



The American Guild of Organists

Cleveland Chapter

April 2010

FROM THE DEAN

Hopefully, by the time you read this, SPRING WILL HAVE SPRUNG in northeast Ohio. I have detected sprouts of daffodils and hyacinths in the midst of the snowbanks and have seen glimpses of "spring" birds at our feeders. This is the season of "awakening" and change, and this year, the month of April includes Maundy Thursday and Holy Week, as well as the ever-present and challenging tax deadline.

For our AGO Chapter, April includes ballots for our Annual Election. Thanks to our Nominating Committee, we are fortunate to have a very capable slate of officers and Executive Board members. It is a little discouraging that no one has answered the call to be Secretary, but it is not too late..... if you are willing to take on that office, please let our Nominating Committee chair, Chris Toth, know as soon as possible. The position only requires taking minutes at the five Board meetings during the year.

Our present Secretary, Leslie Bauer will be leaving office in June. She has taken on a full-time job as bookkeeper with The Cornerstone Fund of the United Church of Christ Headquarters in downtown Cleveland. (And she reports that she is blessed with a Bedient tracker organ in the UCC chapel where she can practice during lunchtime.)

Leslie has been Secretary for six years and has worked with three Deans. When I asked her to write a paragraph about her tenure as Secretary, she wrote, "I think that being Secretary is actually one of the easier jobs to do on the Executive Committee. I was able to use a little creativity in the way I would word things, so that made it interesting. I liked being on the EC because it was great to know the history of all the decisions and what was going on behind the scenes." Thank you, Leslie for your many devoted years of service, and may God bless you in your future endeavors.

Another item which will be distributed in April is our Operating Procedures which our Task Force has

revised and updated. Please read this carefully and get back to Peg Limkemann, the head of our Task Force, with any questions or concerns. We would like to pass the revised procedures at our Annual Meeting on May 2.

Speaking of our Annual Dinner, April is the month for getting in your reservations. This year it will be a joint event with the Akron Chapter and will be held May 2 in Hudson at Christ Church Episcopal (Nicole Keller, host) and the neighboring church, First Congregational Church (Charlie Carr, host). It is certain be a very delightful event, and it will be a great opportunity to become better acquainted with our Akron neighbors. Further details are in this Newsletter.

ENJOY THE SPRING, and I hope to see you at our chapter functions.

Musical Blessings,

Marcia

Next Executive Committee Meeting:

Monday, May 10, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.
Lakewood Presbyterian Church
14502 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, Ohio 44107
216.226.0514

Next Chapter Meeting:

Sunday, May 2, 2010 at 4:00 p.m.
Christ Church Episcopal
21 Aurora St.
Hudson, Ohio
Nicole Keller, Host
330.650.4359
and
First Congregational Church of Hudson
47 Aurora St.
Hudson, Ohio 44236
Charles Carr, host
330.656.2919

ORGAN CRAWL AND **ANNUAL DINNER MEETING** **SUNDAY, MAY 2**

The Cleveland Chapter AGO Annual Dinner Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 2, at First Congregational Church, 47 Aurora St., in Hudson.

Instead of a recital or musical event preceding the dinner and meeting this year, the afternoon's informal program will be an Organ Crawl, allowing members to see, hear, and play, (if they wish), the organ at First Congregational, and the organ at neighboring Christ Church Episcopal, immediately next door to First Congregational.

The Organ Crawl portion of the afternoon will begin at 4:00 p.m. at Christ Church Episcopal, 21 Aurora St., Hudson, with Nicole Keller, Organist and Choirmaster at Christ Church, as our host. We will then move next door to First Congregational, with First Congregational's Organist Charles Carr as our host. We will remain, then, at First Congregational for the dinner.

As stated above, the Organ Crawl will begin at 4:00 p.m., and we expect to spend approximately 45 minutes with each instrument. That would mean moving to First Congregational at approximately 4:45 p.m., with the dinner commencing at approximately 5:30 p.m., if there are those who would be joining us only for the dinner and meeting portion of the afternoon and evening.

The dinner, as in previous years, will be a buffet by caterer Janet Cutlip. The Annual Meeting and installation of next year's officers and Executive Committee members will follow. The evening usually concludes between 7:00 and 7:30 pm.

The Organ Crawl portion of the afternoon will be a joint program with the Akron AGO Chapter, so we hope many of their members will be joining us. We have also invited any who wish to do so to make dinner reservations and stay to eat with us.

Cost for the dinner is once again \$20 per person, and spouses, partners, and guests are most welcome! Reservations and payment (checks should be made out to "Cleveland Chapter AGO") should be sent to David Powers, AGO Treasurer, 2539 W. Sprague Road, Broadview Heights, Ohio, 44147. Deadline for reservations is Monday, April 26.

The Annual Dinner is always a wonderful time to renew acquaintances, make some new ones, and to stay connected with our colleagues, and to especially become familiar with those who will be leading our chapter for the next program year. And for those who would like to play either or both instruments during the Organ Crawl, don't forget to bring your shoes and music! We hope to see you on May 2!

A FESTIVAL OF THE **LITURGICAL ARTS OF THE** **WESTERN RESERVE**

You are invited to the first annual **Festival of Liturgical Arts of the Western Reserve (FLAWR)**, a five-day synthesis of worship, workshops, discussions and masterclasses for musicians and clergy devoted to the continual development of their craft. FLAWR was created to bring together preachers, teachers, musicians and artists to share their unique gifts in the creation of liturgies that reflect the beauty and splendor of God.

Musicians meet together frequently. Preachers meet together frequently. But in very few instances are all of these leaders brought together to create, disseminate, discuss, and wrestle with the issues of how and why we do what we do. We believe this is our niche: passionate, creative and honest dialogue across the liturgical disciplines.

Clergy presenters include The Rev. Mitties McDonald DeChamplain, The Rev. Dr. Thomas G. Long, The Rev. Brian S. Suntken, and Phyllis Tickle.

Musical artists and presenters include Dr. Gerre Hancock, Nicole Keller, Dr. C. M. Shearer, Todd Wilson, The Canton Symphony Chorus, and The Cleveland Jazz Orchestra.

Worship at FLAWR will feature a wide variety of liturgical expressions ranging from traditional Anglican Morning Prayer to Jazz Vespers. Workshops, lectures, and masterclasses are offered to provide small group sessions focused on specific topics. Panel discussions are designed to allow Festival participants an opportunity for open, honest discussion on liturgical issues.

Visit our website at www.flawr.org for more detailed information.

Nicole Keller, Organist and Choirmaster
Christ Church Episcopal

MASTER CLASS WITH TOM TRENNEY

Tom Trenney led a Master Class on Saturday morning, February 20, at First Baptist Church in Shaker Heights. Two stunning CIM organ students of Todd Wilson played for the class. Dana Steele played Dupre's "Prelude and Fugue in B Major." Patrick Parker played a movement from Vierne's "Second Symphony." Both played very well and Tom's suggestions were well received. One comment that I found especially helpful was to make each and every phrase as wonderful as possible. This is a challenge! Sometimes we play the same repertoire over and over and become complacent in our playing....we can do better!

Following the Master Class, Tom offered a second hour called "Abracadabra" - Magically making Music in the Moment. He offered great guidelines for improvising, primarily with hymn tunes. He made many helpful suggestions.

Please consider attending master classes when they are offered! I always learn something new and gain a new appreciation for the music we all love to play! Thanks to Tom, Todd Wilson and Bob Schneider, host.

Carol Neff, CAGO

HISTORIC ORGAN

Dear Cleveland AGO,

As a member of the chapter and member of St. John's United Church of Christ in Dover, Ohio, I wanted to share with you a unique and historic organ.

When I was 15, and I am now 37, I began playing the pipe organ on our church's 1881 / 1938 Vottleler-Holtkamp pipe organ. It is a RARE and beautiful site in the church! Several hundred metal and wooden pipes from the 1881 Vottleler organ were incorporated into the "new" Holtkamp organ of 1938. The organ has two tall and wide cases, one on each side of the front choir nave. The open 16 foot pedal pipes are on each side, in the front, with the Great and pedal in the right loft and the Positiv and Swell on the left.

The organ has the original oak and maple casework, action, and pipework. The only things done to the organ over the last 128 / 71 years were general cleaning, tuning, and in about 2005, the original

console was kept, but renovated with new and additional thumb / toe pistons, console cleaning, new electronic parts, and added a programmable Crescendo / Sequencer. Releathering and pipe removal and cleaning was also performed by the Holtkamp Organ Company of Cleveland, Ohio.

This organ is a remarkable salvation of both eras. Over 128 years, then 71 years since 1938, the original casework and pipework remains intact with no additions or alterations, is fully playable, and a true site to see. While I cannot speak for the church Elders, please feel free to give them a call, or simply call to stop by. This would be an amazing instrument for members to see!

It all began in 1986 for me at the age of 15. On that very organ, before I was 18, I learned to play J. S. Bach's Toccata in D Minor BWV 565, his 8 short Preludes and Fugues, Prelude and Fugue in C, its variants, and many other wonderful organ works. I played in two musical concerts that included the use of the pipe organ, and as a then member of the Canton chapter in the 1980's and 90's, and now the Cleveland AGO to present date, the memories of playing and learning on this fantastic and extremely rare unaltered 1881 / 1938 pipe organ have been a passion for me. The church is also lucky to have had the same organist from the mid 1950's to present. I also have wonderful pictures of this fine instrument, and was even married in St. John's UCC with the organ works of J.S. Bach being played.

May we always remember the words of J.S. Bach in this famous quote: "The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul." We, as organists, know that very feeling. It's a remarkable passion and a unique way to connect with God. May God always bless our fine Guild and chapter.

With Best Regards,

Paul R. Jones, LPN (and Organist)
Cleveland AGO member

CHAPTER CONCERNS:

Prayers and best wishes for a speedy recovery for Elaine Shakley, who is at home recovering from surgery for colon cancer.

PLEASE NOTE: Please send all job postings to: **Gerry Mass**, 440.884.4904, **e-mail:** gerry@gerardskeyboards.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.

ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR: Lakeside United Methodist Church, Marblehead, Ohio. Salary range: \$10-16,000. per year. (for one person). We will also consider two individuals, i.e., one for each position. Interested persons should contact Don Eckert via e-mail at musiclumc@verizon.net

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

ACCOMPANIST: Divinity Lutheran Church, Parma Hts., Ohio. Good piano skills required; organ playing skills a plus. Sunday service; Wednesday evening rehearsal. Salary: \$30. per week. Interested persons may call 216.961.4571 for more information.

PIANIST: South Euclid-Hillcrest United Methodist Church, 1534 S. Green Rd., South Euclid, OH 44121. 216.381.2953. Part-time. Sunday worship service. Special worship services. Thursday evening rehearsal. Salary: \$4,020. per year. Interested persons should send a resume to the church address listed above to the attention of the Pastor, Rev. Liz Nau, or via e-mail at revlznau@sbcglobal.net

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.

Tuesdays: Music for Tuesdays Program at **Messiah Lutheran Church**. 21485 Lorain Road, Fairview Park, Ohio 440.331.2405. www.messiahfp.org.

FREE concerts at **NOON** on Tuesdays.

April 6: Jennifer Woda, mezzo; David Gooding, keyboards. Arias from Operas and Oratorios.

April 13: Benjamin Czarnota, baritone. Program to be announced, but leaning toward being wonderfully quirky and inventive.

April 20 – Lutheran West High School Chorale and Singers, Ron Muth, Director. A varied program of choral works by one of the area's outstanding high school music programs.

April 27 – Highland Chamber Ensemble. Instrumental works yet to be announced, performed by this always engaging chamber group.

Tuesdays at 12:10 p.m.: St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 317 E. Liberty Street, Medina, Ohio, 330.725.4131.

Tuesday, April 20: Button Box Band, Accordion Band.

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.

April 7: Organist **Florence Mustric** presents "Menu of favorites." The audience will select the day's music from a menu of Vivaldi, Bach, Brahms, Alain, and Barber.

April 14: The organist is **Simone Gheller**, a young artist and student at Oberlin Conservatory of Music.

April 21: The organist is **JinHee Kim**, a young artist and student at Oberlin Conservatory of Music.

April 28: The **Men's Chorus** at St. Ignatius High School will perform.

Sunday, April 11 at 3:00 p.m.: Gesu Catholic Church, 2470 Miramar Blvd., University Hts., Ohio . 216.932.1626. **Robert Troeger, Organist.** Robert Troeger is Assistant Professor of Fine Arts at Wheeling Jesuit University and Music Director/Organist of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Wheeling, WV. He has appeared as organ soloist with the Wheeling Symphony and as conductor of the chamber orchestra of the Pittsburgh Symphony. His program will feature both classic and contemporary composers including Bach, Billy Strayhorn and Calvin Hampton.

Sunday, April 11th at 7:30 p.m.: Forest Hill Presbyterian Church, 3031 Monticello Blvd., at Lee Rd., Cleveland Heights, OH 44118. 261.321.2660. **Swing to the Lord a New Song:** a jazz vespers service featuring a jazz combo led by Paul Ferguson, trombone, and Jack Schantz, trumpet. The Forest Hill choirs; Anne Wilson, director. Free-will offering. Reception afterwards.

Friday, April 16 at 7:30 p.m.: Cathedral of St John, 1007 Superior Ave, (downtown Cleveland); 216.771.6666 x5510. **Cleveland Catholic High School Choir Invitational.** Participating Choirs:
Beaumont High School - Dr. Lisa Litteral, director
Regina High School - Sr. Mary Seton, director
Cleveland Central Catholic - Tracy Jones, director
Trinity High School - Dr. Thomas Scott, director & event coordinator
Benedictine High School - Ian Crane, director & event coordinator
FREE concert; Free secure parking: Cathedral Garage on Rockwell Ave at E 9th.
www.saintjohncathedral.com/Concerts

Saturday, April 17 at 11:00 a.m.: Fairmount Presbyterian Church, 2757 Fairmount Blvd., Cleveland Heights, OH 44118-4098. 216.321.5800. **City Music Cleveland Children's Concert.** The orchestra delights a young audience with a performance of Camille Saint Saëns' *Carnival of the Animals*.

Saturday, April 17 at 4:00 p.m.: Plymouth Church, UCC, 2860 Coventry Road, Shaker Heights, OH, 44120, 216.921.3510. www.PlymouthChurchUCC.org. **Dana Steele, organist.** Plymouth's excellent music intern plays her junior organ recital.

Friday, April 23 at 8:00 p.m.: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 50 North Prospect Street, Akron, OH. Organist **Chelsea Chen** will present the concluding concert of this season's Trinity Organ Series. The concert will be free and open to the public. Donations will be accepted in support of the Trinity Organ Series. Convenient parking is located adjacent to the Church. For additional information, phone 330.376.5154 or visit trinityakron.org/organseries online.

Sunday, April 25 at 3:00 p.m.: Church of the Saviour, 2537 Lee Road, Cleveland Heights, OH 44118. United Methodist., 216.321.8880. **Spring Choir Concert. "Heaven and Earth"** featuring vocal and instrumental choirs from Church of the Savior.

Sunday, April 25, at 4:00 p.m.: First Unitarian Church of Cleveland, 21600 Shaker Boulevard, Shaker Heights, OH. **Oberlin College Choir** Free-will offering. Call 216.751.2320 for info.

Sunday, April 25 at 4:00 p.m.: Brecksville United Church of Christ, 23 Public Square, Brecksville, OH 44141, 440.526.4364 (church phone) buccmusic@sbcglobal.net. The **Ohio State University Women's Glee Club**, directed by **Dr. Richard Schnipke**, will perform a free concert. The group sings a variety of treble repertoire, frequently featuring the poetry and music of women artists. A free will offering will be received and a light reception will follow the program. Brecksville UCC is located at the intersection of Routes 82 & 21 at 23 Public Square. The building is handicapped accessible. For more information, call 440.526.4364.

Sunday, April 25 at 4:00 p.m.: St. Brendan Church, 4242 Brendan Lane, North Olmsted, Ohio 44070. **DEDICATION RECITAL** of the new **Johannus Organ.** Guest **Organist** is **Jeffrey Sawders.** Music by Bach, Guilman, Massanet, Miller, Vaughn Williams, Whitlock, and Widor.



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Cleveland Chapter

April 2010

QUICKGUIDE: CLEVELAND CHAPTER AGO 2009-2010

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