



Voices

November, 2009 Newsletter
Spokane Chapter,
American Guild of Organists

Dean's notes...

November: a time in between seasons (with any luck). A time to really do those winter preparations at home, a time to really start preparations for Advent and Christmas, a time to look forward to Thanksgiving and the beginning of year-end festivities. It's also a time to take care of things that have been hanging fire, such as, for some of us, renewing our AGO memberships. This year has been one of transition from US mail delivery of annual renewals to electronic transmission of same. This has been a uneven process as all new undertakings tend to be. Thanks to Judy Temple for her patient shepherding of this. Thanks also to those who promptly downloaded, filled out and sent your forms! To those who have yet to renew: We miss you and hope you will respond to Judy's follow-up letter. It's been a difficult early fall for many of us (see below), and we have yet to have a meeting. Since it falls primarily to me arrange these, my apologies to all. But here is, at long last, a chance to get together. Let's plan to meet the Monday after Thanksgiving, eat a little dessert and offer thanks for the life and work of Paul Manz. If your life was touched by his tireless work as composer, performer and teacher, you may share your story with us. Also, if you have a favorite piece of his, share it with us! We'll gather at seven on November 30th, tentatively at St. Augustine. More info will follow.

Calendar of Events

Northwest Sacred Music Chorale Fall Concert, Nov. 14, at 7 p.m. and Nov. 15, at 3 p.m. at the new Kroc Center in Coeur d'Alene. We will celebrate the 200th anniversary of Mendelssohn's birth with a variety of choral selections from his oratorios as well as individual compositions. We will also do a medley of unique and unexpected, yet familiar pieces for which Paul Grove, a fabulous guitarist, will join us.

Eastern Washington University Chamber Choir: November 15th at St. Augustine, Spokane, in a program called "English Autumn," with music of Stanford, Parry, Howells and others. Randel Wagner conducts.

Robert Carr, Gonzaga U. junior and student of Janet Ahrend, performs Sunday, Nov. 22, 4:00 p.m., St. Aloysius Church. Program will include Karg-Elert's "Now Thank We All Our God," Bach's D Major Prelude and Fugue, Langlais' "Song of Peace," Vierne's "Carillon" from Twenty-Four Pieces in Free Style, and a new piece by Fr. Waters, a setting of "At the Name of Jesus," (King's Weston).

The Spokane First Nazarene Chapter of the American Theatre Organ Society is pleased to present John Ledwon, resident artist at Disney's El Capitan Theatre in Los Angeles, in concert, Thursday, December 3rd, at seven.

Mr. Ledwon will be the first nationally acclaimed artist to play the church's nearly restored 1914 Wurlitzer, Op.42, from the Seattle Liberty Theatre. Free Admission; donations welcome to assist final restoration and maintenance. Church Address:
9004 N Country Homes Blvd
(Near the intersection of Division and Country Homes)

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*Happy
Thanksgiving!*

Health updates...

As you probably know, Bob Ahrend, Janet's husband, has been severely laid low by West Nile virus acquired in Yakima in late summer. He is at home from ICU and rehab but is still in delicate condition. Floyd Czoski reports that "His muscles are weak he can't raise one arm - the other just a little. Janet is administering shots at home. She is certain nursing is not a future career option. Bob is gaining strength. Please continue prayers for both of them." Amen to that and thank you, St. Janet, for everything you do.

As you probably do not know, Judy Temple's husband, Bob, had cancer surgery quite recently. He had a kidney removed and is now recovering. The cancer seems to have been well contained and his prognosis is good. What confronts him now is a long spell of watching (and tests) to make sure all is well. Your thoughts and prayers for Bob and Judy are much appreciated.

Recitalists, anyone?

An Italian organist will be in our region early next year, playing a recital in Helena next March. His name is Emanuele Cardi, and his CV and other information is available at his website www.emanuelecardi.it His email is emanuelecardi@me.com.

Competition announcement

The next **Carlene Neihart International Pipe Organ Competition** will be held on April 10, 2010 in Kansas City, Missouri at the Second Presbyterian Church. The 1949 Moller Pipe Organ has been rebuilt and restored in 2009 and includes a new movable console. **Contestants from various places in the United States and in other countries are expected to enter the competition.**

Quimby Pipe Organs, Inc, will underwrite the 1st place award (\$2500) and the second place award (\$1500) is sponsored by **Casavant Freres and Caroll Hanson**. The third place award is \$1000. The Carlene Neihart Organ Competition Foundation, with a 501 (C)(3) tax-exempt status was formed to organize, present the competition and fund the prize money to help sustain the future of the Pipe Organ.

The web site organcompetitions.com has more information about the competition.

A new idea from National...

The AGO National Council is committed to assisting chapters raise revenue for Guild educational programs and events through the AmiGOs program. AmiGOs are non-AGO members who love the organ and its repertoire, attend organ recitals, and listen to recordings and broadcasts of organ music. AmiGOs are friends of the organ and the American Guild of Organists.

This collaborative program between AGO National Headquarters and participating local chapters strengthens Guild programs both locally and nationally with no cost and minimal effort on the part of chapter leadership. AmiGOs donations are shared equally by the national organization and participating chapters, whether received at chapter events or through the [AmiGOs online contribution form](#).

Last, and surely least...

A starving musician once called on Giacchino Rossini to ask for a handout. To earn the coins, he proceeded to play the "prayer" from Rossini's *Moses* on glasses of water. During this ringing performance, a servant came in with an important message. Rossini told the servant to wait. "I'll be with you in a moment. This gentleman is rinsing my prayer."