



American Guild of Organists

Cleveland Chapter

September 2007

FROM THE DEAN

ENERVATING, ENERGIZING – REFRESHED!

What a tumultuous summer it has been – at least for me. Perhaps it was the same for you. My husband, Fred, and I have moved. No, our “former” house has not yet sold so we are trapped in that vicious cycle of keeping up/cleaning two homes for a while. That is so enervating. I expect that’s also how you felt at the end of the musical year in late May or June. We were both ready to sit down for a little while and rest.

But something happens when we do – at least for me. My mind starts to work and I begin to plan and think of the coming season and what I would like to do and when. I mentally begin blocking things out in my mind and then rush to put them on paper. When we begin to plan or to think of what we would like to perform in the coming year, things begin to move again. How energizing and we are filled with vigor and excitement.

This cycle enables us to return refreshed from our summer sabbatical and begin the new musical year with increased interest and joy.

So let us start by refreshing ourselves by the shore of Lake Erie at the Roedig’s wonderful beachside home. Don’t forget to bring any extra or unwanted music for our exchange and brush up on your trivia for a musical game.

October 17th, we will co-sponsor the Winchester Cathedral Choir (England) at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist with Greg Heislman hosting. This is the third consecutive year to enjoy a magnificent choir concert in great surroundings. It is always well-attended and beautifully performed.

Watch this newsletter for more details.

And one more thing – did you remember to assist our Scholarship Fund if you are able? This is the first time we’re trying this approach and it will be discussed thoroughly at our Executive Committee meeting as to its effectiveness. Plan for the future and support our student organists by mailing a contribution (with Scholarship Fund on the memo line of your check) to Juanita Schubert, our Treasurer.

Grace and Peace,
Michon (Missy) Koch, Dean

Next Executive Committee Meeting:

Monday, October 15, 2007 at 7:30 p.m.
Olmsted Community Church
7853 Main Street
Olmsted Falls, Ohio 44138
440-235-3326
Diane Cieslak, Hostess

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

September is upon us and it's time to start a new year of activities with Cleveland AGO. We'll be kicking off the year with our annual picnic at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, September 23rd. This year the picnic will be held at the home of Ginny and Reinhold Roedig next to the Mentor Headlands State Park. The address is 9525 Headlands Road, Mentor 44060. Spouses, partners, and friends interested in getting to know the Guild are all welcome.

Ginny and Reinhold will provide paper products, table settings, condiments and entrees. Marcia Snavely has kindly offered to supply the wine. 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

Also, please bring your own folding chairs if you have them.

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 bonfire and there's a large, grassy area for a picnic dinner.

This year we'd like to organize a sheet music exchange so bring any and all 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 brushing up on your facts.

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

We're excited to be hosting the AGO and help jumpstart the new season.

Directions to the picnic:

From the Northwest or Northeast part of Cleveland: Take Route 2 to the Route 44 exit. Go north (left) until you are directly in front of Mentor Headlands. Route 44 ends here. Turn left onto Headlands Road. Follow this about half a mile. Our house is on the right-hand side.

If you are coming from the South and can access Route 44 directly, just follow above directions from the Headlands.

Parking:

There is limited room for parking on our property. If you are able to walk about 1/4 mile, please park in the lot used for the Zimmerman Trail. After turning onto Headlands Road, the lot is approximately 1/4 mile on the left-hand side of the road. Then proceed on foot to our house a few houses down the road on the right.

Ginny Roedig,
Executive committee, Programming committee

FREE ORGAN RECITALS TO PROMOTE NEW CD: "BACH 24"

Organist Brian Hoffman is in the process of organizing a concert tour for Fall 2007 - Summer 2008 in which he will be performing the complete Preludes and Fugues of J.S. Bach. Each recital will feature different selections from that list and each program will be different from the next. Each recital will be professionally recorded and at the end of the tour, a CD set will be released featuring 24 Preludes & Fugues on 24 different organs. Every recital is offered free of charge to churches and/or AGO guilds which, in turn, may charge an admission/donation fee for their own fundraising purposes. If you are interested in scheduling a recital for your church or guild, please contact Mr. Hoffman at briansky@gotsky.com or 518.797.3346. Also, for more info, please go to www.brianhoffmanorganist.com.

CHAPTER CONCERNS:

Condolences to Madelon Van Deusen and family on the passing of Madelon's husband, Donald.

Condolences to the Schantz family on the passing of Victor.

FROM THE EDITOR:

I wish to personally thank Dave Powers and Tim Robson for putting the newsletter out for the May and June issues as I recovered from surgery. They did a fantastic job.

I also wish to thank everyone who prayed for me during my convalescence and as I go through chemo. I am halfway done. Chemo has slowed me down somewhat, but not altogether. It is my great pleasure to be the editor of the Cleveland American Guild of Organists Newsletter.

Linda L. Gardner

ALLELUIA CORNER

“We speak with more than our mouths. We listen with more than our ears.”

“Life’s Journeys According to Mister Rogers”
-- Fred Rogers

There are times, when hearing someone play or sing in a musical setting, I become totally lost in the marvelous sound and the message. I am exactly where I want to be in that aural space and I rejoice and become ‘all ears’. However, more often than not, I have also become aware of my simply listening to music in a state of emptiness, hoping for those precious banquets of sounds that feed my soul, my body, my nerves, my life. It’s not only in music this awareness may occur, but also in other aural circumstances. For example, an illiterate, croaking speaker can often speak out a glorious truth that not even the most learned orator-professor can match in truth and conviction. And the most amazing realization of all is that we know it – for we ‘listen with more than our ears.’

Therefore, it is on dangerous ground musicians stand, for our audience is ‘all ears.’ With the extensive learning, practice, repertoire and degrees we may have, plus the vast power of instruments under our hands and the acoustics at work in our midst, how do we reach others? We blazingly venture into that sacred ear, that aural space embedded in a body of nerves, blood, flesh, bone, plus an electrical system too complicated and awesome in its spiritual power to understand. My dear colleagues, people listen with more than their ears – they listen to the God within you speaking a beloved language of sound and beauty along with an authority that defines life beyond measure. Your efforts are precious food to the souls within your care. How will you be remembered? I pray it is with great joy and appreciation when you have spoken with more than your mouth.

Over the years I have worked mainly in five churches, (Church of Unity, Presbyterian, Methodist, UCC and Episcopal), some of which I still visit as a musician. I must admit that I shake my head in disbelief when parishioners tell me that they know that I’m playing the organ or the piano as they are coming down the stairs or through the hallway even before entering the sanctuary. To me I sound (hopefully) like anyone else. To others my sounds (as are yours) are unique, for my ‘religionship,’ is audible and the music of my scared silly soul dares to breathe conviction. All I know is that when I play I am lost in that marvelous world of sound that speaks to the air, to that power of

life eternal.

When teaching students, their unique powers of creation is the one thing I stress more than any other – that the sound is made not of notes, rules, technique, etc... but of a blazing conviction, love, study, understanding and command. The real essence of the performer is more than a rigid set of rules that someone created. For, as helpful rules may be, it is our soul’s music that truly has command over the melodies we sing through the keyboard.

If I may paraphrase Mister Rogers’ meaningful quote, “We sing with more than our voices and we listen to music with more than our ears.”

Happy new year.

Gratian M. Nugent

FROM THE DAYTON CHAPTER

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

I send this invitation to your Cleveland AGO chapter on behalf of the Dayton Chapter of the AGO.

Paul Jacobs Master Class
Saturday, October 6, 2007
2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Paul Jacobs Concert
Sunday, October 7, 2007
4:00 p.m.

Both events are held at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Downtown Dayton, OH.
125 N Wilkinson St
Dayton, OH 45402

Both events are free and open to the public.

For more information about the Master Class please contact Rachel Spry at (937) 293-1147.

For more information about the Concert please contact John Neely at (937) 223-7285.

Thank you!
God Bless,
Rachel S. Spry, MM, CAGO
Dean, Dayton Oh chapter

FREE CHOIR ROBES:

Bethany English Lutheran Church has 37 Slabbinck choir albs to give away. You may view them online at <http://www.slabbinck.be/catalog/fiche.phtml?id=848&navid=11>. Please call Chris Toth at 216.406.0228.

THANK YOU:

Three people have sent generous donations to the Scholarship Fund. They are Don Jackson, Eleanore Robinson and Dawn Reilly. If you wish to make a contribution to the Scholarship Fund, please send your contribution to Juanita Schubert, Treasurer. Contributors will be sent a letter of receipt which can be used for tax purposes.

Thanks,
Juanita Schubert
1329 Mattingly Road
Hinckley, Ohio 44233

ORGAN COMPETITION:

The directors of The Carlene Neihart International Organ Competition Foundation held their annual meeting on June 9, 2007. Plans for the Foundations 3rd competition to be held on April 12, 2008 were completed. Please feel free to share this information with others in your area.

The Foundation, with a 501(C)(3) tax exempt status was formed to organize, present the competition, fund the prize money and sustain the future of the competition. After extensive research and study, the founding directors determined a competition of this stature is paramount for the continued development of organ performance.

The competition is held every two years. Articles about the competitions, held in the spring of 2004, and 2006 appeared in The Diapason and American Guild of Organists national magazines. This internationally recognized competition is a prestigious performing arts activity.

We urge you to give thoughtful consideration to share in this opportunity for young and talented organists to pursue their dream.

Donations of any amount would be greatly appreciated and may be made by sending a check to:
Nancy A. Stankiewicz, 8907 Foster Lane, Overland Park, Kansas 66212

Please see the web site organcompetitions.com for

more information.

Thank you,
Board of Directors
organcompetitions@yahoo.com

FREE ORGAN MUSIC:

Hello Fellow Organist,

My name is Robert Farrell. I am a composer living in Pittsburgh. I taught music in the public schools for 30 years. Now retired. I am presently looking for organists who might be interested in premiering all or some of my Preludes for organ. Two of these preludes are being published by CanticumNOVA. They will soon be looking at the rest of them. For the time being, all of these preludes can be downloaded for free from my website. Please visit this site at www.rfarrell.net/free There are also lots of my sacred choral works for free there as well. If you have no interest in this yourself, please consider passing this email on to another organist / choir director who might be interested.

Blessings to you,
Robert

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

POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

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. □ Will consider two persons to alternate this position. 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.

September 5 & 12: Florence Mustric performs “**Bach is still the best,**” music by Johann Sebastian Bach.

September 19 & 26: Robert Myers performs “**Baroque partitas,**” music by Pachelbel, Georg Böhm, and J.S. Bach.

Sunday, September 9, 2007 at 4:00 p.m.:

Greg Reese Performing Arts Center, East Cleveland Library; 14101 Euclid Avenue; East Cleveland, Ohio (541-4128). □ **"H. Leslie Adams: A Listening Party."** □ Special Return Engagement. □ Music of Leslie for voice, piano, cello and strings. □ Cavani String Quartet; Maria Corley, Pianist; Darryl Taylor, Countertenor; William Clarence Marshall, Bass; Kent Collier, Cellist. □ (Pre-concert reception 2:30 p.m.) □ Tickets ten dollars, no reserved seats, first come first served.

□
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.

Sunday, September 9 at 5:15 p.m.: Christ Church Episcopal, 21 Aurora Street, Hudson, OH 44236, 330-650-4359. **Jazz Vespers.** Jazz ensemble led by Greg Banaszak, saxophone. Greg Banaszak, soloist, recitalist and faculty member of Baldwin-Wallace College leads his combo in a Jazz Vespers service. □ The Canterbury Singers of Christ Church will join the jazz ensemble in Duke Ellington's *Come Sunday*. □ Free and open to the public. □ Handicap accessible.
www.christchurchudson.org

Sunday, September 16 at 7:00 p.m.: Bethany English Lutheran Church, 15460 Triskett Road, West Park, Cleveland, Ohio. Gabriel's Horns 21 piece jazz-praise Big Band under the direction of James May. Freewill offering.

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September 2007

QUICKGUIDE: CLEVELAND CHAPTER AGO 2006-2007

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