



Voices

December, 2009 Newsletter
Spokane Chapter,
American Guild of Organists

Dean's notes...

December and Advent have arrived, more or less simultaneously, and the crush of Christmas (planning and rehearsals, at least) is upon us. My wish for you is that the season is as full of joy as it is of work, and that there is enough time for you to really experience and celebrate these holy seasons with family, friends, and, of course, music.

A good number of us started the season with our first meeting of the year, in the context of a tribute to the late Paul Manz, at St. Mark's Lutheran in Spokane this Monday. (I join all participants in thanking Chapter mainstay Milt Snyder for his great work in facilitating the event.) Paul's memory, with local members of his family present, was served in word and music, thanks to Neil Kinkel, Barbara Rockwood and yours truly. Before the program we held a Chapter meeting that included recognition of our newest arrivals (Jim Holmes from Austin, TX, and Janet McCullough, from Anchorage, AK), and, after meeting and program, dessert was enthusiastically enjoyed by all. Of such our fellowship is made; let us go forward with hopes of even more of us present at our next event!

Speaking of which, Vince and Carla Roland have graciously offered to host our annual Epiphany party on Friday evening, 8 January, 2010. More info will follow, but save the date now!

In case you missed this info, here is the new contact info for Howard and Rita Stoess:
Address: 14915 38th Dr SE #H1109, Mill Creek, WA 98012-4222
Home phone: 425-948-7471
Rita's e-mail: rmstoess@comcast.net Howard's e-mail: hrstoess@msn.com

Calendar of Events

The Spokane First Nazarene Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society presents John Ledwon, resident artist at Disney's El Capitan Theatre in Los Angeles, in concert, **Thursday, December 3rd, at seven**, 9004 N Country Homes Blvd.

At St. John's Cathedral...

EWU Christmas Choral concert, Friday, December 4th, 7:30 PM

"The Bells" Christmas Concert with Spokane Area Children's Chorus, Pilgrim Slavic Baptist Choir, and Spokane Youth Orchestra, Sunday, December 6th, 4:00 and 7:00 PM

Sunday, December 20th, 4:00 PM, Service of Lessons and Carols

Other venues...

Friday, December 11th, Gonzaga University, Handel's "Messiah," **Martin Woldson Theater at the Fox**, 7:30 PM

Saturday, December 12th, Gonzaga University Candlelight Concert, **St. Aloysius Church**, 8:00 PM

Sunday, December 20th, St. Cecilia Community Orchestra, Vivaldi *Magnificat*, **St. Augustine Parish Church**, 4:00 PM

Northwest Sacred Music Chorale's Christmas Concert, Wednesday, December, 16th, 5:00 PM and 8:00 PM at the **Kroc Center of Coeur d'Alene**, with guest artists Paul Grove, guitar, Max Mendez, baritone, Leslie Norris, harp, also the Sweet Adelines of Coeur d'Alene, and Cynthia Marlette, piano.

Chapter Officers, 2008-2009

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*Merry Christmas!
And best wishes
For a wonderful
New Year!*

Can you help?

Greetings to you from sunny Fresno, Raisin Capitol of the World!

I am the musician (organist, but currently only pianist) at a little church here and we are looking for a little organ. About 10 ranks, 2 manuals, along the lines of an old Felgemaker, a Hinners, a Hook & Hastings, a Reilley... something beautiful from the turn of that century. If you or somebody in your chapter happens to know about such an instrument for sale, I would love to know about it. Our space is small, our height is... well... not high, and I know the instrument for us is out there somewhere.

Below is my contact information. Thank you, and blessings on your upcoming holiday season!

Clifford Badgley
Church of the Holy Family
1135 E. Alluvial
Fresno, CA 93720
Cliffordbrd93@earthlink.net
559-304-7139

UTube fun:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OHKg8BtbTJg>

Artis Wodehouse performs Carson Cooman's 2009 composition, *Windflower* on a restored late-nineteenth century harmonium

Keep in mind...

Bob Ahrend, Bob Temple continue their recoveries; Frank Payne is in recovery from a heart attack. Tough times; may the new year bring better things for all of us!

Gift idea from Jim Wallrabenstein

Give the Gift of Music - Share a fine recording of one of Spokane's wonderful pipe organs with performances by guest artists as well as our own local members! Every CD purchased by an AGO member between now and December 22 will generate a \$5.00 contribution to the Spokane Chapter AGO Scholarship Fund. Request a list of Spokane Pipe Organ CD recordings by Email: jmw@ptera.net. CD's are \$10/ea if picked up locally, \$12/ea if mailed.

AGO National Survey

Maybe you got/noticed this, maybe not. At any rate, please do take the survey; this is a ripe time for professional organization, AGO included, to take stock and seriously consider what comes next:

On Thursday morning, November 19, the Task Force on Long-Range Planning distributed a survey by blast email to all members of the American Guild of Organists. All members of the AGO with e-mail addresses on file at National Headquarters have received an invitation to complete the online survey. Within 24 hours of its release, more than 1,500 members had completed that form.

The Task Force has been working for many months to develop and refine this survey. Results from this survey will be used to create plans for the important work of the AGO in the second decade of the 21st century. To optimize the value of this process, it is vitally important that all AGO members complete and submit this survey in a timely manner. Survey results will be communicated to the entire Guild membership during the early months of 2010.

The Task Force hopes every member, every chapter, and every region of the AGO to be fully represented in this process. The deadline for all submissions is December 31. The survey is available online at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=ZZNu9JDbpveQB8rzz1CenQ_3d_3d.

One last gift thought, that keeps on giving...

Consider an end-of-year (and tax-deductible) gift to your organization. Here are ideas from National:

Your contribution to the [Annual Fund](#) will go to work immediately by supporting Guild operations and educational programs on the national level.

Your contribution to the [Endowment Fund](#) will be held in perpetuity; annual earnings from the Endowment Fund support operations and educational programs, just as the Annual Fund does.

Your contribution to the [New Organist Fund](#) will be used to support scholarship programs for students attending Pipe Organ Encounters.

Your contribution to the [Nita Akin Fund](#) will be used to support the operations of the National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance.

Your contribution to the [S. Lewis Elmer Fund](#) will be used to support prize awards for the most successful candidates in our professional certification program.

If you have already made your 2009-2010 contribution to the AGO, thank you! If you have not, please take a moment now to contribute [online](#) or send your contribution using the envelope bound into the November issue of THE AMERICAN ORGANIST Magazine.

Gifts in all amounts are needed and welcomed; no gift is too small!