

Portland Chapter of the
American Guild of Organists
186 Mountain Road
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2010-2013, ***Scott Vaillancourt*** 240-9419, scott.vaillancourt@portlanddiocese.org

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THE VOX HUMANA

The newsletter of the Portland, Maine Chapter of the
American Guild of Organists

website: www.agoportlandmaine.com

blog: www.agonewengland.blogspot.com

April 2012

FROM THE DEAN..

You will be receiving this edition of The Vox during one of your busiest times of the church year --- Holy Week. I'm sure there has been a great deal of planning and practicing going on to ensure that only the "best" offerings will be presented in assisting our congregations with their acts of worship and to experience that which words cannot express. May this time be a personal blessing for you, also.

In my previous message, I focused on "encouragement". As I continue to think about this important facet of life, I am delighted to realize how much encouragement must have been given to our young Maine organists. Consider the fact that four (4) of our national "rising stars" have had their initial training, development, and encouragement right here in Maine. These young musicians, Katelyn Emerson, Jennifer McPherson, Christopher Ganza, and Tom Mueller, are winning prestigious competitions, performing in first-class venues, and embarking on formidable concert careers. We need to continue to encourage and support our young musicians. In doing so, we might be able to win in the race for relevance.

Harrison Coerver and Mary Byers in their groundbreaking book *Race For Relevance*, conclude that the traditional model of an association is in jeopardy in our fast-paced digital world. Many associations are in a race for relevance. For some, it is a race for survival. Many are struggling to maintain membership, generate and increase participation, attract volunteers, and compete with alternative offerings.

Does any of this seem familiar?

Providing members a long list of services is meaningless if the members don't use them. We should focus on that which provides the greatest value to the greatest number of members. Associations must identify how to help members be more successful. Associations that wish to stay relevant must narrow the focus of what they do in order to meet the immediate and emerging needs of their members.

What are your needs? Where should our focus be? Why are we here?

Let me know! I am listening! I can hear you, now!

With great encouragement,
Ed Larson, Dean

Portland Chapter Programs "Celebrating Our Member Resources"

**May 20, 2012:
Annual Meeting and
Members Recital.**

South Parish Church, Augusta,
4:00 p.m.

The recital will be presented by
Jay Zoller, John Sullivan, and
Harold Stover on the historic
Hook organ

**Following the recital and annual
meeting, we will gather for social
time at a local restaurant.**

In memoriam

Gerre Hancock

Martin Jean

The world has lost a great musician.. Gerre Hancock died the afternoon of January 21 in Austin, Texas; he was 77 years old. Dr. Hancock was an alumnus of the University of Texas at Austin, and the Union School of Sacred Music in New York City. He was a former student of Dr. Robert Stevens Baker.

Following his studies, he became assistant organist at St. Bartholemew's Episcopal Church in New York, and from there moved to Christ Church, Cincinnati, OH. From 1971-2004 Gerre was organist and choirmaster of St. Thomas Church, Fifth Avenue, and for nearly that long taught organ and organ improvisation here at Yale. During this time he raised to an international level, the quality and visibility of both programs. He was one of the greatest church musicians of our time and inspired generations of musicians who worked with and admired him.



CHAPTER NEWS

MEMBER NEWS

Portland Chapter member, Dr. James Strand, AAGO, will be inducted into the Fine Arts Hall of Fame at Southwestern College, Winfield, Kansas, where he taught for 38 years before coming to Maine. In addition to the induction, Jim and the present organist at the school, Dr. James Leland, will share a recital on Saturday, April 21, on the recently refurbished Reuter Organ that is in Richardson Auditorium. The instrument has been completely restored, and includes a new console. Richardson Auditorium has had a major renovation as well, and the excellent acoustics have been retained. The program will begin with Jim's son, Jon Strand, playing the John Stanley "Voluntary in D". Other numbers include works by Bach, Locklair, Messiaen and Widor.

Katelyn Emerson and Jennifer McPherson will be performing in the Young Artists Showcase at the First Unitarian Church, 90 Maine Street, Worcester, Massachusetts. Jennifer will appear on April 13th and Katelyn will appear on June 22nd. The recitals begin at 7:30 p.m. and are free to the public.

NATIONAL NEWS

Celebration of the Lifetime Achievements of John and Marianne Weaver Will Benefit the AGO Endowment Fund

The American Guild of Organists (AGO) will sponsor a Recital and Gala Benefit Reception honoring John and Marianne Weaver on Saturday, April 21, 2012, at 3 p.m., at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts in Philadelphia, Pa. The recital will feature John and Marianne Weaver, joined by Diane Meredith Belcher, Chelsea Chen, Ken Cowan, and Alan Morrison. The gala benefit reception will follow. A pre-concert on-stage conversation with the performers will be moderated by Pipedreams Host Michael Barone beginning at 2:15 p.m. The gala is sponsored by the AGO National Council, Eileen Guenther, president, and the AGO Development Committee. All proceeds will benefit the AGO Endowment Fund in the Weavers' honor.

Recital and Gala Benefit Reception
Tickets are \$100 (\$75 tax deductible) and may be purchased online at or by calling 212-870-2311, ext. 4308. The names of those who purchase their tickets by April 1 will be printed in the souvenir program book. Tickets for the recital only can be purchased online at .

Display advertising in the commemorative recital program book is offered for a full page (\$1,000 and includes two gala tickets) and a half page insertion (\$500 and includes one gala ticket). Advertising insertion orders can be placed online at . E-mail for further information. Advertising deadline is April 1. The publication will become a part of the American Organ Archives.

Those unable to attend the Recital and Gala Benefit Reception can make a contribution to the AGO Endowment Fund in honor of John and Marianne Weaver online at . These names will also be published in the program book; all contributions received by April 1 will be included.

To AGO Members and Friends:

The American Guild of Organists, the premier 501(c)(3) national professional association serving the organ and choral music fields, is actively recruiting for a Director of Information Technology and Digital Communications. This full-time staff position with benefits offers a unique opportunity for a hands-on professional employee who can help plan, lead, and participate as a significant contributor in the organization's ongoing information technology and digital communication programs.

Pipe Organ Encounter

A POE is a 4-5 day event organized by a local AGO chapter that introduces participants aged 13-18 to the world of the pipe organ.

Pipe Organ Encounter Advanced

A POEA is a 5-6 day event organized by a local AGO chapter that provides a higher level of pipe organ instruction and intense course study for students aged 13-18 who have already achieved a high level of success in organ study.

Pipe Organ Encounter Plus

POE+ is a 4-5 day event organized by a local AGO chapter that provides organ instruction to students 19 and older. It is open to beginners as well as more advanced students.

FMI: American Guild of Organists
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1260 |
New York, NY 10115
212-870-2310 | info@agohq.org

CLASSIFIED:

For interested music historians:

eight volumes and one pamphlet of choral pieces. Compilers/composers include W.O. Perkins, E.F. Steffen, D.F. Hodges, W.F. Studts, L.O. Emerson, C.F. Leslie, E.W. Hanscom and J. Eliot Trowbridge. The volumes are bound in paper over board, with some water stain. No mildew. The block and pages are in quite good condition, all things considered.

These books were originally used by the choir at the Deering Memorial United Methodist Church in South Paris, Maine. If interested, please contact Charles Longley at clongley@gmail.com

Organ Music and Books for Sale:

Craig Cramer, from the University of Notre Dame has a large collection of used organ music and books for sale. For a complete list, contact: ccramer@nd.edu. He operates on a first-come, first-served basis. Please include the address to which you want your package delivered so that he can get you a total with postage and handling added.. All music is used unless otherwise noted. For more information, contact: Craig Cramer, DMA
Professor of Organ
University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, Indiana USA
574-631-7836

The Kotschmar Organ Centennial Celebration

August 17-22, 2012

Music lovers from around the world will gather for the Kotschmar Organ's Centennial Festival Celebration. The festival gives attendees the rare opportunity to mingle with the masters of the organ world from Friday, August 17 through Wednesday, August 22!

The Kotschmar Centennial Festival will mark the 100th birthday of the mighty Kotschmar Organ. Music lovers from around the world will gather for the Centennial Festival Celebration. The festival gives attendees the rare opportunity to mingle with the masters of the organ world.

Join Friends of the Kotschmar Organ for this 6 day festival of pops, silent film, and classical concerts, master classes and workshops presented by world renowned organists and artists, local historians and architects. Stay at the Holiday Inn By the Bay, the official Festival Hotel.

Concerts include:

Silent Film with Tom Trenney. Friday, Aug. 17, 7:30 p.m.

"Performathon" with Maine organists and organ tours. Saturday, Aug. 18, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Pops concert with Walt Strony and Dave Wickerham. Saturday, Aug. 18, 7:30 p.m.

The 3 H's (Hell, Heywood and Hohman) concert. Monday, Aug. 20, 7:30 p.m.

Masters concert with Fred Swann & John Weaver. Tuesday, Aug. 21, 7:30 p.m.

Centennial Concert with Ray Cornils, Peter Richard Conte and Festival Brass, Aug. 22, 7:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Merrill Auditorium, 20 Myrtle St., Portland, ME

INFO: www.foko.org, 207-553-4363

COMING SOON

ADMISSION:

Full Festival=\$395, \$495 after 5/15/12
Pops Festival=\$165, \$185 after 5/15/2012

Classical Festival=\$325, \$385 after 5/15/2012

Daily Pass=\$140

See www.foko.org for single concert ticket prices and additional options.

Tickets available through PortTix, 207-842-0800, porttix.com

Newsletter Deadline May 15, 2012 for our Summer issue of the Vox Humana

**Please send photos, articles, news
of upcoming events to**

**Nancy Wines-DeWan
newd3@maine.rr.com**

ORGAN CONCERT-Paul Jordan

You are cordially invited to attend a free organ concert by Paul Jordan, Sunday May 20 at 4 PM at the Episcopal Church of Saint Mary the Virgin, 43 Foreside Road, Flamouth ME 04105. This will be a 'palindrome concert' of mostly works of J. S. Bach. The first half of the recital will include Bach's Fantasy in C minor, the Chorale-Prelude on "Allein Gott in der Höh sei Ehr", the Fugue in C minor, a piece by Louis Hardin, Bach's Vater Unser im Himmelreich, the Chorale-Fantasy "In Dir ist Freude" and in the center, the Fantasy in C minor (5 voices). Then the pieces will be repeated in reverse order, like a mirror (hence the palindrome). The reason for this is so that each piece can be appreciated and enjoyed by a second hearing with different registration. Paul Jordan studied and was mentored by Helmut Walcha, the renowned Bach interpreter with whom he spent four years of study at the State Music Academy in Frankfurt am Main. He held a professorship for two decades at the State University of New York Binghamton and his concert tours have taken him to cities on four continents, including major European

cathedrals and American music festivals. He recorded for the Hessian, Northwest German and Berlin radio networks and held a Solo Recitalist's Fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts; his commercial recordings (the Art of the Fugue still available from www.briosio.com) led to a nomination by the German Phono Academy for the Deutscher Schallplattenpreis (the German "Grammy"), and the European Prize for Bach Interpretation awarded by the Fondation Europeenne de la Culture in Lucerne, Switzerland, in 2003. Currently residing anew in New Haven, Paul Jordan recently founded and directed the New Haven Buxtehude Project dedicated to performance of cantatas by the Luebeck master and his pupils.



AGO National Convention July 1-6, 2012

www.ago2012.org

Come to Nashville. Leave smarter. The convenient schedule allows you to attend as many as 12 workshops. Whatever your interest—choral for all ages, pedagogy, rehearsal techniques, worship, improvisation, performance—Nashville has it all!

More than 70 workshops and choral reading sessions will be presented, but they are filling up fast. Don't get left out. Register Today!

Y'all come and discover why Nashville is Music City USA! Nashville welcomes the 2012 AGO National Convention.

Register Today!



POSITIONS AVAILABLE

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PORTLAND AGO MEMBERS:

On February 14, 2011 an AGO Member filed a formal complaint against the Unitarian Universalist Church of Portsmouth, aka "South Church," for wrongful termination of employment. Below is the notice of the outcome of this case:

South Church UU, Portsmouth, NH, wrongfully terminated a member of the American Guild of Organists on January 19, 2011, for which no resolution has been reached." Until a resolution is reached, no AGO member may serve this institution as an employee or independent contractor or in an interim, substitute, regular or permanent capacity beyond September 5, 2011.

Organist St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Waterville, Maine, seeks a permanent part-time organist/accompanist, to begin immediately. The successful candidate will enhance the music program by working collaboratively with the rector and director of music to provide organ voluntaries and accompaniments for choral, vocal, and instrumental music. He or she also will have the ability to conduct the choir in the absence of the director. The position has the potential to be expanded in the future. Responsibilities include playing at Sunday services, holy days and various liturgical occasions and accompanying choir practices. Instruments are a tracker action pipe organ, newly refurbished and enhanced by the Andover Organ Company, and a Yamaha P-22 piano. For additional information contact St. Mark's at stmarkswaterville@gmail.com or www.stmarkswaterville.org.

West Scarborough United Methodist Church seeks an experienced organist/pianist/choir director, part time, 5-7 hours per week, for a 10 a.m. Sunday service and a weekly choir rehearsal for a 10-voice choir. Position can begin as early as January 1, 2012. Please contact Rev. Priscilla Dreyman, 899-5689 or revdrey@aol.com.

Organist wanted for two Sunday services, on a permanent basis, one at the Congregational Church in West Newfield at 8:30am for Choir rehearsal w/small choir and the 9am service. The Organ is a Conn

Electric 1970.

The other Service is at Limerick Congregational Church for the 11am service, (no choir) the organ here is a two manual Faucher pipe organ w/21 stops. Please contact: Janet Flyzik (207)793-8660 or Charlene Staples (207)793-8834

Pianist/Organist- Wayne Community Church, Wayne, ME. One Sunday service, no choir. Odell pipe organ, 1 manual, 8 ranks. FMI: 685 -3505.

Organist only- Penney Memorial United Baptist Church, 393 Water Street, Augusta, Maine 04330. One service Sunday morning with one rehearsal Thursday evening. Choir director is a separate position. Hall pipe organ: 3 man., 23 ranks. Position available September 2012. FMI: (207) 622-6401



The AGO Portland Chapter recommends the following fees for Substitute Organists:

One service (Organist or Organist/Choir Director) \$150.00 - \$300.00

A second service essentially the same as the first service 50% of first service fee

Rehearsal (1 ½ hours maximum) \$60.00 - \$100.00

Additional rehearsals with soloists, choir or instrumentalists \$30.00 - \$100.00/hour, depending on the difficulty of music

Mileage- 55 cents/mile if visits to church for practice, rehearsal, service exceed 25 miles/round trip.

Looking for a Substitute Organist?

The organists listed below are members of the Portland Chapter of the AGO and have indicated a desire to do substitute work. We have provided their contact information, but we encourage you to speak to them directly regarding the suitability of their qualifications for your particular need.

Clarissa Brown
voxceleste@juno.com
725 7826 home
552 4364 work

Despina Chatis Clark
603-743-6660

Mary M. Cowan
mmcowan@zwi.net
207-892-6313

Janet O. Davis
jand428@comcast.net
207-729-4395

Peter Dickson
207-865-3950

Sylvia Infantine
tinfanti@maine.rr.com
207-774-8078

Leela Koilpillai
Lkoilpillai@kw.com
Home: 207-899-2905
Cell: 207-329-4107

Peter Plumb
pplumb@mpmlaw.com
207-772-2680

John Sullivan, FAGO
weddings/funerals, weekday services
jtcsul@earthlink.net
207-282-0271

Newsletter Deadline May 15, 2012

*for our Summer issue of the
Vox Humana*

Please send submissions to

*Nancy Wines-DeWan
newd3@maine.rr.com*