



# PIPELINE

VOLUME 22 NUMBER 1

SEPTEMBER 2005



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!

## Next Chapter Activity slated!

This Sunday, September 18, 2005 the long awaited organ crawl in association with the Grand Forks Chapter will take place. There will be three organs toured in Crookston and then supper together. Bill Tweten will be driving a van from the Messiah Lutheran parking lot on Elm Street leaving at 1:30 p.m. Please call Bill to let him know that you are riding. Home # is 232-0897 and work for Bill is 237-6601. All members planning to drive should meet first at the Cathedral in Crookston. Three p.m starting time.

## FROM THE DEAN

It's time to get rolling again. Your board approved five programs for the next season which should prove to be very meaningful and with substance. Peter Nygaard's former star student, Tim Olsen, will play at Trinity next Spring which will be an exciting event. Tim now has his doctorate in organ and has just become head organ instructor at Oklahoma State University.

The Board decided last Spring to limit the number of programs due to the fact that finding meaningful programs is getting more difficult. In addition, the attendance has not been good and it is hoped that this new format will draw out more members.

And speaking of members, this chapter has a long, long way to go in order to obtain more members. Several board members are making calls to various organists to get them signed up. However, this does not mean that others should not be doing the same. Each one of you should try to get at least one new member this coming season. The National AGO office pointed out to us that we need to increase our numbers and this we must take seriously.

I am glad to report that we now have a new LAAC representative and that is Robyn Vinje who also just joined the board. Also, a warm welcome to our new board members, Vicky Sieben, Robyn Vinje, Sally Harmon and Sue Clambey.

We are off to a flying start! Now let's all get out and support our programs.



# Upcoming Events

September 18, 2005

Organ Crawl/Supper

In association with Grand Forks Chapter

3 p.m.

Meet first at Cathedral

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.

## Organist needed

Faith United Methodist Church needs a permanent organist. FUMC is located in North Fargo and holds one Sunday service at 10:30 a.m. For more info. Contact Oscar Flores, Chair of the Committee at 218-477-2710 (office) or 701-239-2483 (home) e-mail is flores@mnstate.edu.

## POOR INSTRUMENTS DRIVE AWAY ORGANISTS

Earlier this summer I ran into a vacationing pastor friend at Zion Lutheran church on Franklin Lake where we worship in the summer. Out of habit, I asked him what kind of organ they had at his new parish. His answer was a donated home spinet organ and that the organist wasn't very good. I then asked him how he expects to get a good organist playing an organ made for the home entertainment market?

He didn't have an answer but he seemed more disappointed in the organist than the organ. This is symptomatic of churches that do not take their musicians seriously. There are too many pastors and church music people who think that the organ is a necessary evil and downplay it. As long as it makes an organ-like sound it is OK. Well folks, it is not OK! Congregations are building very expensive churches without giving much thought to the organ and many with decrepit instruments are simply bringing it over to the new building with the lame excuse that they couldn't afford to fit a new organ into the building fund. Then they complain and stew over the fact that no one wants the job of organist. Inferior instruments will not only not inspire young people to study organ but will drive them away in droves.

If you are playing a poor instrument and are satisfied with your position, replacing you when you want to move or retire will be next to impossible. Church musicians need to stand up and be heard and to campaign for quality organs which will then lead to not only getting those younger ones interested in the organ but will make it easier to find new organists when needed.

Hopefully someday we will see the end to organs being accepted for donation by our churches which are nearly worn out and/or organs with undersized keyboards and pedal boards.

# RED RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER AGO

## ORGANIST SALARY GUIDELINES

July 2005- June 2006

### Category A - One Service

	1-4 Yrs	5-12 Yrs	13-20 Yrs	20+ Yrs
Basic Organist	\$60.00	\$75.00	\$90.00	\$105.00
AGO Certificate	\$75.00	\$90.00	\$105.00	\$120.00
Bachelor's Degree	\$90.00	\$105.00	\$120.00	\$135.00
Master's Degree	\$105.00	\$120.00	\$135.00	\$150.00

### Category B - Two Services (adds one hour)

	1-4 Yrs	5-12 Yrs	13-20 Yrs	20+ Yrs
Basic Organist	\$75.00	\$93.75	\$112.50	\$131.25
AGO Certificate	\$93.75	\$112.50	\$131.25	\$150.00
Bachelor's Degree	\$112.50	\$131.25	\$150.00	\$168.75
Master's Degree	\$131.75	\$150.00	\$168.75	\$187.50

### Category C - One Service Plus Accompany Choir (adds 2+ hours)

	1-4 Yrs	5-12 Yrs	13-20 Yrs	20+ Yrs
Basic Organist	\$90.00	\$112.50	\$135.00	\$157.50
AGO Certificate	\$112.50	\$135.00	\$157.50	\$180.00
Bachelor's Degree	\$135.00	\$158.50	\$180.00	\$202.50
Master's Degree	\$158.50	\$180.00	\$202.50	\$225.00

### Category D - Two Services plus Accompany Choir

	1-4 Yrs	5-12 Yrs	13-20 Yrs	20+ Yrs
Basic Organist	\$105.00	\$131.25	\$157.50	\$183.75
AGO Certificate	\$131.25	\$157.50	\$183.75	\$210.00
Bachelor's Degree	\$157.50	\$183.75	\$210.00	\$236.25
Master's Degree	\$183.75	\$210.00	\$236.25	\$262.50

### Organist's Base Hourly Wage

	1-4 Yrs	5-12 Yrs	13-20 Yrs	20+ Yrs
Basic Organist	\$15.00	\$18.75	\$22.50	\$26.25
AGO Certificate	\$18.75	\$22.50	\$26.25	\$30.00
Bachelor's Degree	\$22.50	\$26.75	\$30.00	\$33.75
Master's Degree	\$26.75	\$30.00	\$33.75	\$37.50

#### Definitions:

Service = Sunday Morning Worship, Wedding or Funeral

These guidelines allow for 4 hours per service to include choosing music, practice, and the actual service itself.

Basic Organist = No music degree or Service Playing Certificate

Certificate = AGO Service Playing Certificate

Bachelor's Degree = Major in Organ

Master's Degree = Major in Organ

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## REPORT FROM THE BOARD

The RRRVC AGO Board met August 25, 2005 at noon in the Fryin' Pan in Fargo. Members present were Lance Johnson, Vicki Sieben, Marty Baumgartner, Sue Clambey, Michael Olson, Sally Harmon, Robyn Vinje and Bill Tweten.

The minutes of the past meeting were approved. Michael move and Robyn seconded the motion. No treasurer's report was available.

Lance presented the upcoming year's programs. The five events are September 18, 2005, Crookston organ crawl, October 23, 2005 Hymn playing workshop at Trinity, hosted by Peter Nygaard, December 4, 2005, Christmas Hymn Sing, Tim Olson organ recital and Spring Pot Luck at Marty Baumgartner's home on May 7, 2005. There was a lot of excitement and discussion about this year's events.

Bill will provide a van for car-pooling for the Crookston event and will leave at 1:30 p.m. on the 18th of September from the Messiah parking lot.

Discussion on the Tim Olson Organ Recital focused on ticket prices and dates. Also discussed was the possibility of funding the event partially through sponsorship with Concordia College.

The LAAC Board-Our liason will be Robyn Vinje.

Lots of discussion on Membership Drive for the chapter. Lists of former members and contributors was examined and board members taking responsibility to call new members and renewing old members.

There were 24 ballots mailed in for the new 2005-2006 Board. The Board elected Dean Lance Johnson, Sub-dean: Vicki Sieben, Secretary: Bill Tweten, Treasurer: Marty Baumgartner, members at large for 2006: Michael Olson and Robyn Vinje, for 2007: Brad Steen and Dawn Pappenfus, for 2008: Sue Clambey and Sally Harmon.

Meeting adjourned.

Bill Tweten, Secretary.

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Red River Valley Chapter  
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SECRETARY: BILL TWETEN  
TREASURER: MARTY BAUMGARTNER

BOARD MEMBERS AT LARGE:  
2006  
MICHAEL OLSON, ROBYN VINJE  
2007  
BRAD STEEN, DAWN PAPPENFUSS  
2008  
SUE CLAMBAY, SALLY HARMON

THE RATES FOR  
DISPLAY ADS IN THIS ISSUE AND IF YOU WISH TO CONTINUE FOR THE YEAR 2005, PLEASE SEND YOUR CHECK NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 1, 2004 TO RED RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER, AGO, BOX 2223, FARGO, ND 58103-2223. WE WILL ASSUME THAT IF WE DO NOT HEAR YOU NO LONGER WISH TO ADVERTISE.

Publication Title: PIPELINE  
Issue Date: September, 2005  
Statement of frequency: monthly except June & July  
Authorized organization's name and address:  
Red River Valley Chapter  
American Guild of Organists  
P.O. Box 2223  
Fargo, ND 58108-2223

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