



The American Guild of Organists

Red River Valley Chapter

June, 1987

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 3, No. 11

AGO NEEDS YOU!!! and YOU NEED AGO!!!

As summer is fast approaching, we begin to make plans for outdoor fun in the sun! We are making decisions as to when our vacations will be; where should we go; how long will we be gone, etc. But it is also a good time to begin to make plans for the FALL of the year and to join the American Guild of Organists. The AGO is a national professional association of more than 22,000 organists, choir director and members, handbell directors and members, clergy and anyone interested in church music. When you join AGO, 1) you receive THE AMERICAN ORGANIST (a monthly music journal); 2) you are entitled to participate in chapter programs; 3) your name is placed on our mailing list so as to keep you informed of Red River Valley Chapter events; 4) you have the opportunity to attend chapter meetings and share your ideas; and 5) you have lots of good fellowship.

Therefore, the AGO NEEDS YOU for your financial support and contribution of your time and talents in order to promote high quality programs and a deep appreciation of church music in our area. And YOU NEED AGO to nurture your personal and professional growth and development.

To join the Red River Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, just mail the enclosed membership form along with your check to:

Phil Felde, Treasurer
Red River Valley Chapter
American Guild of Organists
P.O. Box 2223
Fargo, ND 58108

A membership yearbook will be compiled soon. Therefore, please complete your form as carefully as possible. If you would like to be included on a substitute list, indicate this on the membership form.

If you are already a member, or are unable to join at this time, please pass this information on to someone who is interested in and/or involved with church music.

We are looking forward to seeing you soon!!!

Judy Sanders,
Membership Chair

THE STATE OF THE CHAPTER

Dear Colleagues:

As I review this past year, several superlatives come to mind:

- 1) Now numbering nearly 100, our membership is larger than at any point in its 42-year history.
- 2) With four major programs (Hymn Festival, Choral Concert, Recital, and Workshop) and nine other scheduled events, the chapter offered its most extensive schedule ever.
- 3) Because of 1) and 2), the largest budget was proposed and met.

We should be duly proud of these achievements, and thanks are in order to all who planned, organized, participated in, attended and/or supported our chapter activities during the year. More specifically, we all appreciate the ongoing nurture of our chapter membership by:

- 1) the monthly appearance of the Newsletter;
- 2) the faithful service of our Hospitality Committee;
- 3) the maintenance of our library and of our historical records via photographs and archives; and
- 4) the pursuit of new sources of funds to support our burgeoning activities.

In addition to offering all of our programs to the public free of charge, we have continued our outreach to the community by:

- 1) offering assistance to those planning special services (weddings and funerals);
- 2) organizing a placement service for members and for churches in our region.
- 3) expanding our public relations capabilities via computer lists;
- 4) presenting our church music workshop again this year; and
- 5) participating in the Lake Agassiz Arts Council.

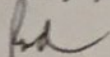
The future holds many exciting possibilities for us:

- 1) The Program Committee has already completed an exciting calendar of events for next year; full of variety and imagination, it includes having David Cherwien lead our Eighth Annual Hymn Festival with the premiere of a commissioned hymn arrangement, as well as a Children's Choir Festival at First Presbyterian Church.
- 2) Plans are being formulated to demonstrate pipe organs to school children (and others) through the Moorhead Community Arts Program.
- 3) The Organ Crawl to Winnipeg has been postponed until a weekend (Friday and Saturday) in October in hopes that more members will be able to participate.
- 4) Plans for a chapter banner continue.

Finally, special thanks go to those of you who continue to support our chapter and its programs even though you are unable to actually participate, or even attend, our various events. Your continued membership is so important, since it permits us to advance the cause of church music and church musicians in our region. I hope you all will make suggestions as to how our chapter might better serve you, whether you are here in Fargo-Moorhead, or as much as 200-300 miles distant.

Thank you all for a great year!!

Sincerely yours,



Rod Rothlisberger, Dean

Church musicians, clergy, and others interested in church music will have the opportunity to select from over twenty sessions on repertoire, service planning and playing, conducting, and parish-clergy-musician concerns during the Church Music Bonanza II, a one-day workshop scheduled for June 20, 1987 and sponsored by the Red River Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

Classes will be offered for organists, choral conductors, handbell directors, singers, bell ringers, and clergy. Topics to be covered include organ and handbell technique, hymn playing, rehearsal techniques, hymn festivals, wedding and funeral music, and accompanying. Choral reading sessions will also be held.

The day will conclude with a church music Festival, featuring organ, brass, and congregational hymns. Staff for the workshop consists of members of the AGO who are active, experienced church musicians representing all denominations.

Several area businesses and organizations will provide displays and consultants during the day. The exhibitors will include music stores, religious bookstores, piano and organ dealers, and handbell sales representatives.

Registration begins at 9:00 a.m. at the Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, 1500 S. Sixth St., Moorhead, MN. The day ends with the Festival at 4:00 p.m. Coinciding with the second day of the Billy Graham Crusade in Fargo, the workshop allows visiting clergy and musicians to participate in all crusade activities, as well.

There is no charge for the workshop to members of AGO, but members are asked to send in a registration form. This will insure that adequate materials will be available.

MATERIALS AND REPERTOIRE FROM JOYCE JONES WORKSHOP IS FORTHCOMING

The materials and repertoire that were included and/or referred to in the Joyce Jones organ workshop are in the process of being assembled and this information will be forthcoming and available in the not too distant future.

Current AGO members are reminded that it is now time to renew your membership for the 1987-88 program year. Your dues (if for either a Regular or Special membership) include a one-year subscription to THE AMERICAN ORGANIST magazine, a one year subscription to the AGO Red River Valley Chapter NEWSLETTER, as well as support the programs offered by the national organization and our local chapter. Please mail your dues payment now and avoid an interruption in your membership, TAO subscription, and NEWSLETTER subscription.

SUGGESTION: Many churches pay AGO dues for their musicians. Why not make inquiries at your church?

ATTENTION: 1986-87 COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS AND OFFICERS.

In wrapping up this year's activities, you are asked to complete your Committee Report Form, which accompanies this Newsletter and forward it to me by July 1. If your committee was issued a folio, please submit the folio, as well. In this way we can share your experience and expertise as a committee chairperson (or officer) and provide continuity for future committees.

Thanks for a great year!

Rod Rothlisberger, dean

REQUEST FROM THE TREASURER

As the end of the fiscal year (June 30) approaches, Treasurer Phil Felde requests that all bills payable and/or charge receipts be forwarded to him as soon as possible.

Receipt for Invoice #3476, dated March 9, for \$11.78 at Kinko's is not in his possession. Please check through your files and if this receipt is still in your hands, please send it to Phil as soon as possible!!

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
March 29, 1987
Gethsemane Episcopal Cathedral, Fargo

Members present: Rod Rothlisberger,
Dorothy Koopmann, Michael Olson, Jack
Close.

The meeting was called to order by
the dean.

The minutes of the Executive Board
meeting of January 25, 1987 were
approved as published in the Newsletter.

The new national and local chapter
dues structure and the site for the
Church Music Bonanza II were discussed.

It was moved, seconded, and passed
that the chapter underwrite the cost of
a mailing inviting participation in a
meeting to stimulate additional chapter
activity in the Minot, N.D. area.
North Dakota AGO State Chairperson,
Carolyn Hensrud and Dean Rodney
Rothlisberger will present the meeting
on creative programming for members and
potential members of the Minot Chapter.

A request to underwrite (totally or
partially) costs for broadcasting
Pipedreams over KCCM-FM radio was
discussed. Action on this request was
tabled pending a review of the end-of-
the-year treasury balance and budget
development for the next program year.

The meeting was adjourned.

John E. Close
Secretary, Pro Tem

MIDSUMMER RENDEZVOUS

Our chapter summer social event is
planned for Sunday, July 19, at Peter
Nygaard's, 804 S. 10th St. #A1, Fargo,
N.D. at 4:00 p.m. Plan to bring either
a casserole, salad, or a desert. Bread,
beverages, plates, and dinnerware will
be provided.

This will be a good time to get
together, relax, and enjoy good food
and fellowship. We will plan to install
our new officers as well as give everyone
the opportunity to sign up for committees
and program participation for the coming
program year. So plan to join us for this
"Midsummer Rendezvous."

"SOLI DEO GLORIA"

. . . SOME CLOSING THOUGHTS

"Music is a demanding art. To achieve
excellence in it requires hard discipline
and unremitting work. Yet with all his
devotion to it a Christian musician must
keep his priorities clear. God is the
source of all talent. When He gives
talent, including musical talent, He
gives it, not to be made an idol, but to
be used to His glory."

- Frank E. Gaebelain

As I was reading the book THE CHRISTIAN,
THE ARTS, AND TRUTH - Regaining the Vision
of Greatness, the above quotation caught
my eye this past week. Mr. Gaebelain in
his book makes the point that the Christian
musician must take care that the art to
which he or she is devoted does not usurp
the place that belongs to God alone.
Everything, without exception, must be
brought into captivity to the obedience
of Christ, who in all things, music among
them, must have the preeminence.

Our Guild standard proclaims this
motto: "SOLI DEO GLORIA" - TO GOD ALONE
BE THE GLORY. Thus be it!

Bradley J. Steen, editor

PAT UNKENHOLZ TO BE CONSECRATED AS A DIACONAL MINISTER

A special service of consecration for
Pat Unkenholz as a Diaconal Minister of
The United Methodist Church will be held
at Calvary United Methodist Church in
Fargo, N.D. at 7:30 p.m. on Monday,
June 15, 1987. Pat has completed the
studies and requirements for this special
ministry of the church. A reception will
immediately follow the service of
consecration. All are invited to attend.

RED RIVER BOY CHOIR IN CONCERT

The Red River Boy Choir, directed by Linda Ferreira and accompanied by Michael Olson, will present a home concert on Friday, June 12, at 7:30 p.m. at First Lutheran Church. There is no charge for admission. The boys will just have returned home that afternoon from an eight-day tour to Winnipeg and other towns in Manitoba. If you have not had an opportunity to hear the choir this year - and even if you have - this will be the final public performance of the 1986-87 Red River Boy Choir. Come and hear!!

FOR SALE:

Two-manual harpsichord. Has four choirs (16' & 8' on one manual and 8' & 4' on the other manual). For further information call Mark Dahlberg at (218)334-6166 or write him at Rt. 1 Box 181, Frazee, MN 56544.

ADDITIONS:

We welcome the following new member to the Red River Valley Chapter of the AGO.

Devera Lou Warcup
3330 E. Elmwood Drive
Grand Forks, ND 58201.

A manufacturer dejectedly told a friend that his best salesman had just died after a long illness. "That's terrible," said the friend. "What did he have?" "North and South Dakota and the western half of Minnesota," replied the manufacturer.

PIPEDREAMS ON KCCM-FM

(91.1)

Sunday, June 21, 1987 9:30 p.m.

Viennese organist Peter Planyavsky performs on the Fisk instrument at House of Hope Church in St. Paul, MN.

Sunday, June 28, 1987 9:30 p.m.

The American Muse: Music by American composers. . .

Sunday, July 5, 1987 9:30 p.m.

Going on Record: another quarterly sampling of recently released organ recordings.

Sunday, July 12, 1987 9:30 p.m.

From Methuen Memorial Music Hall: recital and recording session performances by Anne Wilson, Michael Murray, and Barbara Bruns.

Sunday, July 19, 1987 9:30 p.m.

For One or Two to Play: solos and duets by Carole Terry, Timothy Nickel, and Nancy LeRoi, performed on the Fritts-Richards organ of St. Alphonsus Church, Seattle.

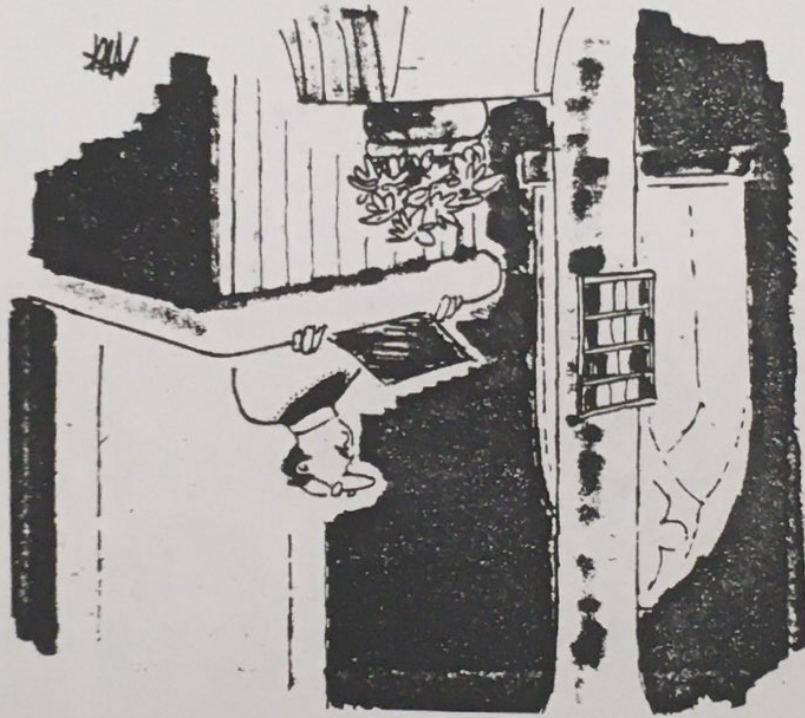
Sunday, July 26, 1987 9:30 p.m.

O.H.S. in Iowa: performances on historic American instruments recorded during the 1986 Organ Historical Society conclave in Iowa.



"As you may have noticed, our minister of music is back from his vacation in New Orleans."

"For self-denial, we'll sing a popular hymn to a tune nobody knows."



Red River Valley Chapter
American Guild of Organists
P.O. Box 2223
Fargo, ND 58108

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