



PIPELINE

VOLUME 21 NUMBER 5

DECEMBER 2004

FELIX HELL CONCERT ARTISTIC SUCCESS

Dean's Message
Lance E. Johnson

There is no question that the astounding technique demonstrated by Felix Hell on October 24th raised the bar for organ performances from outside artists.

The downside was the financial loss from this concert as only 1/3 of the expected attendance materialized. The resulting deficit was \$2,921.83. The chapter had sufficient funds to cover as a result of the large profit from the Region VI convention in 2001. It was felt by many at the time that the surplus would come in handy in financing recitalists. However, this concert caused a huge drain on the chapter savings which needs to be studied carefully for next time.

There are three areas that need to be covered if future organists are to be brought in; The first is the grant. This one can be tricky as more and more arts funding groups are opting out for organ concerts probably because of the small audiences. The ATOS chapter has been turned down three times in a row to bring in artists. Even though classical organists may have a stronger appeal to funding groups, it is still very difficult to do.

The second area is that members will need to each sell, say five tickets, to expand the audience base. This activity is not popular but needs to be seriously considered if chapters want to justify projects of this magnitude.

Thirdly, as in the past, businesses and individuals will need to be asked to help underwrite the event. This means someone has to visit these places and ask for money. This method is the best way to raise the needed funds but involves a lot of leg work.

In the future there will need to be some careful planning citing the Hell concert as an example of what needs to be done.

PROFESSIONAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE

The newly formed Professional Concerns Committee is actively engaged in bringing salary guidelines for organists in this region up to date. Members are Gaylord Fagerland, chair, Sally Harmon, Sue Knorr and Vicki Sieben.

Sally Harmon has been doing some excellent research into salary figures obtained from National AGO as well as some regional chapters. A pamphlet from Hartford, CT AGO is being used as well.

In a few months this work should be completed and members will have access to this information. Stay tuned.



Upcoming Events

Christmas Hymn Sing
December 5, 2004
Sunday at 7 p.m.
Gethsemane Cathedral
Fargo, ND

Pedals, Pipes and Pizza
January 9, 2005
Sunday at 4 p.m.
Dilworth Lutheran Church
Dilworth, MN

Hymn Festival
February 20, 2005
Sunday at 6:30 p.m.
Good Shepherd Lutheran
Moorhead, MN
(rehearsals 2/13, 2/20 @ 2 p.m.)

Meet with Grand Forks Chapter
April 10, 2005
2:30 p.m.
Organ crawl at Cathedral, First Presb.
Trinity and Our Saviour's.
Dinner to follow. More details
In later issues.

Potluck Supper and Chapter Meeting
May 15, 2005 at 5 p.m.
Lance and Judy's, 201 NE 3rd St.
Dilworth, MN

FARGO-MOORHEAD AREA FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES ORLEE HOWELL PIPE ORGAN FUND GRANTS!

The Orlee Howell Pipe Organ Fund is accepting applications for the grant round ending December 31, 2004. The fund was created by Orlee Howell, of Jamestown, ND as a charitable endowment to support church pipe organs in North Dakota. The Fund is part of the Fargo-Moorhead Area Foundation. Grants are available for the 1) construction, 2) installation or 3) refurbishing of pipe organs in churches in the state of North Dakota. For more information please contact:

Fargo-Moorhead Area Foundation
609 1st Avenue North, #205
Fargo, ND 58102-4997
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The Orlee Howell Pipe Organ Fund awarded two grants in 2002 totaling \$14,840 including grants to First Lutheran Church in Williston for refurbishing a 1965 Schlicker Organ and to First Presbyterian Church in Grand Forks for a winding project.

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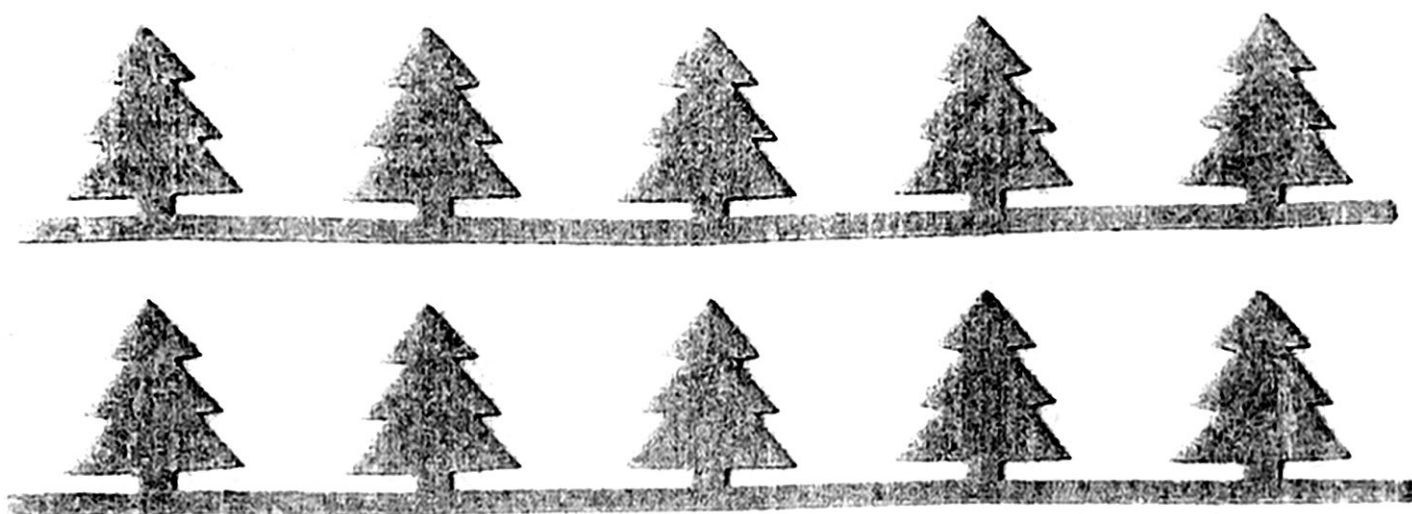
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A CHRISTMAS CAROL SING-A-LONG

SUNDAY ~ DECEMBER 5, 2004 ~ 7 P.M.

GETHSEMANE EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL
3600 - 25TH ST. S., FARGO, ND

+

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PRINCIPLES OF GOOD MELODY

(Continued)

By Lance E. Johnson

#3 The melody should carry with it an interesting rhythm. Very few hymns throughout the ages have been founded on primarily quarter notes. In other words, most songs fall flat without notes other than quarters. Hymns can be made much more ear-catching with eighth notes and dotted rhythms. Try singing Joy to the World sometime in quarters. Organists many times do not take note values seriously and the hymn suffers as a result. The playing of rhythms in strict fashion adds sparkle.

#4 Use multiple notes This may sound strange until you realize that most music written today is restricted to five or six notes whether it be pop or praise music. Many of our best hymns utilize as many as ten stretching out the range of pitches as much as an octave and a third. Examples; Open Now the Gates of Heaven, or In the Cross of Christ I Glory.



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Thank you for your support!

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