



American Guild of Organists

Red River Valley Chapter

P.O. Box 2223 Fargo, ND 58108

PIPELINE

Dear Organists & Friends of the Organ:

As Autumn is fast approaching, we begin to make plans for the resumption of the numerous & varied activities which are a part of our busy lives. It is our hope that these plans include The American Guild of Organists. If you are already a member & have not renewed your membership, please do so as soon as possible. If you are not a member, we invite your consideration of membership in The American Guild of Organists - Red River Valley Chapter.

The American Guild of Organists is a national professional association of more than 20,000 persons. We are organists, choir directors, choir members, soloists, handbell choir directors & members, clergy, organ builders & technicians, organ teachers & students, music merchandizers, & anyone who has an interest in & appreciation of music in the church. The Guild's purposes are to inspire, to advocate, to inform, to educate, & to bind together its members.

When you join the AGO you will receive THE AMERICAN ORGANIST (a monthly magazine containing interesting articles on a wide range of subjects of interest to the Guild membership). You will also receive the Red River Valley Chapter-AGO's monthly newsletter, PIPELINE, which will keep you informed of all activities involving our chapter & its members. Membership in the Guild also entitles you to participate in chapter programs, to be put on our chapter mailing list which keeps you informed of chapter events, & to attend chapter meetings & enjoy an abundance of good fellowship.

AGO NEEDS YOU for your financial support & contributions of your time & talent in order to promote high quality programs & a deeper appreciation of church music in our area. YOU NEED AGO to nurture your personal & professional growth & development.

The 1988-89 membership yearbook will be going to press soon. Therefore, to be included in the yearbook, please complete the appropriate membership form & mail it along with your check to the Chapter Treasurer, AGO, P.O. Box 2223, Fargo, ND 58108.

Sincerely,

Bradley J. Steen

Bradley J. Steen, Subdean

CHAPTER BUSINESS

LETTER FROM THE PAST DEAN

Dear Colleagues:

This is to thank each of you for your contributions to the RRVC-AGO during my two-year tenure as Dean. Whether that contribution was your membership, your financial assistance, your time, your talent, your attendance, &/or your moral support, our chapter has continued its forward progress as a professional, artistic, educational, professional & support organization. What other arts group in this region can boast of such multiple & varied functions?

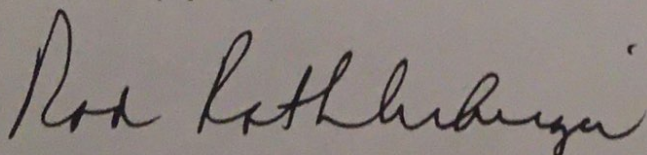
It is impossible to name everyone, but to be congratulated especially are the standing committees & their chairs, who have seen to the ongoing functioning of our organization.

After attending the last few regional & national AGO conventions & communicating with deans, regional & national officers, I have been struck by the vitality of our chapter. During my ten years as a member here, I have seen us systematically address issue after issue: 1)program, 2)professional status & fees, 3)financing (grants & fund drives), 4)membership recruitment, 5)communication/publicity/visibility & 6)education. In each case, we have flourished. There are, of course, concerns yet to be encountered, focusses yet to be made. But with the ability & energy inherent in our membership & the potential in our community & region, there are exciting days ahead.

Finally, as stated in our chapter yearbook, let us strive (as a chapter & as individuals) to inspire through our music, to advocate on behalf of the profession, to inform & educate both ourselves & others, & to link ourselves into a cohesive, vital profession.

Thank you again to all.

Sincerely yours,



Rod Rothlisberger

"NOTES" FROM THE DEAN

I hope this summer has been pleasant for you. Personally, I love the "hot" months & try to hang on to every last thread of June, July, & August which I sometimes think are the three "reasons" I went into teaching.

But summer does not last forever & cooler weather will arrive. Fortunately, we have an exciting year of AGO activities coming up starting with the John Walker organ recital in Lisbon, ND on September 25 & workshops & lessons conducted by Walker in Fargo on September 27. I had a chance to hear & play "THE" organ in Lisbon & can honestly say it is simply marvelous.

It will make a great deal of sense to carpool to Lisbon. Please call me at 218/281-2016 or 218/281-6510 (Crookston) or Brad Steen at 235-1386 (Fargo) if you need a ride or are willing to drive. Please read more about this event elsewhere in this newsletter.

Our program committee has put together a smashing series of recitals, panel discussions, & lectures. The year will culminate with an organ crawl & joint meeting with the Bismarck Chapter in Jamestown in May & the Church Music Bonanza in June.

It is my hope that more people who live outside the Fargo-Moorhead area will choose to be actively involved with the AGO this year. Two events are scheduled outside F-M, which shows an attempt by this chapter to better serve the large geographic area from which we draw our members. I personally live 70 miles outside Moorhead, but never regret having spent time & effort to attend an AGO event. My challenge to all chapter members is to try to attend AT LEAST two AGO events this year & become actively involved with your chapter. (And hopefully we will see you at EVERY event).

I am truly grateful that so many chapter members have already worked hard to prepare for the upcoming events this year. A special thanks to past-dean Rod Rothlisberger for his tremendous work. As you know, our chapter is larger & more active than ever. I am also pleased to announce that Brad Steen is our sub-dean & has contributed much & continues to do so. Brad & I will work together with your help to continue building a chapter which serves our needs.

So, in closing, I hope to see you all in Lisbon. (Remember, North Dakota, not PORTUGAL. This event replaces our traditional opening meeting in September.

George French
Dean, Red River Valley Chapter

CHAPTER HONORED

The National Standing Committee on Chapter Development, on the recommendation of Dr. Carl Staplin, former Councillor for Region VI, has selected the Red River Valley Chapter to be featured in an article in The American Organist.

Member Melva Moline, Professor of Communications at Moorhead State University, has agreed to write the article, reviewing the extraordinary expansion of the program, membership, visibility, budget & educational outreach, which our chapter has experienced during recent years. Norm Roos will provide the accompanying photographs.

AGO HANDBELL CHOIR

Persons interested in being a part of the AGO Handbell Choir are asked to call Pat Unkenholz at 232-1435 to reserve a position. The choir has been asked to present an early fall concert in Mayville & rehearsals will begin with vigor in September. Monday nights at 9 PM at Calvary United Methodist Church.

Pat Unkenholz

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES: 7-12-88

The executive committee meeting was called to order by the new Dean, George French, at the Fryin' Pan Restaurant in Moorhead at 7 PM.

Members present: Joan Bystol, Norman Roos, Marlow Kulish, Phil Felde, Brad Steen, Margery Possehl, George French.

After a brief get-acquainted time, Joan Bystol outlined the proposed program for 1988-89. More definite program plans will be given at the August 28 get together at Carolyn Hensrud's home.

The group felt a Church Music Bonanza should be attempted again next June, 1989.

The potluck at Hensruds' was mentioned, with a brief executive committee meeting held to tie up loose ends.

It was decided that the format of the yearbook would remain the same. Brad Steen will work with that.

The budget for 1988-89 was discussed. We received the 1987-88 budget & made suggestions to Phil Felde, Treasurer. Phil will present a more definite proposal to the executive committee in August.

Other subjects discussed were membership lists, membership letters (how often sent & to whom), the August Newsletter, & the West Acres Art Fair. As Hospitality Chair, Marge Possehl will propose some new guidelines for serving food, to be brought to the executive committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Margery Possehl, Secretary.

BOARD MEMBER NORMAN ROOS ON NATIONAL TELEVISION

As Mayor of Hawley, MN, Norm Roos appeared on CBS' "Sunday Morning News With Charles Kuralt" on Sunday, June 26. In his usual articulate fashion, he communicated how a typical small town in rural America is coping with this summer's drought & its concomitant problems.

MARLYS SAYS:

As promised, here is, hopefully, everything you need to know about the Walker Weekend in Lisbon. For us here, it is another Day in the Life of Trinity. We have had several of these special events throughout our Centennial year to keep the celebrating on-going. On this day, September 25, we will have a former pastor, Ray Siegle, now of Sharon Lutheran in Grand Forks, as our guest in the pulpit, followed by a congregational pot luck and program/social.

The dedicatory concert by Dr. John Walker on our 2 manual, 21 rank Reuter organ -- our Centennial Project -- will follow at 4:00.

Dr. Walker has been Director of Music and Organist at the Riverside Church in New York since 1983, performing on a 5 manual Aeolian-Skinner. He is also Chairman of the Organ Department of The Manhattan School of Music. His Doctorate degree is from Stanford, with double master's degrees from The American Conservatory of Music in Chicago. A Fellow of the American Guild of Organists, he currently is the national treasurer of the AGO. He will play from Petr Eben's *Nedelni Hudba*, Mulet's *Tu es petra*, and other works from Vierne, Franck, and Duruflé.

After the concert, everyone is invited to remain for a light meal, organized by the social arm of the Centennial Committee of Trinity Lutheran. Recognizing that many in attendance would be from out of town, we wanted to offer more than a donut and coffee.

When we get done eating, the AGO members will re-convene elsewhere in the church for our first Chapter meeting of the year. Also joining us will be Dr. Walker bearing greetings from National. We will cap the evening with dessert, coffee, or whatever, at my house, three blocks from the church. Hopefully, before you return to Fargo, you will have an opportunity to play the organ a bit, if you would like.

As I have mentioned to some of you, please try to extricate yourself from any responsibilities for that day, so you may enjoy the afternoon and evening without worrying about deadlines. Your every need will be taken care of. Dr. Walker is a tremendously warm, exuberant, down-to-earth individual and I hope you have a chance to visit with him.

We are trying to "Pull Out All the Stops" for this day at Trinity; it will be an event to which very few in the congregation have had access, and definitely not right under their own nose. We are anxious to have a good turnout, a full house, and an excited and responsive audience. We are also thrilled with the prospect of having the talent, prestige, and warmth of Dr. Walker in our midst, and I am eager to show him the hospitality, vitality, and appreciation of Midwest, rural America. And I personally am thrilled with the long overdue visit of my Chapter Associates to my town and my church.

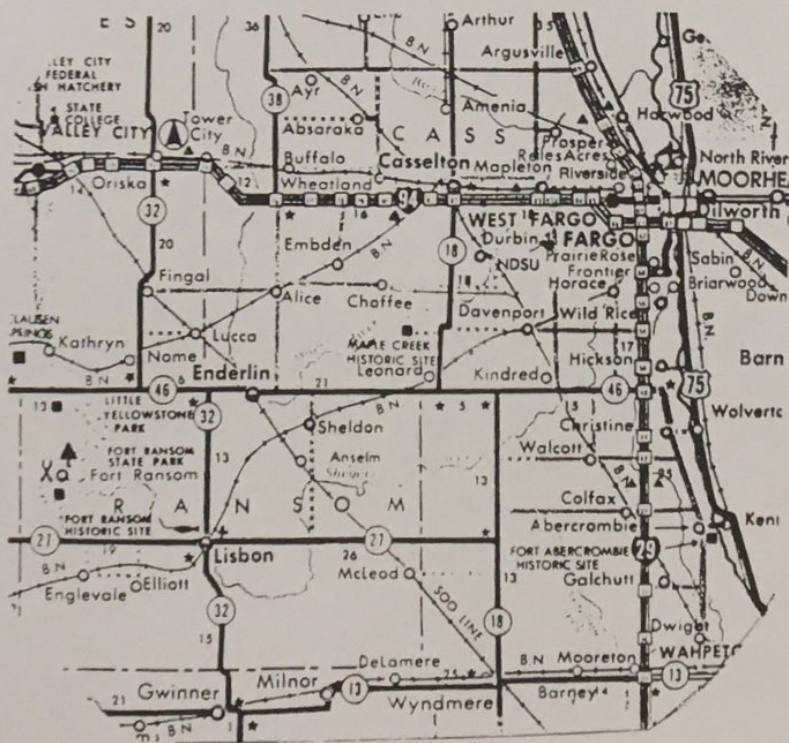
As you can see, in pulling all these elements together, we have great potential for a fun, exciting, and memorable evening. Come prepared! Bring a neighbor, a potential member, a spouse.

There are many routes to Lisbon. Assuming you are coming from Fargo, the most travelled is I29, 46, 32. The scenic route is I29, 46, 18, 27 which takes you through the ND Sand Hills, a designated National Grassland. The most expeditious route is I29, cutting across at Colfax (it is paved!) to 18 for a couple miles, and then 27.

Once in Lisbon, all four major routes converge in downtown Lisbon where our one and only stoplight controls the endless stream of tourist traffic! Trinity Lutheran is five blocks west of the stoplight.

Hope to see every one of you there!!

Marlys



NEWSLETTER MAILING EXPANDED

After a cost/benefit study, the Executive Committee voted to expand our mailing list & send our monthly newsletter via bulk mail. The increased costs of photocopying are more than offset by decreased mailing expenses (8.4 cents vs. 25 cents/item). Therefore, this newsletter & future editions will be sent to members; patrons; national & regional AGO officers; deans in the surrounding area; & an auxiliary list of local businesses & organizations whose interests parallel ours.

Note: Help keep this newsletter successful by communicating regularly with Editor Carolyn Hensrud! Deadline for articles is the 5th of each month.

COMING EVENTS

"IN THE GOOD OLD SUMMERTIME!" - August 28 Chapter Potluck

Please bring a salad & a spouse or friend to Carolyn & Grant Hensrud's home at 5 PM (that's a change from the last newsletter), Sunday, August 28. Dinnerware, beverages & dessert will be provided. Our agenda will include: 1) officer installation ceremony; 2) committee & program sign-up for 1988-89; & 3) the exchange of folios by committee chairs & officers. Therefore, if you have a folio which needs passing on, PLEASE complete your committee report, include it with the folio, & bring it with you to the party. Come & make this first function of the new year a rousing success!

Where? 2520 Viking Circle South
Fargo, ND 280-2189
Go South on University Drive
Turn Right onto 25th Ave. S.
Go 4 blocks - Viking Circle
sign on RH side of street
5PM - ??

ORGAN WORKSHOP sponsored by the Red River Valley Chapter, AGO:

Tuesday, Sept. 27, 1988. 7-9 PM
Gethsemane Cathedral, Fargo, ND.

Clinician: DR. JOHN WALKER

Topic - Service Playing (Preparation, Hymn Playing - improvised intros & interludes, conducting from the console).

Persons are urged to bring their improvisations to the class to play. Dr. Walker will be available for private lessons on Monday, Sept. 26 & Tuesday, Sept. 27. FEE: \$25/hour. Arrangements can be made through Joan Bystol, 235-4335. Group Lessons: \$20/hour.

PIPEDREAMS on KCCM (91.1 FM)

Sunday, Aug. 21, 9:30 PM: PRESENTING THE PRIZE: Concerts from Grace Cathedral & St. Luke's, San Francisco - by 2 AGO Regional Competition winners.

Sunday, Aug. 28, 9:30 PM: RUFFATTIS REVERBERATE: Digital concert recordings of organs at Davies Hall & St. Mary's in San Francisco.

Sunday, Sept. 4, 9:30 PM: Minnesota musicians perform Bach in St. Paul at Church of the Maternity of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Sunday, Sept. 11, 9:30 PM: AMERICANA REVISITED: 19th Cent. instruments in east-coast states.

PLACEMENTS

ST. WILLIAM'S CHURCH, Argusville, ND.: Part-time Choir Director. Approx. 6 hrs/week. Will pay mileage & hourly salary. Please call: Donna Hodgson at 484-5209 (local call from Fargo/Moorhead).

ORGANIST & ACCOUNTANT - St. Mary's Cathedral, Fargo. 2 skills combined comprise full-time position.

As Organist/Pianist, play for Cathedral services (Sunday, weddings, funerals), collaborate with full-time liturgist/music director, accompany assembly, cantors, adult choir. As Accountant - be responsible for accounts payable, general ledger, payroll. In the event an individual with adequate skills in both areas cannot be found, applications for 1/2-time organist will be considered. For more information: call St. Mary's 235-4289 - Fr. Al Bitz or Sr. Norita Lanners.

MARKINGS

We congratulate Bishop Edwin Boulton on his recent appointment as Bishop of the Ohio East Area of the Methodist Church but sadly say goodbye to him and our member, BETTY ANN BOULTON. Ohio's gain is truly our loss. We wish them much happiness and success. As of August 28: Betty Ann Boulton
811 Fair Oaks, SW
North Canton, OHIO 44720

NORMA HALVERSON underwent surgery recently and we hope all is progressing well with her recovery.



ARTICLE ON CARPETING IN CHURCHES TO BE REPRINTED

Lance Johnson received permission to reprint an article by James Miller. This will appear in next month's newsletter due to space restrictions

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RECITALIST AVAILABLE FOR FARGO-MOORHEAD AREA

Pastor Norman Paskowsky, 1975 graduate of NW University, Masters of Church Music. Currently studying with Dr. Mark Dimond, Minot State University. Performed this spring in Minot & Williston. Contact him at St. John's & Rose Valley Lutheran Parish, Box 86, Ryder, ND 58779. Phone: 758-2468 or 758-2484.

HOUSTON '88 RECAP.

Our chapter was indeed represented by Joan & Norm Bystol, Carolyn Hensrud & Mariys Herring. Carolyn & Mariys chose to fly, while Joan & Norm drove - ask them about Iowa when it was 107 degrees ABOVE zero...it was warm in Houston too, but everything EXCEPT the Rodeo was air conditioned. A delightful pre-convention recital of Ives included our first introduction to Robert Brewer directing the convention choir - their perfect blend & his artful direction combined to produce an exquisite sound! We heard them again at the opening service - this time, Robert Brewer played the organ - and well! Barry Rose's address on "Heavenly Harmony, Earthly Strife," reminded us that "it is not enough to make a noise...we play the king of instruments in the service of the King of Kings - what a responsibility & a privilege!" His many anecdotes were delightful. David Higgs was another standout for me - his performance of "Pièce Héroïque" was incredibly dramatic as was his Liszt "BACH." Of course, the darling boys of the Choir of King's College, Cambridge, were as engaging to watch as they were to hear. But I cannot forget THE BARBEQUE - an authentic, Texas-style, all-you-could eat & drink affair. Joanne Pearson, Missouri Valley's Dean, & her bus got lost - they arrived at 9 PM for the 7 PM feast: beef & chicken in a marvelous sauce, beans, salads & huge hunks of bread with cheese & HOT jalapenos built right in. The real fun began at 9 PM with the rodeo - Joan, Norm & I survived until 9:30 - a sweaty woman with long hair kept flipping her hair in Joan's lap - we looked for scissors, but couldn't find any. All in all, a wonderful convention - Houston was charming as were the local chapter personnel. Well run, but still not enough display time! Minneapolis had a booth advertising their regional next summer - LET'S ALL BE THERE!

Carolyn Hensrud.

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