



American Guild of Organists

Cleveland Chapter

August 2007

FROM THE DEAN

SOMETHING OF YOURSELF

Welcome back! This is the first newsletter of the season and we are so excited to share all our news with you. It is both an honor and a privilege to communicate with you every month and I hope our missives will be stimulating, educational and motivating.

Last year (and this year), we stressed inviting someone you knew to join our ranks, if you will pardon the pun. I've invited someone to join us and I hope you have too. We can all get together at Ginny Roedig's home for a picnic on Sept. 23rd for our first chapter meeting. She lives right on Lake Erie so come and be prepared to relax by the water.

We also wish to add another facet to our relationship this year. I had the privilege of representing you at the Ohio Chapter Dean's meeting convened by Dr. Paul Barte this past May. We compared notes as to what various chapters are doing and something caught my attention, so we are going to try it.

I'm going to ask you for – money!

That's right! We've NEVER asked you for anything before unless it was to help with refreshments or your church to hold a program. And we absolutely never, but never, have asked you for money!

Here's the deal. Another Ohio Chapter has a small funding drive every year and uses that money for its Chapter Scholarships. They raise over \$1000 every year – and this is a small chapter. This past

year, we took our scholarship money out of our Magellan Fund (Savings). If we all gave a little something of ourselves – just \$5 – we could enrich our Scholarship Fund and our committee could give bigger stipends to more people to promote the education of organ students. If you think about it, we will be helping ourselves! Let's see if we can drink a few less sodas and send that contribution to our Treasurer, Juanita Schubert (1329 Mattingly Rd., Hinckley, OH 44233). Please make your check payable to Cleveland Chapter AGO and put "Scholarship Fund" on the memo line. Just think – you'll not only get a tax deduction but you'll be funding the training of your future substitute. We're not only helping ourselves, we're giving something of ourselves.

Grace and Peace,

Michon (Missy) Koch

Next Executive Committee Meeting:

Monday, August 20, 2007

Dinner Meeting at the home of Michon N. Koch

8007 Majestic Oaks Trail

Broadview Heights, OH 44147

Phone/Fax: 440.740.0737

Next Chapter Meeting:

Sunday, September 23, 2007 at 4:00 p.m.

Annual Picnic at the home of Ginny Roedig

9525 Headlands Road

Mentor, Ohio 44060.

Phone: 440.257.3281

AGO PICNIC SEPTEMBER 23rd

In spite of the warm summer weather, it's time to start looking forward to a number of promising activities with Cleveland AGO this upcoming season. Starting things off will be the annual Guild picnic at 4:00 p.m. on September 23rd at Ginny and Reinhold Roedig's house next to Mentor Headlands State Park. Spouses, partners, and friends interested in getting to know the Guild are all welcome. The address is 9525 Headlands Road, Mentor, 44060.

Per the usual format, please plan to bring a dish to share:

A-H-please bring a dessert

I-O-please bring an appetizer

P-Z-please bring a salad or side dish.

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Ginny and Reinhold live right on Lake Erie and have private access to the beach so if you like the water, don't forget your swimsuit, weather permitting. For hikers, there's a trail through the Mentor Marsh just across the street. We also have beach volleyball, can build a beach bonfire and there's a large, grassy area for the picnic dinner.

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This year we'd like to organize a music exchange, so please bring any and all sheet music you'd like to trade: octavos, organ music or anything else, and we'll try to find it a new home. We're also planning another trivia quiz so start reading through your "Grove's".

Please RSVP by Wednesday, September 20 either with e-mail to Roedig5@msn.com or phone 440-257-3281.

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We're excited to be hosting the AGO and helping to kick off the new season. More detailed directions will be in the September newsletter.

Ginny Roedig,
Executive committee, Programming committee

JARED JACOBSEN IN RECITAL

Tuesday, Aug 21 at 7:00 p.m.: The Federated Church, 76 Bell St., Chagrin Falls, OH. As part of the CHAUTAUQUA AND CHAGRIN FALLS SEASON, Jared Jacobsen, Organist and Coordinator of Worship and Sacred Music, will give an organ concert. His selections will include the Prelude and Fugue in D of Bach, Variations de Concert of Joseph Bonnet, Fireside Sketches by Joseph Clokey, and the Massey Organ's signature piece, "Largo" from Xerxes by Handel.

This concert is one of four consecutive events going on that evening. A Gate Pass good for all the evening events is \$10. Walk-up single event tickets are \$10. Information on all the events (within walking distance of each other) and how to obtain gate passes is available at www.chagrinfalls.net/Chautauqua.

JAMES WELCH AT LAKE ERIE COLLEGE

James Welch will perform on the newly renovated E. M. Skinner Organ at Morley Music Hall at Lake Erie College in Painesville.

James Welch, Organist, joined the Santa Clara Music Department faculty in 1993. He also serves as organist of St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Palo Alto. He received the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in organ performance from Stanford University, with further studies in France and Austria. He has concertized internationally, with performances in such prestigious venues as Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, the Leipzig Gewandhaus, National Cathedral in Washington DC, and the Mormon Tabernacle in Salt Lake City. He has also performed and taught in Beijing, Taipei, Hong Kong, New Zealand, and Jerusalem. A particular interest of his is Latin American organ music. He received a Fulbright award to perform and conduct research in Brazil; since then he has performed in Mexico and edited three volumes of organ music by Mexican composers. He has performed at conventions of the American Guild of Organists and at the International Congress of Organists; his articles have appeared in The American Organist and The Diapason; and he has released numerous CDs, recorded on a variety of organs.

ALLELUIA CORNER

“We do not see the world as it is. We see the world as we are.” ...from the Talmud

These wonderful words, still fitting for many of us in the 21st century, are from the 4th (?) century Talmud, (a Hebrew word for ‘instruction’). It is a body of Law and Tradition in the Jewish religion, a collection of teachings set down over the centuries by Jewish scholars. Tradition teaches us that Moses not only received the Ten Commandments from God on Mount Sinai but was also given a set of oral laws to be handed down by mouth from one generation to another. Several hundred years later, it became necessary to write down the oral law (too much to remember!), and was so accomplished by Rabbi Judah in Palestine about 200 A.D. It included the following subjects: Agriculture, the Sabbath and festivals, marriage, civil and criminal law, ritual sacrifices and cleanliness. It’s interesting to note that most of these subjects are still on the law books in today’s society.

These orders were further subdivided into 63 books and called the Mishnah, meaning the second law. Its oral explanation was later called the Gemara and these two parts make up the Talmud which today is considered of a divine nature. One can only speculate the centuries of thought and teaching that went into the Talmud, one part dealing with the law and the other containing stories, legends and sermons, the whole book being an invaluable history of ancient Middle Eastern civilizations.

It is refreshing to read of a community whose basic attitude to the law is one of strong discipline and a guide to righteous living as still evidenced today in many neighborhoods (in spite of the ‘thug’ wars now encroaching upon our cities.) These ‘laws’ also helped unite the Jewish people while involved in frequent migrations to Mesopotamia, Palestine, all including Canaanite, Syriac, and Hellenistic Greek elements. Later Jewish migrations also involved Arabic-Islamic, Spanish, Turkish areas, and still later German, Poland, Russia, West and Central Europe, the USA and Israel.

Because of such vast migrations over the centuries, the Jewish musical tradition has been an oral one. This continuity resulted in several features of Jewish music that remain evident: its music is vocal, preferably solo (chant) and can be improvisational according to set rules, motifs and modes. Lacking instruments (some too heavy for migrants to carry) the music is usually a chant or responsorial with set

rules for melismas and stereotyped texts, particularly those Hebrew prayers more than 1500 years old.

The first (!) systematic codification of the entire oral tradition of Jewish music world-wide was undertaken by Idelsohn in 1914-1932 in his *Hebraisch-orientalischer Melodienschatz* (Leipzig) and includes the traditions of the oriental Jews and the musical remnants of the Spanish Jews of the Mediterranean areas. Also included were the western and eastern Hebrew folksongs from the European tradition. Unfortunately the Jewish centers of Idelsohn’s time no longer exist, and Jewry as a whole, has been entirely uprooted in Germany, Poland and Austria so historic information from there is scarce.

Jewish instrumental music is rare. Most of the very ancient instruments were made of wood, stone or bone. Later excavations found Canaanite bronze cymbals and earthenware rattles along with lyres, kitharas and a single-reed clarinet. The temple trumpets depicted on the Arch of Titus in Rome are probably the last record of instruments played by the Jews in Palestine in antiquity. It was firmly believed by the Christian Church Fathers that God had granted Jews special, well known musical gifts, still in evidence in today’s outstanding musicians worldwide. This special artistic intimacy as revealed in those ancient writings in the Talmud is powerful and can easily apply to us in our lifelong historical musical journey:

“...we may not see or hear the world as it is, but we can make music alive in the world as we are.”

May we too have the gifts and courage to make our music live for generations to come.

Gratian M. Nugent

AGO Columbus 2007

The Region V convention took place in Columbus, Ohio on June 25 through June 28, 2007. The convention opened on a Monday. This was my sixteenth consecutive convention and it was the first time that one had started on a Monday. I thought it was brilliant planning until I heard that there was a scheduling conflict with the hotel, the Hyatt on Capitol Square. Another thing that I appreciated was that the convention did not take place over the July 4th holiday.

The opening program was a Brass Spectacular and Hymn Festival taking place at Saint Mary Church (Schuelke, 1902 / Muller, 2001), with Richard Webster conductor. Many of us are familiar with his arrangements for brass, organ and choir. There is nothing like a room full of 350 organists singing, often in 4-part harmony. It was a grand way to open the week.

Tuesday morning found us in the city of Delaware. The opening recital was Huw Lewis on the Klais (1980) 4 manual tracker instrument in Gray Chapel of Ohio Wesleyan University. After that we moved to Asbury United Methodist Church (Klais, 2007) to hear a recital of flute and organ duet music. The performers were Steven Egler, organ and Francis Shelly, flute. The afternoon was a round of workshops and then the first of three worship services. We gathered at First Congregation Church for A Liturgy of Music. This beautiful worship space has a newly restored Kimball pipe organ (1931) in the chancel and a large, bright von Beckerath (1972) in the gallery. Needless to say that the planners made full use of both instruments. Dinner, the first of three included with the registration, was held in the church basement. Following dinner we proceeded to Broad Street Presbyterian (Möller, 1937 / Schantz, 1986) to hear a concert performed by Mary Preston. She concluded her program with the Jongen "Sonata Eroica." It was quite a day of music.

Wednesday morning found us at Capitol University to hear the competition winner's recital. Mees Hall, on Capitol's campus, houses a Schantz (2005) with beautifully painted façade pipes on either side of the stage. The winner was Kirk M. Rich, who is a student of Douglas Reed at the University of Evansville (IN). His recital included pieces ranging from J. S. Bach to Thierry Escaich. I think we will be hearing more from this young man. After lunch and another series of workshops we headed to Saint Agatha Church (Bedient, 2006) to hear an all French music recital played by Carole Terry. Choral

Evensong was held at St. Mark's Episcopal Church following a third set of workshops. Each worship experience began with a full 30 minute organ prelude, played by the local organists, with music appropriate to the style of worship. Following dinner at the hotel we were off to Saint Joseph Cathedral to hear the new Fritts (2006). This instrument is stunning both visually and aurally. Craig Cramer was scheduled to be the recitalist of the evening but due to a sudden eye problem, in Germany, he had to cancel. Filling in for him was David Higgs. David had played a program at the cathedral earlier in the spring so he was familiar with the instrument. During the intermission of this recital Dorothy Riley was honored for her contribution to the world of organ music. For more than 40 years she was a vast wealth of knowledge at the University Music House.

The recital concluded with Maurice Duruflé's "Suite pour Orgue, Op. 5" ending in a fiery Toccata. The audience erupted in thunderous applause. Many of us have heard David play. Enough said.

Thursday began with a concert by the Columbus Children's Choir, Sandra Mathias, director, at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Worthington. Their sound was pure and lovely. This college property is actually owned by the Pope and is the only pontifical college outside of Italy. Following the fourth and final set of workshops we attended a concert honoring Wilbur Held at Trinity Episcopal Church, a place where he had been music director and organist for more than 30 years. Five of his former students played his compositions. Wilbur Held is 92 years young and is still composing. One of the flute / organ recital pieces was a new piece by Mr. Held on "Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley." Carol and I will be sharing this piece on our next "4 Hands" concert. The program closed with Mr. Held, himself, at the organ playing his own music. Solemn Vespers were held at Saint Joseph Cathedral and then we gathered at First Congregational Church for dinner. The closing concert was held there at First Congregational Church. The concert was divided into three parts. James David Christie played a short recital on the von Beckerath followed by a short recital by Jane Parker Smith on the Kimball. Each recitalist chose music perfectly suited to the instrument they were playing. To close the concert, and the week, Richard Webster returned to the conductor's podium. Jean Langlais' "Missa Salve Regina" filled the space as two organs, antiphonal brass, men's chorus and the audience participated. It was glorious sound. A little snippet of heaven? Maybe!

--Carmen Massaro

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: Lake Shore Christian Church, 28010 Lake Shore Boulevard, Euclid, Ohio 44132, 216/289-2226. WEEKLY SUNDAY SERVICE AT 10:30 A.M. Thursday evening rehearsal at 7:30 P.M. 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.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC/ORGANIST: Divinity Lutheran Church, 11877 Blossom Ave., Parma Hts., OH 44130. Part-time position. Masters degree preferred. This person will be the principal organist. Direct vocal and bell choirs. Co-ordinate liturgical and contemporary worship. New Rodgers/Ruffati Organ. Salary: approximately \$20,000. a year. Send resume to church address above.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Middleburgh Hts. Community Church United Church of Christ, 7734 Big Creek Parkway, Middleburgh Hts., OH 44130. Co-ordinate music ministry of the Church (includes children's choir, signing choir, and handbell choir (under separate directors). Rehearse and direct adult Chancel Choir. Weekly choir rehearsal and one Sunday service with several special services during the year. Salary: \$11,500.-12,000. a year. Send resume to staff@mhccucc.org as well as to njh0312@sbcglobal.net

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Pilgrim United Church of Christ, 130 Broad Blvd., Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221. (330) 928-4847. One Sunday service (plus holiday services). Requirements: Proficiency in playing organ and piano and the ability to direct choir. Responsibilities: Co-ordinate music ministry of the Church, playing organ and piano, direct the adult choir, and develop youth and children's choir. Salary range: \$10,000.-13,000. a year. Interested parties should contact the church office at the phone number above or by e-mail: Pilgrimoffice@ameritech.net

CANTOR: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, 28455 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake, OH 44145. For

one traditional liturgical Sunday service at 11:00 a.m. September-May. Cantor and vocal soloist. Rehearsal times to be arranged with the organist. Potential to become choir section leader. \$50. per week. Contact Don Jackson at (216) 991-3432 (days) or (440) 356-7139 (evenings).

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.

August 1 & 8: Florence Mustric performs "Let's have some fun!" music by Robert Elmore, Maurice Duruflé, Guy Bovet, and others.

August 15 & 22: Robert Myers and Brittany Kubiak, violin, perform "Scarlatti and Bach transcriptions."

August 29: Graham Schultz performs "Ave maris stella," music by Marcel Dupré, Dietrich Buxtehude, Jean Langlais, and Flor Peeters.

Tuesday, Aug 21 at 7:00 p.m.: The Federated Church, 76 Bell St., Chagrin Falls, OH. As part of the CHAUTAUQUA AND CHAGRIN FALLS SEASON, Jared Jacobsen, Organist and Coordinator of Worship and Sacred Music, will give an organ concert. His selections will include the Prelude and Fugue in D of Bach, Variations de Concert of Joseph Bonnet, Fireside Sketches by Joseph Clokey, and the Massey Organ's signature piece, "Largo" from Xerxes by Handel.

Sunday, September 9 at 4:00 p.m.: Lake Erie College • 391 West Washington Street • Painesville, Ohio 44077. 440.296.1856 • 440.942.3872 • 800.533-4996. James Welch, organist. Music by Bach, Ginastera, Camin, Estrada, MacMillan, Bossi, St. Saens, and Schmidt.



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Cleveland Chapter

August 2007

QUICKGUIDE: CLEVELAND CHAPTER AGO 2006-2007

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