



The American Guild of Organists

Cleveland Chapter

August 2008

FROM THE DEAN **GREETINGS!**

Let me say as a starter, what a privilege I consider it to be elected as your dean. I am hoping that by working together, our organization can keep the strengths of the past and look forward to the visions of the future. We are certainly in a changing environment and need to be flexible, yet true to the high standards set by our predecessors. One of my parishioners emailed me today (after learning of my election as dean), wishing me “a lifetime of continuing musical bliss.” What a prospect! I love it!!!! But I think reaching that lofty ideal offers significant challenges (and rewards).

I look forward to working with our officers: Sub-Dean, Robert Day; Secretary-Leslie Bauer; and Treasurer, David Powers, plus our Executive Committee: Alan Hibgee, Elizabeth Lucas, John Seiz, Jeanette Ostrander, Missy Koch, Ginny Roedig, Nicole Keller, John Russell, Christopher Toth and our Standing Committee Members. These committee members' names will be included in a future newsletter since not all changes have been confirmed.

I believe one of the most important items in a relationship (Dean-Chapter; Chapter-Dean) is communication. In next month's newsletter, I will introduce myself in a little more detail so that I hope you feel you know me and can get in touch with me anytime. During August, my husband, Greg Polyak, and I are planning a three week vacation hiking in the National Parks in Utah, Arizona and New Mexico. It has been his dream before we get too old (imagine that—too old!). Anyway, since I will be gone for the better part of the month, I'll be able to submit my article to the Newsletter before I leave.

Before signing off—I must thank Missy Koch on behalf of all of us for her tenure as Dean (and before

that as sub-Dean). She was so detail-oriented, so well-organized and had everything running like a well-oiled machine. She made it look very easy, but it will be an extremely tough act to follow. Personally, as Sub-Dean for the past two years, I enjoyed working with her so much. The good news is that she is staying on as a newly appointed member of the Executive Committee, taking David Powers' spot as he has moved to Treasurer. So we will continue to enjoy her expertise, her experience and her guidance. Thank you so much, Missy.

I hope you are all enjoying a great summer. I know the Program Committee is planning a lot of exciting things for the coming year which you will be hearing about. The most important thing right now is to save the date of September 14 for our picnic at Juanita Schubert's.

Hope you will all join me in my “lifetime of continuing musical bliss,”

Marcia Snavely

Next Executive Committee Meeting:

Wednesday, August 27, 2008 at 6:00 p.m.
Home of Marcia Snavely and Greg Polyak
138 Southwyck Dr.
Chagrin Falls, Ohio 44022
(440) 338-6606

Next Chapter Meeting:

Sunday, September 14, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.
Picnic at Juanita & Dick Schubert's
1329 Mattingly Rd.
Hinckley, Ohio 44233
(330) - 278-2298
Watch the newsletter for details

AGO PICNIC SEPTEMBER 14

Don't forget to save the date for the Cleveland Chapter's welcome picnic on Sunday, September 14 at 4:00 p.m. at Juanita and Dick Schubert's magnificent property at 1329 Mattingly Rd. in Hinckley, OH 44233. Spouses, partners and friends interested in getting to know the Guild are all welcome.

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

A-H-please bring a salad or side dish
I-O please bring an dessert
P-Z please bring a appetizer

For those of you who have not been to the Schubert's, this is a unique opportunity to see their beautiful property and their Schantz, 11 rank organ. The console was built of red oak by Dick Schubert to Holtkamp specs. Dick and Juanita are planning to move within the next year and a half to Walnut Creek, OH, so this also might be a final opportunity.

Along with your rsvp to Juanita (key2x12@aol.com) or (330) 278-2298 by Friday, Sept. 5, please send her the title of your favorite hymn. Juanita is planning an evensong with a mini hymn festival. One of her pastors will be giving scripture and hymn backgrounds. What a rare treat this promises to be!

We hope that all of you can attend. This picnic offers a marvelous opportunity to renew friendships, greet newcomers and provide a great start to our "International Year of the Organ." There will be more details and directions in the September Newsletter.

Sing Together, Children: A workshop to energize and organize your children's choir program year.

Madeline Bridges, clinician

August 15 - 16, 2008 - Church of the Saviour
United Methodist; 2537 Lee Road; Cleveland
Heights, OH 44118. contact:
www.choristersguild.org/conferences;
conferences@mailcg.org; 972-271-1521

Sponsored by Choristers Guild

SENIOR PROJECT UPDATE

I have completed my Senior Project of gathering pictures and stoplists for a Cleveland Organ Encyclopedia. I have met with Webmaster Tim Robson and the information should be up on the AGO website in the next month or two.

Thanks to the following churches and organists and the AGO Executive Committee for their time and efforts in contributing information for the encyclopedia.

Our Savior Lutheran in Gates Mills
Marcia Snively at the Federated Church in Chagrin Falls
Church of the Western Reserve in Pepper Pike
Garfield Memorial UMC in Pepper Pike
St. Christopher's by the River in Gates Mills
Messiah Lutheran in Lyndhurst
Plymouth Congregational in Shaker
Fairmount Presbyterian in Cleveland Heights
St. Paul's (and a special thanks to Karel Paukert) in Cleveland Heights
St. Ann's R.C. in Cleveland Heights
First Baptist in Shaker Heights
Anne Wilson and Forest Hills Presbyterian, Cleveland Heights
Church of the Saviour in Cleveland Heights
Christ Church Episcopal in Shaker
Shaker Heights Community UCC (Shaker Heights)
Church of the Resurrection, Solon
Valley Presbyterian, Bainbridge
St. Alban's (a big thank you to a family friend there)
Tim Corrigan at the Cleveland Convention Center
Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland
Chagrin Falls UMC (esp. Elaine Shakley)
Church of the Covenant, Cleveland and Todd Wilson
Epworth Euclid UMC, Cleveland
Old Stone Church, Cleveland
St. John the Evangelist Catholic Cathedral
First Congregational, Hudson and Dr. Charles Carr
Christ Church, Hudson
Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Cleveland Heights
Mr. Ed Wiles of Western Reserve Academy
First Church of Christ Scientist, Cleveland Heights
Mr. John Rust of the Southern Indian Chapter of the AGO
Mr. Phil Minnick of Bunn-Minnick Pipe Organs
Mr. Tim Robson

Don Daley
University School

IMPRESSIONS OF THE 2008 NATIONAL AGO CONVENTION IN MINNEAPOLIS

Wow! What a week at the convention! We heard stunning organ concerts, uplifting worship services, attended fascinating workshops, spent too much at the exhibits, and enjoyed being with our colleagues from around the nation and the world!

Cleveland AGO members spotted at the convention include Tim Robson, Bob Moncrief, Fern Jennings, Todd Wilson, John McElliott, Nicole Keller, Peg and Will Limkemann, Karel Paukert, Chris Holtkamp, John Russell, Ed and Hildred Tornberg, Ruth Brintnall, Carmen Massaro and Carol Neff.

On Saturday evening, we attended a pre-convention concert hosted by Frederick Hohman with the Bloomington Symphony Orchestra. Fred played a variety of pieces, and the highlight was the congregational hymns using Fred's arrangements for organ and orchestra. We learned that Fred's pen name is Carlos Xavier Santiago.

The local churches prepared splendid worship services for us Sunday morning with special music. I attended the services at Westminster Presbyterian Church which began with a string ensemble playing Mozart....a great way to begin the day!

The opening Celebration Sunday evening began with a prelude by the 2006 NYACOP winner, Scott Montgomery...an exciting performer! The music of Stephen Paulus, AGO Composer of the Year, was featured throughout the convention, and the first hymn, "When in our Music God is Glorified" was his thrilling arrangement. The choirs of the downtown churches combined to present a variety of anthems along with the Minnesota Boychoir. The sermon was presented by Dr. Martin Marty on the topic of "The Sounds in an Awe-full Creation...worship should convey a sense of awe, and that worship requires celebration. The program concluded with a stunning improvisation by Tom Trenney that combined two of the hymns from the service. Bravo, Tom!

Throughout the week, we heard a variety of wonderful organ concerts at various churches

throughout the area. We were thrilled with the concert given by the St. Paul's Cathedral Choir from London (men and boys) in the Cathedral of St. Paul.....just beautiful!

Tuesday morning we were at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church for two concerts. Michael Barone introduced the program by saying that no one performer can capture all of the world of organ music. John Weaver then gave an excellent concert that concluded with his own composition on "Kingsfold." He received a standing ovation. Next we heard Cameron Carpenter. Mr. Weaver introduced Mr. Carpenter as one of his former students at Julliard, saying that he has a brilliant musical mind and compared his genius to Mozart. Mr. Carpenter gave a dazzling performance of music including Chopin, Sowerby and Bach and concluded with his own composition entitled "Nautical Rondo." His playing was extremely energetic....fast footwork, multiple piston changes and just fascinating....I've never seen anyone attack organ playing with so much energy! You can watch a video of Mr. Cameron on YouTube.

The evening program on Tuesday was a Gala Concert at Orchestra Hall featuring the music of Olivier Messiaen. The program was presented by especially fine pianists with a soprano, violin, or clarinet, and ended with an ensemble that played six keyboard instruments called Ondes Martenot. A Messiaen film was then shown called "Apparition of the Eternal Church" which Tim Robson found fascinating.

Wednesday began with Choral Matins led by St. Paul's Cathedral Choir. Workshops and concerts followed including a magnificent concert by Todd Wilson on a stunning Sipe, IV/78 1979 organ, concluding with Reubke's "Sonata on the 94th Psalm." Bravo, Todd!

The Annual meeting was led by out-going AGO president Fred Swann, who admitted he was a "convention junkie." Mr. Swann was honored for his many years of service to the AGO, including a hymn we all sang written describing his life to the tune of St. Anne. Very fun! James Thomashower, Executive AGO Director, suggested we check the

web for other organizations of organists that are not part of the AGO, including one group called “Praise Teams that Annoy God.” The door prize was free registration for the 2010 national AGO convention. No one from Cleveland won.

On Wednesday evening, we were the audience for “A Celebration of the Pipe Organ in the 21st Century with Pipedreams host Michael Barone.” Mr. Barone assembled a marvelous program of virtuoso performers from around the world. Mr. Barone interviewed each performer, and the concert was recorded. It will be played on his Pipedreams programs in October. An exciting evening!

Our final convention day began with a Carillonneur concert, followed by two organ concerts, exhibits and workshops in the afternoon, and then a fabulous closing concert at the gorgeous Cathedral of Saint Paul in St. Paul. A stunning building! The first half of the concert included anthems and organ solos presented by four choirs in the front with a stunning Skinner organ in the balcony. The second part was a glorious presentation of “Te Deum” (2005) by Siegfried Matthus...twelve movements of exquisite music with the huge choir, soloists, full orchestra and organ, conducted by Philip Brunelle, who somehow managed to keep everyone together. At the end of the concert, when we were ready to applaud, Mr. Brunelle cut off the music, but held his baton up...the bells from the church tower began to peal for at least five minutes, with the choir singing bursts of “Amen”....a goose-bumpy end of the evening!!! We then walked a block to the Minnesota History Center for a gala reception.

Overall, this was a terrific convention! The Hilton Hotel was perfect; the workshops were engaging; the bus service ran smoothly; the artists were amazing; worship services were inspiring; the program book was easy to use; the restaurants were efficient and served great food; the exhibits were varied and friendly; the overall organization was superb; and we all had a great time! Plan to go to the next Region V convention in Detroit on June 28-July 1, 2009; and the next national AGO convention in Washington, D.C. on July 4-8, 2010. You’ll be glad you could go!

Carol Neff

AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS’ INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE ORGAN 2008-2009

The AGO’s year long festival celebrating the musical instrument we all love got off to a great start in Minneapolis. Have you made plans to take part? That’s right—you take part! The International Year of the Organ (IYO) is a pride festival to increase the public’s awareness of the king of instruments. Why is it important for each chapter member to do something? It could help bring the organ at Severance Hall back to use. It could increase attendance at various church recital series enough to insure they continue. It might even help preserve your job as the organist at your church, especially if you are competing with a band or members of your church are thinking about bringing in a band.

If you have not made plans to take part, now is the time to start planning. The AGO has some very helpful documents on their website to give you ideas. The best document is the **Concert Programming** guide for the **Organ Spectacular** on October 19. This is the day that National has designated to blanket the country with events promoting the organ as an exciting musical instrument. National has even commissioned three works for use on Organ Spectacular Sunday, and at other events we might plan as part of IYO. The Cleveland Chapter has a committee planning an afternoon of activities at St. Paul’s, Cleveland Heights. Details on this will follow. However, for this to be a *year of the organ* we need more events than those on this day. Here are two things that I will be doing at my church.

First, on October 12, I will play a special prelude that will call attention to IYO and the Cleveland Chapter event the next Sunday. I will be doing this at both services—even the contemporary service that is led by a rock band. I will utilize the contemporary services’ projection system and have a slide show displayed during the music showing pipe organs built since the year 2000 with captions pointing out the instrument is indeed alive and not on its way to dinosaur status. I have already contacted a number of organ builders asking for pictures and they are being most helpful.

The Powerpoint slide show is necessary at the contemporary service and will be appreciated by the traditional liturgical service as well. I am doing this because of the guide lines from the guild. IYO programs should not be about us performing pieces we think people should hear and in a style we think they need to learn to appreciate. IYO is about analyzing an audience that knows nothing about the organ and presenting the instrument to them in a way to which they will respond to positively. I have also decided that I will not be playing a major concert work.

The prelude music will be Robert Hobby's prelude on *Engelberg* (1) which is often matched to the text, "When in our music God is glorified." The piece has a delightful, modern, rhythmic fanfare motif in the beginning and ending sections that will complement the energy level of the contemporary service. The ending, with a grand cantus firmus in the pedal, will also prompt an "awesome" response from at least one youth. During communion at these services I will be playing Michael Burkhardt's trio on *Nettleton* (2). This delightful piece evokes images of an Appalachian folk ensemble and requires performance techniques similar to the Bach trios. When the band returns from communion, they will then lead singing of "Come, Thou Fount" in a true folk style. My goal is simply to show that the organ can be an effective and meaningful instrument in worship and maybe even complement other instruments.

My second project will be a Mother's Day concert for residents of the Lutheran Home in Westlake and their family members. This will be a follow-up to a recital I performed there in June to benefit Prince of Peace's African missionaries. It was on the Friday night of Father's Day weekend. During the concert, we learned the home had a family dinner gathering that evening in honor of Father's day, but the concert was not advertised to the families. We already arranged for a cooperative event in the spring. In the weeks that follow, if only one family member of a resident tells even one friend of a positive experience with the organ, then the event will satisfy the IYO goals.

My June concert this year proves that the IYO guidelines work. I planned the program around the audience I wanted to attend—the whole congregation, not just the traditional service attendees. The missionary fund raising helped make it a congregational event from the start. I also found musicians from both the contemporary and traditional service groups to perform with me and advertised that the program would contain a variety of musical styles so there would be something for everyone. The June concert was the first organ recital at Prince of Peace since the organ installation in 1987. I talked with some folks from the contemporary service about the recital and found that I now have people who will help promote future organ events.

This is what IYO is all about—increasing awareness and developing support for our instrument. Its something we can all do, even if in a small way. Be sure to check the Organ Spectacular Programming Guide for ideas to help you participate (www.agohq.org). We just have to be persistent about it.

Notes:

1. *Engelberg* from **3 Hymns of Praise, Set 2** by Robert A. Hobby. Morningstar MSM-10-757
2. *Nettleton* from **American Folk Hymn Suite** for Organ by Michael Burkhardt. Morningstar MSM-10-835.

Don Jackson

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/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: Solon Community Church, 33955 Sherbrook Park Dr., Solon, OH 44139, (440) 248-4180. Part-time organist for Sunday and Holiday worship and choir rehearsals. Salary: \$7,000 per year. For more information, please call Gloria Herr at the church phone number listed above.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC, ORGANIST, AND YOUTH CHOIR DIRECTOR: St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 23114 West Rd., Olmsted Falls, OH 44138, (440) 234-0150. Opening(s) for this (these) positions to begin mid-August, 2008. Part-time position(s). The Director of Music directs choirs and coordinates music for worship. Organist will lead congregational singing, accompany the choirs and soloists, and perform for weddings, funerals. Ruggles pipe organ. Youth Choir Director is required to work with children and direct the choir. These may be three separate positions, or combined into a one-person or two-person position(s). Salary for a combined one-person position is \$15-16,000 per year. Resumes

may be sent to the church address above.

ORGANIST AND/OR BELL CHOIR DIRECTOR: Church of the Redeemer United Church of Christ, 23500 Center Ridge Rd., Westlake, OH 44145. Organist and/or Bell Choir Director beginning June 2, 2008. Wicks pipe organ (with MIDI). Salary: \$9,000 (negotiable) for one person serving as Organist and Bell Choir Director. Interested persons should contact Carol Peddie, Director of Music, at 440-864-4855, or fax resume and references to 440-331-2897.

INTERIM ORGANIST: Old Stone Church, 91 Public Square, Cleveland, Ohio. We are searching for an interim organist for August, 2008-May, 2009. Salary is \$17,000. (negotiable). The position description is available from Dr. David Horne via e-mail. Please write: DHorne9650@aol.com

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR: Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ, 2592 West 14 St., Cleveland, OH 44113, (216) 861-7388. One Sunday service. 18-25 voice chancel choir. Sunday morning rehearsal (no week night rehearsal). Three-manual Farrand & Votey Organ (restored in 1992). Salary: \$16,700. annual. Contact Geno Taylor at (216) 651-2803 or via e-mail: genot3@sbcglobal.net, or contact the Church office as listed above. Website: www.pilgrimalive.org

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: Gesu Catholic Church, 2049 Parkside Blvd. Toledo, OH 43607, (419) 531-1421, (419) 531-0270 (fax). Full-time position for parish of 1,200 families. Adult choir and instrumentalists. Gaither Comprehensive 2' Hymnal. Continue development of traditional and blended liturgy styles. Development of cantors and children for worship leadership. Proficiency in piano, organ, and conducting required. Three-manual Pilzecker Organ (78 ranks), Grand piano. Salary and benefits. Salary: \$35-42,000. annually. Letters of inquiry and resumes may be sent or faxed to Fr. Jim Cryan, (see address information above). Website: www.gesutoledo.org

FROM THE PLACEMENT DIRECTOR:

In June, I lost a large amount of stored e-mail data. I have been able to retrieve some of it, but not all. Among the lost data *may* be one (or possibly two) items sent to me to be listed in the August issue. Since I cannot get these back (if they were there), I would like to apologize in advance to the churches who *may* have sent these items to me in advance. Again, I am not sure if anything is really missing from here or not.

Gerry Mass

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.

August 6 and August 20: Trumpeter **Matt Wirfel** joins **Florence Mustric** in “**Bold and beautiful,**” music for trumpet and organ, featuring Telemann’s Heroic Music. Also music by Bach, Brahms, and Bozza.

August 13 and 27:
by organist **Robert Myers.**

Friday, August 15 at 7:00 p.m.: Calvary Baptist Church, 1463 Shields Road, Boardman, Ohio will celebrate the 25th anniversary of the installation of the Austin Organ on Friday, August 15, with a recital by Thomas Pavlechko at 7:00 pm. Pavlechko is the Cantor and Composer-in-Residence at St. Martin’s Lutheran Church in Austin, Texas, a church he previously served as Director of Music and Principal Organist from 1994-2000. From 2000-2006, Pavlechko was Organist-Choirmaster at Calvary

Episcopal Church in Memphis, Tennessee. He earned his undergraduate degree from the Dana School of Music of Youngstown State University and graduate degree at the University of Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music. More information is available about Pavlechko on his website.

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

God Himself does not propose to judge a man until he is dead. So why should you?

++*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*

Some minds are like concrete thoroughly, mixed up and permanently set.

++*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*

Peace starts with a smile.

++*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*

I don't know why some people change churches; what difference does it make which one you stay home from?

++*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*

A lot of church members who are singing "Standing on the Promises" are just sitting on the premises.

++*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*

We were called to be witnesses, not lawyers or judges.

++*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*

Be ye fishers of men. You catch them - He'll clean them.

++*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*

Coincidence is when God chooses to remain anonymous

++*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*+*



The American Guild of Organists

Cleveland Chapter

August 2008

QUICKGUIDE: CLEVELAND CHAPTER AGO 2007-2008

Dean: Marcia Snavely, (440)338-6606, e-mail: marciasnavely1@aol.com

Sub-Dean: Robert Day, (216)295-2235, e-mail: jickbob@aol.com

Secretary and Registrar: Leslie Bauer (440)871-5265 **Fax:** (440)871-4481, e-mail: lgbauer@comcast.net

Treasurer: David Powers, (440)888-8757, e-mail: dpowers8835@sbcglobal.net

Placement: Gerry Mass (440)884-4904 **Fax:** (440)884-1661, e-mail: gerry@gerardskeyboards.com

Newsletter Editor: Linda L. Gardner (440)734-6122 e-mail: newsletter@agocleveland.org

Website: www.agocleveland.org

AGO Cleveland Chapter
138 Southwyck Dr.
Chagrin Falls, Ohio 44022
440.338.6606
