



American Guild of Organists

PIPELINE

VOL. 7, NO. 7

April 1991

CERTIFICATION

Is It For YOU!

The April 21 meeting will be "An Introduction to AGO Certification" and will be held at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 670-4th Ave. N. in Fargo. (Park in the rear, enter through the back door and follow the signs.) If you think this topic doesn't apply to you, think again! If you are an organist or choir director, there is an exam for you. Come to the meeting to learn why, where and how to begin exam preparation. Becky te Velde, chapter education coordinator, will give a brief overview of each exam and then talk about strategies for preparation, with emphasis on the Service Playing and Colleague exams. Here is a wonderful opportunity to set some personal goals for the coming year. See you on April 21 at 4:00 p.m.!

Dear Members and Friends of AGO:

As I write this letter to you - on Tuesday, April 2 - my thoughts return to Easter Sunday and the glorious music and message which we all shared and presented. Most members of our congregations cannot fully appreciate all the hard work which goes into planning and practicing for all of these services. We must be grateful, then, for their words of thanks - whenever those words are shared with us.

The school year is winding down, as is the AGO year. We have but two meetings left this 1990-1991 year. I hope to see many of you in attendance at one or both of the upcoming meetings. On Sunday, April 21 at 4:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Fargo, Rebecca Groom te Velde will present a program on certification (discussing such AGO degrees as the CAGO, FAGO, AAGO, Choirmaster, and Service Playing). It will be interesting to hear about these various "degrees" and to see if some of us might want to try and attain one of them in the future....At that same meeting, we will elect officers for the 1991-1992 year. Please come and cast your ballot and make your vote count!

Our last meeting of the year will be a potluck at the home of Lance and Judy Johnson on Sunday, May 19 (Pentecost). At one point in time, we had thought about having this meeting at their lake cottage but, with the unpredictable weather in this part of the world, we decided to have it at their home in Dilworth. Watch your May newsletter for the time of this potluck. We will be meeting jointly with the ATOS - American Theatre Organ Society - to which some AGO members also belong. It should be a great time to be together. We will install next year's officers at this meeting.

After considerable thought, I decided not to place my name in nomination for Dean for next year. This has been an absolutely incredibly busy year for me, and I don't know if I could survive another such year. I have been very thankful for the Board, and for other chapter members who have been supportive to me. I will back the new slate of officers, but I would guess that my participation in AGO activities next year would be minimal. As I have said in nearly every monthly "letter" to you, *EACH PERSON* in this organization needs to be involved in some aspect. When that doesn't happen, I become worried and confused.

Summer is just around the corner, and I hope that some of you are making plans - if you haven't already - to participate in the Region VI Convention in Sioux Falls, June 16-19. Sioux Falls is just a straight shot down Interstate 29, so think about attending this convention, especially if you have never attended a convention - regional or national - before.

In next month's newsletter, there will be an application blank for membership renewal and payment of dues for 1991-1992. Some people might want to consider paying next year's dues yet this spring, if your financial situation allows. Next year's dues are \$58, up from the present \$46. However, you get much for your money - including one of the greatest professional journals anywhere, The American Organist.

BOARD MEMBERS: We will have a short board meeting **FOLLOWING** the April 21 program and business meeting. I have a commitment prior to the 4:00 program.

Happy Spring to everyone!
Michael Olson, Dean

The following names should be added to the current list of AGO members that was included in the March 1991 issue of PIPELINE.

Martha Sather (Dr. R. Norman)
505 N. Foss Ave.
Fosston, MN 56542

(H)218-435-1535

O: Hope Lutheran, Fosston

Mary Tangen (Kenneth)
1423 22nd Ave. S.
Moorhead, MN 56560

(H)218-236-9396

*MINUTES of the AGO Board Meeting
Sunday, March 10, 1991*

The Executive Board met at Nativity Catholic Church preceding the "Organ Plus" program. The January minutes were approved as printed in the February Newsletter.

The Communitarity workshop and the John Obetz recital were reviewed. We were pleased to have 37 attend the workshop. Thanks to Becky te Velde, Susan Clamby and George French for playing for Mr. Obetz at the masterclass. He was an excellent teacher, setting people at ease.

The recital attendance was hampered by stormy weather. John Obetz presented an ambitious program. Norman Roos suggested for future recitals we might request a program with more appeal to a general audience, at least with a mixed repertoire for organists and listeners. Thanks to Jack Close for preparing the recital programs. Thanks also to Michael Olson for arranging the Forum announcement, and our first TV spot to advertise the event on Channel 11.

We have already been contacted by Ann Zavoral concerning Communitarity participation for 1991. Yes, we will participate, perhaps with a session on church organists in small rural churches as suggested by Marge Posschl. A thank you will be sent to Communitarity for printing and mailing posters about the John Obetz events.

Treasurer, Brad Steen, gave the financial report. We have had an excellent response to our patron drive. Perhaps thank you postcards could be sent. Two businesses sent us a pleasant response without contributions. Current membership is 70 members. Martha Sather of Fosston, MN and Mary Tangen of Moorhead should be added to the list.

Marlys Herring reported that the Nominating committee is presenting Jack Close as nominee for Chapter Dean, and Marge

Posschl for Board member-at-large. We are appreciative of their willingness to be on the slate of officers!

Mike Olson and Jack Close attended a meeting with Senator Langseth dealing with Advocacy of the Arts Council. Outstate Minnesota will feel a 20% cut in Arts Funds from the state. Our RRVC of AGO will not get as much from the National Endowment for the Arts through Minnesota, but we can write grants to request more through North Dakota.

Lance Johnson, organ builder, has a concern trying to convince small congregations that they can have a real pipe organ of the same cost as a new electronic organ.

Becky te Velde has sent several articles and pictures to the American Organist magazine for publicity for our Chapter. Thanks, Becky.

The Region VI convention will be held in Sioux Falls June 16th through 19th. Several of our members hope to attend this event. Our chapter will place an ad in the Convention Booklet this year.

The idea was tossed out that perhaps our RRVC of AGO could host a Regional Convention in the future. We do have a good variety of fine organs in our communities. By spring 1992, First Lutheran Church, Fargo, will have their enlarged 4 manual organ.

There was a request from the Regional Committee on the student organist competition asking us to send a contribution towards setting up an endowment fund. We voted to send a \$50 gift form our Chapter towards prizes for student winners. In 1983, we had a student, Mr. Wallace, from Hallock, MN, who was 2nd place winner in the student competition in Denver.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Clamby, Secretary

CHANGE! CHANGE! CHANGE!

As you noted elsewhere in the Newsletter, there will be new officers for the upcoming year. There is also going to be another position that will be changing and that is the NEWSLETTER EDITOR. It has been my privilege to do the Newsletter for 2 years now and I thank you for the opportunity to do it.

If you want the Newsletter to continue, please consider becoming the editor. My last Newsletter will be in May.

Judy Sanders,
Newsletter Editor

**CONCORDIA COLLEGE
STUDENT ORGAN RECITALS -
Trinity Lutheran Church, Moorhead, MN**

Saturday, April 13 -- 1:00 p.m.
Laurie Balstad (Sophomore) & Julie Meyer (Sophomore)

Saturday, April 13 -- 7:00 p.m.
Laurie Jacobson (Senior)

Friday, April 19 -- 7:00 p.m.
Chad Winterfeldt (Sophomore)

Saturday, April 20 -- 6:00 p.m.
Rachel Pohlman (Junior) & Melissa Heicie (Sophomore)

Congratulations to "Organ Plus" Participants

Thank you to Mercedes Reeves and Marge Possehl for planning the successful "Organ Plus" program held Sunday, March 10th at Nativity Catholic Church in Fargo, ND.

The program opened with the Rainbow Ringers (a young handbell choir) from the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Moorhead, MN. Organists who played included Mercedes Reeves, Susan Clamby, Mary Tangen, Marge Possehl, Ron Kothlisberger and Michael Olson. Various instruments, including piano, trumpet, flute, clarinet, violin, cello, handbells, and even timpani created interesting musical sounds when blended with organ. The grand finale was the performance of the AGO Handbell Choir, under the direction of Judy Sanders, together with organ, trumpet and timpani.

Thanks to all participants for another fine musical event.

Susan Clamby,
Secretary, AGO

Abendmusik Concert Series First Presbyterian Church, Fargo Gary Thrasher 701-293-6311 Performance Date 4/21/91

The next concert in the Abendmusik Concert Series will be a Midwest premiere production of a musical morality, *Jonah* by the contemporary Welsh composer, William Mathias. The story based on the biblical account of Jonah will be sung by professional soloists, and acted out in the form of modern dance while a chamber orchestra, prerecorded electronic sounds, adult choir and children's choir provide accompaniment and occasionally interact with the leading characters.

Lucy Thrasher will portray the role of the "Narrator". Dr. Mark Madison (who is business manager for the F-M Symphony) will sing the part of "Jonah". The part of the Speaker will be played by Mark Swartzell of WDAY radio news. The performance is being produced and conducted by Gary Thrasher, Director of Music at First Presbyterian Church.

The Concert will be held at First Presbyterian at 4:00 p.m. on April 21. Tickets are \$7.00 for adults and \$4.00 for children. Reserved seating may only be purchased in advance. To purchase reserved tickets, send a check for the appropriate amount to "Jonah Tickets", First Presbyterian Church, Box 327, Fargo, ND 58107. You will be able to pick up your tickets at the door on the day of the performance. Non reserved seating will be available at the door at the same price.

NOMINATIONS FOR 1991-1992

Relinquishing executive board positions are Michael Olson, Sue Clamby, Brad Steen, and Marlys Herring. The Nominating committee thanks these people for their dedicated service and continuing leadership given to the Red River Valley Chapter of the AGO.

As of March 28, the Nominating Committee submits the following willing individuals for the '91-'92 executive board positions:

Dean	Dr. John Close
Sub-Dean	Joan Bystöl
Secretary	Mary Tangen
Treasurer	
3-year, Member-at-Large	Marge Possehl

If you would like to make a nomination for the Executive Committee, please secure the permission of the nominee in writing along with the signatures of five chapter members and send them to Marlys Herring, 725 42nd St. SW, Fargo, ND, 58103, by April 19.

On behalf of The Red River Valley Chapter, AGO,

The Nominating Committee,
Marlys Herring, Chm.
Gary Thrasher & Dr. David Childs

ORGAN INSTITUTE

An organ institute for adult organists of an level will be held at Concordia College, June 14-15. The Institute begins Friday, June 14 at 4:30 p.m. with registration and continues at 7:00 p.m. with a panel discussion and recital. For more information call or write:

Office of Church Relations	218-299-3448
Department of Music	218-299-4414
Concordia College	
Moorhead, MN 56560	

1991 YOUNG ORGANISTS WEEK

The Young Organists Week will be June 9 - 13 at Concordia College, Moorhead, MN. The week is filled with an exciting and fun emphasis on organ playing. Classes taught will focus on technique, hymns, liturgy, repertoire and registration. Two private organ lessons will be given along with a private piano lesson. There will also be many, many, many exciting evening activities. Please encourage any young person to attend and pass the word along. (This is for anyone interested in becoming a church organist or presently is a church organist.) The cost for the week is \$175.

For more information, please contact Peter Nygaard at 299-4414, or the Office of Church Relations at 299-3448.

**KCCM LIVE RADIO BROADCAST OF
THE FARGO-MOORHEAD
SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

The Minnesota Public Radio Network will broadcast the Fargo-Moorhead Symphony Orchestra Concert live from the campus of Concordia College on Saturday, April 27, at 8:00 p.m. Locally, the concert can be heard on KCCM 91.1 FM (89.7 FM in Fergus Falls).

The concert will feature husband-and-wife duo pianists Pauli Gold and David Worth. Gold and Worth have been cited for their "extraordinary musicianship" in past recitals.

Their performance credits include recitals at Arizona State University, the University of Minnesota, and on Minnesota Public Radio's "Live From Landmark" series as well as at many regional college campuses. They also played at the Cleveland Institute's 60th Anniversary celebration by special invitation of the Institute.

J. Robert Hanson, Artistic Advisor for the Fargo-Moorhead Symphony Orchestra, will conduct. During his 16 seasons as music director, the F-M Symphony Orchestra won 4 awards from the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers for adventuresome programming of contemporary music.

The concert program will include Brahms' Academic Festival Overture, Francis Poulenc's Concerto for Two Pianos in D Minor, and Dmitri Shostakovich's Symphony No. 5 in D Minor.

The Fargo-Moorhead Symphony will offer a 20% discount on individual tickets to Minnesota Public Radio members.

Dear Pastor or Music Director,

May 5-12, 1991, is the 68th Annual National Music Week which is sponsored by the National Federation of Music Clubs. The theme for this year is "Music - Is It for Everyone".

The Fargo-Moorhead Area Music Club is the local chapter of the National Federation. We would therefore encourage you to use the recommended hymn, "How Great Thou Art", as a part of your service on Sunday, the 7th or 14th. If this hymn is used in your service, we would be most pleased and would appreciate receiving a copy of your bulletin.

We thank you in advance for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

Grace K. Gangnes
Mabel Bigelow
F-M Area Music Week Chairpersons
2814 North 7th, Apt. 14
Fargo, ND 58102

**RRVC -- AGO
Financial Report -- March 9, 1991**

Opening Balance	January 27, 1991	949.61
Receipts	+	3,153.00
Expenses	-	3,299.58
Interest	+	8.30
Closing Balance	March 9, 1991	811.33

Bradley Steen
Treasurer

**KCCM TO FEATURE DUO PIANISTS
PAULI GOLD AND DAVID WORTH
IN CONCERT**

KCCM 91.1 FM, Minnesota Public Radio, will feature husband-and-wife duo pianists Pauli Gold and David Worth in LUNDS PRESENTS "Chamber Music from Latvia and Austria." It will be broadcast on KCCM 91.1 FM (89.7 FM in Fergus Falls) on Sunday, April 21, 1991, at 12:00 noon.

The concert will include Brahms' Quartet No. 1 in C, Op. 51, No. 1 arranged by Brahms for piano four-hands).

Gold and Worth will be the featured soloists in a live Fargo-Moorhead Symphony Orchestra broadcast on Sunday, April 27, at 8:00 p.m. on KCCM and the MPR Network.

**RRVC -- AGO
Financial Report as of March, 19, 1991
John Obetz Concert**

Receipts		
ND Council on the Arts Grant		1750.00
Ticket Sales		246.00
Total		1996.00
Expenses		
Phillip Truckenbrod Agency		1800.00
Radisson Hotel		232.70
The Forum		186.00
KTHI-TV		150.00
Interstate Printing		91.42
Total		2460.12

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American Guild of Organists - Red River Valley Chapter
1990-1991 Annual Fund Drive
Contributors as of March 9, 1991

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