

The American Guild of Organists

Red River Valley Chapter

February, 1986

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 2, No. 5

Dear Colleague:

We have much talent and many skills within our chapter membership. With this in mind, the Program Committee has proposed that we offer a summer workshop (WORKSHOP '86?) for church musicians (organists, choir directors, handbell ringers, choir members), clergy, and interested laity in our tri-state region. Presumably a day-long session, the workshop would consist of clinics, panels, and coaching sessions led by members of our chapter.

Therefore, our chapter meeting on Sunday, February 23 (3:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, Fargo), will be devoted to discovering our resources and discussing directions, details, and dates.

The success of such a venture will depend on the willingness of all of us to teach private lessons; moderate panels or group discussions; lead demonstrations; direct reading clinics; teach classes; supply intra-city transportation; provide hospitality; act as "go-fers"; etc.; etc.; etc. YOUR response to this Newsletter and to February's meeting will determine whether we "go with it" or not. For those of you who are interested in our chapter hosting a regional convention, WORKSHOP '86 could be a sort of proving-ground for even bigger things later.

To assist the Educational Concerns Committee in ascertaining what role you would play in WORKSHOP '86, you are asked to complete the enclosed form and return it by February 23. Merely separate, fold, staple, stamp, and mail OR better, bring it to Sunday's meeting. Remember, in WORKSHOP '86 each of us has the opportunity to fulfill our responsibility to share, instruct, and inspire!

Sincerely yours,

Rod Rothlisberger, Chairman
Educational Concerns Committee

Gay Mohr
Peter Nygaard
Mercedes Roos
Judy Sanders

ADDITION

Welcome to a new member:

David C. Morlock
511 S.E. 11th Street
Jamestown, ND 58401

TRANSITION

Pastor Kristen and Diane Kvamme have moved to Decorah, IA where Pastor Kris is serving as Chaplain to Aasi Homes, Inc. Their new home address is:

703 East Water St.
Decorah, IA 52101

AREA VII HANDBELL FESTIVAL

A unique opportunity will be available to the Red River Valley area on June 19, 20, 21 when the Area VII of the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers will host a regional handbell festival at NDSU.

Area VII is comprised of North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. Nearly 1000 ringers and directors (of all ages!) are expected for the 3-day event which culminates in a free public concert on Saturday night, June 21 in the New Fieldhouse under the direction of Betty B. Garee of Poughkeepsie, NY.

Workshops, mini-concerts, and massed choir ringing will fill the event with an abundance of learning opportunities. Unfortunately, the deadline for pre-registration has past. However, it may be possible for individuals to still register for workshop participation.

COST:

- \$85.00 - dbl. room, meals & registration
- \$58.00 - all meals & registration
- \$15.00 - 1 day registration
- \$ 9.00 - banquet tickets

For further information contact
Pat Unkenholz at 232-1435.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

The Executive Board will meet at 2:30 p.m., Sunday, February 23 at the First Presbyterian Church, Fargo. Executive Board members are urged to attend.

On Second Thought . . .

The time between "Adeste Fideles" and "O Filii et Filiae" has seemed particularly long and bleak this year. Perhaps you thought the Newsletter and editor had crawled under a snow drift to hibernate. If an analogy were to be made, I would prefer to think that the Chapter and the Newsletter were like a crocus bulb this winter. Out of sight (under the snow), preparations are being made for a welcome, glorious display of color in the spring.

Rosemarie Johnk and her Wedding Music Program Committee have been meeting almost weekly to plan an extraordinary new event for the Chapter. A related "underground" activity is the handbell choir which Pat Unkenholz has been patiently and superbly rehearsing to perform at the Wedding Music Program.

Mary Tangen has been in close telephone contact with Karen McFarlane checking on the details of the Frederick Swann recital. He has submitted his program, and you can be assured it will be a stunning performance on the First Lutheran organ.

Rod Rothlisberger and his Workshop Committee's work is apparent in the letter and questionnaire in this issue of the Newsletter.

Mercedes and Norman Roos are ready to announce the details of the American Music program in the next Newsletter.

We hope that the sun that melts the snow will bring renewed health to Norma Halverson, Joan Bystol, and other Chapter members who have endured extended illness this winter.

The promise of spring and the Resurrection may also bring comfort to June Boyd, Michael Olson, Michael Nelson and others who have suffered the loss of loved ones.

Jack Close
2217 S. 6th St.
Moorhead, MN 56560

WORKSHOP '86

To the Educational Concerns Committee of the Red River Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists:

I will lead, and/or assist with, sessions dealing with the following:
(maximum of four, ranked 1 through 4)

ORGAN

- ☐ organ literature for weddings and funerals
 - ☐ repertoire for organ and other instruments
 - ☐ accompanying solos and ensembles
 - ☐ hymn playing
 - ☐ playing the liturgy
 - ☐ organ registration
 - ☐ pedalling
 - ☐ hymn variations/introductions/interludes
 - ☐ improvisation
 - ☐ service playing
 - ☐ service planning and organization
 - ☐ organ lessons
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-

CHOIR/VOICE

- ☐ choral rehearsals
 - ☐ choral conducting
 - ☐ choral recruiting
 - ☐ choral reading session
 - ☐ vocal literature for weddings and funerals
 - ☐ chanting
 - ☐ voice lessons
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-

HANDBELLS

- ☐ beginning handbell choir
 - ☐ care and feeding of handbell choirs (intermediate)
 - ☐ handbells as musical instruments (advanced)
-
-

PROFESSIONAL CONCERNS

- ☐ duties of music and worship committees
 - ☐ music theory and its application
 - ☐ AGO membership
 - ☐ hiring, firing, and interviewing church musicians
 - ☐ contracts, salaries, fees, and benefits for church musicians
 - ☐ role of pastor in music program
 - ☐ clergy-musician relations
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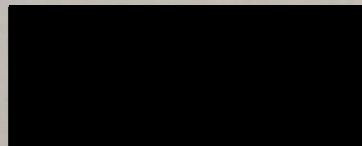
CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS

- ☐ organ building
- ☐ selecting and purchasing a new organ
- ☐ communicating with your congregation
- ☐ the role of music in worship
- ☐ planning a hymn festival

In addition to, or in lieu of, the options listed above, I will serve as a support person by organizing and/or assisting with the following:

- ☐ brochures
- ☐ mailing and mailing lists
- ☐ publicity
- ☐ transportation
- ☐ hospitality
- ☐ business displays
- ☐ facility procurement and preparation

(name)



SWANN RECITAL SET FOR APRIL 4

"Frederick Swann has that gift which too many organists seem to lack these days: real musicality . . ." "Swann played with rip-roaring zest!" "Swann is one of the finest organists in the United States." Such are the comments found in press reviews concerning this year's guest recitalist sponsored by our chapter. Frederick Swann, Director of Music and organist at the Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove, CA, will present a recital at First Lutheran Church, Fargo, on Friday, April 4, at 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Swann is currently seen and heard every Sunday on the "Hour of Power," a religious program with Dr. Robert Schuller. He heads the music program for a congregation of 10,000 members, one of the largest Protestant congregations in America.

Swann began organ study at age 8 and by 10 years of age was a church organist in Virginia. At age 13 he was playing a dozen recitals a year. He eventually was awarded a scholarship to Northwestern University where he earned his Bachelor Degree of Music "with distinction," and went on to earn the Master of Sacred Music Degree at Union Theological Seminary in New York.

Since then, Frederick Swann has held positions in churches on the east coast as well as chairing the organ department in the Manhattan School of Music, directing the music of the Interchurch Center, concertizing and being active in the American Guild of Organists. He gives frequent workshops, serves on the juries of national and international organ competitions and is a consultant on the purchase of many pipe organs.

We are fortunate to have this distinguished organist come to the Red River Valley. A public reception, hosted by the Cathedral Choir of First Lutheran Church, will follow the recital. Look for more information in March concerning the brunch on Saturday, April 5, for chapter members with Mr. Swann speaking.

Mark your calendar: April 4, 8:00 p.m., First Lutheran Church. See you there.

FEBRUARY/MARCH "PIPEDREAMS" ON KCCM
(91.1 FM)

Sunday, February 23 - 9:30 p.m.

Performances on the Ruffatti instrument in San Francisco's Davies Symphony Hall by Michael Murray, Marilyn Mason, John Weaver, and Fred Tulan. Music by Franck, Menotti, Crumb, Milhaud, and Jongen.

Sunday, March 2 - 9:30 p.m.

Music by Bach and composers who influenced Bach's writing for organ recorded by Peter Williams and Nancy Lancaster on the Charles B. Fisk organ at House of Hope Presbyterian Church, St. Paul.

Sunday, March 9 - 9:30 p.m.

On this program, Bach is viewed as the composer who influenced composers of the 19th and 20th centuries. Douglas L. Butler plays Bach-Widor, Rheinberger, Charles Wood, Karg-Elert, James Hurd, Merkel, Schumann, and Liszt on the Northrop Auditorium and Hennepin Avenue Methodist Church organs.

Sunday, March 16 - 9:30 p.m.

An all-Bach program recorded by Keith Chapman, George Ritchie, Gillian Weir, Rudolf Inning, and Peter Hurford on various Twin Cities and Lincoln, NB instruments.

Sunday, March 23 - 9:30 p.m.

The Stations of the Cross by Dupré performed by Douglas L. Butler at St. John's Benedictine Abbey in Collegeville.

NORTHWEST MINNESOTA HISTORICAL CENTER
TO MAINTAIN CHAPTER ARCHIVES

Chapter Historian, Carol Saastad has made preliminary arrangements for our Chapter historical documents to be given to the Northwest Minnesota Historical Center (NMHC) for cataloging and permanent maintenance.

The goal of NMHC, housed in the Livingston Lord Library on the MSU campus, is to preserve and provide secure housing and management of the valuable records of the region, and to provide access to these sources by local historians, researchers, and students.

Both save-keeping and accessibility of our historical documents would be assured under an arrangement with NMHC. The collection is kept in locked storage, and materials are used only under staff supervision. The materials remain available to donors for use at any time.

While a final decision about donating Chapter records to NMHC has not been reached at this time, Carol and other Chapter officers would like your opinions about this matter, and Carol is also interested in gathering additional materials which you may have which should be included in our Chapter history.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
ABENDMUSIK SERIES CONTINUES
WITH ORGAN RECITAL

AGO Member William Wojnar,
Professor of Organ at Jamestown
College, Jamestown, North Dakota,
will play an organ recital on the
42-rank Moeller organ at First
Presbyterian Church, Fargo, on
Sunday, March 16, at 7:30 p.m.
This recital is a part of the
church's monthly Abendmusik
Series. The program is open to
the public and a free-will offering
will be taken to help defray the
expenses connected with the series.

FEBRUARY/MARCH BIRTHDAYS

February

- 20 - Carl Czerny
- 21 - Leo Delibes
- 22 - Chopin
- 23 - G. F. HANDEL
- 24 - Samuel Wesley

March

- 3 - Mendelssohn
- 7 - Ravel
- 14 - Telemann
- 19 - Max Reger
- 21 - J. S. BACH
- 25 - Bartok

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