Greengs, Dallas Chapter!

Here’s hoping you have had a beautiful Easter weekend and are enjoying the lovely spring which appears to be unfolding before us!

Now that the heavy responsibilities of Lent, Holy Week, Passover and Easter are finished, I don’t know about you, but I find myself (a) utterly exhausted; (b) deeply fulfilled; (c) desperately in need of running away! (d) deliriously oblivious to and in denial of any sense of urgency regarding the huge mess of music, papers and paraphernalia awaiting re-organization in my workplace!

Seriously, matters of organization are on my mind these days. It IS “spring-cleaning” time, after all. (Does anybody really do that anymore?) As many of you are aware, since I’ve been Dean I have urged the Chapter to undertake an updating of our Chapter Bylaws, which for some time now have not been a completely accurate reflection of the organization of our Chapter.

There have been some significant changes in the actual running of our chapter since the Bylaws were last updated. We have new entities - a Website, a Facebook Page, for starters. We have new officers - a Webmaster, a Hospitality Director, a Communications Director, none of which are described in our current Bylaws. And there are certain procedural matters, such as our nominations, elections and treasurer processes which could use some clarification. In addition, there have been changes in National AGO Guidelines which need to be reflected in the Bylaws.

The Executive Committee has now named an Operating Procedures Committee, consisting of Lee Corbin, Jody Lindh, Grady Coyle and myself, to draft an updated Chapter Bylaws, to reflect the current state of our chapter and National guidelines. We hope to complete this soon.

I am excited to share with you, along the lines of new aspects of our chapter’s life, the recent appointment of Jordan Smith to the position of Chapter Webmaster. We are very excited to have Jordan, with his technological background mixed with musical/artistic understanding take on this task right at the time of our approaching amazing new fall season and the 2017 Regional Convention!

Looking forward to seeing you at this weekend’s Masterclass and Eastertide Lessons and Carols! (Details within...)

Grace and peace,

Kathy Johnson, Dean
Chapter Events 2015-2016

2 April, Saturday
Masterclass with Robert McCormick, Organist, St. Paul’s Parish, Washington, D.C.
Shipp Chapel, Lovers Lane United Methodist Church, 9200 Inwood Road, Dallas TX 75220
Known for his ability in organ improvisation, McCormick was named a semi-finalist in the 2005 St. Albans International Organ Festival Improvisation Competition. He is Director of Music at St. Paul’s Parish, K Street, Washington, D.C. Interested participants will have the opportunity to try out some of the techniques shared by Mr. McCormick as part of each session.

Two skill levels offered (attend one, or both):
9:00-10:30am Beginner
11:00am-12:30pm Intermediate

3 April, Sunday at 7:00 pm
A Festival of Readings and Hymns for Eastertide with Robert McCormick, Organist
Sanctuary, Lovers Lane United Methodist Church, 9200 Inwood Road, Dallas TX 75220
Readings and passages from Scripture for the Easter season complement organ improvisations and inspired hymn accompaniments. (a poster is attached to the Crescendo email

10 May, Tuesday
End of Year Banquet and RTA Recital: Jan Kraybill, Organist
St. Andrew United Methodist Church, 5801 W. Plano Parkway, Plano TX 75093
Kraybill is Principal Organist for the Dome and Spire Organ Foundation, an affiliate of the international headquarters of Community of Christ in Independence, Missouri, and Organ Conservator at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts in Kansas City

6:00 pm - Social Hour
6:30 pm - Dinner ($20 – reservations required)
7:30 pm - Recital

Join us to celebrate the end of another chapter program year and welcome newly-elected officers for the 2016-2017 with a festive southwestern meal by Blue Mesa! - see the menu and reservations on page 6.

Regional AGO Convention in Dallas June 12-15, 2017
The Dallas Chapter of the AGO is pleased and excited to host the 2017 Southwest Regional Convention. With a population of over a million, and located in the fourth largest metroplex in the nation, Dallas continues its vibrant growth. It has become an important arts center and a hub for the organ world. Since the Regional Convention was held in Dallas in 2007, there have been over 10 new instruments that have been constructed or expanded. The Dallas Chapter has had a long history of hosting successful conventions: the National Conventions of 1972 and 1994, and the Regional Conventions of 1977, and 2007. The 2017 Steering Committee has been hard at work and in future articles, we will be showcasing artists, presenters, workshop venues, and volunteer opportunities. Mark June 12-June 15, 2017 on your calendars! - René Schmidt

Register for the Houston National Convention at: http://agohouston2016.com/
Robert T. Anderson Recital Series for 2015-2016

A Smashing Success!

7:30 p.m. FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2015
PARK CITIES PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

In co-operation with Park Cities Presbyterian Church, 4125 Oak Lawn Avenue in Dallas, the RTA Series presents Simon Johnson, Organist & Assistant Director of Music at St. Paul’s Cathedral, London, since 2008. In addition to the daily round of services at St. Paul’s, he also plays for all the important national services and events which take place there. A review in Gramophone called him “a brilliant and sensitive musician...achieving greatness through his calm demeanor.” PCPC’s large 2007 Schoenstein organ will serve as the vehicle for Mr. Johnson’s recital. A reception for Patrons of the RTA Series will be held at a nearby residence following this concert.

Another Smashing Success!!!

7:30 p.m. MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2016
CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC CHURCH

Our second recital of the season will present concert organist Vincent Dubois on the new Juget-Sinclair organ at Christ the King Catholic Church, 8017 Preston Road, Dallas. In 2002, he won two major organ competitions: the Recital Gold Medal at the Calgary International Organ Competition, and the Grand Prize at the International competition of Toulouse, France. His performances have included numerous international music festivals and guest soloist appearances with orchestras in Europe, Asia, and North America. He was recently appointed Continuing Guest Artist at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, where he will have regular teaching residencies.

7:30 p.m. TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2016
ST. ANDREW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, PLANO

Our final event of the season will be a return engagement of Jan Kraybill, whose 2009 Dallas recital electrified the audience. She is Principal Organist for the Dome and Spire Organ Foundation, an affiliate of the international headquarters of Community of Christ in Independence, MO, and Organ Conservator at the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts in Kansas City. She regularly plays and oversees the care of the three largest pipe organs in the Kansas City metro area. In addition to her organ work, she is also a member of Mensa, and enjoys riding her Harley-Davidson with her husband. She will perform on the large Letourneau organ at St. Andrew United Methodist Church in Plano, 5801 W. Plano Park-

The Robert T. Anderson Recital Series of the Dallas Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is offered to the community free of charge. However, there is considerable expense in bringing in these world-renowned organists. You are encouraged to become an RTA Series Patron by your generous donation. A brochure with donation levels is attached with the Crescendo. You may mail back to Grady Coyle or bring to the recital. Your name will be printed in the program for your support as well as a “thank you function” during the year. All gifts are tax deductible.
A Weekend with Robert McCormick

Director of Music at St. Paul's Parish, K Street, Washington, D.C.; semi-finalist in the 2005 St. Albans International Organ Festival Improvisation Competition

All events at Lovers Lane United Methodist Church, 9200 Inwood Road, Dallas, TX 75220

Saturday, April 2: Service Playing and Liturgical Improvisation Masterclass with Robert McCormick (LLUMC Shipp Chapel)

Two skill levels offered (attend one, or both): 9-10:30 am Beginner and/or 11am-12:30 pm Intermediate

Interested participants will have the opportunity to try out some of the techniques shared by Mr. McCormick as part of each session.

Sunday, April 3: A Festival of Readings and Hymns for Eastertide with Robert McCormick, organist (LLUMC Sanctuary) at 7:00 pm

Readings from Scripture for the Easter season compliment organ improvisations and inspired hymn accompaniments.

MICHAEL SHAKE
Director of Music and Artistic Ministries
King of Glory Lutheran Church – Dallas, Texas

Sub-Dean
Dallas Chapter – American Guild of Organists

Olivier Latry
Lay Family Organ
Meyerson Symphony Center
April 17 at 2:30 PM
Buy Tickets at:
https://www.mydso.com/buy/tickets/opus-100-olivier-latry
Upcoming Local Events

Please see the flyers and posters attached to the Crescendo email

3 April, Sunday at 6:00 pm
An Easter Messiah with Orpheus Chamber Singers and Ars Lyrica Houston
Dallas City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora Street, Dallas 75201
Critically acclaimed Ars Lyrica from Houston return for a collaboration on Handel’s Messiah with conductor John Butt, whose recent recording of the Mozart Requiem with the Dunedin Consort won a Gramophone Award in 2014. This Easter Messiah will be a performance of the complete work, with a cast of stellar soloists and full Baroque orchestra. Purchase your tickets at www.TicketDFW.com

17 April, Sunday at 3:00 PM
Spring Handbell Concert
Watson Hall, Lovers Lane UMC, 9200 Inwood Rd. Dallas, TX 75220
Featuring handbell choirs of Lovers Lane UMC and First Presbyterian Church, Sheryl Sebo and Phyllis Wilson, directors Free for all ages, reception following the concert.

17 April, Sunday at 7:00 pm
Olivier Latry Master Class
Caruth Auditorium, SMU Campus, 6101 Bishop Blvd, Dallas, TX 75275
As part of Olivier Latry’s visit to Dallas with a concert at the Meyerson Symphony Center, Prof. Latry will also conduct a master class on the SMU campus. Organ students from Meadows will perform French organ works. Free admission and parking

22 April, Friday at 7:00 pm
Jamila Javadova-Spitzberg, organ
St. Alban’s Anglican Church, 911 South Davis, Arlington, TX 76013
Ms. Javadova-Spitzberg is currently the organist at First UMC Arlington. A reception will follow the concert. Free admission and parking

1 May, Sunday at 5:00 pm
Spring Chamber Recital
Lovers Lane UMC, 9200 Inwood Rd. Dallas, TX
Featuring professional soloists and Sanctuary Choir, performing a wide variety of musical styles, from sacred, classical, opera and art song, to musical theater and Broadway. Free, with child care provided, followed by a reception in Watson Hall.

1 May, Sunday at 7:30 pm
DFW Brass
Christ the Servant Lutheran Church, 821 South Greenville Ave, Allen, TX 75002
This eclectic performance will include pieces from the Renaissance era to present day in varying styles; from sacred music to patriotic numbers, there will be something for everyone. The program will also include pieces for organ and brass. For more information, please visit christtheservant.com or dfwbrass.com. Suggested donation of $10. Free parking

13 May, Friday from 12:20-1:00 pm
Bach’s Lunch - Dr. JuYeon J. Lee, Organ
First Presbyterian Church Longview, 301 N. Center St, Longview TX 75606
Free and open recital during lunchtime to the community sponsored by Longview Symphony orchestra. Dr. JuYeon J. Lee, Organist/Artist in Residence, Assistant Professor of Music, Wiley College http://www.longviewsymphony.org/bach-s-lunch-concert-series
Please see the flyers and posters attached to the Crescendo email

St. Andrew United Methodist Church invites the community to its second-annual organ recital series, highlighting the sounds of the impressive 4-manual Létourneau in the refined acoustics of the sanctuary to celebrate the “King of Instruments”! Recitals will run 30 minutes and are provided free of charge.

Be sure to attend on April 6th as we kick off this year’s series with lunch available for purchase from 11-2 as provided by the delicious French-inspired food truck, Chez Flo, offering sandwiches, Pommes Frites, and crêpes!

April Organ Recital Series: “The King of Instruments”
Wednesdays at Noon
St. Andrew UMC, 5801 W. Plano Parkway, Plano

April 6 – Dr. Damin Spritzer
April 13 – Dr. Bradley Hunter Welch
April 20 – Dr. Jonathan M. Gregoire
April 27 – Dr. Hyeon Jeong

4 manuals, 70 stops, Orgues Létourneau, Op. 87, 2003

Final Banquet at RTA Recital May 10

This is the final event of the year for the Dallas Chapter. Tuesday, May 10 at St. Andrew UM Church, 5800 W. Plano Pkwy in Plano beginning with social time at 6 pm. The Blue Mesa Fajita Grill Party dinner is at 6:30 serving the following:

- Rainbow Chips, Fire Roasted Salsa, Red Salsa, Guacamole, and Classic Queso
- Southwestern Caesar Salad
- Grilled Chicken and Steak Fajitas with onions, peppers, cheese etc.
- Blue Corn Cheese Enchiladas
- Ginger Rice
- Smoky Black Beans
- Sweet Corn Cake
- Seasoned Mini Flan
- Cinnamon Coffee
- Passion Fruit Iced Tea

You definitely want to be at this party and you can if you make your reservation by Tuesday, May 3 by noon. Either call Charlene Dorsey at 817.277.2859 or email her at dorseycpd11@msn.com giving your name and number of reservations. The cost for this dinner is $20 per person.
Henry Webb, Dallas AGO Organ Scholar

Henry Webb, a Dallas AGO’s High School Scholarship recipient, shared his love of the organ with the students and faculty of the Episcopal School of Dallas on March 8, 2016. Around 850 people attended the middle school and upper school chapel services. Henry played “Little Star”, the tracker organ by Noack, in the exquisite campus chapel with its three second reverberation time and fabulous origami ceiling. Henry played the Allegro from J.S. Bach - A. Vivaldi Organ Concerto in D minor BWV 596, one of J. S. Bach’s Schübler Chorales, BWV 648, Meine Seele erhebet den Herrn, and J. S. Bach’s Fugue in A minor, BWV 543. Joe Snyder, ESD’s Upper School Choir Director and Organist, organized the event. He has been a great supporter of Henry in the last several years.

Dear Dallas AGO members,

I would like to express my deep gratitude for the support the Dallas AGO has given me in my musical journey over the last three years: The high school scholarship made it much easier for me to advance in my studies with wonderful teachers and the Chapter events allowed me to meet people with the same passion, hear great musicians, discover many area organs, and perform in local recitals.

I would especially like to thank Annette Albrecht and Joe Snyder who, for the last three years, have shown extraordinary generosity in offering me a place to practice. I would also like to thank many other Dallas area organists who have opened their doors for me to practice when needed or invited me to play services or recitals: Clinton Bray, Bradley Welch, Colin Howland, Henry McDowell, Jeremy Wirths, Michael Conrady, Jordan Smith. Michael Shake, Christina Harmon, Susan DeKam, and J. Marty Cope, Being able to play on such a variety of organs has made me a much better organist and has kept me challenged and spellbound.

I will graduate from Jesuit College Preparatory School this year and will take a gap year before going to college. During that time, I intend to explore several areas of interest, continue my organ studies with Scott Dettra, and work as the new Organ Scholar at the Church of the Incarnation.

With sincere appreciation,

Henry Webb

Church Music Institute Workshop June 10-11


Presenters: Rev. Dr. Fred Anderson, Dr. Andrew Henderson, and Mary Huff (Madison Avenue Presbyterian, NYC), Dr. Christopher Aspaas (TCU), and Rev. Dr. Robert Preece and Sam Eatherton, (Zion Lutheran Church)
New Officers for 2016-17

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEWLY-ELECTED OFFICERS of the DALLAS CHAPTER!

With one of the highest voter turnouts ever, the persons listed below were elected to serve as officers and members of the Executive Committee for the 2016-17 year. Numbers in parentheses denote which year one would be serving of the number of years possible: 3:3 means third year of a possible three-year term.

Dean - Michael Shake (1:2)
Sub-Dean - Brad Reznicek (1:2)
Secretary - Larry McCain, SPC (1:3)
Treasurer - David Brown (2:3)
Membership Secretary - Nancy N. Laine, AAGO (1:3)
Historian - Chris Brunt (1:3)
Parliamentarian - Rev. Kathryn E. Johnson (1:2)
Auditors - Phyllis M. Beck, SPC (2:3)
                        David L. Rodgers (1:3)
Chaplain - (to be appointed later by the Dean)
Honorary Dean - Canon Dr. Paul Lindsley Thomas, FAG0

Executive Committee Members-at-Large:
Three Years:  Christine E. Bouton, CAGO
        Dr. Jonathan M. Gregoire
        Graham Schultz, AAGO
Two Years:    Rev. Dr. Charles S. Brown, FAG0, ChM
        Carlene Rebecca (Becky) Peal-Sconce
        Jordan Peek
One Year:     Rev. Dr. Charles S. Brown, FAG0, ChM
        Charlene Polivka Dorsey, CAGO, SPC
        Charles Morell

The installation of officers will be held at the End of Year Banquet on Tuesday, May 10, at St. Andrew United Methodist Church, 5801 W. Plano Parkway, Plano, TX 75093. The social hour is at 6:00 p.m., the banquet and installation of officers at 6:30, followed at 7:30 by the final RTA Recital Series event with Jan Kraybill, organist.

The Nominating Committee: Jody W. Lindh, Chair, Michael Shake, Barbara Clark, SPC, Sheryl Sebo, AAGO, Ellen Hart, AAGO

Position Available

First Presbyterian Church (Tyler, TX) is seeking a Full-time Interim Organist/Choirmaster to begin in June. The interim will have the opportunity to apply for the permanent position. Please contact chair of the search committee, Claudia Carroll, musicdirectorsearch2016@gmail.com. (see attached job description)

This is a link to Google Docs that will let you view what’s going on in the area very easily! https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1NkBADSRWvhCC7FAXxv_tkt_WCZHCOyWHJz3yUD9o/edit?usp=sharing
If you have anything you wish to add to this list, please contact Françoise at: francoisewebb@yahoo.com
Dallas Chapter Guild Exam News

The Dallas Chapter Guild Exam team will offer mock exams for anyone planning to take an exam, prior to the exam. Please contact Sheryl Sebo at sslebo@verizon.net if interested. The next support meeting will be Monday, April 11 at Lovers Lane United Methodist Church at 7:00 PM.

University Events

SMU Organ Events this Spring Semester in Caruth Auditorium

April 7, 7:30 pm, Studio Recital
Bach’s Clavierübung Part III (complete)

April 10, 7:30 pm, Guest Artist Recital Hans-Ola Ericsson, McGill University, Montreal
Works of Bach, Cage, Hambraeus, Ligeti, Messiaen

April 11, 9:30 am - 2:00 pm, Master Class with Hans-Ola Ericsson

April 13, 7:15 pm, Hannah Cruse, Junior Organ Recital
Works of Bach, Mendelssohn, Hindemith

April 16, 8:00 pm, Jordan deRouen, Master of Music Organ Recital
Works of Bach, Buxtehude, Dupre, Guillain, Karg-Elert, Reger

April 17, 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm, Master Class with Olivier Latry, Paris

UNT Organ News

On Saturday, March 5th UNT organ students competed in the annual William C. Hall Organ Competition in San Antonio, Texas. Andrew Kenney returned after winning second prize in the graduate division last year to claim First Prize this year. Gregory Santa Croce, a duel organ and jazz piano major, competed for the first time this year and clinched both First Prize in the undergraduate division and Best Hymn Playing award. These outstanding organists continue a long legacy of success in this competition. “It was a big coup for our students to pull this off. With the possible exception of New York State, no other area in the USA has more active university organ programs than Texas. My heartfelt congratulations to Greg and Andy for all that they achieved,” said Dr. Jesse Eschbach. Contestants represented University of Texas (3), Southern Methodist (1), Rice (1), University of Houston (1), and of course UNT (3). Judges were Jonathon Dimmock, Faythe Freize, and Crista Miller. David Summers, the third UNT competitor also gave a strong performance at the competition. Dr. Eschbach comments, "David Summers deserves special mention. His playing was superb from start to finish, polished and secure. Another year and David will walk away with a first prize." Pictured Left: Gregory Santa Croce, First Prize Undergraduate Division, Best Hymn Playing Award. Right: Andrew Kenney, First Prize Graduate Division.
Right now the Dallas Chapter channels of communication and opportunities for community include:

communications@dallasago.org – WRITE DOWN YOUR THOUGHTS AND QUESTIONS for consideration in our programing!

www.dallasago.com – CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE! KNOW WHAT’S GOING ON!

Facebook page: Dallas Chapter-American Guild of Organists – SHARE YOUR IDEAS ONLINE!

Various flyers and publicity notices we send out through your own contributions – SEND NOTICES, FLYERS and ARTICLES TO dallas.crescendo@gmail.com!

Put our April Dallas AGO Events on your Calendar!

A Weeked with Robert McCormick
April 2 - Master Classes
April 3 – Festival of Easter tide Reading and Hymns
Lovers Lane UMC

Newsletter Submissions

Please email your submissions to dallas.crescendo@gmail.com and be sure to include all pertinent information. Pictures and email links are highly desirable. It is most helpful if you will include the address of upcoming events as well as any pertinent contact information. Your editor will be most grateful since these must be researched if not included!

Submission deadline is by the 20th of April to be in the May issue.

If you know of someone who has changed email address recently, please have them send the new email address to: communications@dallasago.org