Choir who performed *Hallelujah* (from Gospel Mass) by Robert Ray and *Gate Gate* (setting of Buddhist mantra) by Brian Tate.

Jodie Ricci, Marcia Snavelly and The Federated Church Ensemble who performed *Thy Will Be Done* by Craig Courtney and *Salmo 150* (Psalm 150) by Ermani Aguiar.

Judith Higbee, Robert Day and the Church of the Saviour Chancel Choir who gave a premiere performance of *God of Beauty* by Alan Higbee with Evan Bescan, Soloist.

Dale Hukill and the Heights Christian Church Choir who performed *This Child* by Martin/Courtney and *Rock-A-My-Soul* arr. by Kirby Shaw.

Robert Schneider, Betty Meyers and the First Baptist Church Choir who performed *Jesus Paid It All* arr. By R. Sterling and *Peace Came to Earth* by K.Lee Scott with Carrie Coverdale, horn.

To Dr, C.M.Shearer and the Mass Choir who performed *Lord, Thou Hast Searched Me Out* by Willan and *Gloria* from the Heiligmesse by Haydn. Additional churches participating in the Mass Choir included Avon Lake United Church of Christ, Euclid Avenue Christian church, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (Akron), Mayfield United Methodist Church, Pearl Road United Methodist Church, St. Barnabas

Anglican Church, St. Mark Lutheran Church (Chesterland), and St. Paul's Episcopal Church (Medina).

Also, special thanks to Robert Schneider, organist and Betty Meyers, pianist who played *Fantasia on Themes by Telemann* by Victor Babin as a Prelude. And to Beth Rutkowski, soprano, Rich Shanklin, saxophone, Marcia Snavelly, piano, who performed *There is a Balm Medley*, a jazz arrangement by David Maddux.

To Robert Schneider and the staff of the First Baptist Church for hosting the event.

It truly was an evening of glorious music; we feel so privileged to have shared in it.

THANK YOU, COLLEAGUE CLASS

PARTICIPANTS

The Chapter's January Colleague's Class was a great success. We had about 30 AGO members present and about 10 members of Olmsted Community Church. The following members presented pieces: Diane Cieslak, Cliff Hill, Dale Hukill, Don Jackson, Ginny Mitchell, and Chris Toth. David Blazer was prepared, but had to play for a funeral.

We heard a variety of pieces for solo organ (J. S. Bach, Elgar, Diemer, Near, Aaron D. Miller, and Craig Phillips) and a demonstration of two contemporary hymns intended for a praise ensemble, but arranged for solo organ leadership. The offerings were diverse, interesting, and greatly appreciated by all in attendance. We hope this was the first of many such classes and look forward to having double the attendance at the next one.

--Don Jackson

Saturday, April 21st, 9a.m.-1p.m.: ORGAN CRAWL!!! In AGO members as well as we learn about 3 historic pipe organs in Cleveland's near west side. We will also have the opportunity to hear them being played and, as far as possible, even crawl about among the pipes. Meeting place is St. Stephen's at 9:00 a.m., we will then proceed to Trinity Lutheran, and end the morning at Pilgrim Congregational. Afterwards we can go to a nearby restaurant for lunch. Exact information and directions will be in the April newsletter. Please contact: Ginny Roedig with any questions: e-mail: Roedig5@msn.com, tel: 440-257-3281, home, or 440-333-4888, work (Rocky River Presbyterian Church).

ALLELUIA CORNER

“Thus Bach is the end. Nothing comes from him; everything leads to him.”

-- Albert Schweitzer

In this merry month of spring on March 21st we celebrate the 322nd birthday of J.S. Bach.

In 1977 the spacecraft Voyager was sent into space on a course taking it through the solar system. Part of its cargo was a gold coated phonograph record containing 12 hours of world-wide music including three Bach works; Brandenburg Concerto #3; Prelude-Fugue in C (Book II of the Well Tempered Clavier) and the Gavotte en Rondeaux, Partita #3 for solo violin. Astronomer Carl Sagan said that when he asked biologist Lewis Thomas of the Sloan-Kettering Institute what should be recorded and sent to other people in space, Dr. Thomas replied “Send the complete works of J.S. Bach.” Then after a pause he said “But that would be boasting.”

As appreciation of Bach’s musical craft was rare during his lifetime, I suspect that Herr Bach would be surprised to hear such tributes to his musical genius. Composer Robert Schumann told his students “Let The Well-tempered Clavier be your daily bread. Then you certainly will be come a solid musician.” In 1950 Arnold Schoenberg wrote “I used to say, ‘Bach is the first composer with twelve tones.’ This was a joke, of course...but the truth on which this statement is based is that Fugue No. 24 of The Well-Tempered Clavier, in B Minor, begins with a dux in which all twelve tones appear.” Upon study I also found that in the Fugue No.1 in Book I, all 12 tones appear an indication that he was composing Preludes and Fugues in all twelve keys. Then he did it all over again in Book II.

In the mid-1930s the New York City Ballet’s Director, George Balanchine, began choreographing Bach’s music. The Concerto Barocco, set to Bach’s Concerto for 2 violins in D Minor, was a popular repertory work and is still performed. Balanchine felt that it takes great music to make great ballet and he often quoted Ezra Pound’s observation that “Music rots when it gets too far from the dance.” Bach’s music dances.

Another part of Bach’s genius lies in his quote; “I consider my [musical] parts as if they were persons who converse together like a select company.” Sometimes that consideration is ignored by organists and pianists in their aim to play with perfect technique sans any communication between the voices, a real

loss to the listener. Music is the great communicator between all countries, sects, languages, and people; Schweitzer’s observation that “Bach is the end...” means that nothing (so far) has surpassed him in connecting people together. Rap artists, dancers, religions, musicians, countries and even the cosmos all relate to his musical language.

Bach’s interest and talent in music included his ability to sing (boy soprano), improvise, conduct, as well as play the clavier, the harpsichord, organ, lute, guitar, violin, viola, the viola, and his invention, the viola pomposa (midget cello). (Do these still exist?) In the subject of organs, he was a sought after consultant on builders and evaluations of new organs. His main complaint was that the ‘lungs’ of the instrument must be strong enough to breath through all the notes; other wise the organ would “sound like a nanny goat in distress.”

Bach is the only composer known to have landed in “jail” because he tried to quit a job he didn’t like. At the age of 32 (after a ten-year stint) he gave notice to his employer, Duke Wilhelm Ernst of Weimar that he was leaving due to a better offer and pay from the Prince of Anhalt-Cothen. The Duke placed Bach under arrest and confined him to the place of detention. His sentence was only a month, but Bach made good use of his time. Interestingly enough he was already working on his “Orgelbuchlein” (Little Organ Book), a collection of 164 small organ chorales planned to cover the liturgical year from Advent to All Souls’ Day. He completed only 45 but ran out of time due to his move to Cothen. One could only wish that his sentence had been just a little longer so that we would have more of those lovely gems.

Geburtstag!

-- Gratian M. Nugent

CHAPTER CONCERNS:

Condolences to the family of Joy Lawrence, Dean of the Cleveland Chapter of the AGO from 1959-1961, who passed away on the morning of January 27, 2007. Joy had been very active in the Guild for many years. Services were held on Friday, February 2, 2007 at Church of the Saviour.

A WEEKEND WITH GERRE HANCOCK

May 5 and 6 at the Church of the Covenant

A superb church musician, concert organist, improviser, teacher, composer - Gerre Hancock is all this and more. I hope you will join us as the Cleveland AGO and Church of the Covenant present a weekend with this Living Legend!

SAT., MAY 5

10 a.m. - Noon Open rehearsal with Gerre Hancock and the Covenant Choir

Noon - Lunch on your own (lots of nearby restaurants in Univ. Circle and Little Italy)

1:30 p.m. - Improvisation workshop by Gerre Hancock

SUN., MAY 6

4:00 p.m. - Concert: The Music of Gerre Hancock
The Covenant Choir with organ, brass and timpani. Gerre Hancock, conductor
Kevin Kwan, Todd Wilson and Gerre Hancock, organists

5:30 p.m. - AGO Annual Dinner (Covenant Dining Room)

After-dinner talk by Gerre Hancock

Mark your calendars now, and plan to be there for this memorable weekend!

Todd Wilson

P.S. National AGO recently released Vol. IV of its "Masters Series" DVDs, devoted to the remarkable career of Gerre Hancock.

NEW PIPE ORGAN INSTALLED

My church had a new pipe organ installed at Christmas.

It was built by Kegg Pipe Organs in Hartville, OH. It is most beautiful to see and hear.

☐

It is the first Kegg organ in Lorain county. This organ is not far from North Olmsted, located in downtown Elyria, OH.

If you would like more information about the organ, feel free to contact me.

☐

Thanks
Chris Trunk, AGO
member, Washington Avenue Christian Church
home ☐ 440-748-1202
cell ☐ 440-667-3002
winterberrylodge@glwb.net

ORGANLIVE PROVIDES MUSIC OF THE ORGAN AROUND THE WORLD

**Organlive.com is an Internet audio station dedicated to the music of the classical organ. Broadcasting since August 2003, Organlive has become the most-heard organ station on the Internet with the largest library of music online. The ever-growing library currently holds over 5,900 tracks from more than 500 albums of music recorded by organists all over the world.

Organlive plays albums recorded on pipe, digital, and combination organs played by the world's best concert organists, as well as tracks recorded and submitted by less renowned organists. Included are pairings of organ and orchestra, solo instruments, choir, or vocal solos. The listener is presented with the work title, composer, album title, a link to purchase the album online, the organ, it's builder, size, and location, and a link to the specification of the organ being heard. Listeners may browse the entire library searching by work, composer, organist, album, or organ and request tracks to be played. The broadcast is completely free to anyone with a broadband Internet connection and only requires the quick, automatic installation of a browser-based player to tune in.

Listeners can also tune in via Windows Media Player, WinAmp, iTunes, or any MP3 player. The audio stream reaches over 100 countries around the world, with more than 300 listeners per day tuning in. The station is funded by the listeners, and an annual budget covering all operating expenses is raised every spring.

Organlive is always accepting submissions for new music from organists, composers, and publishers. Raven, Delphian, Hyperion, and Albany Records are all label sponsors of the station. To listen to Organlive, or for more information on submitting your music, visit www.organlive.com.

AGO 2007 Election of Officers

Executive Committee (term expires 2010):

Jeanette Davis Ostrander

Jeanette Davis Ostrander received both her Bachelor and Master's degree from The Cleveland Institute of Music in piano performance. □ She has been a member of the conservatory theory faculty since 1994. □

□ Jeanette is the former organist/choir director at Church of the Western Reserve in Pepper Pike. □ In the fall of 2006, she earned the collegiate level certificate from the American Guild of Organists.

David T. Powers:

Organist-Director, the Heritage Congregational Church, Berea; Manager, Sheet Music Annex, Educator's Music, Lakewood; Past Dean (2001-2004) and Treasurer (1989-1993), of the Cleveland Chapter; Chair of Region V Convention Exhibits, 1989, 2003

It has always been a pleasure to serve the Cleveland Chapter of the AGO in various capacities over nearly thirty years of membership, and work with the fine people who share my passion of music for worship. I send greetings and warm wishes to all of my AGO colleagues.

Let me be very frank here. The ministry of music in the church is in the midst of great change, and much of this should concern all musicians worth their organ shoes. It is essential- more than ever- that we are united, not just to criticize, but more importantly, to be able to offer constructive and creative alternatives.

If this membership sees fit to return me to the Executive Committee, I will work to help create activities, and other opportunities to allow members to find creative ways to make the music ministry in their churches successful by demonstrating that organs and choirs are still very much relevant in this age where worship, in many places, has become entertainment.

Every one of us needs each other. We need the AGO, and the AGO needs us. I sincerely hope we can work together for our mutual benefit.

Sincerely,

David T. Powers

Ginny Roedig, CAGO:

I would like to serve the Cleveland AGO as a member of the executive committee.

I have been serving the Rocky River Presbyterian Church since 2002. My current duties include Director of Music (3 vocal ensembles and a handbell choir), Organist, and Director of our Artist Concert Series.

My undergraduate studies were completed at the Richard-Strauss Conservatory of Music in Munich, Germany with a degree in music pedagogy and a major in piano. Upon my return to the United States, I earned an Ohio teaching license through Cleveland State University. In 2005, I was awarded a Master's Degree in Music performance with a major in Choral Conducting from the Dana School of Music at Youngstown State University where I am still studying organ at the graduate level with Dr. Dan Laginya.

For relaxation, my husband and I are avid backpackers and enjoy multi-day bike trips. I am also very active as musical director for amateur theater groups throughout northeastern Ohio.

My goal as a member of the executive committee is to help maintain a high standard of organ music in the Greater Cleveland area. I also believe it is our responsibility as sacred musicians not only to also protect the integrity of all music offered in our places of worship but also to make this music meaningful to the congregations we serve. As an organization, the Cleveland AGO could offer members the necessary guidance, resources, and opportunities.

Christopher Toth:

Christopher Toth, a native Clevelander, is the director of music at Bethany English Lutheran Church in West Park. He is also the assistant organist at Fairmount Temple in Beachwood and St. John Nepomucene Church in Slavic Village. In addition, he directs *The Leaves*, a Roman Catholic rock band at St. Basil the Great Church in Brecksville. Christopher holds two degrees from The Cleveland Institute of Music, where he studied organ performance with Karel Paukert. He currently studies voice with David Gooding. In the secular world, Chris directs and performs music for local theater productions. Most recently he was heard in the world's first community theater production of *Cats* at Cassidy Theatre in Parma Heights.

□

PLEASE NOTE: Please send all job postings to: **Gerry Mass**, (440)884-4904, **Fax:** (440)-884-1661. **e-mail:** gerry@gerardskeyboards.com.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR: St. Paul United Church of Christ, 7507 York Rd., Parma, OH 44129. Sunday service at 10 a.m. In addition to playing the organ, this person will direct the vocal and handbell choirs. Galanti Organ. Salary negotiable beginning at \$8,500. per year minimum. Interested persons should call the church office at (440) 843-8039 to request an interview and/or for more information regarding this position.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/WORSHIP: Ridgewood United Methodist Church, 6330 Ridge Rd. Parma, OH 44129, (440) 885-1360. Coordinate and supervise the music program. Direct the Chancel Choir. Thursday evening choir rehearsal. Sunday morning performance(s) plus seasonal services. Schedule Logos Choirs, Handbell Choir, and "Beyond" and other groups/soloists for services. Paid vacation days. Salary: \$11-13,000. annually.

ORGANIST: Ridgewood United Methodist Church, 6330 Ridge Rd. Parma, OH 44129, (440) 885-1360. Thursday evening rehearsal and two Sunday morning services plus seasonal services. Weddings and funerals extra. Schantz Organ. Occasional use of piano and keyboard. Paid vacation days. Reports to Director of Music/Worship. Salary: \$10-12,000. annually. Persons interested in either position should send resume and references to the attention of Staff-Relations Committee at the Church address above or contact Gloria Homolak at 440-885-4983.

CORRECTION:

In last month's newsletter, condolences were offered to the family of John Schantz.

However, it was Bruce Schantz who had passed away.

My sincere apologies to the Schantz family.

--Linda L. Gardner, editor

REMINDER: The deadline for submitting articles to the newsletter is **midnight on the 15th** of every month. All articles should be sent to: newsletter@agocleveland.org.

CONCERTS: For complete listings, see our website: www.agocleveland.org. All concerts are free unless otherwise noted.

Wednesdays: Music Near the Market at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, West 30th St. at Lorain Avenue, Cleveland. CONTACT: Florence Mustric: 216.321.1393. Featuring the world-famous von Beckerath organ. **FREE** concerts **AT NOON** on Wednesdays.

March 7: Florince Mustric: "Phillip Glass Meets Mission Impossible." Giles Swayne's "Riff-Raff" plus music by Gardner Read and Milos Sokola.

March 14: Kevin Kwan: "Bach and Mendelssohn." Mendelssohn's Sonata No. 1 and Bach's Fantasia and Fugue in G minor.

March 21 and 28: Robert Myers: "Passion Music" - music by Bach, Brahms and Walcha.

Sunday, March 11 at 5:00 p.m.: Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1250 W. Exchange Street, Akron, 330-836-2226. *Choral Delights.* **The University of Akron Concert Choir, Samuel Gordon, Director.**

Sunday, March 18 at 4:00 p.m.: Fairmount Presbyterian Church, 2757 Fairmount Blvd., Cleveland Heights, 216-321-5800. **Chamber Music for a March Afternoon.** **Janina Ceasor, harpsichord** virtuoso and teacher at CIM is joined by Fairmount singers Rebecca Hoke, soprano and Paul Clarke, tenor.

Sunday, March 18 at 7:00 p.m.: Bethany English Lutheran Church, 15460 Triskett Rd, Cleveland, (216) 941-7880. **Lutheran High School West Choirs** in concert. Hear the talented members of the Chorale and Singers present sacred music from the Renaissance to the 21st century. Free will offering.

Sunday, March 18 at 7:00 p.m.: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 50 North Prospect Street, Akron, 330-376-5154. **The Cleveland Orchestra Chamber Chorus, Robert Porco, Conductor,** will present a complete performance of Sergei Rachmaninoff's *Vespers* (All Night Vigil, Op. 37). General admission tickets are available for a donation of \$20 each. Ticket order forms can be obtained from the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Office.

Sunday, March 18 at 7:45 p.m.: **Music Under the Spire** at Baldwin-Wallace College, Lindsay-Crossman Chapel, 56 Seminary Street, Berea. **Sacred Works by Liszt.** **Daniel Barber**, pianist, will perform Liszt's *Sonata in B minor and other piano works by Liszt.*

Monday, March 19 at 7:30 p.m.: The Church of the Covenant, 11205 Euclid Avenue (University Circle), Cleveland, 216-421-0482. **Bach Birthday Organ Concert - Todd Wilson** and CIM organ majors celebrate Johann Sebastian's 322nd birthday. Birthday cake reception following the concert!

Tuesday March 20 at 7:30 p.m.: St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 2747 Fairmount Blvd., Cleveland Heights, 216-932-5815. **Copenhagen Girls' Choir,** The Copenhagen Choir School Conductor, Claus Vestergaard Jensen. Girls: Grades 6-9. Her Royal Highness, The Princess Benedikt, Patroness. Freewill offering

Thursdays, March 22, 29 and April 5 at 12:15 p.m.: The Church of the Covenant, 11205 Euclid Avenue (University Circle), Cleveland, 216-421-0482. **Thursday Lenten Noontime Series.** Music and meditation in the sanctuary, followed by a simple lunch in the Reception Room (at nominal cost).

Sunday, March 25 at 4:00 p.m.: Westlake United Methodist Church, 27650 Center Ridge Road, Westlake, 440-871-3088. Recital of Favorite Organ and Piano duets performed by **Leslie Bauer** and **Lisa Falcione.** Free child care, freewill offering, reception following.

Sunday, March 25 at 3:00 p.m.: Cathedral of St. John, East 9th St & Superior Ave, (downtown Cleveland). **Birmingham-First Chamber Choir (Birmingham MI), Tom Trenney, director**
Sing me to Heaven: Works by: J.S. Bach, Chatman, Tavener, Leighton, Parry, Parker, Shaw, Hancock, Jackson
From the sublime motet, *Jesu Meine Freude*, by Johann Sebastian Bach, to a poignant setting of Christina Rossetti's poem, "Remember," to a reassuring collection of African-American spirituals, the Birmingham-First Chamber Choir promises an afternoon of uplifting sounds for the soul. The Birmingham-First Chamber Choir is composed of 24 of the finest choral voices from across the Detroit Metro Area.
FREE concert; Free secure parking in Cathedral Garage on Rockwell Ave.

Wednesday, March 28 at 12:00 p.m.: Westbrook Park United Methodist Church, 2521 12th St. NW, Canton. 330-456-4797. Free. **Carol Neff, CAGO,** will perform a Lenten Organ Concert.

Wednesday, March 28 at 7:30 p.m.: Fairmount Presbyterian Church, 2757 Fairmount Blvd., Cleveland Heights, 216-321-5800. **City Music Cleveland Concert.** The orchestra performs music by Stravinsky, Brouwer, and Mozart. **Soloist Michi Wiancko, violin and James Gaffigan, Conductor.**

NAME THE NEWSLETTER CONTEST

The contest continues. We have had four entries thus far. You still have time to enter the contest. While sitting on the bench, listening to yet another long, boring sermon, you could be thinking of some names. Send in your ideas to newsletter@agocleveland.org. The Prize: **WHO KNOWS?** Perhaps someone could send in ideas for that, too. Deadline: Easter Sunday.

JR/SR HIGH ORGAN COMPETITION:

The Oklahoma City Chapter AGO and Oklahoma City University are proud to announce the Second Annual Junior/Senior High School Organ Competition to be held at Oklahoma City University on Saturday, April 14, 2007. Attached is the registration form and rules. These can also be perused and downloaded at OCU's web site: www.okcu.edu/music/organ.

Please forward this on to your members, particularly those who have high school or younger students, and put in your newsletters.

Up to ten competitors will be accepted.

Here is a summary of the details:

What: Junior/Senior High Organ Competition
Where: Oklahoma City University
When: Saturday, April 14, 2007 (Deadline for application postmark: March 1)

First Prize: \$1000; Second Prize: \$500; Winner's recital with OCU organ professor, Timothy Olsen

Requirements: One Bach work; one contrasting work; one hymn (chosen from list given in rules).

Housing/meals can be provided if necessary; travel must be covered by competitor.

Sincerely,
Timothy Olsen, DMA
Wanda L. Bass Chair
Assistant Professor of Organ
Oklahoma City University
405-208-5013 (o)
405-535-8124 (c)
tolsen@okcu.edu



American Guild of Organists

Cleveland Chapter

March 2007

QUICKGUIDE: CLEVELAND CHAPTER AGO 2006-2007

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American Guild of Organists, Cleveland Chapter Music Scholarship Application for Organ or Choral Study

The Cleveland Chapter of the AGO is pleased to make available several scholarships of up to \$750 each to encourage the study of organ or choral music. Eligible are those who reside or study in the Greater Cleveland area. These scholarships are one-time grants and are not renewable. The scholarships are to be used by May 2008 only for continuing education in organ or choral study. This covers music-related school tuition or private music lesson fees. The application must be post-marked by March 31, 2007.

Name (please print) _____

Address _____

Phone (include area code) _____ E-mail _____

How would you use these funds? (Check all that apply)

_____ Music-related School Tuition at (school): _____

Are you currently enrolled in this school? _____ yes _____ no

Please include a letter of recommendation from one of your school's music faculty. Ask this person to describe your proposed course of study, to provide an evaluation of your work, and to include his/her phone number.

_____ Private Lessons with (teacher): _____

Please provide a letter of recommendation from your teacher. Ask your teacher to describe your proposed course of study, to evaluate your work, and to include his/her phone number.

What would you study with these funds?

_____ Organ Study _____ Choral Music Study

Personal Statement

After the application deadline, finalists will be contacted to schedule an audition for the Scholarship Committee. Please include on a separate sheet of paper why music study is important to you and how this scholarship would help you to meet your specific study goals.

A short solo piece of your choosing will be required as well as playing two verses of a hymn. A two manual organ or a piano will be available for the audition. Organ students of varying degrees of ability are encouraged to apply, including beginning organ students.

Send this completed application to: **AGO Scholarship Committee, c/o Carol Neff, 3750 Avondale Road, Cleveland, OH 44122.** A decision will be made by May 31, 2007. Applicants will be informed by letter.

I understand the rules for this scholarship application and state that all the information I have provided the committee is truthful to the best of my ability. If awarded a scholarship, a check will be issued to the school or private lesson teacher. I understand that applying for this scholarship in no way guarantees that I will receive any funds.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Oklahoma City University/Oklahoma City AGO
Junior/Senior High School Organ Competition
2007 Rules

The competition is open to any organ student who is a high school senior or younger.

Contestants are to choose two contrasting works from the following:

A Bach Prelude & Fugue (including the "8 Little"), Toccata & Fugue, Fantasy & Fugue, or movement(s) from a trio sonata or concerto.

A contrasting work from the 19th, or 20th-21st century repertoires.

Contestants must also prepare the leading of a hymn (introduction & three stanzas with appropriate registration, reharmonizations, descants, or other embellishments) chosen from the following hymns:

"Abide with Me" (Eventide), United Methodist Hymnal #700

"All Creatures of Our God and King" (Lasst uns erfreuen), UMH #62

"Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness" (Schmücke dich), UMH #612

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" (Lobe den Herren), UMH #139

"When in Our Music God Is Glorified" (Engelberg), UMH #68

Each competitor is required to provide two letters of recommendation, one of which must be from the competitor's primary organ teacher. The second may be from any other musician who knows the competitor's abilities, studies, performances, etc. The number of contestants will be limited to a maximum number of ten. If applications are received from more than ten players, letters of recommendation (along with personal contact with referrers) will be used to reduce the number of contestants to ten.

There will be a 30 minute time limit on the entire performance (repertoire & hymn).

Completed application forms, letters of recommendation, and \$30 application fee (checks may be made payable to: Oklahoma City University) must be postmarked by March 1, 2007, and sent to the following:

Dr. Timothy Olsen

Wanda L. Bass Chair of Organ

Oklahoma City University – Wanda L. Bass School of Music

2501 North Blackwelder

Oklahoma City, OK 73106-1493

tolsen@okcu.edu (405) 208-5013

The use of photocopied or other illegally reproduced copyrighted scores of music is strictly prohibited, and will disqualify any competitor from participation in the competition. Exceptions to this rule apply only to reductions and to pages duplicated for the purpose of facilitating page turns.

Page turners will be made available upon the contestant's request; no assistance will be allowed for registration.

Practice time will be arranged in advance after applications have been received. Ample time will be provided.

Scores of the pieces to be performed must be furnished upon request.

Every effort will be made to house contestants (if requested) in Oklahoma City AGO member homes.

The order of performance on the competition day will be drawn at random prior to the competition.

Oklahoma City University/Oklahoma City Chapter AGO
Junior/Senior High School Organ Competition
Application Form

Saturday, April 14, 2007
Bishop W. Angie Smith Chapel
Oklahoma City University

Name: _____ Birth date: _____

Address: _____ Telephone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ E-mail: _____

School currently attending: _____

Grade level: _____ Current organ teacher: _____

Teacher's phone number: _____

Second letter of recommendation from: _____
(See rules about letters of recommendation)

Phone number of recommender: _____

Music Choices:

Bach work (include BWV #): _____

Contrasting work (title & composer): _____

Hymn choice and stanzas: _____

Application Due (postmarked) by March 1, 2007.

Application, letters of recommendation, and \$30 application fee (checks made payable to Oklahoma City University) should be sent to the following:

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Oklahoma City University
Wanda L. Bass School of Music 2501 N. Blackwelder
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