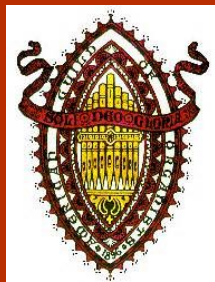


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MAY 2017

MAY 2017

The Windchest

From the Dean...

Summer is a hand, and with it, many opportunities for professional growth are available for organists and choral directors. Available opportunities may include extensive travel, an afternoon of reading in the shade of a near-by tree, sight-reading new-to-you repertoire, or collaborating with other musicians in planning a one-day workshop for organists next season. The list is endless.

AGO conventions offer many and unique seminars, workshops, reading sessions, hymn festivals, concerts and recitals for professional growth. The North Central Regional Convention, "We Shall Gather at the Rivers" is scheduled for June 19-22 in the Iowa City/Cedar Rapids area. Other regional conventions are listed on the AGO Website.

For those interested in historic organs, the Organ Historic Society holds an annual convention each summer. Information is available on the Society's Website. For teen-agers, the guild offers Pipe Organ Encounters (POE) with several sites, including two for advanced students. (The registration deadline for POE is May 1.)

Reading provides many opportunities for professional growth. A short list of suggestions:

- Sisley, Todd, ed. *The American Organist*. Any edition.
- Forster, Stuart. *Hymn Playing*. A Modern Colloquium. MorningStar, 2013
- Guenther, Eileen. *Rivals or a Team?* MorningStar, 2012.
- Hyslop, Scott M. *The Journey was Chosen*. The life and Work of Paul Manz. MorningStar, 2007
- Koriath, Kirby L. ed. *The Life and Work of Walter E. Buszin*. Concordia Theological Seminary Press. 2003.
- Westermeyer, Paul. *The Church Musician*. Revised Edition. Augsburg Fortress. 1997
- Westermeyer, Paul. *Te Deum*. The Church and Music. Fortress Press. 1998.
- Zager, Daniel, ed. *Hymns in the Life of the Church*. Concordia Theological Seminary Press. 2004.

Many denominations offer regional and national conventions, seminars, events, and historic or topic related tours during the summer months. (For example, 2017 is the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther nailing the 95 *Theses* to the Wittenburg Castle Church door. There are many local, regional, national and international events in commemoration of this historic event).

Read music reviews, browse through music displays at conventions, local stores, or on the Internet.

Plan and organize a one-day workshop for organists and choral directors to be presented in the fall designed to reach church musicians in rural communities.

Seek out an organ mentor, take some lessons, or offer to give organ lessons.

Write a review article for an upcoming issue of WINDCHEST covering a convention, seminar, educational event you attended this summer.

Pray, think, and ponder on the role of the organist and choral director in modern culture.

Peace and good will. Psalm 96:1,2.

Dr. Christensen, Dean



Tip of the Month

National Federation
of
Music Clubs

"Student musicians receive positive, professional, motivational feed-back, encouraging further preparation and growth, following a specifically out-lined curriculum."



Tip of the Month

Education, a very key purpose statement of the American Guild of Organists, is the topic of the "Tip-of-the-Month" May. The article will affirm a national organization that offers systematic instruction plans for students seeking vocal and instrumental music instruction, including organ. The program for organ study parallels that of the AGO certification program.

The National Federation of Music Clubs has active clubs throughout the Omaha and Council Bluffs metropolitan community. Each spring, (usually the last weekend in March unless it needs to be changed due to Easter), the Federation holds a festival in which students perform specific works for constructive criticism and a rating for a professionally qualified judge. Student musicians receive positive, professional, motivational feed-back, encouraging further preparation and growth, following a specifically out-lined curriculum.

While participation in piano competition is widely facilitated, the Federation offers an organ curriculum which appeals to organ students of all ages, from eight-year-old beginners to organists working on degrees in organ performance.

The Federation offers three events in the Organ Section: Organ Repertoire; Sacred Organ; and Organ Hymn. Each section includes multiple entry levels, beginning with "Primary Class Organ Repertoire," following through with 10 additional entry levels, ending with "Musically Advanced Class II Organ Repertoire." Each level requires one piece chosen from a "required" list, published in the Federation Festival Bulletin, available to members annually. In addition to the "required" piece, each entry requires a second piece of choice, which must be on the same level as the required choice.

The required music is always well chosen, published by reputable publishers. In the upper levels, the required music is of the same quality, level, and creditability as the music listed in the AGO SPC required repertoire.

The Council Bluffs chapter of the National Federation of Music Clubs added organ entry opportunity in the local festival four years ago. Federation requires the organ entries be judged by an experienced organist, suggesting the judge hold AGO certification or a college background in organ.

This year, Council Bluffs had nine organ entries, including students eight years-17 years of age. The program outlines goals, time-lines, suggesting repertoire which is both approachable and functional at any age level.

And, perhaps best of all, the organ program goals of the National Federation of Music Clubs parallels the stated goals of the American Guild of Organists. The collaboration of the two organizations has considerable potential for educating organists for the future!



2016-2017 AGO Season



Pedaling Around Omaha

Upcoming Events at Sinai Lutheran, Fremont

The final program in the dedication series for Sinai's new Juget-Sinclair organ will be a recital by Michael Bauer on **Sunday May 7 at 3:00 p.m.**



MUSIC EXCHANGE

The Omaha Chapter AGO plans to sponsor what is becoming the "Annual Music Exchange" this summer. Member Julie Sandene is making the arrangements for Trinity Lutheran Church, 6430 N. 30th, Omaha, to host the exchange. While specific dates have not yet been set, the exchange will be open for four weeks during office hours.

This will be the third annual chapter music exchange. Many organ and piano students have added significant service and classical organ music to their libraries. Following each of the previous two exchanges, four crates of selected scores have been shipped to the Bach Research Library in Moscow Russia. That deeply appreciated gift is used by church musicians and organ conservatory teachers within a 600 mile radius of Moscow, and musicians in Finland.

CLOSING DINNER MEMBER CERTIFICATION PARTICIPANTS/ RECITAL

MONDAY, MAY 22, at 6:00

Dundee Presbyterian Church
5312 Underwood Avenue, Omaha
Hosts: Dr. Wayne Kalstrom
J. Gordon Christensen

Plans are well underway for the chapter's end-of-season event to be held at Dundee Presbyterian Church, Monday, May 22 at 6:00. Dr. Wayne Kallstrom and Dr. Christensen are hosts for this event.

The evening will begin with a catered dinner at 6:00 p.m., followed by the annual business meeting. Following the business meeting, participants in the certification program will be featured in an organ recital.

The business meeting agenda includes ballots and installation of 2017-2018 officers, reports by the treasurer and dean, committee chair appointments, and acknowledgements.

Celebrate Catering of Council Bluffs, the company that catered our kick-off event last fall, had agreed to cater the meal for us. The menu includes a chicken dish, two salads including a pasta salad, vegetable, dinner roll, dessert, coffee or iced tea. Cost is \$11.95 per plate. The fee may be paid at the door, payable to Omaha AGO.

Reservations are needed for the meal. For reservations, contact Dr. Christensen at mrc@chase3000.com or (712)322-4729 by Monday, May 15.

THELMA MOSS STENLUND

The Omaha Chapter of the American Guild of Organists offers sincere condolences to the family and friends of Thelma Moss Stenlund who died Wednesday, April 19, at the age of 102 years.

Thelma Moss Stenlund left an amazing musical legacy throughout the Omaha/Council Metropolitan community. She was dean of Omaha AGO in 1958-60. She served several churches in the community as Organist and Choir Director, including Clifton Hill Presbyterian Church, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Immanuel Baptist Church, and Central United Presbyterian Church. A member of First Presbyterian Church since 1935, she served as President of Private Music Instructors of Omaha, Nebraska Federation of Music Clubs and Nebraska Summer Olympics. In addition to local community leadership roles, Thelma Moss Stenlund served on the National Board of National Federation of Music Clubs, and was Treasurer of Private Music Instructors for 20 years.

According to the obituary published Sunday, April 23, Thelma requested there be no funeral or memorial services. Visiting hours will be at the Bel Air Chapel, 12100 W. Center Road on Friday, May 12 from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.

Memorial gifts on behalf of the Omaha Chapter AGO have been sent to Nebraska Summer Music Olympics and the Omaha Chapter AGO.

Reviews of Conventions



*River Valley Chapter
of the
AGO*

*North Central
Regional AGO
Convention*

AGO Board
Members

Committee Chairs



Windchest Summer Issues to be Published

The chapter's monthly newsletter WINDCHEST will continue to be published monthly during throughout the summer months. A special emphasis in summer issues will be reviews of music conventions, seminars, workshops, and education events Omaha AGO members have attended.

Reviews currently scheduled include:

- North Central Regional Convention
- Prairie Voices: A Musforum Conference
- Organ Historic Society Convention
- Association of Lutheran Church Musicians Conference
- Pipe Organ Encounter - Advanced (Seattle)

Are there other events members are planning to attend? Please offer to write a review of any events you attend. Send information and articles to the WINDCHEST publisher: Rosemary Paul at: rosemarypaul@splc.omhcoxmail.com.

We would like to include local summer music events on the calendar. Send information to Rosemary at her email address.

The mid-month "Dean's Ciphers" will continue as well.



The River Valley Chapter of the AGO
Online registration for the 2017
North Central Regional AGO convention
is now open!

Don't delay, register today
and plan ahead for the big event
June 19 - 21, 2017
in Iowa City/Cedar Rapids.

CURRENT AGO BOARD MEMBERS 2016-2017

Dean: J Gordon Christensen, AAGO
Sub-Dean: Marie Rubis Bauer
Secretary: Gregory Johnson
Treasurer: Gina Simpson
Immediate Past Dean: David Schack
Members - at - Large:
Julie Sandene: 2014/15-2016/17
Claire Eason: 2015/16 -2017/18
Jean Johnson: 2016/17 - 2018/19



COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Education (AGO Certification)	Sally Hodges
Chapter Historian	Claire Eason
Organ Historian	David McCain
Membership	Julie Sandene
Membership Directory	Gina Simpson
Professional Concerns	Jerry Brabec
Programming (2016-2017)	Marie Rubis Bauer
Publicity	J Gordon Christensen
Referrals	Julie Sandene
Webmaster	Mayumi Naramura
Windchest Editor	Claire Eason
Windchest Publisher	Rosemary Paul