



PIPELINE

VOLUME 22 NUMBER 2

OCTOBER 2005

Come See the World in Las Vegas!



Region IX Mid-Winter Conclave
January 8 -12, 2006

Now is the time to make plans to attend the Mid-Winter Conclave in Las Vegas. Presently there are two air carriers that fly direct from Fargo to Las Vegas and the fares are reasonable. This can be your "warm-up" for the National in Chicago next summer!

DEAN'S MESSAGE

Our October 23rd meeting promises to be a winner with Peter Nygaard's workshop on hymn playing. Many organists are satisfied playing the correct notes and appropriate registration Sunday after Sunday without really engaging the congregation. For them, playing the hymns has become a monotonous routine and the congregation responds in kind. More information is needed to draw out singing, to inspire and uplift. Even those who have had years of formal study have fallen into a rut. If your congregation does not respond well to your playing there could be a good reason! A few years ago, Peter did an excellent workshop on registration which produced a large turnout. Let's keep the momentum going and see how we all can improve our hymn playing technique.

ORGAN CRAWL A HUGE SUCCESS

Submitted by Bill Tweten

The pipe organ is alive and well in Crookston! Ten members of the RRV AGO Chapter joined over 100 other organists and organ enthusiasts on Sunday, September 18 in Crookston, MN. A big thank you to the Grand Forks Chapter for the wonderful work and invitation to join in on the crawl! The tour began at Mount St. Benedict where a very delightful Sr. Virginia Houske demonstrated the Roderer tracker organ. Sr. Virginia then led us to the large new Cathedral and demonstrated the newer instrument there. Unfortunately, half the pipes are in storage due to a leaking roof. We can only imagine the power of this instrument in this magnificent room with all of the pipes intact! Following this Reid Froiland gave a wonderful demonstration of the organ that had been relocated at the Methodist Church. Next stop to the two Lutheran churches downtown Crookston, where George French played the dickens out of the big Schlicker organ! The last stop was the chance to hear and see the new Johnson organ at Our Saviour's. What a treat—five lovely instruments, a beautiful day, and then a great meal together with the Grand Forks Chapter. A fun time was had by all!

DIRECTORY NEWS

Your chapter directory is being held up pending the adding of names. Beginning in late August, several board members agreed to make calls to see if some new organists would like to join. The RRV Chapter is lacking in numbers and rests at about 1/2 in membership for an area of our size. AGO Headquarters has contacted certain chapters to encourage them to increase their numbers. The responsibility rests on all current members to do more to get new people. If you don't wish to make a call yourself, submit the name to the chapter secretary, Bill Tweten for follow-up!



Upcoming Events

October 23, 2005
Hymn Playing Workshop
Peter Nygaard
Trinity Lutheran Church
Moorhead, MN
4 p.m.

December 4, 2005
Christmas Hymn Sing
First Lutheran Church
Fargo, ND
7:30 p.m.

April 2, 2006
Tim Olson Concert
Trinity Lutheran Church
Moorhead, MN
4 p.m.

May 7, 2006
Potluck Supper
Sheila and Marty Baumgartner res.
2709 39th Ave. S.W.
Fargo, ND
4 p.m.

Chelsea Chen performs at the ATO

Twenty-one year old Chelsea Chen performed a full length memorized organ concert on Monday, October 3, 2005 at the Heinz Memorial Chapel in Pittsburgh, PA for the annual convention of the American Institute of Organ Builders. Most of the builders did not know Chelsea until she cut loose with a dazzling performance that elicited a standing ovation, a rarity for organ builder audiences. Two numbers were stand-outs, Reger's Chorale Fantasy on "Hallelulah Gott Zu Loben" and the three part "Taiwanese Suite" composed by Chen. Much of her program could be termed technically difficult but Chen demonstrated a keyboard facility in which the term astounding would be an understatement. Chen, who could win a beauty contest hands down stands over six feet and was seen cranking up the bench to top position before playing. She studied with John Weaver and later with Paul Jacobs at Julliard for her Bachelors and has plans to begin a masters program next year. Chen also is a superb athlete who was one of the few to finish the grueling New York Marathon. David Salmen of Wessington Springs, SD was instrumental in getting Ms. Chen for the AIO convention. She is also slated for a keynote recital for next year's AGO National convention. Your Board will be discussing bringing in Ms. Chen in 2007 for an AGO-sponsored concert.

Chelsea recently played a dedicatory recital in Milbank, SD and a recital on the Salmen residence organ in rural Wessington Springs, SD. She will be playing at First Presbyterian Church, Minot, ND at 2 p.m. on October 30, 2005.

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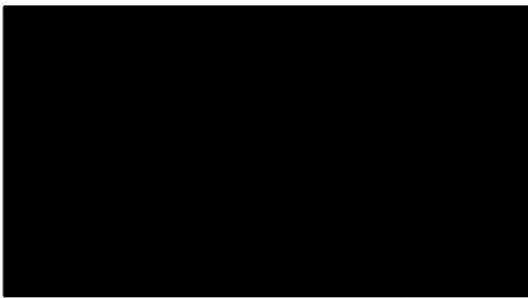
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Hans Christian Anderson



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