



# The American Guild of Organists

## Red River Valley Chapter

February, 1987

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 3, No. 7

The Red River Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists in cooperation with the F-M Communiversy will present a concert of 17th and 18th century choral music on Sunday, February 22, 1987 at 5:30 p.m. in the Knutson Center Centrum of Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota.

The 20th century premiere of a Magnificat by Johann Kuhnau for chorus, soloists and orchestra will be performed. This work was last performed in the early 18th century. Kuhnau was J. S. Bach's predecessor as cantor at St. Thomas's Church in Leipzig, Germany.

Also performed will be Dietrich Buxtehude's cantata "Command Thine Angel That He Come" for chorus and orchestra. 1987 is the 350th anniversary of Buxtehude's birth. Buxtehude's musical career was centered at St. Mary's Church, Lubeck, Germany.

Giovanni Gabrieli's motet "Kyrie" for three choirs is taken from one of his few masses that he composed. Gabrieli held the prestigious musical post of organist at St. Mark's Basilica in Venice, Italy from 1586 to 1612.

The choir will consist of area church musicians as well as individuals enrolled in the F-M Communiversy course "Go for Baroque" which was created expressly for persons who wanted an opportunity to rehearse and perform 17th and 18th century music. The F-M Chamber Chorale directed by Alice Fasman will assist with the performance of the Gabrieli "Kyrie."

Soloists will be Alice Fasman, soprano; Gay Mohr, alto; John Taylor, tenor; and Gary Thrasher, bass.

Organists will be Peter Nygaard and Bruce Jacobs who will also be harpsichordist.

The orchestra will consist of members of the F-M Symphony Orchestra.

Dr. Rodney J. Rothlisberger, Dean of the Red River Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, will be the conductor.



## SALIENT SALMAGUNDI

As I speak with various members of our chapter, ideas spring up here and there. Some thoughts for future consideration follow.

Our chapter could/should:

1) develop a program with area public and private schools, whereby we demonstrate pipe organs to children—all 5th graders, for example—during the course of a school year. Area public schools reportedly have funds to support such activities.

2) commission an original choral composition/hymn variation/hymn concertato for our annual hymn festival.

3) present an Outstanding Church Musician Award to someone within our chapter/area/community/region.

4) establish an endowment fund for the purpose of providing funds for a) recitals; b) hymn festivals; c) choral concerts; d) workshops; or e) whatever.

5) print a flyer/brochure of a general informational nature which could be included with a) grant proposals; b) publicity mailings; or c) patronage letters and other fund-raising activities, thereby enhancing our identity as an organization.

6) record and broadcast AGO programs.

7) exchange choir lofts and organ consoles from time to time, in order to share our strengths and to learn from and about other worship experiences.

If you have other ideas, please share them. Our horizons need to be continually broadened, for "where there is no vision, the people perish."

Proverbs 29:18.

Sincerely Yours,  
Rod Rothlisberger, Dean

### ADDITIONS:

We welcome Mr. Timothy Johnson to the Red River Valley Chapter - AGO as a new member.

Timothy J. Johnson  
P. O. Box 219  
New York Mills, MN 56567  
(H) 218-385-2405  
(O) 218-385-2430

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

The following statistics reflect the membership distribution of the Red River Valley Chapter - AGO.

North Dakota		
Fargo	28	
Grand Forks	4	
Jamestown	3	
Mayville	2	
Devils Lake, Enderlin, Gilby, Lisbon, Minot, Wahpeton, West Fargo, York (1 each)	8	
Total		45
Minnesota		
Moorhead	20	
Fergus Falls	6	
Hawley	3	
Crookston	2	
Detroit Lakes	2	
Fosston	2	
Ada, Bemidji, Breckenridge, Deer River, Dilworth, Frazee, Hallock, New York Mills, Thief River Falls, Wolverton (1 each)	10	
Total		45
Iowa, S. Dakota, Texas (1 each)		3
Total Membership		93

Of these 93 members, 20 have joined our chapter since August 1986 as new members.

### INTRODUCTIONS:

Tim Johnson has lived in Fargo/Moorhead off and on as a student since 1979. He attended Concordia College where he studied (but did not major in) organ, and recently, he graduated from Interstate Business College. He has served as organist at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church and Plymouth Congregational Church in Fargo. Currently, Tim is living in his home town of New York Mills, Minnesota where he is working in a family business and occasionally subbing for the organist at St. Peter's Lutheran Church there.



F-M CHAMBER CHORALE SINGS FAURE  
"REQUIEM"

On Sunday, March 15, the Fargo-Moorhead Chamber Chorale, under the direction of Alice Fasman, will sing a program of sacred French music as part of a Lenten series at First Lutheran Church, Fargo. Beginning at 7:30 p.m., the concert will include the motets, "Ave verum corpus" by Saint-Saens and "Laboravi clamans" by Rameau, in addition to Gabriel Faur's "Requiem."

Soloists will be Shelley Zietz and John Taylor. Michael Olson will serve as organist.

PRESBYTERIAN ABENDMUSIK CONCERT

On Sunday, March 15, the Moorhead State University Baroque Ensemble will present a concert at First Presbyterian Church of Fargo at 4:00 p.m. The ensemble consists of Ruth Dahlke, oboe; Roger Martin, flute; Sara Boyd, bassoon; and Robert Pattengale, harpsichord. All are members of the music faculty at the university. Works by Quantz, Telemann, and Handel will be presented. This ensemble has been in existence for ten years and has played regularly on campus and in the community.

ST. JOHN'S BOYS CHOIR AT FIRST LUTHERAN

On Saturday, March 28, the St. John's Boys Choir from Collegeville, Minnesota will present a concert at First Lutheran Church, Fargo, at 8:00 p.m. A free-will offering will be received. The choir will also sing at the 9:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. morning worship services at First Lutheran.

MARCH NEWSLETTER COPY DEADLINE:

All information, articles and announcements that are to be included in the March 1987 Newsletter are to be submitted by March 1, 1987!!! Please mail them to Bradley Steen, Newsletter editor, P.O. Box 2223, Fargo, N.D. 58108.

THE WORLD'S WURLITZER - MPR ARTS CALENDAR  
SPECIAL EDITION

On March 2 at 4:00 p.m. Minnesota Public Radio and KCCM-FM (91.1 FM) will carry live a concert from the World Theatre in St. Paul, MN featuring organist Hector Olivera performing on the World Theatre's newly installed Wurlitzer pipe organ.

WILLIAM WOJNAR IN CONCERT AT FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, FARGO

Organist William Wojnar of Jamestown College, Jamestown, N.D., will present a concert in the sanctuary of the First Presbyterian Church, Fargo at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 1. A free will offering will be received to benefit Jamestown College. A reception will follow the concert. Mr. Wojnar will also serve as service organist at the 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. worship services at First Presbyterian at which the Jamestown College Choir directed by Dr. Richard H. Smith will sing. William Wojnar will perform works by John Cook, Buxtehude, Bach, Langlais, Persichetti and Dupre at the organ concert.

PIPEDREAMS ON KCCM-FM (91.1 FM)

Sunday, February 22, 1987 9:30 p.m.

Pro Organo: a visit with the American performer and recording producer Frederick Hohman, with a sampling of his excellent wares.

Sunday, March 1, 1987 9:30 p.m.

Mendelssohn and his organ works (part two): a continuing exploration of the known and unknown music of this great early 19th century musician.

Sunday, March 8, 1987 9:30 p.m.

Bach Bracers: original works by and homages to Johann Sebastian Bach.

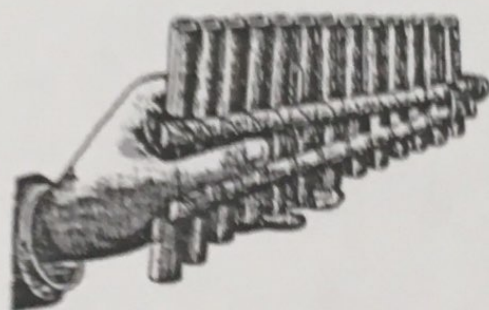
Sunday, March 15, 1987 9:30 p.m.

Bach in Vienna: recordings on the new "Bach Organ," modeled in the fashion of instruments Bach knew and played, and built in 1985 by the Dutch firm of Gebruder Reil for the Church of Saint Augustine in Vienna.

Sunday, March 22, 1987 9:30 p.m.

Original! recent works for organ performed by their composer, Leonard Danek.

A Concert of  
17th and 18th Century Music



THE NEW ORGAN THE ARCHITECT  
LEFT SPACE FOR

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