Pipe Organ Discovery Day

Saturday, February 28 – 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Church & Pilgrim Lutheran Church, St. Paul

Phil Asgian

Pipe Organ Discovery Day is a program of the Education Committee of the TCAGO and is free to participants. Young artists, and their parents as well, are encouraged to attend.

Pipe Organ Discovery Day provides students with previous piano or organ experience an opportunity to learn more about the instrument, and very importantly, to expand their knowledge with “hands on” experience on a variety of instruments.

As part of the day’s events, an education program on the pipe organ will also be provided.

The program runs from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Morning sessions will be at
Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Church
1900 Wellesley Avenue, St. Paul.
http://parish.nativity-mn.org
We will continue with afternoon sessions at nearby
Pilgrim Lutheran Church
1935 St. Clair Avenue, St. Paul.
http://www.pilgrimstpaul.org

Pizza lunch is included.
Registration form and a full schedule of events for the day can be found at the TCAGO web site www.tcago.org

If you have questions, please contact Phil Asgian at 651-293-9115 or philasgian@gmail.com.
Dean’s Column

Paul Westermeyer

In last June’s issue of the TAO, our national chaplain Don Saliers reminded us that “in a culture of distraction, greed, and cruelty, the experience of beauty becomes essential to our humanity.” He had more in mind than beauty in the superficial sense by which we often define it. He cited Alejandro Garcia-Rivera’s book, The Community of the Beautiful, which describes a community of hospitality and compassion.

This is related to something Don said at a conference about a children’s choir he heard. When he asked the children after the service what they liked about singing, one of them said, “It tastes so good.” In his recent book, Bach: Music in the Castle of Heaven, John Eliot Gardner gets at matters like this when he says that Bach “makes it a great deal easier for us to focus on the injunction to love one’s neighbor than on all the filth and horror of the world. We emerge from performing or listening to a Bach motet chastened, maybe, but more often elated, such is the cleansing power of the music.”

Additions and Corrections for the 2014-2015 TCAGO Directory

Jane Nienaber, Registrar

New members
Backman, Samuel
135 Nathan Lane N. #5224
Plymouth, MN 55441
(C) 715-530-0511
samuel.r.backman@gmail.com

Jacob, Andrew
1500 St. Olaf Ave.
Northfield, MN 55057
jacob1@stolaf.edu

Johnson, Grant
205 Kenwood Dr. W.
Maplewood, MN 55117
grant.yankees@gmail.com

Kim, Soyoun
1039 29th Ave. S.E. Apt. F
Minneapolis, MN 55414
(C) 612-296-8179
kimx3754@umn.edu

Straw, Marika
3405 20th Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55407
(C) 971-218-6709
marika.straw@gmail.com

Vanderwaal, Peter
688 124th St. N.E.
Monticello, MN 55362
petervanderwaal@madeforglory.org

Renewing Members
Birling, Andrew
4550 Bryant Ave. S. Apt 5
Minneapolis, MN 55419-4736
650-906-3227
andrewbirling@gmail.com

These issues, however we try to define or describe them (and they are finally indescribable and undefinable), attend us all in our music-making. We are tempted to restrict them to certain composers or virtuosos or performances when in fact they belong to all of us and the communities we serve.

When one of your fourth-graders sings a stunningly beautiful solo in the anthem and takes your breath away, when a clarinetist spins out a gorgeous descant above the choir, when the choir sings with a balance, tone color, and phrasing beyond anything you could possibly have expected, and when your hymn playing and the congregation’s singing coalesce with a potency you had not anticipated — what Saliers, Garcia-Rivera, and Gardner are reporting, is there.

It’s among us who are not the stars, but who are engaged in the weekly craft of music with our people. We can’t manufacture these moments, though they would not be there without our work. Nor should we try to manufacture them. Beauty, hospitality, and compassion are there without them in the quotidian — the daily, the usual, the customary — character of what we do. This no small thing in our “culture of distraction, greed, and cruelty.” We should celebrate it with our people in all its understated wonder and grace.
TCAGO 2015
Winter Walcha Workshop and More

Jeremy Haug

On Saturday, January 10, nearly 70 friends and members of the TCAGO gathered for a winter workshop to learn more about Helmut Walcha and mental skills for musicians.

The half-day workshop was divided between organ literature and performance skills. Dr. Delbert Disselhorst presented the summit of 20th-century neo-Baroque composition and Bach interpretation represented by Helmut Walcha.

Dr. Vanessa Cornett-Murtada, an internationally-recognized wellness teacher and pianist, gave an introduction to develop mental skills for all performers.

After the event, several gathered at Fabulous Ferns Restaurant for lunch and more socializing.

Special thanks to Kris Langlois and Concordia University - St. Paul for hosting the event. We were blessed to have Carsten Slostad providing hospitality – serving pastries, coffee and cider on a cold winter morning in Minnesota.

Michael Barone Presents:
So Much Music, So Little Time

Saturday, February 7, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.+
MPR Headquarters – UBS Forum Auditorium

The irrepressible Michael Barone provides an entertaining 'song and dance' (well, an audio-visual presentation) focused on interesting and unusual repertoire, anniversary composers, recent trends in the organ world, the possibility of an Organ Historical Society convention in Minnesota, and pictures from past Pipedreams tours.

Building upon a curiosity which began in his
teens, Michael Barone has been involved with the pipe organ for more than 50 years.

As host and senior executive producer of *Pipedreams*, he is recognized nationally for his outstanding contributions to the world of organ music. *Pipedreams* began in 1982, and it remains the only nationally-distributed weekly radio program exploring the art of the pipe organ.

Michael's talent and commitment have been recognized with numerous awards, including the American Guild of Organists President's Award in 1996, the Distinguished Service Award of the Organ Historical Society in 1997 and the 2001 ASCAP-Deems Taylor Award. In November 2002 he was selected for induction to the Minnesota Music Hall of Fame.

The workshop is free of charge and open to the public. Pre-registration for Event and Lunch (pay on your own) at www.tcago.org is encouraged – OR – Jeremy.Haug@mountcalvary.org at 612-578-8058.

MPR Headquarters, 480 Cedar Street, St. Paul. Doors open 9:00 a.m., Gathering time 9:30 - 10:00 a.m. Presentation 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.

### Minneapolis Downtown Churches Biennial Choral Festival

**Sunday, February 15, 2:30 p.m.**
Central Lutheran Church
http://www.centralmpls.org/
Join this longstanding tradition of cooperation and music-making among the churches of downtown Minneapolis: Central Lutheran, Mark Sedio, director/organist; Hennepin Avenue United Methodist, Bill Mathis, director; Basilica of St. Mary, Teri Larson, director; St. Olaf Catholic, Lynn Trapp, director/organist; Plymouth Congregational, Philip Brunelle, director/organist; St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, Raymond Johnston, director/organist; and Westminster Presbyterian, Jere Lantz, director, Melanie Ohnstad, organist.

This year, in addition to individual choir performances, the combined choirs will perform pieces selected from the parts of the liturgy: *Kyrie* by Louis Vierne, *Gloria* by Dominic Argento, *Sanctus* from *Requiem* by Maurice Duruflé, *Agnus Dei* by William Byrd and a specially commissioned piece *All the Beautiful Names* by local composer Timothy C. Takach. The lyrics are from *Credo* (*Noli Timere*) by Michael Dennis Browne. A free will offering will be taken.

Central Lutheran Church
333 South Twelfth Street, downtown Minneapolis

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### Lift Thine Eyes

**Saturday, February 28, 7:30 p.m.**
St. Olaf Catholic Church
http://saintolaf.org/
Anne Susag

From Age to Age Choral Ensemble, Brennan Michaels, director, Lynn Trapp, organist.

This program will feature Renaissance to contemporary choral music by composers Byrd, Palestrina,

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For more information and a stoplist contact: vernarek@gmail.com
Whitacre, Minnesota native Eric Barnum and others, including music for choir and organ.

Suggested donation of $10 taken at the door. A reception follows the concert.

St. Olaf Catholic Church, 215 South Eighth Street, downtown Minneapolis.

Free parking in the Energy Ramp at Ninth Street and Third Avenue South.

Preparing the Way
for the Bach Birthday Bash

Michael Barone

TCAGO Friends: It’s time to organize another Bach Birthday Bash. We’re sticking with the traditional 3/21 birth day since March 21 falls conveniently on a Saturday this year. (Recent scholarship suggests that the actual date, according to our present calendar, is more like March 31).

As usual, each venue will host an hour-long program with multiple performers in varied repertoire. For diversity, I’ve invited student pianists and instrumentalists (violin, cello) from the University of Minnesota and St. Olaf College to apply, too.

Our itinerary in Minneapolis is as follows:

9:00-10:00 a.m. – Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church, 1980 Sipe tracker (live MPR broadcast)

10:30-11:30 a.m. – First Unitarian Church, 1961 Holtkamp e/p

Lunch Break

1:00-2:00 p.m. – Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church, 1981 Jaeckel tracker

2:30-3:30 p.m. – St. Paul Episcopal Church, 1998 Dobson tracker

4:00-5:00 p.m. – Saint Mark’s Episcopal Cathedral, 2013 Foley-Baker e/p

I am looking for capable volunteers to represent the chapter and the heritage of JSB. Please submit several repertoire items (from which I will choose to make a balanced program at each venue) and your preferred instrument(s).

Submission deadline is February 5, 2015.

Call or email me directly with questions.

Thanks for your participation!

mbarone@mpr.org 651-290-1539

Stephen Paulus Celebration

Sunday, March 22, 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.
Central Presbyterian Church
http://cpcstpaul.org

Jennifer Anderson

A musical celebration of Stephen Paulus will be held at Central Presbyterian Church in St. Paul, on Sunday, March 22. Musicians include soprano Maria Jette, pianist Stephen Swanson, organist/cellist Joseph Trucano, and vocalists Shanta Hejmadi, Emily Greenleaf, Bill Haugen, and David Winkworth.

A massed choir will be singing Paulus’s Mass as well as The Road Home.

Rehearsals are on Wednesday nights from 7:15-9:15:
February 11 and 25
March 4, 11, and 18

Dress Rehearsal:
Saturday, March 21 from 9:00 - 11 a.m.
Performances on Sunday, March 22 at 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Singers need to attend at least four of the rehearsals. Professional childcare for rehearsals and performances is provided! Free parking.
This is a very special opportunity to sing wonderful repertoire alongside fantastic musicians, including Maria Jette!

Please contact Jennifer Anderson, Director of Music, to reserve your place in the choir!

RSVP by February 1 to JenniferA@cpcstpaul.org
Central Presbyterian Church
500 Cedar Street, St. Paul.

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**PDQ Bach and Peter Schickele Birthday Bash**

**Friday, April 10, 8:00 p.m.**
**Ted Mann Concert Hall**
**Jennifer Weismann**

The 100-voice VocalEssence Chorus, 32-voice Ensemble Singers and the University of Minnesota’s Wind Ensemble will celebrate the 80th birthday of legendary composer, musicologist and foremost P.D.Q. Bach historian, Professor Peter Schickele.

This momentous occasion will be marked by a concert featuring works by Professor Schickele, as well as those by his alter ego, P.D.Q. Bach. The birthday concert will also mark the 50th anniversary of Schickele’s most (in)famous discovery/invention; a composer sometimes referred to as “the most dangerous musician since Nero.”

VocalEssence conductor Philip Brunelle and Craig Kirchhoff, professor of conducting and director of university bands at the University of Minnesota, will lead the evening’s program at Ted Mann Concert Hall on Friday, April 10 at 8:00 p.m. Minnesota Public Radio’s John Birge will host a pre-concert conversation with Schickele at 7:00 p.m.

“VocalEssence has worked with extremely talented musicians over the years – all of whom have introduced our audiences to some very exciting and unusual choral experiences – but no one’s doing it like Peter Schickele,” said Philip Brunelle, founder and artistic director of VocalEssence. “Schickele, unlike his much neglected P.D.Q., is a wonderfully-gifted and prolific composer and musician whose work spans from folk music to symphonies and everything in between. For the connoisseur, this is a once-in-a-half-century opportunity and for the uninitiated, the best April Fools’ Day joke ever!”

Tickets for the P.D.Q. Bach & Peter Schickele Birthday Bash concert are available for $20 and up. For more information about this concert, please call 612-371-5656 or visit www.vocalessence.org.
Pipedreams Tour –
Historic Organs of Poland

June 10-22, 2015
Michael Barone

Our itinerary, focused on the central and eastern parts of Poland, will embrace a remarkable variety of instruments from five centuries, including the monumental 96-stop organ at Oliwa Cathedral; the richly ornamented installation by Stanislaw Studzinski from 1680 in Lezajsk, with its celebrated high-pitched, multi-rank cymbal mixture; the oldest historic instrument in Poland from 1620 at the parish church in Kazimierz Dolny; several late-romantic organs by Schlag und Söhne, with their distinctive ‘symphonic’ voice; new concert hall installations by Schuke in Warsaw and Rieger in Lodz; and Christian Wegscheider’s careful restoration of the 1719 Hildebrandt organ in Paslek.

You are encouraged to check out the links below, and check out our Facebook tour page to see some great pictures and comments!

Visit Pipedreams.org online for more information http://pipedreams.publicradio.org/tour/

American Guild of Organists Awarded $20,000 Grant from The National Endowment for the Arts

F. Anthony Thurman

The American Guild of Organists (AGO) has been awarded a grant by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to support educational programming in 2015 and new music commissioned for the AGO National Convention in Houston, Texas, June 19-23, 2016.

The $20,000 NEA “Art Works” grant will support Pipe Organ Encounters for youth and adults, performances and workshops at all seven AGO Regional Conventions, the Guild’s professional certification program for organists and choral conductors, and new music commissions. While the Guild has benefitted from NEA support for the past five consecutive AGO National Conventions, the 2015 grant represents the first support the Guild has received for its educational programs and regional conventions.

“This grant covers the full breadth of the AGO’s educational activities for current and prospective members as well as our programs of outreach to the public,” stated AGO Executive Director James Thomashower. “The NEA’s funding sends an uplifting message to the entire organ community: our instrument and its music are vitally important to the American people. The award validates the AGO’s ongoing efforts to ensure that music for the organ is created by talented composers, performed by skilled musicians, and appreciated by the widest audience possible. It is an honor for the Guild to be recognized by the NEA, the most prestigious independent federal agency in the United States responsible for funding and promoting artistic excellence, creativity, and innovation.”

NEA Chairman Jane Chu added, “I am pleased to be able to share the news of our support through Art Works including the award to the American Guild of Organists. The arts foster value, connection, creativity, and innovation for the American people. This grant demonstrates those attributes and affirms that the arts are part of our everyday lives.”

Art Works grants support the creation of art, public engagement with art, lifelong learning in the arts, and enhancement of the livability of communities through the arts. The NEA received 1,474 eligible applications under the Art Works category, requesting more than $75 million in funding. Of those applications, 919 were recommended for grants for a total of $26.6 million.
Calendar of Events

February
Sunday, February 1, 4:00 p.m.
Organ concert
David Fienen, visiting organist
Como Park Lutheran Church
1376 Hoyt Avenue West, St. Paul
Saturday, February 7, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
So Much Music, So Little Time
Michael Barone, presenter
MPR Headquarters, UBS Forum Auditorium
480 Cedar Street, St. Paul
Sunday, February 8, 4:00 p.m.
Organ concert
Jayson Engquist, visiting organist
Como Park Lutheran Church
1376 Hoyt Avenue West, St. Paul
Thursday, February 12, 12:30 p.m.
Lunchtime Organ Recital
John Eggert, organist
St. Barnabas Lutheran Church
15600 Old Rockford Road, Plymouth
Saturday, February 14, 8:00 p.m.
King’s Singers: A Love Affair
Orchestra Hall, Minneapolis
Sunday, February 15, 2:30 p.m.
Downtown Churches Biennial Choral Festival
Central Lutheran Church
333 South Twelfth Street, Minneapolis
TCAGO Event
Saturday, February 28, 9:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Pipe Organ Discovery Day
Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Church
1900 Wellesley Ave., St. Paul
Pilgrim Lutheran Church
1935 St. Clair Ave., St. Paul
Saturday, February 28, 7:30 p.m.
Lift Thine Eyes
From Age to Age Choral Ensemble,
Brennan Michaels, director;
Lynn Trapp, organist
St. Olaf Catholic Church
215 South Eighth Street, Minneapolis

March
Sunday, March 1, 4:00 p.m.
Organ concert
Marilyn Schempp, visiting organist
Como Park Lutheran Church
1376 Hoyt Avenue West, St. Paul
Thursday, March 12, 12:30 p.m.
Lunchtime Organ Recital
John Salveson, organist
St. Barnabas Lutheran Church
15600 Old Rockford Road, Plymouth
TCAGO Event
Saturday, March 21, all day
Bach’s Birthday Bash
Locations in Minneapolis
Hennepin Avenue United Methodist Church
First Unitarian Church
Lake of the Isles Lutheran Church
St. Paul Episcopal Church
Saint Mark’s Episcopal Cathedral
Sponsored by MPR Pipedreams,
Michael Barone, host
Sunday, March 22, 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.
Stephen Paulus Celebration
Central Presbyterian Church
500 Cedar Street, St. Paul

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April
Thursday, April 9, 12:30 p.m.
Lunchtime Organ Recital
Mark Fiedeldy, organist
St. Barnabas Lutheran Church
15600 Old Rockford Road, Plymouth

May
Friday, May 1
Deadline for Composition Competition 2015

TCAGO Event
Friday, May 1, time tba
Concert by TCAGO members
Location tba

Thursday, May 14, 12:30 p.m.
Lunchtime Organ Recital
Allan Mahnke, organist
St. Barnabas Lutheran Church
15600 Old Rockford Road, Plymouth

June
June 10-22
Pipedreams Tour – Historic Organs of Poland

September
September 7-14
American Pilgrimage Choir Tour
of Bach's Germany
Lynn Trapp, contact person
St. Olaf Catholic Church, Minneapolis

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lohman004@umn.edu
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Pipenotes Editor: Merritt Nequette 651-484-0451
2748 Lexington Avenue N., St. Paul MN 55113
Placement: Jeffrey Patry 763-537-4561 ext. 109, (h) 612-871-7533
Student Competition: Mary Newton (h) 763-546-1307, (m) 651-581-3106
TCAGO Email: Kathryn U. Moen 651-644-6931
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Chapter Website - www.tcago.org
Website Administrators: David Engen (m) 612-801-8662, (h) 763-493-3378; Kirsten Uhlenberg 651-646-8120

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Pipenotes
is the official publication of the Twin Cities Chapter, American Guild of Organists, and is published nine times a year, September through June. December and January are combined.

Deadline date
Information for Pipenotes should be received no later than the fifteenth of the month preceding publication.

Materials may be sent to Merritt Nequette, editor.

Letters to the Editor
Signed Letters to the Editor are always welcome.
Mail letters to Merritt Nequette.

Pipedreams
For a listing of organ events statewide, access the Pipedreams Organ Calendar. For both on-air and website listing of organ-related activities, send information to Michael Barone, 480 Cedar St., St. Paul, MN 55101.

MPR
Minnesota Public Radio encourages you to enter your classical music performance events in the MPR online calendar.
The top bar of the Classical MPR main page features an “Events” tab. Click on it to see a listing of current cultural events. Follow the instructions on the calendar page to “Submit a New Event.”
This information will reach a different audience than the online TCAGO/Pipedreams calendars. It’s a free self-service feature, another way to let people (including the Classical MPR program hosts) know about your classical music concerts.
By all means, continue to send information directly to Michael Barone too.
And we encourage you to regularly request organ selections on Friday Favorites with Steve Staruch. Promote the inclusion of more organ music in MPR’s programming!

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Enjoy Pipedreams
on Sunday mornings from 6 - 8 a.m.
including The Organ Calendar at 7 a.m.
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