Volume 25, Number 3 March 2008

### 2008-2009 Nominations

In accordance with RRVAGO Standing Rules, this announcement from the Nominating Committee.

# Executive Committee Nominations:

Dean: Bill Tweten Subdean: Marty Baumgartner Secretary: Michael Olson Treasurer: Ruth Strawn Board Member(s) at Large Nominations (2008-2011 term): Erich Knapp

The committee is still seeking one other nomination for Board Member at Large. If you are interested in serving, please contact Dawn Papenfuss at 701-232-8521 or dawn@stjohnfargo.com.

Nominees are chosen from the voting members of the chapter. Additional nominations will be accepted in accordance with RRVAGO Standing Rules, and must be submitted by March 31, 2008.

## Message From the Dean

Mary Baker Eddy, the discoverer of Christian Science, had great respect for the role of music in the church service and in life. Her writings contain many references to harmony and music. Here are a few of her music references:

"Sound is not the originator of music."



"Music is more than sound in unison. The deaf Beethoven besieges you with tones intricate, profound, commanding. Mozart rests you. To me his

composition is the triumph of art, for he measures himself against deeper grief. I want not only quality, quantity, and variation in tone, but the unction of Love. Music is divine. Mind, not matter, makes music; and if the divine tone be lacking, the human tone has no melody for me."

"Mozart experienced more than he expressed. The rapture of his grandest symphonies was never heard. He was a musician beyond what the world knew. This was even more strikingly true of Beethoven, who was so long hopelessly deaf. Mental melodies and strains of sweetest music supersede conscious sound. Music is the rhythm of head and heart."

"Are we filling the measures of life's music aright, emphasizing its grand strains, swelling the harmony of being with tones whence come glad echoes? As "crescendo" and "diminuendo" accent music, so the varied strains of human chords express life's loss or gain,--loss of the pleasures and pains and pride of life: gain of its sweet concord, the courage of honest convictions, and final obedience to spiritual law."

What writings about music inspire you? Send them in to <a href="mailto:rrvago@hotmail.com">rrvago@hotmail.com</a> to share them with us.

~Vicky Wms Sieben, Dean

First Friday Luncheon
Who Everyone is Welcome!
When First Friday of the
Month at Noon
Where To Be Announced

### Chapter Officers

Dean: Vicky Wms Sieben Sub-Dean: Robyn Vinje Secretary: Ruth Discher Treasurer: Ruth Strawn

#### **Board Members at Large**

2008: Sue Clambey, Sally Harmon 2009: Sonia Carlson, Alpha Roeszler 2010: Gaylord Fagerland, Steve Eneboe

### Spring Workshop

Our next program is scheduled for Saturday, April 5 at 1:00 pm at Dilworth Lutheran, Dilworth, MN. Sue Knorr will be presenting a Beginning Organist Workshop. This is a workshop she has presented for Johnson Organ at a number of lakes area churches. It has been well-received by those attending.

The workshop is designed for pianists and beginning organists, and we hope to reach many aspiring organists in the area. Please recommend this program to those who are interested in playing the organ, to piano students, to non-musicians who are interested in learning about the instrument. The poster has been included with the distribution of this newsletter, please print and distribute in your church and places you patronize.

Here is an excerpt from the outline:

10 Hymn-Playing Commandments by Vance Reese

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

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

Preparation: Do not entertain the vain notion that you do not have to prepare in order to play hymns well for worship. Breathing: 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: Honor the soprano line by articulating it well. Honor good rules of articulation for the other parts as well.

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

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

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

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

Listening: 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.

Admission is free. Our thanks to Johnson Organ Company for sponsoring this program.

### Organ Dedication Set for Hawley Lutheran

Hawley Lutheran Church recently purchased a new organ console for their church. They are having an Organ Dedication Concert to celebrate the event on Sunday, March 9 at 4pm in the sanctuary. The public is invited to attend.

Featured in this concert will be the Hawley Community Choir and organist Peggy Bartunek.

The new organ is a Trillium Masterpiece 908 from Rodgers Classic Organs. This organ console combines the use of pipes and digital sounds to create a beautifully orchestrated sound. This organ has three manuals (or keyboards) and is capable of producing over 500 tones. Please join us to hear beautiful music created by organ and voices!

"First Friday" Update
First Friday Lunch was
held at the Plains Art
Museum on Friday,
March 7. There was discussion about exploring
other venues, and we are
checking into other
options. We anticipate trying out other locations in
the next few months, and
settling on one location for
the coming season. If you
have suggestions, please
let us know!

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# **Upcoming Junior Recitals**

Concordia College students at Trinity Lutheran Church – Moorhead, MN

> -Mark Sell Thursday, March 27, 7:00pm

—Lindsay Huwe Sunday, March 30, 2:30pm

—Stephanie Wikstrom Saturday, April 5, 2:30pm

## **Board Meeting Notes**

February 21, 2008: The meeting of the RRV AGO was called to order at the Boulger Funeral Home by Dean Victoria Wms Sieben. Those present were: Sonia Carlson, Ruth Discher, Alpha Roeszler, Victoria Sieben,

Alpha moved to accept the Board Meeting Minutes from January, 2008 as posted in the February *Pipeline*. Sonia seconded the motion and it was carried.

#### Treasurer's Report

The savings account balance currently stands at \$4,668.71, including \$11.63 of interest earned in January. The checking account activity included receipts of \$30.00 and expenses paid of \$210.00 (dues sent to National from May '07 memberships) resulting in a balance of \$1,358.02. The CD balance is \$5,242.76.

Assets at the end of January total \$11,269.49. Sonia moved to accept the Treasurer's report as distributed at the meeting. Alpha seconded the motion and it was carried.

#### **Program Committee**

<u>December 2, 2007 Carol Sing-a-long</u> – the \$199 amount for the free will offering from the Carol Sing-a-long was accounted for and accepted as the correct amount sent to the Food Pantry.

April 5, 2008 Piano to Organist Workshop - Vicky will contact LACC and, along with Carolyn Hensrud, will draw up a press release to distribute to various communications for posting. Alpha has started notifying area Music Clubs. Discussion centered around areas to place posters as well as placement of press release info. A mass mailing of folded posters to a revised churches/contacts list will be done to promote this event.

May 4, 2008 Organ Crawl in Fergus Falls, MN - Work continues.

#### **Old Business**

- 1. List of Churches/Contacts List will be updated through the planned promotional mailing for upcoming program in April.
- 2. Membership Drive Still encouraging "each one-reach one". From 2006 to 2007 the RRV AGO lost 7 members.
- 3. Vicky distributed a Jazz Arts survey form as an example to stimulate ideas from the Board to develop a similar survey form for the RRV AGO to use for information-gathering from the membership and general public as they attend AGO sponsored events. Board members were encouraged to email suggestions to Vicky.

- 4. One advertisement payment for the space in the newsletter remains unpaid and the advert will be dropped if payment is not received by the end of the month.
- 5. RRVAGO Membership Application form Board members were encouraged to e-mail suggestions for changes to Vicky.
- 6. Treasurer Position No discussion at this time.
- 7. Nominating Committee Appointments One Member-at-Large position remains to be filled with a nominee; all other positions have one nominee for the '08-'09 season.
- 8. Program Committee Mavis Tjon and Carolyn Hensrud have been added to the program committee for '08-'09. The new committee has not met.

#### **New Business**

- 1. There is a need for articles each month for the Pipeline. All members are encouraged to submit articles of interest. Alpha is preparing a bio for the next newsletter.
- 2. A vote to increase dues in the amount of \$2.00 for '08-'09 membership was postponed due to the lack of a quorum.
- 3. It was noted that it is known there are AGO National members in North Dakota that do not carry a local chapter membership. Some research will be done to try to locate these members and encourage their membership and participation in a local chapter.
- 4. Vicky suggested a change in the First Friday Lunch location to the Plains Art Museum, just for a change. Membership will be notified of the change through the regular monthly e-mail reminder as well as in the Newsletter.

#### Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

The next AGO Board meeting will be Thursday, March 27, 2008 at Boulger Funeral Home at 4pm. The date for the March Board meeting has been changed from March 20 to March 27 because of Easter.

A motion to adjourn was raised by Alpha. Sonia seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Ruth Discher, Secretary

# Pipeline Profile

Alpha Roeszler, Board Member

Hi, I am Alpha Roeszler, sitting on the bench of the first organ I played. I was only a young girl when I would beg my Dad to take me up to the church and let me play this organ.



He would then proceed to the pipe room where he would work on making the pipes play and tune them. (He had a good ear but no musical training). Then one day the church organist asked me to play for her several Sundays when she had surgery. I was apprehensive as a young teen but proceeded to practice. I was hooked on this antique organ, a Hinner's, pipe, tracker organ from Pekin, Illinois. It was purchased by the Young People's Luther League

of the Viking Lutheran Church in rural Maddock, ND in 1928 for a price of \$2230. Because of the coupler which I love to use, it is an athletic feat to play but I enjoy every minute of the workout.

It wasn't until college at UND that I studied organ with Paul Lundquist for two years. I finally learned the art of coordinating the pedals with my hands. A few years later, I shared an organist position at North Viking Lutheran church in Maddock. It was not on a pipe organ but on a Baldwin electronic. However, I still had the chance to play on this lovely pipe at times for weddings, funerals and substituting.

It wasn't until 1991 when I moved to Fargo and obtained the position of organist at St. Mark's Lutheran where I play on a seven-rank Johnson organ. My responsibilities also include directing and accompanying our small choir.

Music has always been a passion of my life. I began learning the piano by studying in the home-based Sears Roebuck Piano Course (I still have it) with the supervision of my mother. By Junior High, my mother made sure I had lessons during the summer and during the school year in Senior High from other teachers. That led to lots of accompanying for choirs which I started doing as early as elementary school. I also played the flute in band in high school and at Minot State College where I started an Elementary Education degree. I finished that degree at UND with a minor in music and that is where I studied organ. Later, when I was over 30, I went back to school at Moorhead State and finished my music major with an emphasis in Piano, studying with Ernest Harris.

I just retired from teaching elementary music at Grace Lutheran School after 16 years, yet I still teach private piano and organ lessons. After teaching hundreds of piano students since the late 1960's, I still enjoy seeing the progress of each child's piano education.

I am married to Bill and we have a daughter in Oregon. I also have twin sons whose father died in Vietnam. They gave me four grandchildren that range in age from 13 to 7 and live in Eagan, MN and San Jose, CA.

Thank you for letting me share my story of "music in my life".

~Alpha Roeszler

### Michael Olson Concerts

- —First Lutheran Church, Fargo, ND
- —Wednesdays, 12:45pm weekly

NOTE: The "Pipeline Profile" has been created so members can get to know more about each other. We encourage everyone to write their own profile and send it along with a picture of yourself (.jpg or .bmp format) to us at <a href="mailto:rrvago@hotmail.com">rrvago@hotmail.com</a>. We may need to edit content if necessary and will feature a member in each edition (space permitting). We look forward to meeting each of you!

# A very special thank you to our supporters ...



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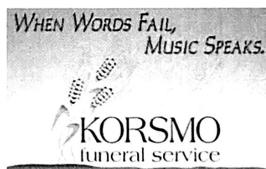
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### **Upcoming Events**

September 15, 2007, 10:00 am Paul Jacobs Master Class First Lutheran Church, Fargo

September 16, 2007, 4:00 pm Paul Jacobs Recital First Lutheran Church, Fargo

October 14, 2007. 4:00 pm Membership Meeting/Potluck/Music Exchange Messiah Lutheran Church, Fargo

December 2, 2007, 7:00 pm Christmas Carol Sing-A-Long Good Shepherd Church, Moorhead

April 5, 2008, 4:00 pm Piano to Organist Workshop Dilworth Lutheran Church, Dilworth

May 4, 2008, 4:00 pm Organ Crawl Fergus Falls, MN Contact Information American Guild of Organists Red River Valley Chapter PO Box 2223 Fargo, ND 58108-2223 rrvago@hotmail.com

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