



# Voices

January, 2009 Newsletter  
Spokane Chapter,  
American Guild of Organists

## Dean's notes...

Happy New Year! I hope you and your loved ones had a truly celebratory Christmas and that your 2009 is off to a rollicking start. I also sincerely trust that you are able to kick back at least a little and savor a bit of a respite. Do try to enjoy this time. Remember, Ash Wednesday is February 25<sup>th</sup> and Easter, April 12<sup>th</sup>.

A good number of us braved the elements and had great food, fellowship and fun at the Epiphany party. The true highlight: Howard Stoess nominated Barbara Rockwood for life membership in the Guild, honoring her long and selfless service to our art. All members present approved this well-deserved honor. Thanks for your service and dedication, Barbara. (Next month we'll feature a recollection of her career, courtesy of Howard.) I'm sorry if you could not attend; do try to join us next time. You were missed.

This year has started well for our Chapter: last weekend Gail Archer, remarkable player and wonderful person, came to town to play at Lewis and Clark and stayed to give a master class the following day. All who attended, organists and "others," were rewarded for their efforts. The Schweitzer/Bach program was inspiring (aided by a trio of quite fine student narrators from LC). Her teaching, on the Martin Pasi organ at St. Augustine, ranged from stress-relieving stretches for all, to marvelous, insightful playing advice to pupils Floyd Czoski, Walt Kroon (good to see Walt again!) and yours truly. A highlight for Gail was the chance to work with LC music students throughout the day on Friday, the only day of school that week. We look forward to her return to Spokane soon. Oh, yes, next time you see Jim Wallrabenstein, thank him heartily for his tenacity and bravery under fire and stellar midwifery in birthing this event.

We have a busy calendar for this month and next. Check it out.

## Calendar of Events

It's Northwest Bach Festival time. Do support this unique annual event.

Saturday, January 24, 8:00 p.m. Connoisseur Concerts Northwest Bach Festival organ recital with James David Christie. "The Bach Continuum," with music of Schütz, J.S. Bach and Reger; St. Augustine Parish Church, 19<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Bernard, Spokane. Pre-concert talk by Dr. Jane Ellsworth at 7:30. \$10 suggested donation at the door.

Tuesday, Jan. 27, 8:00 p.m. Connoisseur Concerts Northwest Bach Festival Chamber music concert: Bach Brandenburg No. 3, Sonata for flute and harpsichord, and Trio in F for violin, oboe, and harpsichord, plus music of Rebel, Corrette, and Haydn; St. John's Cathedral, 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Grand Blvd., Spokane. Pre-concert lecture by Gunther Schuller at 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$25 (students \$15).

Saturday, Jan. 31, 8:00 p.m., Bach Festival Finale Concert, Orchestra, Chorus, and soloists in 3 pieces by Heinrich Schutz, 2 Bach Cantatas, and Mozart's "Solemn Vespers in C, K.399. St John's Cathedral, 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Grand., Spokane. Pre-concert lecture by Gunther Schuller at 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$30 (students \$15)

### Chapter Officers, 2008-2009

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## *more Chapter news and events...*

Our primary February event is a unique opportunity to experience the Martin Woldson Theater at the Fox up close and personal. Chapter member Dick Trudell has worked with the Symphony is providing us with a chance to play on the Fox stage as part of an open house on the first Friday of next month. Here are details;

In conjunction with the First Friday Art event in downtown Spokane, the Fox Theater will be open to the public, and will have an open console event for AGO members on the newly installed Allen organ running concurrently. The organ console will be located center stage to give players the opportunity to clearly hear the sound emanating from the two original organ pipe chambers in the theater, much as the audience hears it. The console will be available beginning at 2 pm for those wishing to preset any stop combinations and practice prior to any public exposure. Dick Trudell will be the point of contact at the theater, and will be available from 2 - 8 pm to provide any assistance needed. This event is a rare opportunity to try out both classic and theater styles on this instrument, so come on out and give it a try. Contact Dick on his cell phone at 208-640-6910.

I hope you can (and are willing) to take part in this. Among other things, this is a high-profile, non-church venue for us to exhibit our art.

## *Have a workshop idea?*

The 2011 Regional Convention Workshop Committee invites applications for the 2011 Pacific Northwest Region VIII Convention to be held July 3-7, 2011, in Boise, Idaho. We would like to offer a broad spectrum of topics of interest to both professional and non-professional musicians. Workshops would be of 50 to 90 minutes duration and should be of classic as well as more contemporary subject matter. Topics of interest include organ building and maintenance, organ literature, teaching, improvisation, choral music, and handbells. Submissions on additional topics are welcome.

Deadline for applications is April 1, 2009. Please submit a two-page proposal, resume, supporting materials, and audiovisual and spatial needs. Applicants whose proposals fit the overall plan of the convention will be contacted by November 1, 2009.

An honorarium of \$200-\$400 (depending upon length of presentation) and any necessary hand-out copying costs will be paid. No traveling or housing costs are offered.

Send applications to: David Young, Program Committee Chair, 2011 Regional AGO Convention, 4245 Bristol Street, Boise, ID 83704 or email to davidandadria@gmail.com.

## *Help needed...*

We ran this notice last year, but they are getting desperate for your creative help:

The Les Bois Chapter of the American Guild of Organists has been selected to host the 2011 Convention of the Pacific Northwest Region VIII, AGO. A theme and logo for the convention for inclusion on all publications pertaining to the convention is needed and the chapter is delighted to host a competition for these items. The competition is open to all members of the Northwest Region of the AGO and to all interested parties. Details below.

Theme: Three to six words descriptive of the locale (Pacific Northwest) or some generic phrase

Samples: Pipes and Peaks (Colorado Springs); Tacos and Toccatas (San Antonio); Winds on the Prairie (Kansas); Sounds and Spaces (Dallas); How Sweet the Sound (Seattle 2009)

Logo: The logo will also be included on all official convention publications and should contain the theme of the convention as well as any of the following items: AGO 2011, pipes, river, trees, dates (July 3-7, 2011), Boise, Idaho, notes, etc. Originality and inventiveness will be considered and please keep in mind that the logo will be used in various sizes, large, small, and in both black and white.

Samples of various logos may be seen on the AGO website at [www.agohq.org/regional\\_conventions](http://www.agohq.org/regional_conventions). . (Also see the January 2009 THE AMERICAN ORGANIST, pages 56-57.)

Submissions should be a camera ready JPG at 300 dpi and sent to:

Samuel Porter, AGO 2011 Convention Coordinator at [sporter@boisefumc.org](mailto:sporter@boisefumc.org), and should be received by January 31, 2009.

Prize: \$100 to non-AGO member

Free convention registration to AGO member