



The American Guild of Organists

Cleveland Chapter

May 2008

FROM THE DEAN

CHANGES

This article is being written the weekend after our Hymn Festival with K. Lee Scott. There were 17 church choirs represented in the mass chorus of over 100. Lee is a charming gentlemen from Alabama and conducted his festival in grand style with the assistance of Jim Riggs on organ and our most able Sub-Dean, Marcia Snavelly. Marcia is the person who came back from Coral Ridge, Fla and wanted Lee to come here. She worked diligently and very hard to make it happen. She deserves mammoth credit.

In line with that, I must add that Marcia Snavelly has been a spectacular Sub-Dean! She does her job with grace and decorum and is flexible beyond belief. Her musical knowledge is wide-ranging and we all owe her a debt of thanks for making these past two years so pleasant for the entire Guild. We are honored to have her in our midst. Since she is on the ballot for Dean next year, we are anxious to see what's in store for us. I can hardly wait.

Our next program, courtesy of Marcia and her capable committee of Ginny Roedig and Carmen Massaro, will be our final meeting of the year. We will meet at Lakewood Presbyterian at 4:00 p.m. with host Peg Limkemann to inspect and enjoy their new chapel organ. We will also hear a lecture from Tim Henry and have a tour. Then will follow our annual catered dinner meeting, installation of officers and a special presentation. Please come. Your partners and spouses are welcome for a

wonderful evening to finish off our year. Don't wait to make your reservations with Juanita Schubert.

Sadly, we have two excellent musicians leaving us. Daniel Hathaway from Trinity Cathedral is retiring and moving away. He has been a staple in Cleveland's musical life for over 30 years and is known for Trinity's fine musical program and, especially, his Boar's Head Festival.

The other musician who is moving away is Todd Wilson. Todd has been offered the post of full professor at Indiana and he will be leaving Cleveland in the summer after 19 years with us. Todd has been very active in the Guild and was always willing to help and support our programs and endeavors. He would invite us to co-sponsor some of his programs at Church of the Covenant and graciously support our programs. Thank you, Todd. Congratulations and best wishes!

Grace and Peace,
Michon (Missy) Koch, Dean

Next Executive Committee Meeting:

Monday, May 19, 2008 at 7:30 p.m.
Church of the Western Reserve
30500 Fairmount Blvd.
Pepper Pike, Ohio 44124
(440)-442-2220
Jeanette Ostrander, hostess

Next Chapter Meeting:

Sunday, May 4, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.
Lakewood Presbyterian Church
14502 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107
(216)-226-0514
Annual Dinner Meeting

AGO Cleveland Annual Meeting

Sunday, May 4, 4:00 p.m.

Don't forget to mark our annual banquet and meeting at Lakewood Presbyterian Church, 14502 Detroit Avenue, Lakewood. We will begin with a wonderful program organized by Peg Limkemann. Organ builder and chapter member Tim Hemry will present a talk on tracker action with a demonstration on the Ruggles organ in the Lakewood chapel. Following the talk, Peg has prepared a short concert featuring music for violin, flute and organ as well as a duet on the organ for four hands and feet. A tour of the new facility including the music room at Lakewood will be offered. At 5:30 we will adjourn for a banquet dinner in the reception hall, followed by our meeting including installation of new officers. The dinner will feature the following menu:

Appetizer: Stuffed mushrooms with ricotta,
sausage, garlic and oil
Herb roasted chicken
Penne pasta with pesto sauce
Roasted red skin potatoes
Vegetable medley
Greek salad
Dessert

Cost of the banquet dinner is \$20.00 per person. Spouses and family members are also invited. Please mail your reservation and check to Juanita Schubert, 1329 Mattingly Rd., Hinckley, OH 44233, with the number of persons attending, by April 25th. If there are questions, please contact Ginny Roedig, Tel: 440-257-3281

The church is located on Detroit Road between Bunts Road (w. 130th) and Warren, north of I-90 and south of Rt. 2.

CHAPTER CONCERNS:

Continued prayers and best wishes for a speedy recovery for Gratian Nugent, who fell and broke her leg, not her hip as reported in last month's newsletter.

A Festive Festival

What a remarkable opportunity it was—to praise “The Glory of Christ” with K. Lee Scott, composer and conductor, on a beautiful Sunday evening in the magnificent setting of Plymouth Church in Shaker Heights. James Riggs, ArtsPlymouth, and Carmen Massaro (AGO Program Committee) made this all possible. The Festival included a mass choir of over 100 voices from 17 different churches, handbells (Carmen Massaro, director), a brass quintet, percussion, reader Rev. Dr. Shawnthea Monroe, Sr. Minister at Plymouth Church, vocal soloist Jennifer Rice (“Jesus, My All, to Heaven Is Gone”, African-American Spiritual), organ soloist James Riggs (“Fanfare” by Kenneth Leighton), and festival accompanists, James Riggs and Abigail Rockwood.

Two of K. Lee Scott's anthems were included in the festival: “The Glory of Christ” and “The Tree of Life,” as well as several arrangements of hymns and instrumental numbers. Additional choral anthems were “God So Loved the World” (Stainer) and “Hallelujah” from The Mount of Olives (Beethoven).

A light supper was prepared and served by the very capable Plymouth Church caterers. Missy and Fred Koch served as hosts for Mr. Scott, who had flown in from Alabama, in their home in Brecksville.

Many, many thanks to all the people who joined to make this event a resounding success. As one participant e-mailed, “Just had to let you know how much I enjoyed participating in that wonderful program. K. Lee Scott was such a joy to sing for, and his music was so inspiring. This was the best one yet. Wouldn't mind having him back again some year. Dinner was also one of the best—absolutely delicious!” I think her statements reflected how most of the attendees felt—joy, elation and a real sense of accomplishment—all for “The Glory of Christ.”

CONGRATULATIONS!

BLAKE, an opera by member H. Leslie Adams, performed on Saturday, April 12 in Philadelphia, Pa., was a huge success. It was presented by Opera North, Inc.

JUBILATION CHORUS CHALLENGE

The six chorus finalists in the WCLV/UCC Jubilation Chorus Challenge have been chosen. Many, if not all, have close ties to AGO and their conductors/accompanists are Cleveland Chapter members. They will participate in a two part live broadcast and concert at Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ in Tremont at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, May 9, and at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, May 10.

Congratulations to the six choirs, chosen from the 27 choirs that entered sample recordings. They are (in no order):

Finney Choir of the Federated Church of Oberlin,
William Davis III, Director

Epworth-Euclid United Methodist Church, Eric
Charnofsky, Director

Old Stone Church, William Shafer, Director

St. John the Evangelist Cathedral, Greg Heislman,
Director

The Federated Church of Chagrin Falls, Jodie Ricci,
Director

Christ Presbyterian Church, Canton, David Kinezle,
Director

The goal of this competition is excellence in choral singing and diversity in styles. Repertoire will include not only western sacred classical music but also the tradition of gospel and other genres. Choirs will be judged on their expression, accuracy, technical ability, musicality, and work as an ensemble.

If you want to hear church choral music at its finest, plan to attend the finals or listen to the live broadcasts (WCLV classical FM 104.9). Announcer for the live broadcast will be Lloyd Newell, well-known voice of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir broadcasts.

SENIOR PROJECT

Don Daley, a senior at University School in Hunting Valley, has selected a senior project to document organs in the greater Cleveland area (primarily East side) with pictures and stop lists. He plans to use material already available (i.e. in the AGO Region V Convention Handbook, Cleveland, OH , June 22-25, 2003) and to visit or contact additional churches. He then will make this information available to the public through the Cleveland Chapter's website, He will be working with our webmaster, Tim Robson to put the information online. He also has been asked to present his material at our AGO picnic next September. So if your church is contacted, please co-operate with him to get him the information he needs. As Tim states, "Having an ongoing encyclopedia of the organs in Cleveland is a good idea and could be continued as a chapter project in the future." If you have any questions or suggestions regarding the project, contact Don at daley.don@gmail.com. Thanks for your help!

Elections results for officers for 2008-2009:

Dean - Marcia Snavely
Sub-Dean - Robert Day
Secretary - Leslie Bauer
Treasurer - David Powers

Elected to the Executive Committee (3 year terms, expiring 2011)

Nicole Keller
John Russell
Christopher Toth

A big thank-you to those you agreed to serve as candidates, and to all those who returned ballots in a most timely manner. Our new officers will be installed at the Annual Dinner Meeting on Sunday, May 4, at Lakewood Presbyterian Church.

MUSICAL REMINISCENCES

"MY FAVORITE WEDDING STORY"

Several years ago, I was invited to play the organ for a wedding at a church in Westlake, OH. Friday night, the wedding party gathered and was rehearsing, when down the aisle came an elderly grandmother and a little boy. They sat in the second row, and the little boy kept kicking the bench ahead, saying: "everyone's in this wedding but me."

Saturday afternoon, I was playing the opening music, while the church filled with people. As the bridal party appeared ready, down the aisle came Grandma and the little boy, who was dressed up in a tuxedo. They sat in the same pew as before. As I finished my selection, I got off the bench and went down the steps into the sanctuary and over to the little boy. "You want to be in the wedding? Then come with me." Grandma nodded and I took him by the hand and climbed back on the organ bench and put him beside me. I started the wedding music as they came down the aisle.

The little fellow was so excited and when the little flower girl came up, he called out "Ho-You" and she smiled at him so I knew she was his sister.

When it was time for the groom to kiss the bride, I told the little fellow "when I start playing the music, you get off the bench, go over and take your sister's arm, and walk her down the aisle." He did just that.

After the service as I was preparing to go home, the little fellow came running up to me, and with a big hug said: "Lady, you were great!" A young woman came up and said: "You made a little boy very happy today" and I went home with a happy heart.

Eleanor Robinson

If you would like to submit a "Musical Reminiscence", please send your story to newsletter@agocleveland.org by the midnight on the 15th of the month.

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/PIANIST: Church of the Advent (Episcopal). Located in Westlake. One Sunday service; Thursday evening choir rehearsal. \$100. per week (negotiable). Interested persons should contact Fr. Joe Maiocco at (440) 871-6685.

TWO POSITIONS: Fairview Grace United Methodist Church, 22420 Lorain road, Fairview Park, Ohio 44126, (440)-779-5414.

ORGANIST: Twelve months a year.

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Nine months a year. Experience with handbells a plus. Resumes may be mailed (or e-mailed) to the Church. E-mail address is: revconey@sbcglobal.net. For further information, please contact Rev. Marilyn Coney at the Church, (440) 779-5414, or at home (440)-331-2905.

ORGANIST: St. Luke Episcopal Church, 11519 Wilson Mills Rd., Chardon, Ohio 44024. Every-other-week Sunday service at 10 a.m.; every-other-week Thursday evening choir rehearsal. Pipe organ. Salary: \$100. per week (negotiable). (This may become a weekly position in the future.) Interested persons should contact Fr. Chris McCann at (440) 285-4641.

CHOIR DIRECTOR: North Royalton United, Methodist Church, 13601 Ridge Road, North Royalton, OH 44133, (440)-237-7663. Seven-ten hours a week; potential to work with the Bell Choir in this position. Salary: \$5,000. per year (negotiable). For further information please contact the Church at the phone no. listed above, or via e-mail to William Hartmann at wph3@roadrunner.com.

ORGANIST/KEYBOARDIST: Seven Hills United Methodist Church 7593 Elmhurst Dr., Seven Hills, OH 44131, (216) 524-1336. Sunday service at 10 a.m.; weekly choir rehearsal. Salary: \$90. per week. For further information, please contact Church Secretary Judy Perry at the church office no. above, or via e-mail at sevenhillsumc@cox.net.

ORGANIST/PIANIST: Lakewood Baptist Church, 14321 Detroit Ave., Lakewood, OH 44107. Accompanist needed for congregation and choir. Average six hours per week. One Sunday service and Thursday evening choir rehearsal. Church experience essential. Salary: \$5,000. per year, plus extra compensation for weddings and special events. Interested persons should send resume/ references to LBC Pastor at the Church address above.

ORGANIST: Brooklyn Memorial United Methodist Church, Cleveland (located near West 25 St. & Denison Ave.) Organist for Sunday worship service. This person should also be willing to work with our small choir. Austin Organ. Salary: (approx.) \$75. per week. Interested persons may contact Rev. Ralph Heimbürger at (216) 906-3640.

TWO POSITIONS: Disciples Christian Church, 3663 Mayfield Rd., Cleveland Hts., OH 44121. (216)-382-5344.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC (CHOIRMASTER): Candidate should be qualified to work with a worship team and thirty-member choir, four paid professional soloists, handbell, and children's choir. We are seeking to develop a strong music program for our growing church. Salary: \$18,500. (negotiable) based on forty-four weeks a year. Interested persons should send a cover letter and resume to Senior Pastor Kristine Eggert at the church address above.

ORGANIST (ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF MUSIC): Fifty-rank Casavant Organ (built in 1968). Thirty-member choir, four paid professional soloists, handbell, and children's choir. Salary: \$13,500. (negotiable) based on forty-eight weeks a year. Interested persons should send a cover letter and resume to Senior Pastor Kristine Eggert at the church address above.

INQUIRY:

I would like to attend the AGO National Convention this Summer. However, with gas prices being what they are, I was wondering if anyone in the Akron or Cleveland Chapters would like to split the expenses? Mrs. Janice Kobb, CAGO, Akron Chapter AGO (330)-677-3934 (Kent, OH)

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: . All concerts are free unless otherwise noted. www.agocleveland.org

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.

May 7 & 14: *Florence Mustric* performs "Encore! Marcel Dupre!" his legendary Opus 7.

May 21 & 28: *Robert Myers* performs "Precursors of J.S. Bach," music by Kerll, Bohm, Krieger, and Kuhnau.

Wednesdays: Trinity Cathedral, 2230 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland. ((216)-774-0421. **Brownbag Concerts at Trinity Cathedral. NOON.**

May 7: *Trinity Chamber Players.* Susan Britton, violin, Amitai Vardi, clarinet, Linda Atherton, cello and Elizabeth DeMio. Olivier Messiaen's Quartet for the End of Time to celebrate the centenary of the composer's birth.

May 14: *The Highland Ensemble.* Bonita Maky, Alicia Tremmel, Luann Casky, James Meyers and Betty Myers offer a rare performance of Amy (Mrs. H.H.A.) Beach's Piano Quintet.

May 21: *Trinity Chamber Orchestra.* Daniel Hathaway, conducting, Leslie Braidech, viola, Linda Atherton, cello and Elizabeth DeMio, piano. Alan Shulman's Variations for Viola and String Orchestra, Loris Chobanian's Miniatures for Cello and Orchestra, and Sergei Prokofief's Piano Concerto No. 1.

Friday, May 9 at 7:00 p.m.: The First Presbyterian Church of Willoughby, 4785 Shankland Road, Willoughby, OH, (440)-946-0070. The *India Children's Choir* will present a concert as part of the celebration of the church's 175th anniversary. No admission charge. Free-will offering will be taken. Ample parking is available.

Friday, May 9 at 8:30 p.m. and Saturday, May 10 at 10:00 a.m.: Pilgrim Congregational UCC Church, 2952 W. 14th St., Cleveland, OH 44113(216)-861-7388. *Jubilation Choir Challenge.*

Sunday, May 18 at 4:00 p.m.: Brecksville United Church of Christ, 23 Public Square, Brecksville, OH 44141, 440-526-4364. The *Brecksville Center for the Arts Community Chorus*, directed by *Donna Box.*



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