



# Pipeline

American Organist Guild—Red River Valley Chapter

Volume 28, Number 8

Jun/Jul/Aug  
2014

## Message From the Dean

Happy summer to all my AGO friends! The warm weather is upon us finally, and the longer days with sunshine are SO welcome. I hope you all are finding some time to appreciate the great outdoors.

Appreciation has been on my mind recently. The choir directors at church have had "end of the year" parties to show appreciation to their members, and just this morning I had an "Appreciation Coffee" with the various directors and accompanists from the church where I coordinate the music program. Our Senior Pastor stopped in to visit with us and remarked about how much he appreciates the time and effort that goes into excellent music, especially since he has recently taken up classical guitar lessons and feels the frustration of the time it takes to feel accomplished when learning something new.

I hope that we all feel appreciated in our work and in our music-making! If we aren't receiving that appreciation from outside sources, then I pray that we all can find ways to appreciate our own efforts in some way. Taking personal satisfaction in a job well done and offering up that work to God is one way to satisfy that need for approval. On Sundays when no one stops past the organ console to

say they enjoyed the prelude/postlude/ the hymn choices...you fill in the blank....we at least know that the work was received by the One who matters most. The audience is God. The congregation is people. Flawed humans that we all are, we forget to express our appreciation. Perhaps we can all vow to improve ourselves in this regard and make an effort to smile and lift each other up. I know I'd appreciate that!

Here is more to appreciate: At 4:00 pm on Sunday, October 19, 2014, at First Presbyterian Church, Fargo, our chapter will present a unique organ and percussion duo in concert. "Organized Rhythm" is comprised of the duo of Joseph Gramley, percussionist, and Clive Driskill-Smith, organist. This duo was chosen with special care because they are receiving great acclaim in the world of music. In addition, Joseph Gramley has agreed to present a percussion workshop at MSUM on the Friday before the program. Gramley is professor of percussion at the University of Michigan and performs with Yo-Yo Ma and the Silk Road Ensemble on tour. Driskill-Smith is a performing organist in England.

With AGO's mission to promote the organ and its music in an evolving role, bringing in this exciting organ/

### First Friday Luncheon

**Who** Everyone is Welcome!

**When** First Friday of the Month at Noon

**Where** Fryn' Pan  
302 Main Ave, Fargo

### Chapter Officers

Dean: Sally Harmon

Sub-Dean: Sonia Carlson

Secretary: Robyn Vinje

Treasurer: Tom Thoreson

### Board Members at Large

2014: Alpha Roeszler

2015: Bill Tweten

2016: Jim Gurney



## Dean's Letter (Cont. from Page 1)

percussion duo absolutely "hits the nail on the head." These two recording artists/performers travel the world presenting fabulous concerts and attracting younger audiences to hear them. The "evolution" of their work together is a new direction in music and shows great creativity and promise for the future of the use of the organ in performances outside of sacred settings. "Organized Rhythm" introduces new and innovative music in their performances and recordings. This concert will help us provide a forum in our community for an exciting, inspirational and educational event that features the organ in its historic and ever-expanding role as a performance instrument.

**News Flash!** We have received news that two Community Arts Partnership grants have been awarded to AGO to help fund this concert. This is APPRECIATED!

Also, please save the date for this coming event: Monday, December 8, 2014 will be the date for this year's Christmas Carol Sing-along. AGO was invited to hold this event together with the FM Area Music Club's Christmas Program. It will be exciting to cooperate with another community music organization to present our program, and the extra members in the audience will be appreciated! This year the Christmas program will be held at First Presbyterian Church, Fargo.

So friends, let's get busy appreciating the summer months, the weather, the music all around us and the efforts of those making the music. Smile, attend some concerts, and plan to attend our future AGO events as well! Everyone around us will appreciate it!

*Sally Harmon, RRVAGO Dean*

## Board Meeting Notes

### Minutes of the RRV/AGO Board Meeting May 16, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Dean Sally Harmon. Other board members present were Sonia Carlson, Tom Thoreson, Alpha Roeszler, Bill Tweten, Jim Gurney and Robyn Vinje.

The secretary's minutes of the April board meeting were previously distributed electronically. Robyn moved that they be approved, Tom seconded, and motion carried.

The treasurer's report was also previously distributed electronically. There is \$82.96 in the checking account after \$500 was sent to the management company for Organized Rhythm, who will be appearing here in October. The CD is worth \$6826, for total assets of \$6908.96.

Sally announced that she applied for three grants for the October concert, as follows:

FM Area Foundation	\$4000
Arts Partnership	\$3500
Sanford Partners	\$500

We should be hearing by July whether we have received any or all of these grants.

We discussed the need for publicity for the Organized Rhythm concert. Sally will contact the management company about a publicity packet. Bill stated that his company has a covered van that we could use, and he would drive, for moving the percussion instruments from MSUM to First Presbyterian. Bill also offered to talk to Karen Stokke of the HoDo about the possibility of an in-kind donation of hotel rooms for the artists; we will need two rooms for three nights.

Sally stated that the Fargo-Moorhead Area Music Club proposed combining with AGO for the December Sing-along on Monday, December 8th. Since Thanksgiving is so late this year (November 27th), it would be difficult for FMAMC to have the usual program on the first Monday. The board agreed that it would be willing to do this. Sally stated that Dawn Papenfuss had agreed to chair our Sing-a-long at St. John Lutheran Church this year, but is willing to have it next year instead. Details for programming were discussed, and we will also need to



## Board Meeting Notes

### Minutes of the RRV/AGO Board Meeting May 16, 2014 (Continued from Page 2)

iron out the finances for the program, as FMAMC does not spend money on publicity for its programs. We will also want to promote this program at the October concert, perhaps with a program insert.

Sally shared a letter from Ruth Discher, writing as co-editor of the *Pipeline*, regarding a matter with Johnson Organ Company no longer offering two yearly tune-ups of church organs but rather full tunings only. Bill moved that it not be published in the *Pipeline*. Jim seconded, the motion carried.

Tom stated that AGO will be offering ONCARD registration this year, probably within the next two weeks. However, each person has the option of printing the application form and mailing it with a check. Anyone having a question can call 212-870-2310.

Our last program of the year will be Wednesday, May 21st at 6:00 PM at First Presbyterian Church. It will be a potluck supper and music exchange. Sally asked Robyn to send a reminder to the membership.

Bill mentioned that he has a contact in Lidgerwood for a new member, and had emailed the information to Robyn so future mailings can be sent to that person.

Officers nominated for the coming year are:

Sally Harmon, Dean

Bill Tweten, Sub-dean

Robyn Vinje, Secretary

Tom Thoreson, Treasurer

Alpha Roeszler, Member-at-large, term ending 2017

Sonia Carlson, Member-at-large, term ending 2015

Member-at-large Jim Gurney's term continues into 2016. Bill resigned his term as Member-at-large to run for sub-dean, and Sonia agreed to that term which extends to 2015.

Robyn will contact Ruth Discher regarding the possibility of including the ballot in the next issue of the *Pipeline*.

Respectfully submitted,

Robyn Vinje, Secretary

## Board Meeting Notes

### Minutes of the RRV/AGO Board Meeting June 12, 2014

The meeting was called to order by Dean Sally Harmon. Other board members present were Sonia Carlson, Tom Thoreson, Alpha Roeszler, Bill Tweten, and Robyn Vinje.

The minutes of the May board meeting were distributed electronically previously. There was one correction, after which the minutes were approved.

The treasurer's report was also distributed electronically prior to the meeting by Tom. There is \$82.96 in the checking account and \$6826 in the CD, for a total of \$6908.96. Tom stated that dues should start coming in soon, which will improve our financial situation. He also stated that the dues will be sent from national the first week of every month from now on, since we're paying dues through them for the first time this year.

It was suggested that the secretary send an e-mail reminder to the members to pay their dues online, and that they will need their identification number found on the label of *The American Organist*.

Sally announced that we received two grants for the Organized Rhythm concert in October, \$500 from the Community Arts Partnership, and \$714 from Sanford. Sally will check with the FM Area Foundation, which we also applied to, to see if they have awarded us a grant. (We need to remember to acknowledge the grants on the posters and programs.) We will have to pay three student movers from MSUM at an hourly rate to move the percussion instruments. Bill will provide the covered van for moving them.

We discussed publicity for the concert, as we hope to attract a large audience. We will need to send a PSA six weeks before the concert to local radio and RV stations. Boulger will provide printing services for us again. We will need a publicity committee; Sally will ask Carolyn Hensrud if she will chair the committee. Robyn and Sally volunteered to help with the publicity. Sally did contact the management company about a publicity packet, but we will have to design our own posters. Bill did contact the HoDo as discussed at the May meeting, to see if they will provide rooms for the performers; we will need two



## Board Meeting Notes

### Minutes of the RRV/AGO Board Meeting

June 12, 2014 (continued from Page 3)

rooms for three nights. He is waiting to hear back from HoDo.

Organized Rhythm will present a workshop at 3:00 PM on Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup>. Sally will confirm whether the location will be MSUM or First Presbyterian. The workshop will be provided to the three local colleges, and perhaps other students (e.g., high school) could be invited as well.

We will discuss and set the ticket prices at our July meeting, as we will need that information for the posters and other publicity.

The Christmas Sing-a-long will be Monday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM at First Presbyterian Church. The Bellissimo bell choir and Noteables will be performing, and we need members to volunteer to accompany the carols on the organ. Just a reminder that this is being co-sponsored with the Fargo Moorhead Area Music Club this year. There was some discussion regarding where the free will offering should go (scholarships vs Food Pantry). This will be decided at a later meeting.

The March program will hopefully be early in the month (Easter is April 5<sup>th</sup>), and Sally will ask Peggy Johnson if we could have it at Trinity Lutheran, and if she has some ideas for a theme. Possible themes mentioned were Basically British and Germanic Gems.

Sally noted that she received information from AGO that there are programs available for professional development. Possible topics will be included in *The Pipeline*. She reminded us that the AGO silent auction will be online until June 27<sup>th</sup>.

The annual potluck/music exchange held Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, was attended by only three people.

Maryanne Astrup is looking for sub work this summer.

We will need to have an issue of *The Pipeline* in September to publicize the October concert. Alpha will relay this information to Ruth Discher, co-editor with her.

There was a question about the ballot for election of officers. Robyn did e-mail Ruth D. about the possibility of including it with the newsletter, but has not received a reply.

The next board meeting and First Friday Lunch will be Friday, July 11<sup>th</sup>, since the Fourth of July is on Friday this year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robyn Vinje, Secretary

## Grants Received from the Arts Partnership Funds

RRVAGO has been notified that we have received two grants from the Arts Partnership funds: \$500 from the Community Arts Partnership and \$714 from the Sanford Arts Partnership

This will be a big help to us! But....it is not nearly all that we need to fund our planned special programs. We have asked for a \$4,000 grant from the FM Foundation and are waiting for their response. Keep your fingers crossed!

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## RRVAGO Chapter Membership Dues Paid Online Via ONCARD

AGO National Headquarters has begun collecting membership dues directly from members online via ONCARD, a suite of secure online services that includes renewing membership and making contributions by credit card, updating address and personal information, and other features.

In April AGO National Headquarters sent membership renewal notices by email to members who have a valid email address in their database, and by regular postal mail to members who do not. Those without an email address or computer access were asked to pay dues to AGO National Headquarters from a paper invoice.

All ONCARD transactions are conducted over a secure connection (https). AGO will NOT charge any individual or chapter for any credit card processing fees.

You can login to ONCARD and review/update your personal information. You will be prompted for a username and password. Your username is your first initial plus your last name, as it appears on your TAO mailing label. The password is your Member ID, which can be found on your TAO label.

If you have questions, you can email to [renewals@agohq.org](mailto:renewals@agohq.org) or phone (212)-870-2310.

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## Save the Date—Sunday, October 19—ORGANIZED RHYTHM

Please mark your calendar for Sunday afternoon, October 19, 2014 at 4:00PM at First Presbyterian Church in Fargo. You are in for a very special musical experience. Organized Rhythm will give a concert here. Clive Driskill-Smith from England is the organist of this duo, and Joseph Gramley will be the percussionist. Smith and Gramley have performed together on numerous occasions, sharing this very special music with audiences. More information on the ticket prices will be forthcoming. Make sure to tell your friends about this unique opportunity!

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## Nominations for RRVAGO Board Positions

The following RRVAGO members have been nominated for election for this year:

Sally Harmon	Dean
Bill Tweten	Sub-Dean
Robyn Vinje	Secretary
Tom Thoreson	Treasurer
Alpha Roeszler	Member-at-Large—term ending 2017
Sonia Carlson	Member-at-Large—term ending 2015 (fulfilling Bill Tweten's term following his resignation to run for Sub-Dean)

Watch your e-mail for your election ballot!

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## You Are Invited to the 10th Annual Salute to America!

Friday, July 4th at 4:00 PM Messiah Ev. Lutheran Church, Fargo

Messiah Lutheran Church, Fargo, invites all to join them for a patriotic celebration complete with sing-a-longs, stories of the history of our favorite patriotic songs, and a Clog Dancing Troup performance. They will have the organ and piano rolling with Bill Tweten and Cheryl Rostad at the helm.

Also included in the program will be a tribute to those who have served and are currently serving in the U.S. Military.

This program is free and open to the public, and refreshments will be served following the program.

A free-will offering will go to The Wounded Warrior Project and HeartSpring's Veterans Program.

You won't want to miss this celebration!

Join them at: Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church

2010 Elm Street North

Fargo, ND 58102 (directly across from the VA Medical Center)

Phone: 701-237-6770 [www.messiahfargo.com](http://www.messiahfargo.com)

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## Composer's Corner—"BASICALLY BRITISH!" Coming in March 2015

It may be a little early for some RRVAGO members to begin thinking about the chapter program scheduled for March 15, 2015 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Moorhead. As the title clearly suggests, the program will consist of music composed (mainly for the organ) by English composers. Hopefully, beginning a *Pipeline* series on English composers will stimulate some curiosity, planning, and new interest and enthusiasm for participation in the program.

Though there is a long tradition of English composers who served as organists, there is not a lot of actual organ music from them that remains. One might speculate that, since the early English organ did not often have well developed pedals, the *keyboard* works of many of these composers can also be considered for playing on the organ.

Pure organ music (as opposed to accompanimental organ music) had its beginnings in 15th century Tudor England and was written in three forms: the *meane*, based on a chant melody; the *pointe*, an imitative piece based on a short, non-chant motive; and the *voluntary*, literally a "volunteered," improvisatory, freely-composed piece. The English church separated from Rome in 1538, but its music continued in the same basic style, merely incorporating more English into the mass. Later, after the civil war that deposed the English monarchy (1642-1651), a Puritan ethic was forced upon the English church. In their radical abolition of music from the church, they destroyed organs as "works of the devil". All musical development in England was to suffer, lagging far behind the European continent. While organs in Germany and Holland were quite advanced (Bach's organ at Leipzig had three manuals, 45 ranks and complete pedalboard), English organs were just beginning to acquire the second manual and still had no pedals. "Fancier" musical elements returned to favor with the Restoration (1660), but they required time to rebuild; then organ builders also became active again.

The earliest surviving keyboard compositions (keyboard music was not instrument-specific until the 16th century) are from England and Italy. The English virginal style was a manner of composition and performance prevalent in the 16th and early 17th centuries. Organ music was almost exclusively based on learned contrapuntal, exemplified by the Fantasia ("Fancy"), as well as works based on contrapuntal treatment of chant. Composers well-known for their choral works also wrote organ music (such as Tallis, Byrd and Gibbons). G.F. Handel (1685-1759) contributed significantly to the organ repertoire of the Baroque period through his numerous organ concertos. Although Handel was born in Germany to a family indifferent to music, he received critical training in Halle, Hamburg and Italy before settling in London in 1712 and became a naturalized British subject in 1727.

"Overshadowed by an incredible ongoing choral tradition, English organ music has had a "bad rap", partly because English music in general suffered a long lapse between the time of Henry Purcell (1659-1695) and the rejuvenating energies of Hubert Parry (1848-1918), and partly because England was, after all, an insular culture with strong-held traditions." (quote from Michael Barone of *Pipedreams*)

Here is a list of English organists and/or composers:

### Renaissance

William Byrd (c.1543-1623)  
John Bull (1563-1628)  
Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)  
John Redford (c. 1500-1547)  
Thomas Tallis (c. 1505-1585)

### Baroque

John Blow (1649-1708)  
Jeremiah Clarke (c. 1669-1707)  
William Croft (1678-1727)  
G.F. Handel (1685-1759)  
Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

### Classical

William Boyce (1710-1779)  
Benjamin Cooke (1734-1793)  
John Stanley (1713-1786)  
William Walond (1725-1770)

### Romantic

Edward Elgar (1857-1934)  
Hubert Parry (1848-1918)  
Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)  
Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)



## Composer's Corner—BASICALLY BRITISH! (continued)

### Modern

Lennox Berkeley (1903-1989)	Francis Jackson (1917-
Frank Bridge (1879-1941)	Craig Sellar Lang (born in New Zealand)
Peter Maxwell Davies (1934-	Kenneth Leighton (1929-1988)
Harold Darke (1888-1976)	William Mathias (1934-1992)
James Douglas (1932-	Peter McGarr
George Dyson (1883-1964)	Alan Ridout (1934-1996)
Michael Finnissy (1946-	Kaikhosru Shapurji Sorabji (1892-1988)
Graham Fitkin (1963-	Christopher Steel (1939-1991)
Hans Gal (1890-1987)	Eric Harding Thiman (1900-1975)
Patrick Gowers (1936-	Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)
Alan Gibbs (1932-	Percy Whitlock (1903-1946)
William Henry Harris (1883-1973)	Arthur Wills (1926-
Basil Harwood (1859-1949)	Malcolm Williamson (1931-2003)
Herbert Howells (1892-1983)	

Start planning and/or practicing! Dig out those collections, compilations and anthologies and choose an English composer from this list or elsewhere and plan to participate in the RRVAGO members program next March!

## Positions Available — Choir Director

First Congregational UCC, Fargo, is looking for a choir director to lead the sanctuary choir. The choir participates in Sunday morning worship services which begin at 10:30. Choir rehearsal begins prior to the service at 9:00. For more detailed information, please contact Pastor Kevin Cassiday-Maloney at (701) 232-8985 or e-mail at [1stcongregationalucc@gmail.com](mailto:1stcongregationalucc@gmail.com).





### Upcoming Events

**Sunday, October 19, 2014, 4:00 PM**

"Organized Rhythm" Concert  
First Presbyterian Church, Fargo

**Monday, December 8, 2014, 7:00 PM**

"Christmas Carol Sing-a-long" presented together  
with FM Music Club  
First Presbyterian Church, Fargo

**Sunday, March 15, 2015, 4:00 PM**

"Basically British" presented by RRVAGO mem-  
bers  
Trinity Lutheran Church, Moorhead

### Contact Information

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Red River Valley Chapter  
PO Box 2223  
Fargo, ND 58108-2223  
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[www.agohq.org/chapters/redrivervalley](http://www.agohq.org/chapters/redrivervalley)

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MUSIC SPEAKS.



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