



The American Guild of Organists

Cleveland Chapter

February 2010

FROM THE DEAN

In this usual season of the mid- winter weather doldrums, it is a great joy to report that the Cleveland AGO chapter is alive and well—hearty, in fact. I just returned from our executive committee meeting on a snowy, blustery, wintry evening when the driving was treacherous and slow. As I drove to the meeting, I thought, “Oh my goodness—there probably won’t be anyone there.” However, not only did ALL of the officers and most of the Executive Committee make it, but several committee heads and all five members of the Task Force on the Operating Procedures. We actually had to bring more chairs to the meeting table.

This was an important meeting that included our Nominating Committee report. It was so encouraging—that at this relatively early date, they presented a slate of all but one of the candidates for our 2010 annual election. You will be receiving the complete slate in our March Newsletter, then it is up to you to read the bios carefully, inquire and vote. Special thanks to our Nominating Committee as well as to those who have agreed to serve.

The meeting also included a report from our Task Force on Operating Procedures, who were present en force to answer questions and discuss changes. This committee, which came, saw, and conquered the formidable task involving pages upon pages of both chapter and national bylaws and procedures, have prepared a set of op’s which we will send to you in early April. This will give you a month to read, make comments, and have any of your questions answered before voting on them at our Annual Meeting in May. Special thanks to our Task Force members who contributed time, energy, patience and fortitude.

Not only is our local chapter active and committed, but the national scene also seems robust. Enthusiasm is growing for The AGO National Convention, which will be held in Washington, D.C. from July 4-8. It looks like an excellent conference

with something for everyone—18 performers, 18 performing groups, 74 workshops, plus visits to churches, cathedrals and synagogues. Details are in the January TAO as well as www.AGO2010.org, and all of you should have received a flyer in the mail.. Don’t forget to register by Feb. 14 to get the discount for early registration.

It would be helpful to know how many from our Chapter are planning to attend the National Conference so we can possibly car pool or meet sometime during the conference to socialize, so please let me know at marciasnavely1@aol.com or 440.338.6606. I will try to coordinate things and let people know who is attending.

We need you to do your part to keep it an enthusiastic, thriving chapter—in the next few months you can all help by voting during our annual election, by reviewing and voting on the revised operating procedures, and by attending and backing the programs which our Program Committee has planned with your suggestions. Thanks to all of you for contributing in your own special ways.

Musical Blessings,
Marcia

Next Executive Committee Meeting:

Tuesday, March 16, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.
Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church
9201 Brecksville Road
Brecksville, Ohio
(440) 526-2303
Missy Koch, host

Next Chapter Meeting:

Sunday, March 21, 2010
12 NOON - 5:00 p.m.
Church of the Covenant
11205 Euclid Avenue
Cleveland, Ohio 44106
(216) 421-0482
BACH ORGAN MARATHON
Jonathon Moyer, Host

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

WELCOMES IDEAS

The Program Committee (Sub-Dean Bob Day, chair) will begin meeting in February to start planning the chapter's 2010-2011 program year. Our biggest resource for ideas is the chapter members themselves. What programs would you as a chapter member like to see? To participate in? What educational and professional development opportunities might we explore? What recitalists might you suggest? And if your church has a concert series, is there a program you might wish our chapter to consider co-sponsoring?

These and any other topics of interest you may suggest are welcome. Let us know of any programs you'd like us to pursue for the next year. Sending suggestions by email is most efficient, but phone messages or letters are just as welcome.

Emails may be sent to Bob Day at jickbob@aol.com, or you may contact him by phone at 216-295-2235, or if you prefer a longer, more formal communication, to Bob Day, 3630 Glencairn Road, Shaker Heights, OH, 44122.

THANK YOU

On Friday evening, July 13, 2007, St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Chagrin Falls, OH where I am Organist-Director of Music Ministries suffered a devastating fire. It took almost two years to rebuild and recuperate from the fire. Many areas of the church were completely destroyed; the nave suffered much damage, mostly from intense heat. The smoke-filled choir room where our music was stored was a disaster. Hard-working choir members helped remove music to be stored rather than calling it a total loss.

We used many creative methods to "continue the church's song" during the ensuing weeks, months, years.... Initially, as we worshipped in a tent in the courtyard, our folks volunteered with guitars, flutes, recorders, violins, and even accordion! Everyone worked hard to keep spirits up; music is such an important part of that.

A few months after the fire, our offices were in a trailer and our church website was finally up again. I received a surprise e-mail from an Australian composer, Colin Brumby, DMus. He said simply something to the effect that he could imagine that in such a situation as ours, we would be in need of music. He included in PDF form several

compositions for me to download and photocopy with his compliments. What a blessing Colin Brumby is! He has continued to send me music appropriate to the season during the past two and half years! Mr. Brumby even composed a setting of Psalm 122, "I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord," special for us to use (gratis) in our re-dedication service!

I want to say a very special thank you to Colin Brumby for his kindness, thoughtfulness, and actions following the fire. Our choir felt so encouraged that someone else cared so much! Many times we think about people in difficult situations but how many times do we take action? Thank you, Colin, for helping to energize me through this difficult time! We have enjoyed many of your compositions and we hope others will, too!

An internet search of Colin Brumby will reveal an amazing biography and list of published compositions. www.amcoz.com.au/composers/composer.asp?id=193

In grateful appreciation,
Sandy Tittle, MM
Organist-Director of Music Ministries
St. Martin's Episcopal Church
Adjunct Professor of Music
Hiram College

FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

We are in need of a person to run for Secretary for the 2010-2011 slate. The Secretary is primarily responsible for recording the minutes of Executive Committee meetings and general meetings of the chapter. The Secretary also emails those minutes to the Executive Committee and keeps all of the meeting records.

During the 2009-2010 year there are only six Executive Committee meetings and one general meeting. Please consider supporting our chapter with your time and talent.

Contact Chris Toth at (216) 406-0228 or cjtonline@hotmail.com for more information.

ALLELUIA CORNER

"Music is an art that, in one guise or another, permeates every human society." Yea!

Encyclopaedia Britannica, V 12, p.662

An article in the Cleveland Plain Dealer (10/2/09) printed the top twenty words that were considered to be the most beautiful in the English language. This was from a recent poll of 7,000 people in 46 countries conducted by the British Council. Out of the several hundred words sent in, eleven words were mentioned for their sound alone. But, in the end, the most chosen words were "Lullaby" and "Mother" and were not only considered to be the most beautiful, but the most often mentioned in the survey.

I still remember hearing music from my Mother who sang at church and at the opening ceremony at Severance Hall's dedication. When searching through the total list of other chosen words, I was stunned to find that the words 'music' and 'melody' were not even mentioned at all! How can one live without music? As musicians we speak, learn and make music all the time in our various jobs. Dick played jazz (trombone) in orchestras and, through him, I found a whole new sound of making music, adding that particular style into my own playing on both the piano and organ. (It's luscious!) Among the throng I'm still learning the music of Bach, Beethoven, Mozart and Gershwin plus others down the line. We speak notes using voice and instruments to sound, and, to me, such sounds are also a 'language'. That article made me realize how vital the language of music is to us.

Powerful stories of beliefs and ongoing faith shine through both music and dialogue. A wonderful example of music in action is Handel's MESSIAH. Instead of just telling the story, the text and music bloom together in using both biblical and musical languages, revealing, in vocal technicolor, the vital and various events of a powerful, historical time.

It may be that music is not only just an art, but also a varied musical "language" of its own, and we could then poll people about which musical language is the most beautiful and meaningful. But then that might fall flat just from the various choices of styles, and

leave Duke Ellington and George Gershwin isolated and swimming in their own colorful waters.

Of course music speaks various dialects depending on the many 'styles' of music and instruments one learns and digests as one sings, plays, sleeps, lives, studies and performs. It is our journey. Speaking of sleeping, when working on recitals, etc. there were times when I was performing while in a deep sleep, and Dick had to wake me up while grabbing my performing hands and feet in the middle of the night. (I hate doing that! He never complained.)

Many of us church musicians, plus, learned music on the piano, in football-gear'd performances, in orchestral marches, in various choirs or in full-blown orchestral concerts.

And still, to me, the simple songs, the lullabies, are the most fragile, the most beautiful, the most treasured and the most difficult!

Have a happy heart.

Gratian M. Nugent

QUINK VOCAL ENSEMBLE

Last May the Chamber Ensemble of Westlake United Methodist Church won the WCLV Jubilation contest. They sang six pieces, all a cappella. Two of those pieces were written by ensemble member Kevin Foster. Those two pieces (*Little David* and *Wondrous Love*) have been picked up for publication by Santa Barbara Music Publishing. They will be out in March.

Kevin and his wife Lisa are great fans of Quink Vocal Ensemble and have been to six of their concerts over the years. Quink is performing at Church of the Saviour on February 10 at 8 p.m. Kevin contacted the group and asked them if they would be interested in singing one of his songs and they said yes, even though they don't normally do that sort of thing. They are going to sing *Wondrous Love* as an encore. *Wondrous Love* will be on the reading session for the Central Division Conference of the ACDA in February. It will also be performed by a choir from Duquesne University in March.

It will be a wonderful concert! (See Concerts for Concert information).

Leslie Bauer

Book lover does her part to help:

Regina Brett

By Regina Brett, The Plain Dealer
January 03, 2010, 5:00AM



REGINA BRETT

How many people does it take to change the world?

One.

It doesn't matter how much money you have or how much time you have left or whether you're all alone. Meet Mrs. Boyd.

Evelyn Boyd has earned the right to sit around and do nothing. She's 92. She spent 33 years teaching music, most of them in the Cleveland public schools. It bothered her that some students in grade school couldn't read the words to the songs she taught.

Reading is so precious to her. She still has the first book her mother read to her, a worn copy of "The Pilgrim's Progress."

Evelyn could sit around feeling sorry for herself. She lost her husband of 58 years when Gilbert died four years ago. Her mom, Geneva, died six years ago at 107. Evelyn lost her only sibling, a brother, in November.

"I'm the last one left," she told me.

She could isolate herself as a lonely widow on a pension and cling to every dime, but she doesn't. She volunteers weekly at the Cleveland Clinic and monthly at the Society for the Blind. And she just spent another \$30 to buy a dozen books for children she will never meet.

Every time the Daedalus Books catalog arrives, she studies the synopsis of each storybook and marks off the ones the children will enjoy most. She doesn't drive, so she has the books delivered directly to the doctor. She has no idea how many she has sent. More than 500, for sure.

She learned about the Reach Out and Read program in The Plain Dealer four years ago in a story that ran on New Year's Day. It told how Dr. Robert Needlman, a pediatrician, noticed the medical center waiting room in the inner city of Boston had no

storybooks for the children to read while they waited to have their sore throats examined. The staff told him the children were stealing the books, so they stopped putting them out.

The fact that children wanted books so badly inspired Needlman to raise money to buy thousands of books to give away to every child with every checkup. Then he started recruiting volunteers to read to children in the waiting room.

That's how he and Barry Zuckerman started the national nonprofit Reach Out and Read 20 years ago. Needlman is now at MetroHealth Medical Center and teaches at Case Western Reserve University Medical School. The Cleveland chapter of Reach Out and Read is supported by doctors, colleges, hospitals, libraries and civic groups. The U.S. Department of Education gives the national nonprofit millions to serve children in thousands of clinics across the country.

He wants to see every child grow up with the chance to love books. It isn't just a book give-away program. He urges volunteers to read to the children aloud, to help coach parents on how to read to their children.

Needlman has saved all the packing slips from the boxes Evelyn has sent. He considers one a treasure. When he passes out her books, he tells the children, "It's a present from a friend of mine who is 92."

Boyd always tells him, "I wish I could give more."

He's impressed that her ancestors were illiterate slaves, that her dad moved the family from Birmingham, Ala., for the promise of a better life. "She lived out that promise and shares it with others," he said.

She makes it sound so casual: "I just think children ought to read."

"I had a good life," she said. "I thank the Lord for that. I didn't have it by myself."

It took others.

"We didn't come into this world just for ourselves," she said. "We're here to help others."

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<http://www.cleveland.com/brett/>

Editor's Note: Evelyn Boyd was a longtime member of the Cleveland Chapter of the AGO.

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

MUSIC DIRECTOR: First Baptist Church, 835 Trebisky Rd., South Euclid, Ohio 44143. We are seeking a faith-filled person who will help re-build our music program. The Music Director should also have keyboard skills sufficient to accompany congregational singing and to accompany the choir (after the choir has been re-organized). Two Sunday services at 11:00 a.m. and 6 p.m. Choir rehearsal Sunday at 5 p.m. Four weeks paid vacation per year. Salary: \$1,000. per month. For further information, please call Pastor Bruce McLaurin at (216) 401-2179 or Deacon Walter Berman at (440) 476-0705

MUSIC DIRECTOR/ORGANIST: Lutheran Church of the Covenant, 19000 Libby Rd., Maple Hts., OH 44137. Part-time. Position for someone to provide musical leadership and accompaniment on Sunday mornings and on other seasonal holidays and special services at the church. Familiarity with liturgical worship and choral experience preferred. Salary: \$8-10,000. annually, depending upon experience and background. Please send resume to Rev. Abraham Allende, Pastor, at the church address listed above or via e-mail at covenantlc@sbcglobal.net

ORGANIST/PIANIST: Trinity Christian Church, (meeting in the Solon Community Church Bldg.), 33955 Sherbrook Park Dr., Solon, Ohio, (330) 998-6248. Organist/pianist needed to accompany congregational singing and the choir. Sunday service and weekly choir rehearsal, as well as other occasional events. Salary: \$200. per week. Interested persons should submit a cover letter and resume via e-mail to tcc.smith@yahoo.com

ORGANIST: Chesterland Baptist Church, 12670 Chillicothe Rd., Chesterland, OH 44026, (440) 729-7101. One Sunday morning service and weekly (evening) choir rehearsal. Salary: approximately \$5,000. per year. Interested persons should contact Pastor Joe Woods at the church office (as listed above) by mail or phone, or Pastor Woods personally at (440) 796-0614, or via e-mail at: pastor@chesterlandbaptist.org.

CHOIR DIRECTOR: Christ Presbyterian Church, 12419 Chillicothe Rd., Chesterland, OH 44026, (440) 729-1688. Sunday service at 9:30 a.m.; Thursday evening choir rehearsal. Salary: \$7,200. per year. Interested persons should contact the church office (as listed above) for further information.

ORGANIST: Old South United Church of Christ, 9802 Chillicothe Rd., Kirtland, OH 44094. Part-time. One Sunday service; Thursday evening choir rehearsal. Other season worship services as well as working with soloists and special music presentations. Salary: \$6,500- 6,900. per year. Interested persons should send a resume and/or questions to Michael at the Church address listed above or phone (440) 942-0503 or via e-mail to: cosgressley@mindspring.com

MUSIC DIRECTOR/KEYBOARDIST: Liberation United Church of Christ, 13714 Madison Ave., Lakewood, OH 44107. Part-time. Provide musical leadership and accompaniment on Sunday morning and other seasonal holidays and special services. Rodgers Organ & Baldwin Piano. Sunday service at 10:30 a.m. (preceded by choir rehearsal at 9:00 a.m.) Salary: \$8,000-9,000. per year. Interested persons should send a resume to Jim Ebbenga at the church address above or via e-mail at office@liberationucc.org

ORGANIST: First Presbyterian Church, 4785 Shankland Rd., Willoughby, OH 44094. Part-time. Traditional Sunday service; two weekly choir rehearsals. Newly-restored Wicks Organ. Extra compensation for weddings and funerals. Salary (approx.): \$150. per week. Interested persons should submit a cover letter and resume to the Music Search Team at the church address listed above or by e-mail to: office@1stpcw.org

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.

Sunday, January 31 at 7:30 p.m.: Forest Hill Church, 3031 Monticello Blvd. at Lee, Cleveland Hts., OH 44118, (216) 321-2660. **Amanda Powell**, global song specialist; **The Forest Hill Chancel and Sine Nomine Choirs**, **Anne Wilson**, director; **Dr. John C. Lentz, Jr.**, pastor. Free-will offering. Reception with global foods

Tuesdays: Music for Tuesdays Program at **Messiah Lutheran Church**. 21485 Lorain Road, Fairview Park, Ohio 331-2405. www.messiahfp.org. **FREE** concerts at **NOON** on Tuesdays.

February 9: **David Gooding, organ;** Pachelbel, Brahms, Boellmann

February 16: **Chris Toth, organ;** Music for Mostly Manuals

February 23: **Monica Berens and Elizabeth Atchison, mezz;** **William Jean, baritone;** **David Gooding, keyboards.** Duets and Trios from Church and Stage

Tuesdays at 12:10 p.m.: St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 318 E. Liberty Street, Medina, Ohio, 330-725-4131.

Tuesday, February 16: Baldwin-Wallace College Alumni Brass Collective featuring **James Wonnacott and Peter Hoekje**, trumpets; **Linda Gardner**, horn; **David Betts**, trombone; **Randy Border**, tuba. Music by Mozart, Schumann, Schutz, Ellington, Dukas, Bird, Tovey, Albrechtsberger, and Henderson

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.

No information was available at this time.

Wednesday, February 3 at 7:30 p.m.: Fairmount Presbyterian Church, 2757 Fairmount Blvd., Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118-4098. **City Music Cleveland.** **Daniel Rachev**, conductor; **Matt Haimovita**, cello. Music by Schubert and Webern.

Friday, Feb. 5 at 8:00 p.m.: The Cleveland Institute of Music, 11021 East Blvd., Cleveland, Ohio 44106, (216) 791-5000. **Todd Wilson**, organ (with **Mary Kay Fink**, flute; **John Clouser**, bassoon; **Neil Mueller**, trumpet). Music by Buxtehude, Bach, Frank Martin, Thierry Escaich, and Craig Phillips.

Sunday, February 7 at 4:00 p.m.: Fairlawn Lutheran Church, 3415 W. Market Street, Akron, Ohio. **The Capital (Lutheran) University Chapel Choir.**

Sunday, February 7 at 4:00 p.m.: Brecksville United Church of Christ, 23 Public Square, Brecksville, OH 44141, 440-526-4364 (church phone). **Arundo Winds** from the Oberlin College Conservatory of Music. The ensemble will play classical repertoire by Polish, French and Brazilian composers.

Sunday, Feb. 7, 2010; 4:00 p.m.: Kulas Hall, Cleveland Institute of Music, 11921 East Blvd., Cleveland OH 44106. **H. Leslie Adams:** "Hymn to All Nations." **R. Nathaniel Dett Concert Choir of the Cleveland School of the Arts, William Woods**, Director. Also other works. Seating by pass; call CIM box office (216-791-5165) beginning Feb. 1, 2010.

Wednesday, February 10th at 8 p.m.: Church of the Saviour United Methodist, 2537 Lee Road, Cleveland Heights, Ohio. **Quink Vocal Ensemble.**

Friday, February 12 at 8:00 p.m.: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 50 North Prospect Street, Akron. Clay Christiansen, organist of the world-famous Mormon Tabernacle on Temple Square in Salt Lake City Utah. In addition to his own compositions, Mr. Christiansen's program will include works by Bach, Franck, Kabalevsky, Liszt, Reubke, and Alexander Schreiner. Parking is located adjacent to the church. Free-will offering. Phone 330-376-5154 or visit trinityakron.org/organseries online for additional information.

Monday, Feb. 15, 2010; 2:00-5:00 p.m.: Seifullah Art Studios; 14940 Euclid Avenue; East Cleveland, OH 44112 (216-268-1008). **“H. Leslie Adams Fan Club”** presents an 'Informal Final Gathering.'” Special guests: **Eliesha Nelson**, Violist; **Dianna White-Gould**, pianist, performing **Adams'** new work, **“L’Extase D’Amour.”** [Identify yourself as an “AGO Member and Guest” for admittance.]

Saturday, Feb. 20 from 10 a.m. to Noon: First Baptist Church, 3630 Fairmount Blvd., Cleveland, Ohio 44118. CIM sponsors a masterclass with **Tom Trenney**. Tom will work with CIM organ students and talk about improvisation. The class is open to AGO members and all other interested folks.

Saturday, February 20 at 3:00 p.m.: Hayden Auditorium on the Hiram College Campus, State Route 700 in Hiram, Ohio. **Tom Trenney**, Silent Film improvisation. Schantz pipe organ. Free and open to the public. A Community Trust Fund Event.

Sunday, February 21 at 2:00 p.m.: First Baptist Church, 3630 Fairmount Blvd., Cleveland, Ohio 44118. **Tom Trenney**, organ.

Sunday, February 21 at 5:00 p.m.: Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1250 W. Exchange St., Akron, Ohio 44313. (330) 836-2226. **OSU Men’s Glee Club.**

Friday, February 26 at 7:30 p.m. Mayfield United Methodist Church, 7747 Mayfield Road, Chesterland, OH 44026, 440-729-4006. **Choral Festival to benefit Habitat for Humanity.** Several area church choirs and praise bands will offer a concert of uplifting music. An offering will be taken to benefit Geauga County Habitat for Humanity. Reception following the concert. Please come!

Sunday, February 28 at 3:00 p.m.: Fairmount Presbyterian Church, 2757 Fairmount Blvd., Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44118-4098. **Bi-Okoto Drum and Dance Theatre.** This professional dance company shares the rich cultural heritage and traditions of Africa through music, song, dance, language, and clothing in a colorfully-woven program.

Sunday, February 28 at 3:30 p.m.: Rocky River Presbyterian Church, 21750 Detroit Road, Rocky River, Ohio. 440-356-8989. **The Solaris Quintet.** The **Solaris Quintet** ensemble was formed in 1976, and is in residence at The University of Akron. It has established a reputation as one of the foremost woodwind quintets in the United States. They have toured Brazil, Sweden and the United states, and have performed extensively in the Cleveland area. They have released two CDs American Quintets - 2000 and American Quintets II - 2001



The American Guild of Organists

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February 2010

QUICKGUIDE: CLEVELAND CHAPTER AGO 2009-2010

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