



# The American Guild of Organists

## Red River Valley Chapter

October, 1984

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 1, NO. 2

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL:

If your name was inadvertently omitted from the first mailing of the newsletter, program booklet and membership renewal form, and you wish to renew your membership, please accept our apologies and call Treasurer Phil Felde immediately: 236-9217 or write to him at 1408 S. 14th St., Moorhead, Minnesota 56560.

Anyone else receiving this newsletter and wishing to become a member of the Red River Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists should call or write to Phil as soon as possible so as to be retained on our mailing list and to begin receiving your copies of The American Organist.

### OCTOBER PROGRAM: J. S. BACH'S ORGELBÜCHLEIN

The October meeting of the Chapter will be held on Sunday, October 21, at 4:00 p.m. at The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, 1500 South Sixth Street in Moorhead. The program will center on a study of J.S. Bach's "Orgelbüchlein" (Little Organ Book), often known today as "The Liturgical Year." The Orgelbüchlein is a collection of 46 short chorale preludes for the organ, dedicated by Bach "to the honor of the Most High God alone, and for my neighbor, so that he may learn from it." The first thirty-three chorales follow the order of the church year. The rest are based on themes of Catechism, Christian Life, and other general categories.

### ADDITIONS:

Mary Jane Halverson 701-775-2048  
1120 Chestnut  
Grand Forks, ND 58201  
Calvary Lutheran

Thomas K. Hamilton 233-9146  
908 S. 8th St., #4  
Moorhead, MN 56560  
Plymouth Congregational

Shannon Jones 218-751-9419  
Rt. 9, Box 107  
Bemidji, MN 56601

Carol A. Long 235-6765  
3040 N. 10th St., Apt. 202  
Fargo, ND 58102

Loren Omoth 701-786-2745  
327 East Main  
Mayville, ND 58257

We welcome the foregoing to membership in the Red River Valley Chapter of the AGO.

Members: If you know of others who might be interested in membership, please call or write Carolyn Hensrud or Gay Mohr.

CORRECTIONS:

2002  
TREASURER



1983-84 FINANCIAL REPORT

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR:

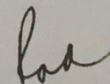
Opening Balance, Checking Account	\$55.24	
Receipts:		
Dues	\$2142.00	
Recital reception	43.00	<u>2185.00</u>
Total		\$2240.24
Expenditures:		
National dues	1043.90	
Dues Refunds	23.80	
Savings Account	750.00	
Yearbooks	8.39	
Postage	11.50	
Wallace Recital	212.20	
Professional Concerns (Wedding Letter)	14.52	
Misc. Service Charges	13.20	<u>2077.51</u>
Closing Balance, 6/30/84		\$162.73
Other Assets:		
CD #056783	\$1034.63	
CD #041849	354.54	
Savings #01-503823-7	780.18	<u>\$2169.35</u>
Total Assets: 6/30/84		<u><u>\$2332.08</u></u>
Robyn Vinje, Treas.	Philip Felde, Treas.	
1983-84	1984-85	

The cooperation extended by the ten contributors to the first Newsletter has stimulated efforts to produce this Opus 1, No. 2. Once again, information to be shared with the Membership has been forthcoming. You are particularly encouraged to respond to the requests being made in this issue by the Hospitality Committee and the Program Committee (Gillian Weir Master Class). Using the "tear-offs" could save much valuable time for the members of these committees.

Should you have responses to some of the items in this newsletter, suggestions, ideas, or thoughts you would care to share, or information that may be of interest to the Guild, please forward them to me by the first day of each of the months in which we meet (Nov., Jan., Feb., Mar., and May).

Finally, this issue is being mailed to several people who have not yet joined our ranks, but who, we hope, will do so. Choral conductors are especially encouraged to consider membership, since the AGO is concerned with all church music. Besides, there is no local chapter of any church/choral organization. Think about it.

Sincerely yours,



Rod Rothlisberger  
7 8th Ave. S.  
Moorhead, MN 56560

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP

Refreshments for the October 21 program will be furnished by Mercedes Roos, Phil Felde, Solveig Bartz, Mary Tangen, and Pat Unkenholz. An invitation has been extended to delegates at the National American Lutheran Church Convention, so attendance may be larger than usual.

On November 13, the Hymn Festival will require participation of the entire membership, either with food or a donation. In addition, we hope a few will also be available to help in the kitchen! To avoid having to make phone calls (you all know how time consuming that task is), please fill out the following:

REPERTOIRE SUGGESTIONS:

- Fantasia on One Note..... Sye Pherr
- O Whither Shall I Flea?..... Schuebler
- Fantasy on the Tedium..... Ray Grrr



NOVEMBER PIPEDREAMS SCHEDULE ON KCCM  
(91.1 FM)

FIFTH ANNUAL HYMN FESTIVAL

Sunday, Nov. 4, 1984, 9:30 p.m.

Gillian Weir in Concert, the world-famous British recitalist performs the dedicatory program on the new J.W. Walker and Sons organ (2 manuals, 30 stops) at the Breck School Chapel, Minneapolis. (Note: a chance to hear our Spring Recitalist)

Sunday, Nov. 11, 1984, 9:30 p.m.

An organ recital by Wolfgang Rubsam recorded on the 1983 Karl Wilhelm organ (3 manuals, 58 ranks) at Christ Presbyterian Church, Edina.

Sunday, Nov. 18, 1984, 9:30 p.m.

Americana Revisited, another program featuring historic American instruments, with comments from William Van Pelt of the Organ Historical Society. There performances were taped in western Massachusetts.

Sunday, Nov. 25, 1984, 9:30 p.m.

Guy Bovet in Concert, performances by and a conversation with the iconoclastic Swiss artist, heard on the C.B. Fisk organ at House of Hope Presbyterian Church, St. Paul

Plans for our Fifth Annual Hymn Festival, to be held on Sunday, November 18 at 7:30 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Moorhead, are in their final stages. It promises to be an exciting evening of music for all. Please plan now to be a part of this great event, either through participation as a member of the massed choir, or by your attendance as a member of the congregation.

If you are a choir director, please return the card you received in the special mailing as soon as possible. We need to have adequate materials on hand and seating planned for all who will sing.

Any questions regarding the hymn festival should be directed to Jack Mohlenhoff or Rosemarie Johnk.

GILLIAN WEIR ORGAN MASTER CLASS -- SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 1985, 7:30 - 9:30 p.m.  
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, MOORHEAD, MN.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

Any member of the Red River Valley AGO Chapter, who has paid his/her 1984-85 dues. Application must be made in writing before November 1, 1984.

Time will permit only six members to play (20 minutes each). If more than six people apply, applicants will be notified regarding further screening after November 1.

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APPLICATION FORM

I wish to play in the Gillian Weir Organ Master Class, March 31, 1985.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY & STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE OF PIECE \_\_\_\_\_

COMPOSER \_\_\_\_\_

TIME DURATION OF PIECE \_\_\_\_\_

Send completed form to: RUTH BERGE, MUSIC DEPARTMENT, CONCORDIA COLLEGE, MOORHEAD, MN 56560  
BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 1984. ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING.



FROM GLORY UNTO GLORY AT THE HYMN  
SOCIETY OF AMERICA CONVOCATION

Diane and I had the pleasure of attending and participating in the Hymn Society of America Convocation at Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, Illinois, July 22-24, 1984. This was an experience we will long remember. It was a time of singing, study, discussion, and fellowship with people from a variety of church denominations. We began and ended each day with worship and prayer, led by persons from different Christian traditions.

We began with a HYMN FESTIVAL of the "Ten Best" hymns written in the past 25 years from a poll of HSA members: EARTH AND ALL STARS (LBW 558); GOD, WHO STRETCHED THE SPANGLED HEAVENS (LBW 463); I COME WITH JOY TO MEET MY LORD; THERE'S A SPIRIT IN THE AIR; AS THE BRIDEGROOM TO HIS CHOSEN; GIFT OF FINEST WHEAT; NOW THE SILENCE (LBW 205); O GOD, O LORD OF HEAVEN AND EARTH (LBW 396); ALL WHO LOVE AND SERVE YOUR CITY (LBW 436); and WHEN IN OUR MUSIC GOD IS GLORIFIED (LBW 555). As you can see, six of the ten best hymns selected are in the LBW (Lutheran Book of Worship). All these hymns were sung with special treatments; we got a chance to hear different voice combinations as we shared in singing the hymns. It was exciting and enjoyable.

Timothy Dudley-Smith, Anglican Bishop of Thetford, England, was the principal speaker and presenter of the convocation. Some of us had the opportunity to be with him in a workshop entitled, "The Hymn Writer at Work." Bishop Dudley-Smith is a delightful person. He conducted EVENING WORSHIP on the last day of the convocation in the manner of a country church in England, setting the stage with words about the church and leading us as members of that church.

PSALMS IN THE CHURCH TODAY was the title of a major presentation on two of the days of the convocation. The first was subtitled, "Three Diverse Sources," and included: METRICAL PSALMODY, presented by Emily Brink, Music Editor of the Board of Publications of the Christian Reformed Church in North America; FROM THE LUTHERAN BOOK OF WORSHIP, presented by Paul Westermeyer, Department Head and Professor of Music at Elmhurst College, and Cantor at

Ascension Lutheran Church in Riverside, Illinois; and ROMAN CATHOLIC PRACTICES, presented by Richard J. Wojcik, Professor and Director of Sacred Music at St. Mary of the Lake Seminary, Mundelein, Ill.

The second presentation regarding Psalms in the Church Today included: INTRODUCING PSALMS FOR SINGING, presented by Judy Leohr, Director of Church Music and Worship Resources for the United Methodist Church, and Project Director for the Psalm publications; SOURCES FROM THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH, presented by Richard Proulx, Director of Music at Holy Name Cathedral, and member of the music committee for the new Episcopal hymnal; and INTRODUCING THE GRAIL PSALTER, presented by Robert Bastastini, General Editor of G.I.A. Publications, Inc., and Director of Music at St. Barbara R.C. Church of Brookfield, Ill. Austin Lovelace was elected new president of the Hymn Society of America at this convocation.

The presentations were excellent. In experiencing the various ways of singing the Psalms, the Lutheran Book of Worship and Grail Psalter were the most comfortable to sing and posed fewest problems for congregational singing of the Psalms.

TWELVE WORKSHOPS were offered during the time of the convocation, of which each person was able to attend and participate in no more than 3. Diane and I attended 6 of the workshops: THE HYMN WRITER AT WORK, MANAGEMENT OF CHURCH HYMNS, HYMN PLAYING FOR ORGANISTS, MANAGING CHANGE IN WORSHIP AND HYMNODY, BETTER HYMN SINGING, and THE HYMNS OF CAROL DORAN AND THOMAS TOEGER. We have many notes and observations from these workshops that will be helpful in the parish.

July 23rd, we were transported by bus to St. Clement's Church for a HYMN FESTIVAL OF HYMNS OF TIMOTHY DUDLEY-SMITH, led by Bishop Dudley-Smith and accompanied by Richard Proulx at the organ. This was a fantastic experience. Mr. Proulx's introductions and varied hymn accompaniments were inspiring and a delight to the ear, encouraging us to pull out all the stops in our singing of the hymns. St. Clement's Church is a copy of St. Clement's Church



## HYMN SOCIETY CONVOCATION cont.

in Rome, Romanesque and with a high dome over the center altar. The walls and ceilings of the church have copied the marble and mosaic work of the church in Rome, except that they are painted.

Following the hymn festival in the church, there was a grand reception on the grounds of the church. Those in attendance raised a toast to the persons responsible for the festival and the church for hosting it. In response, one of the priests quickly went into the church and arranged for all the bells of the church to ring in response to the toast. It was a delightful time of food and fellowship with everyone there.

An interesting aside on the trip to the church follows: The busses took us through the Chicago Loop and along the waterfront. It was a joy to see the waterfront in all its beauty. It was a warm night and the breeze from Lake Michigan was refreshing. On the way back to Elmhurst, our eyes feasted on the sights of the buildings gloriously displayed with spotlights. Riding in the busses, we got the experience the students must have going to school, feeling every bump and hearing the excited chatter of the people on the bus.

The final night of the Convocation, there was a FESTIVAL OF HYMN CONCERTATOS, featuring Organ, Brass Quartet, and Double Choir of some of the convocation participants. Hymns included: HOLY GOD, WE PRAISE YOUR NAME; REJOICE, THE LORD IS KING; SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME; EARTH AND ALL STARS; O DAY FULL OF GRACE; THIS IS THE SPIRIT'S ENTRY NOW; NOW, AT THE PEAK OF WONDER; OH, THAT I HAD A THOUSAND VOICES; A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD; SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE; OH, WORSHIP THE KING; and THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION. The experience of participating in this hymn concertato festival was beyond description.

Each of the hymn festivals was overwhelming in its impact. By the time we had completed the concertatos, we felt that we had gone from "glory unto glory" and had reached the highest limit of experience. But then we were introduced to THE MUSIC FROM TAIZE by Robert Batastini, with Strings, Winds, and Organ. I had

experienced the music from Taize before at one of the Liturgical Institutes at Valparaiso, but this experience was even more tremendous. The music consists of a refrain sung over and over by the congregation, much like the waves of the sea--calm, quiet, gentle, and at times big and intense. At various times during the singing of the refrain, a cantor adds his voice with special words for consideration. It is difficult to put this experience into words; you have to experience it to get the full effect. Needless to say, when the music came to an end, everyone wanted it to go on. You go away from such an experience transformed and renewed. Look forward to such an experience.

When in our music God is glorified,  
And adoration leaves no room for pride,  
It is as though the whole creation cried:  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

- LBW 555

Kristen Kvamme

### NOTICES:

Member Pat Unkenholz, who is now living in Fargo, is the local representative for MALMARK, INC., makers of handbells. Call her at 232-1435.

### ORGAN DEDICATION

Sunday, October 28, at 4:30 p.m. at St. John Lutheran Church, Fargo: Judy Sanders plays Bach, Lubeck, Sowerby and Chorale Preludes of the Church Year.

### FACULTY RECITAL

Peter Nygaard will be performing Beubke's "Sonata on the 94th Psalm" and Bach's "Prelude and Fugue in E Minor (the Wedge)" on Friday, November 2, at 8:15 p.m. at First Lutheran Church, Fargo.

TRANSITIONS:

Congratulations to Mariann Astrup on her acceptance of a position teaching art in Milbank, S.D., public schools, beginning Oct. 1.

Joan Bystol is currently organist at Gethsemene Episcopal Cathedral and is therefore unavailable for substituting at Sunday Services.

Norm Hansen will be spending the winter in Mesa, Arizona.

FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.....

A BACH CALENDAR for 1985 has been published by the Bach Society of Minnesota, underwritten by Lutheran Brotherhood Insurance, and will be available for \$10.95 (current price) at B. Dalton Bookstores