



AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

PIPELINE

VOL.9 NO.7

RED RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER

APRIL 1993

APRIL 18, 1993, "HARPSICHORD PLUS"

CHAPTER MEETING 4:30 P.M.

MOORHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR THE ARTS RECITAL HALL

Note the map

PRESENTERS: Dr. Robert Pattengale, continuo specialist, chair of the MSU Music Department; Jennifer Evans, Chapter member, Organist and Youth Choir Director at St. Mary's Cathedral, Fargo ND

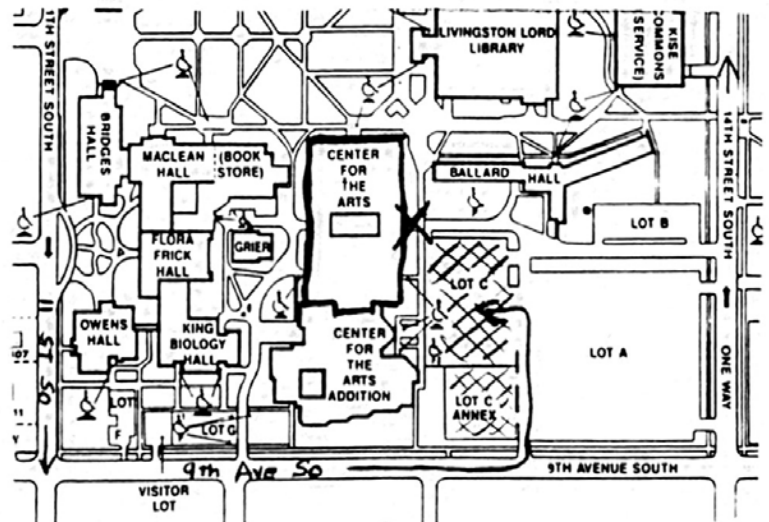
ALSO PERFORMING...The New Gopher Baroque Ensemble with Alan Rawson, violin; Debra Harris, flute; Nathan Davis, cello; Robert Pattengale, harpsichord...and other performers from the chapter.

DISCUSSION....QUESTIONS ANSWERED....SEVERAL HARPSICHORDS....TOUCH....HEAR....GET ACQUAINTED WITH AN INSTRUMENT WE DON'T HEAR VERY OFTEN....SING A LITTLE.....LISTEN....ENJOY

BOARD MEETING AT 4 P.M.

**SINGING - AN ANTHEM OR TWO,
HYMNS - BY YOU, THE CHAPTER
CHOIR**

LET'S LEARN TOGETHER!!!



**REFRESHMENTS AND BRIEF CHAPTER
MEETING AFTER THE PROGRAM**

**REMEMBER - THE PROGRAM
BEGINS AT 4:30 P.M.**

NOTES FROM THE DEAN...

Rejoice! There are definite signs of Spring around. We here in the Northland have experienced our Lent and now look forward to Easter, with its joyful Alleluias, ---definitely a time for rejoicing. As dean, I am rejoicing about some positive signs for a healthier AGO chapter. Our very capable program chair, Marlys Herring, and her committee have planned such outstanding programs this year, all designed to challenge, inform, and delight you. The nominating committee, Mercedes Roos and Carolyn Hensrud, have secured a very capable and talented slate of officers. Because of this, I was enticed to allow my name to be placed in nomination as well. We will need a quorum of members to vote at our April meeting, so I urge you to attend. The "Harpsichord Plus" program sounds delightful. Look for information about it elsewhere in the newsletter. Mary Tangen, editor, has been another cause for rejoicing. She does a super job. Another positive sign, ---our current officers and board members are energetically planning on a Spring membership drive so our yearbook can be ready for September.

One more positive sign that would really cause rejoicing would be a large turnout of members for our meetings and a flood of those blue interest sheets in my mailbox. I've seen my first robin! Now let's see YOU at the April 18th meeting, 4:30 p.m., Moorhead State Center for the Arts. Margery Possehl, Dean

FOR THOSE WHO PLAN THEIR FUN WELL IN ADVANCE

The dedicatory concert for the mighty Kimball organ, "The Voice of Minneapolis," will be held January 1 and 2 of 1994. Michael Barone, host of *Pipedreams* and Philip Brunelle, director of *Plymouth Music Series*, are playing leadership roles in the planning of the event.

The two-day event, to be held in the Minneapolis Convention Center, will feature internationally acclaimed artists, a hymn sing, local and state performing artists, and an opportunity for the public to play the 10,000-pipe Kimball Organ.

The one million dollar renovation project, undertaken by Mike Rider and Associates, seeks donations, which may be sent to: Minneapolis Organ Fund, 315 East Grant Street, Minneapolis MN 55404, attn. Rosemary K. Dineen. (from *Chiff Chat*, Lincoln NE)

THE BISMARCK-MANDAN SYMPHONY will feature organist James Boschker of Trinity Lutheran Church, Bismarck ND, in their last concert of

the 1993-94 season, Saturday, April 23, 1994. Mr. Boshker, Dean of the AGO chapter in Bismarck, is scheduled to play Organ Concerto No. 13, "The Cuckoo and the Nightingale" by Handel; Adagio for Strings and Organ by Albinoni; and Symphony No. 3 "Organ" by Saint-Saens. **REMEMBER, THIS IS A 1994 CONCERT!** Let's mark our calendars and try to remember to support our fellow musicians in other parts of the Midwest. Time for the concert is 7:30 p.m. in Trinity Lutheran Church, Bismarck.

SOMETHING TO PONDER..."WANTED: an organist-choir director who prefers such good old hymns as "The Little Brown Church in the Wildwood," "Love Lifted Me," and "Further Along," and can really make them last! Organists who think that nothing worthwhile has been written since Bach, Beethoven, and Handel need not apply. Contact Singalong Presbyterian Church, Lookback, Okla." (Item from the *Chiff Chat*, Lincoln, NE chapter newsletter.)

REGIONAL ARTIST IN CONCERT KCCM 91.1 May 6, 1993, 7:30 p.m. Program includes excerpts of three organ dedicatory concerts in Fargo and Dilworth: Howard Don Small, organ concert at Messiah Lutheran Church in Fargo, recorded October 18, 1992; Frederick Swann, organ concert at First Lutheran Church in Fargo, recorded October 23, 1992; Peter Nygaard, organ concert at Dilworth, MN, recorded November 1, 1992.

PIPEDREAMS, KCCM 91.1 FM, 9:30 p.m. Sundays
April 11, "Music for the Season of Easter": organ and choral selections by John Rutter, J.S. Bach and others on theme of sacrifice and salvation.

April 18, John Scott, Master Musician of St. Paul's Cathedral: performances by and conversation with the talented and youthful director of the organ and choral arts at London's grandest church.

April 25, "The Organ of Oberlin": faculty and student musicians showcase one of America's foremost music schools.

May 2, "At the Meyerson": sounds of the spectacular new Fisk organ at the Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas, with several organists and the Dallas Symphony.

May 9, Spanish, German, American and French music on the 84-rank Lay Family Concert Organ by C.B. Fisk, the talk of the town in Dallas.

May 16, Gillian Weir at Spivey Hall, playing the new Albert Schweitzer Memorial Organ at Clayton State College in Morrow, GA.

CHAPTER MEETING 3/21/93, GETHSEMANE CATHEDRAL...Dean Margery Possehl called the meeting to order. She reminded members to sign the interest sheets which should have arrived in the March newsletter.

The slate of officers for 93-94 was read (see board minutes); election will take place at the April meeting.

Margery noted we have \$1666.08 in the treasury.

A brief report on the Westermeyer appearance stated 93 in attendance, \$408 paid by AGO. (See Board minutes)

The April 18 meeting is developing into an excellent opportunity to learn about harpsichords. Dr. Robert Pattengale of the MSU Music Dept. and our own Jennifer Evans will perform and guide us in some hands-on learning. Several harpsichords will be available, and additional performers will allow us to hear a variety of ensemble combinations. The change of place and time was mentioned: MSU Recital Hall, April 18, 4:30 (Board Meeting at 4:00).

Discussion on the establishing of nominating committees included that members must be voted into this committee. A Dean-elect was discussed, along with the duties associated with particular offices. A search in our by-laws and other sources will be instigated, with information to be brought to a future meeting.

A request for someone to write grants on behalf of the chapter was given; contact Margery.

Because of Easter, the newsletter deadline is early - April 2.

Several events were announced and included ATOS Silent Movie Night with The Sweet Adelines and Harold Lloyd's "Safety Last", April 30, May 1.

The meeting was adjourned with a thank you to Dr. David Childs for chairing the program and for extending the hospitality of Gethsemane Episcopal Cathedral. Thanks also to Judy and Lance Johnson and Ardis Witte for serving the lunch.

Respectfully submitted,
Marlys Herring, secretary pro tem

Special thanks to Carolyn Hensrud who each month so graciously provides the labels for the bulk mailing of the newsletter. This service is much appreciated. Nice going, Carolyn!!

UNFAMILIAR HYMNS....

Who can love a
hymn we've never sung,
or sing the unfamiliar
with clarion confidence?

I say we all prefer
what's old and dog-eared
worn warms the
childhood memory.

But what if the
Spirit wants more
from where we've been,
to lead us to where
we could be?

What if joy awaits
discovering in songs
we've never sung?
What if love hopes
new memories for our
own, our young?

(Thanks again to the 'Chiff Chat'
of Lincoln NE)



MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING,

3/21/93..6:30 Gethsemane Episcopal Cathedral.

The secretary's report as published in the March newsletter was read and accepted. Rod Rothlisberger is working on the Fund Drive letter. Joan Bystol will chair the Program Committee for 93-94.

The treasurer's report shows a \$1666.08 balance. There is also \$1035 in the grant money fund, which must be used by July 1, 1993.

Mercedes Roos and Marlys Herring had a follow-up meeting with Ann Zavoral and Arland Jacobson of Communiversity regarding the co-sponsorship of Dr. Paul Westermeyer. The total cost for registration, room rental, securing box lunches, mailings, and printing was handled through the Communiversity office, and amounted to \$842.43. Dr. Westermeyer's honorarium (\$250), his airfare (\$141), and some phone calls, postage and copying costs (\$17) are the responsibility of our chapter, for a total cost of \$408. These financial responsibilities were known early in the planning stages and the board and the chapter had previously authorized this spending.

The Town House of Fargo donated a room for Dr. Westermeyer. Additional in-kind contributions were a labeling session for a large mailing, transportation while in Fargo, breakfast, and many hours of personal time on Mercedes' part co-ordinating this event.

105 people registered, 93 actually attended. The evaluations reflected the name recognition of Dr. Westermeyer and the usefulness of the session; several suggested a faulty sound system.

The nominating committee submits the following names for the 93-94 slate of officers for our chapter:

- Dean-Margery Possehl
- Sub Dean-Lloyd Collins
- Secretary-Jennifer Evans
- Treasurer-Craig Proehl
- Program Chair-Joan Bystol
- Board members: David Childs,
Ardis Witte and Gerald Berg.

Dean Margery Possehl thanked Carolyn Hensrud and Mercedes Roos for their work. Discussion followed: 1) should there be a "Dean elect"? 2) should terms of office be more defined in length of time? 3) do certain offices carry other automatic responsibilities? (e.g. Sub Dean automatically program chair.) 4) should there be a plan or policy as to who serves on nominating committee? (e.g. retiring board members). No action was taken, needs to be decided by the chapter.

There was a shared concern that no one is responsible for grant writing for our

chapter. Available monies must be identified, and deadlines for applications must be noted.

Michael Olson resigned as the AGO representative to the Lake Agassiz Arts Council, effective June 30, which is the end of the LAAC year.

KCCM (Minnesota Public Radio) has asked our chapter to co-sponsor a music listening contest in conjunction with a Trollwood Classical Music Weekend this summer. Rod Rothlisberger, Michael Olson and Marlys Herring have an interest and will meet with the KCCM staff for further information.

Respectfully submitted,
Marlys Herring, Secretary pro tem

COMMITTEE SIGN-UP

PROGRAM _____

FINANCE _____

LONG-RANGE PLANNING _____

MEMBERSHIP _____

PROFESSIONAL CONCERNS _____

PUBLICITY _____

HOSPITALITY _____

YEARBOOK _____

HYMN FESTIVAL _____

GRANT WRITER _____

ARCHIVES _____

OTHER AREAS OF INTEREST _____

MARGERY POSSEHL, DEAN
RED RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER
AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
P.O. BOX 2223
FARGO ND 58108

PAUL WESTERMEYER SEMINAR-PART II.

Part I of this seminar addressed the broad perspectives of the roles of clergy and cantor and was reported in the March Pipeline. Part II gave more precise information on those two roles and allowed time for discussion and actual service planning done in small groups. In part II Dr. Westermeyer addressed the several types of cantors.

THE CHOIR DIRECTOR AS "CANTOR"..."If you have only one group to help lead the congregation in worship, the choir is that group. It is the group that practices for the congregation in a way the congregation cannot. A choir can be two or more people, perhaps four tenors and no sopranos - whatever you have in your congregation. Your choir should not be: a group which practices everything except what the people sing - or worse, a group which marches into church, sings an anthem, and then leaves." A choir serves in the following ways: 1) Practices first what can help the congregation sing. 2) Alternates with the congregation on hymn stanzas to better help proclaim the text. 3) Sings what the congregation cannot sing. (e.g.introduces new music.) 4) Models breathing, phrasing, flow, and shape of the music.

THE ORGANIST AS "CANTOR"..."In our worship style the organist is basically the cantor. The organist: 1) controls the tempo of hymns and liturgy as well as articulation, spaces between notes, phrasing, breathing, and shaping of the text. 2) Alternates with the congregation on hymn stanzas. 3) Plays voluntaries, preludes, offertories, etc. 4) Controls the pacing of the service; however, the pastor controls the pacing of liturgy. **The cantor should be an enabler, not a stifler, to make singing central to worship.** The pastor is not the cantor, nor should he or she mix the two roles. The musician leads the music. That is not the pastor's job. The two work together and help each other." (Part III of this report by Mercedes Roos will be printed in the May newsletter. ..ed.)

ARE YOU IN NEED OF A HYMN FESTIVAL ABOUT NOW?

Robert Hobby, Director of Music/Organist at Trinity English ELCA, Ft. Wayne, IN will lead the third annual ecumenical hymn festival to be held at Trinity Lutheran Church, corner of Third St and Avenue A, Bismarck ND, Sunday, April 25 at 7:30 p.m. This festival for all area churches will feature a mass choir and area instrumentalists. The theme "Let All the World in Every Corner Sing" will showcase a variety of multi-cultural hymns.

Mr. Hobby is a graduate of Wittenberg

and has a Masters Degree from Notre Dame U. He is a composer and has performed in many hymn festivals, most notably for the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians at both national and regional conventions. (From the *Trinity News*.)

****THIS AND THAT**..**Michael Olson has "Cards for Kids" available for anyone interested in buying some. Cards are done by children in grades 1-3 and include a written message by the artist. For further information call Michael 293-0284H or 235-7389W.

***HOUSE OF HOPE ORGAN INSTITUTE..**June 13-16, 1993 with David Craighead and Delbert D. Disselhorst. Tuition \$150. Call House of Hope Presbyterian Church, St.Paul MN (612) 227-6311, for further information.

***YOUNG ORGANISTS WEEK..**June 13-17, 1993, Concordia College. Faculty includes Peter Nygaard, Judy Sanders, Michael Olson and Allen Quie. For further information, call the Office of Church Relations at (218) 299-3146.

***1993 ORGAN INSTITUTE...**June 17-18, Concordia College, Moorhead MN. For organists at any level of proficiency, including beginning organists. Registration fee of \$35 includes lunch and refreshment breaks. A \$10 deposit, which is applied to the total cost, must accompany each registration. Faculty: Peter Nygaard, Michael Olson, and Judy Sanders of our AGO chapter. Each person will have an opportunity to participate in three workshops which are: Hymn Playing, Varied Hymn Accompaniments, Leading the Liturgy, Registration, Getting Through Sunday Morning, Pedal Techniques. Early registration is advised; an additional \$5 will be added to the registration after June 10. For further information, call the Office of Church Relations, (218) 299-3146.

***CHAPTER MEMBER JUDY SANDERS AND..**former member Pat Unkenholz recently participated in the 4th Annual Bismarck Handbell Festival. The festival included many handbell choirs from western ND and featured guest conductor Cathy Moglebust of St. Paul MN Ms. Moglebust has arrangements and original composition for handbells which have been published by several American Publishers.

***BLUE INTEREST SLIPS OR have you handed in your paper which tells what you are willing to help with during the 1993-94 season?** Please send these in as soon as possible to Margery Possehl. We need your assistance in making this chapter alive and vital. The form was in the March newsletter.

***DON'T FORGET THE REGION VI AGO CONVENTION** June 20-23, Davenport IA. Call Larry B. Peterson, 319-326-3547 for information.

The Ten Hymn-Playing Commandments

by Vance Reese

Purpose

1. During the performance of a hymn you shall have no other central focal point than the praise of God.

Text

2. Use the graven image of the text as the guideline for what you do musically.

Preparation

3. Do not entertain the vain notion that you do not have to prepare in order to play hymns well for worship.

Breathing

4. You shall observe proper rests in hymns; you must take time to breathe at the ends of phrases and at the end of a verse.

Articulation

5. Honor the soprano line by articulating it well. Honor good rules of articulation for the other parts as well.

Tempo

6. Do not kill the hymn by taking the tempo too fast or too slow.

Style

7. Do not adulterate the hymn by attaching an inappropriate style to it either through a descant, free accompaniment or reharmonization.

Rhythm

8. Do not steal time from the notes. Keep the rhythm steady to help the congregation feel secure.

Registration

9. Do not bear false witness against the organ. Keep a clear registration to help the organ communicate and lead effectively.

Listening

10. Do not covet another congregation. You must play for the group you are accompanying. Do not force them into another mold. Listen to them and play accordingly. ■

MAY CHAPTER MEETING IS SUNDAY, MAY 16, 4:00 P.M....BYSTOL'S BACK YARD BASH at the home of Norm and Joan Bystol, 3701 Kennedy Street, Fargo

From the March 1993 Pipenotes of the Twin Cities Chapter AGO

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