



**AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
RED RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER**

*CELEBRATING 50 YEARS
SEPTEMBER 1945-1995*



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Volume 11, Number 8

July, 1995

OUR NEXT EVENT

LLWYNEGRIN SINGERS OF WALES
Jon James, Music Director

Wednesday, August 23, 1995, 7:30 P.M.
Gethsemane Cathedral, Fargo

The Llwynegrin Singers of Wales have been in existence as a Choir since 1967. The Choir is a registered charity, as all of its singing is for the purpose of raising money to benefit the less fortunate members of the community, with special emphasis on the welfare of mentally and physically handicapped children.

Their particular brand of "a capella" singing has won them many awards and many friends. They specialize in the singing of Welsh folk music and hymns, but their extensive repertoire spans from Bach to the Beatles, motets to musicals. They bring to their singing a sense of enjoyment which is infectious; they have recorded on disc and tape, radio and T.V., and have competed successfully in international music festivals in their native Wales and Eire (Ireland).

The choir draws its members from many different occupations and professions. There are no "professional" music makers in the group, but the quality which they all share is their dedication to singing and working hard at charity events, all for the purpose of benefiting others.

Along with performing in Fargo, they will have concerts in Minneapolis and Winnipeg.

During the Concert, "interval music" will be provided by members of the RRV-AGO Chapter. The Concert is open to the public. There will be a free-will offering.

We need your help with housing these 48 singers on Tuesday night, August 22nd. They will arrive at the Cathedral around 4:00 P.M., so dinner on the 22nd and breakfast on the 23rd by the host family would be appreciated. If you have any empty beds at your home, and are willing to share your time and hospitality, please call the Cathedral Office (701-232-3394) or Jay Hershberger (218-233-0297).



FROM THE DEAN

There are many good things to talk about this month.

First, congratulations to George French, Jerry Berg, and John Vanella for creating and hosting a very unique and successful **Crookston Organ Spectacular!** The turnout was wonderful, the music outstanding, and the event eclectic in every way. Thank you to all the performers who contributed in their special way. A particular thanks to Michael Barone for his performing and commentary. We are glad you came! And "Hats Off!" to George, Jerry, and John who shot for the moon with their dreams and planning.

Second, the Third Annual Classical Music Weekend was a success again--actually, the best so far. The weather was perfect and the musical groups were well received and at the top of their form. The AGO-sponsored Music Listening Contest had 33 teams, the most ever. We had dared to think big, so we were prepared to handle all participants in a fun and expeditious manner. Thanks to June Boyd, Mike Olson, Rod Rothlisberger, Diane Wolter, and Karen Nitzkowski for their detailed planning and forethought, and to AGO members and MPR volunteers for their help in executing the contest. Over 4000 people visited Trollwood that weekend to absorb the sounds of classical music served up free-of-charge by a cross section of our community's finest performance organizations.

Third, we had a great time in Kansas City at the **Region VI Convention**. Six of us from the Red River Valley Chapter were there and, amongst us, covered all the workshops. A highlight was, of course, the new Casavant in the beautiful new RLDS Temple (February **TAO**). We were particularly mindful of the logistics and planning with a possible convention in mind for Fargo/Moorhead. We attended the Post-Convention meeting which included representatives from the previous conventions, Regional officers, and representatives from future convention sites, in addition to the K.C. chairmen. We left with great enthusiasm and confidence that we, too, can do a convention!

Here's a friendly reminder to **get your membership renewed**. The form was in the May newsletter and will be included in the August **Pipeline** also. But that is pushing it late; we want you included in this, our 50th anniversary yearbook, which will be going to the printers in August. With the American Guild of Organists preparing to celebrate its Centennial next year, and our Chapter celebrating its 50th anniversary this year, now is a perfect time to belong to the Guild and perpetuate one of the mission statements of AGO: "To advance the cause of organ and choral music, to increase their contributions to aesthetic and religious experiences,

and to promote their understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment."

The Executive Committee meetings include elected officers, the chairs of committees, and anyone who is currently absorbed in a Chapter project or event. In addition, any Chapter member may come. For the convenience of busy Board members, we are attempting to standardize our meeting times so time and day can be a constant on our calendar. When possible, the meeting will be announced in the newsletter. If you never get to a Board meeting, however, you may rest assured that absolutely all business and subject matter is made known to you in the **Pipeline**. The Board will take the responsibility of doing the business and charting goals for the Chapter; programs will be a time for learning and performing and socializing; the **Pipeline** is your means of staying informed.

There will be other times when we will all need to be together to be informed or discuss projects or events involving the entire organization. You will be informed of these. You do know that we, as a Board on your behalf, are beginning to collect data and look into hosting the Region VI Convention in **1999 or 2001**. We have cautiously allowed ourselves to daydream about this for a year; our excitement towards this project has grown. We feel confident that our community and our members have more than enough to offer our colleagues in a convention. As this endeavor progresses and evolves into reality, there will be jobs and joys for everyone. A project of this magnitude will give us a focus for several years and will bond us in a worthy milestone. I think our charter members would be proud.

Marlys Herring


THANK YOU

The following note was received from MPR affiliate KCCM/KCCD in Moorhead:

Please extend our thanks to the AGO membership for including Minnesota Public Radio in the Crookston Organ Spectacular. It was fun to be part of this unique and successful collaboration. We're also grateful to Jerry Berg for the supper.

Sincerely,
Karen Nitzkowski, Lois Hanson, Vern Goodin

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MINUTES/EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING RED RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER, AGO

Friday, July 7, 1995, 5:00 P.M.
Gethsemane Cathedral

Present: Joan Bystol, Bob Hachmeister, Marlys Herring, Jay Hershberger, John Jahr, Brad Steen, Mary Tangen, Mavis Tjon. Dean Marlys Herring presided. Minutes were accepted as printed in the May Pipeline. Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$382.85 and was accepted.

Old Business: 1) In an effort to have a regular set time for board meetings, the 1st Tuesday of the month at 5:00 P.M. will be tried. 2) Motion by Joan Bystol, second by Jay Hershberger to "Establish a task force to begin preliminary inquiry and pre-planning to hosting a regional convention" was passed.

Committees: 1) **Membership:** Reminder to send in membership renewal as soon as possible. 2) **Yearbook:** Brad reported that work on the yearbook is in process and on schedule with the aim to send it to the printer in late August. 3) **Bylaws/Standing Rules:** Brad reported that the Bylaws/Standing Rules will be included in the yearbook. 4) **Program:** Jay overviewed the program for 1995-1996. Host families are needed for members of a Welsh vocal group who will perform Wednesday, August 23rd, at Gethsemane Cathedral. Contact Jay Hershberger if you can host someone

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Mary Tangen, Secretary

ARTS AND WORSHIP CONFERENCES July 30th to August 2nd

Concordia College is making available concurrent conferences on art, music, and theology.

The 1995 CHARIS Summer Theological Conference will address "Worship and Evangelism." The purpose is to help people identify and think through issues such as the role of children in worship, liturgical theology, and the current variety of worship styles. Topics will include "Convergence Worship: Uniting Contemporary and Traditional," "What Constitutes Integrity in Worship?", "What Do We Want Worship to Do?", and "Liturgical Evangelism: Forming the Worship Community." Speakers will be: Rev. Michael Aune, Rev. Robert Webber, Dr. Mons Teig, Rev. Susan Tjornehoj, Dr. David Fagerberg, Rev. Bruce Anderson, Dr. Maxwell Johnson, Sr. Marguerite Streifel, and Sharon Balcom.

The IMAGO DEI (Image of God) Arts in Worship Conference is offered for the first time. It will focus on the relationship of human imagination and creativity to religious life, and will enable persons of faith to develop the knowledge and skills necessary to broaden the effectiveness of worship activities. This interdisciplinary approach blends a variety of gifts and affirms Concordia's commitment to the glory of God. Seminar leaders are: Dr. David Childs, Rene Clausen, David Hetland, Lowell Larson, Peter Nygaard, Rev. Mark Strobel, and Royce Yeater.

For further information, call 218-299-3438

SEPTEMBER 17, 1995, 4:00 P.M.
RED RIVER VALLEY-AGO
50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION
MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH, FARGO

NEW GENERAL MANAGER

Vern Goodin, formerly Director of Development for the four MPR stations headquartered in Moorhead, has been promoted to the position of General Manager for KCCM/KCCD and KQMN/KNTN. He succeeds Lois Hanson who retired on June 30th. Congratulations, Vern!

RENEW YOUR AGO MEMBERSHIP NOW!

EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

This Summer, four of our Chapter members have reached levels of achievement in their career goals.

Rachel Anderson of Fisher, Minnesota, graduated from Fisher High School this Spring and plans to attend Concordia College in Moorhead in the Fall. She will be studying organ with Peter Nygaard, having received a 4-year, \$7000.00 Concordia Music Performance Scholarship. While pursuing a BA with a major in music, Rachel will continue studying piano, and hopes to sing in a choir and play her French horn. Her early piano training came from Mrs. Carol Heimer, and more recently she studied with Dr. Jane Solose at the University of North Dakota. Her organ studies have been with Alan Quie in Grand Forks. During her high school years, she shared the responsibilities as church organist at Fisher Lutheran and looks to do some organ substituting while in Fargo/Moorhead. Rachel was a recent performer at the Crookston Organ Spectacular.

Christopher Stoltz was a Spring graduate of Fargo South High School and this Fall will be attending St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota. He will study organ with John Ferguson as he works toward a BM with a major in church music. Chris has been studying organ with Mike Olson for 5 years, and has been organist at Beautiful Savior Lutheran for 4 years. Chris is the Fargo South recipient of the \$1000.00 Steve Berrell Memorial Scholarship, based on academics and musical involvement; he is one of 19 students from the 5 Fargo high schools who received a Dollars for Scholars \$1000.00 scholarship, based on all around leadership and accomplishments; and he has been awarded the 4-year \$12,000.00 Winston Cassler Scholarship from St. Olaf for additional study on bassoon. Last January, Chris (with his bassoon) was the second place winner in the Fourteenth Annual Young Artists Solo Competition sponsored by KCCM 91.1 FM Minnesota Public Radio and the Fargo-Moorhead Symphony Women's Association.

Barry Wenger, organist and coordinator of music ministries at Wesley United Methodist Church in Grand Forks, will be completing the Master of Music degree in Organ Performance at the University of North Dakota this summer. Barry will be finishing an independent study and taking comprehensive exams for graduation on August 11th. While at UND, he has studied organ with Dr. Mark Dimond, Minot State University, and piano and harpsichord with Dr. Jane Solose of UND. Barry received his undergraduate training in music education and piano and organ performance at Minot State University. As of June 1st, his position at Wesley was expanded to full-time. Barry's duties as organist consist of playing for all services and

EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

accompanying the Chancel Choir. His duties as coordinator of music vary from resourcing the Chancel Choir, Bell Choir, and Children Choir's directors, working with special music and the Praise Team, and overseeing the Advent Music Recital Series. Barry will work to expand music ministry programs at Wesley in developing an interpretive movement group, a youth choir, and musical offerings for the church and community. An active Chapter member, Barry attended the National AGO Convention last Summer in Dallas, and while at the Region VI Convention last month in Kansas City, had a private lesson with John Ditto, and a private lesson with John Obetz on the IV/111 Aeolian-Skinner organ in the RLDS Auditorium.

Chad Winterfeldt has recently completed his Masters Degree in Organ Performance at Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut. His instructors at Yale were Thomas Murray and Charles Krigbaum, with most lessons and all recitals taking place on the 150-stop Newberry Memorial Organ in Woolsey Hall, "...an outstanding masterpiece of twentieth century organbuilding, one of the finest concert organs in the world. Incorporating the work of three respected American builders, it is distinguished both in its fine ensemble and its refined 'orchestral' color. The original instrument was a four-manual Hutchings-Votey installed when Woolsey Hall was completed in 1902. In 1915, Steere added to the resources of the instrument, providing new windchests and two new divisions, the Orchestral and Echo. In 1928, the Skinner Organ Company of Boston was chosen to renovate the organ. The Skinner rebuild shows the influence of G. Donald Harrison, who had just then come to the Skinner staff from the Willis firm in England. The Skinner-Harrison collaboration, supplemented by the existing work of Hutchings and Steere has resulted in a one-of-a-kind masterpiece in a magnificent setting..." [quote taken from a Krigbaum recording jacket]. For contrast, Chad also was able to practice on a '71 von Beckerath tracker representing the North German influence. This past year, Chad served as Director of Music at Bethesda Lutheran Church in New Haven, where he was organist-choirmaster. He received his undergraduate degree from Concordia College in Moorhead, studying organ with Peter Nygaard. After his marriage to Beth Johnson (Concordia '94) July 15th, they will both continue their educations at Rice University in Houston, Texas, with Beth completing her masters in chamber music/piano performance, and Chad beginning his work towards a DMA in organ performance under the tutelage of Clyde Holloway.

Congratulations to these young organists!

As a Chapter, we can be proud of them.

ANOTHER THANK YOU

June 20, 1995

Dear AGO Members,

Thank you for sponsoring the Trollwood Music Listening Contest for the third year in a row at KCCM's Classical Music Festival. The weekend, June 10th and 11th, was a success with 4,000 people in attendance. The Music Listening Contest was a wonderful part of that success with 33 teams participating. The contest this year was organized so that everything including the registration of dozens of people went off without a hitch.

Marlys Herring has been great to work with. She has spent hours developing a terrific, fun event. Thanks also to the other members who helped with the contest: June Boyd, Jay Hershberger, Dorothy Koopman, Michael Olson, and Rod Rothlisberger.

The participants enjoyed themselves immensely. We've heard lots of positive feedback. Five of the members of the team who took first place were from Grand Forks (three of them play for the Grand Forks Symphony) and they came to Fargo just to take in the festival. They were delighted to have been part of the contest. The third place team, the Baird family from Fargo, said they can't wait to play again next year.

Schmitt Music gives financial support to the contest. They also provided mugs for all the participants and gift certificates for first, second, and third places. If you have the opportunity, please thank them for their support. Dale Hahn, the manager of the local store, has already said to count them in for next year.

This contest adds a wonderful dimension to KCCM's Classical Music Festival and we can't thank you enough for your support.

Sincerely,
(signed) Karen Nitzkowski
Director of Membership & Promotion
Minnesota Public Radio Moorhead/Fargo

WANTED: PICTURES

A request is going out for any pictures members may have of Red River Valley Chapter Guild activities. These will be part of a display at the September Birthday Celebration. If you have any snapshots relating to events, people, etc., we are most interested in borrowing them from you. Please label them (they will be returned to you) and get in touch with Joan Bystol (701-235-4335) or Marlys Herring (218-233-9744).

EKSJO LUTHERAN CHURCH 125TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Michael Olson, organist at First Lutheran Church, Fargo, will present a recital on the Reuter pipe organ on October 8, 1995, at Eksjo Lutheran Church, on highway 10 east of Hawley, Minnesota.

This concert will be the first of several events in a year-long celebration of the congregation's 125th anniversary.

Eksjo Lutheran, founded by Swedish immigrants in 1871, is one of the oldest congregations in the area. Mercedes Roos, RRV-AGO chapter member, is Eksjo organist.

CATHEDRAL POSITION AVAILABLE

Gethsemane Episcopal Cathedral announces a vacancy for an Organist/Choirmaster beginning on September 1, 1995.

Duties as Organist (11 month position) include: organist for the principal Sunday liturgy and special services, selecting appropriate music for the Episcopal liturgy, and providing musical leadership for hymns and service music.

Duties as Choirmaster (9 month position) include: selection of appropriate music for choir of volunteers (with four music scholarship students) and conducting rehearsals on Sunday mornings.

Applicants should submit an application and resume including names of references to Dean Clark.

Screening begins July 10, 1995, and will continue until the position is filled.

AGO DUES RATES 1995-96

Voting	
Regular	\$62
Special (over 65, disabled)	\$44
Student	\$22
Partner (2nd member same address)	\$44
Dual (paid to 2nd chapter)	\$26
Non-voting	
Chapter Subscribing (no TAO)	\$26

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Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.
In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6

"Celebrating our fortieth anniversary"

Since 1954, the **JOHNSON ORGAN COMPANY** of Fargo has installed more than 100 pipe organs from Montana to Michigan.

Lance E. Johnson, President, a native of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, has been trained in architectural and electrical engineering, as well as in classical organ. He is a member of the International Society of Organbuilders and served as vice president of the American Institute of Organbuilders. Mr. Johnson has also published technical articles in two national organ journals.

Following are some highlights of the last 18 months:

FERGUS FALLS CENTER FOR THE ARTS

A Center for the Arts (nee Fergus Theatre) in Fergus Falls now has a three manual, eleven rank Wurlitzer pipe organ, rebuilt by Johnson. A theatre organ school has been established under the direction of Lance Johnson to train organists for show prologues and silent film scoring.

VALLEY CITY STATE UNIVERSITY

Vangstad Auditorium at V.C.S.U. has a three manual Austin console, rebuilt by Johnson and connected to the twenty seven rank Moller pipe organ dating back to the late 1920's. Michael Olson of Fargo is instructor in organ at V.C.S.U.

ROLLAG MERRY-GO-ROUND BAND ORGAN

1995 marks the eleventh year that the band organ has entertained thousands of merry-go-round riders at the Western Minnesota Steam Thrashers Reunion. The organ was built by Johnson in 1984 and was based on the Wurlitzer band organs from circa 1885-1930. It plays ten tune rolls and can be heard a half mile away. This organ is one of seventeen built by Johnson Organ.

BETHEL LUTHERAN, FERGUS FALLS

The 1970 two manual six rank Johnson pipe organ was expanded to sixteen ranks, with complete choruses in each division and a computerized control system.

SAINT FRANCIS, BRAINERD

Johnson has just completed the rebuilding of the two manual, sixteen rank Kilgen organ. The organ uses micro-processing for its control system and has a twenty five memory combination action. A Pedal Principal 8' and 4' and a Great Mixture III were added to the specification. The formal dedication will be held on Sunday, October 8, 1995, at 3:00 P.M., with Frank Winkel from Immaculate Conception Church in Saint Paul as recitalist.

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN, CROOKSTON

Johnson Organ has been commissioned to build a three manual, twenty rank pipe organ for Fall 1995 delivery. The third manual will serve as a "borrow" manual until the antiphonal division is installed. The organ will be encased in the balcony and will feature a moveable console with Johnson-made rosewood keyboards. The wood pipes will be made by Gerald Schjelderup of Artisan Builders in Fargo; the metal pipes will be from Rieger-Kloss of the Czech Republic. Tonal Director will be Phares L. Steiner III, formerly with Steiner-Reck in Kentucky. The organ will be equipped with micro-processing with three MIDI channels per manual. Also participating in the bidding process were Casavant, Holtkamp, Reuter, and Schantz. Organist at Our Savior's is Laurain Jurchens.

OLIVET LUTHERAN, FARGO

Mike Johnson, service director, just completed a MIDI resource system interface, featuring an Allen multi-channel expander and sequencer. Lloyd Collins is organist at Olivet.

LAKE REGION ARTS COUNCIL NEWS

The following Artist/Mentors are from the Moorhead/Fargo area:

Lisa Patterson of Fargo, professor of flute and piano at Concordia College, will mentor Michael O'Laughlin of Breckenridge in flute.

Diane Hougum of Fargo, instructor at Concordia College and member of the Fargo Moorhead Symphony, will mentor Chris Elliot of Fergus Falls in trumpet.

Brian Trittin of Wahpeton, Director of Jazz studies and saxophone instructor at Concordia College, will mentor Kelly Iverson of Fergus Falls in saxophone.

James Condell of Moorhead, jazz artist and host of "Condell's Corner" on KDSU, will mentor Scott Nelson of Fergus Falls in jazz guitar.

June Boyd of Moorhead, music professor at Concordia College and soloist with the F-M Civic Opera and F-M Symphony Orchestra, will mentor Jamie Mattson of Lake Park in vocal music.

Karen Hamilton, soprano soloist and vocal music instructor at Concordia College and Moorhead State University, will mentor Julie Anderson of Moorhead in vocal music.

Lucy Thrasher, instructor at Concordia College and soloist with the F-M Civic Opera and F-M Symphony Orchestra, will mentor Stacey Lindell of Moorhead in vocal music.

David Ferreira of Moorhead, professor at Moorhead State University, will mentor Lea Jeanne Tkachuk of Moorhead in piano.

Ruth Dahlke of Moorhead, professor of music at Moorhead State University, will mentor Heather Doppler of Pelican Rapids in oboe.

The Artist Mentor Program is funded by the Minnesota Center for Arts Education Resource Center.



From the Editor:

DEADLINE FOR THE

AUGUST PIPELINE

will be **August 12th**

MORE ON JON JAMES Llwynegrin Singers Music Director

Jon James has been the Music Director of the Llwynegrin Singers since they were established in January of 1967. He is a keen amateur musician, but by profession he is an architect and a specialist in the field of historic building restoration and conservation. He was Wales' first Conservation Officer when appointed in 1974. Historic architecture, along with music, gardening, and photography are his hobbies.

Jon once conducted the famous Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra when he was only 11 years of age, in a competition for amateur conductors which he won. A frequent broadcaster on local radio and T.V., he is an excellent communicator and is greatly in demand as a public speaker on his favorite topics of architectural history and the mythology of Clwyd, the county in which he was born and spent his entire working life. His boundless energy and enthusiasm has sustained the Choir throughout its history and has recently expanded his interests by being appointed to be the Director of the newly formed Delyn Festival.

"DATES OF NOTE" CALENDAR

July 13-16, 19-23, 26-30 "West Side Story" at Trollwood Park, Fargo, 8:30 P.M. Ticket information: 701-241-6041.

July 26-28 (8:00 P.M.) & July 30 (2:00 P.M.) "Godspell" presented by the Straw Hat Summer Theatre, at MSU Hansen Theatre, Moorhead State University. Ticket information: 218-236-2271.

July 30 - August 2 CHARIS/IMAGO DEI Conference, at Concordia College, Moorhead. Registration information: 218-299-3438.

AUGUST 23 WELSH CHOIR, at Gethsemane Cathedral, Fargo, 7:30 P.M. Information: 701-232-3394 or 218-233-0297.

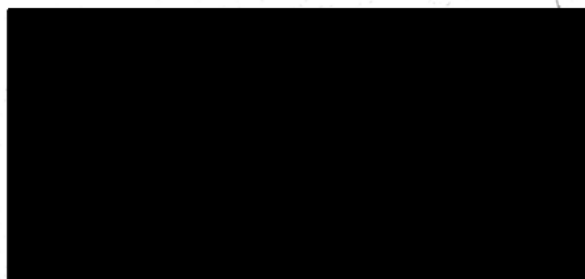
SEPTEMBER 17 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF THE RED RIVER VALLEY CHAPTER-AGO, 4:00 P.M. AT MESSIAH LUTHERAN CHURCH, FARGO

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July 16 Guy Bovet in Mexico (Etc.)...the amiable and peripatetic Swiss musician introduces us to historic sounds south of the border, plus other delights.

July 23 Two Roads to Wichita...Gillian Weir, Dennis Bergin, Carlo Curley, Billy Nalle, and others play the marvelous Marcussen at the University and the wonderful Wurlitzer at Century II Convention Center.

July 30 Bach's Memento...three unusual and extraordinary tributes to the memory and the mighty genius of Johann Sebastian Bach from Max Reger, Charles Marie-Widor, and Ferruccio Busoni.

August 6 American Organists in Detroit...David Hurd, Scott Withrow, Steven Egler, Joyce Jones, and Gerre Hancock play works by American composers.

August 13 Isn't That Suite...diverse delicious distractions dedicated to variety and tuneful pleasure.

PIPELINE

Newsletter of the
Red River Valley Chapter
American Guild of Organists
Fargo/Moorhead

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Jay Hershberger - Sub Dean
Mary Tangen - Secretary
Brad Steen - Treasurer

Board Members:

'96 - Jerry Berg, Gary Thrasher
'97 - George French, Bob Hachmeister
'98 - Joan Bystol, Mavis Tjon

Contributions are encouraged in
writing (or "printed neatly"...)

Please send to:

Bob Hachmeister
910 4th Avenue North
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