

# The Bellows

Greater Lansing Chapter - AGO

September/October 2016

## From the Dean

### Barbara Hiranpradist

*What do you get if you drop an organ on an army base? A flat major.*

Ok, I couldn't resist, and now that I have your attention let's get excited with our Chapter's event program for the 2016 -2017 season:

### Chapter Events

#### September 19, 6 p.m.

Dinner and Installation of Officers; "Ten-Minute Destressors for Busy Professionals" by Dr. Carol Beals, Rheumatologist  
Central United Methodist Church, Lansing  
Convener – Caryn Welter

#### October 22, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Pipes, Pedals and Pizza.  
Central United Methodist Church, Lansing  
Convener – Meredith Hines

#### November 20, 4-6 p.m.

Hymn Festival with John Behnke  
Our Savior Lutheran Church, Lansing  
Convener – John Horak

#### January 15, 1 - 3 p.m.

Winter Brunch  
Tavern 109 109, Williamston  
Convener – Darlene Greenman Ross

#### February 19, 3 p.m.

Pops Concert  
First United Methodist Church, Lansing  
Convener – Susanne Hoekzema

#### March TBA

Organ Tour with SW Michigan Chapter, Towns of Olivet and Charlotte  
Convener – Brian Fowler

#### May TBA, 6 p.m.

Banquet and Installation of Officers  
Mason First Presbyterian Church, Mason  
Convener – Darlene Greenman-Ross

At your service for the 2016 - 2017 season:

### Board Members

#### Dean

Barbara Hiranpradist

#### Sub-Dean

Conrad Donakowski

#### Secretary

Brian Fowler

#### Treasurer

Ed Corey (also Membership)

#### Members-at-Large

Meredith Hines (also Education)  
Susanne Hoekzema (also Public Relations)  
John Horak

#### Newsletter and Website Editor

Tim Costigan

#### Roster

Rick Swanson

#### Chaplain

Rev. Bob Hagle

Goals for the coming year:

1. Continued encouragement for our youth organists in all of their musical endeavors.
2. Offering of musical programs that appeal to a wider community audience.
3. Increasing and sustaining the GLC-AGO's visibility in TAO as well as within our Great Lakes Region.

## Greater Lansing Chapter American Guild of Organists



PO Box 23155  
Lansing, MI 48909  
Website: [glc-ago.org](http://glc-ago.org)

## October 22, 9:30 a.m.–1 p.m. – Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza

Meredith Hines, Convener

On October 22 at Central United Methodist Church (215 N. Capitol Ave, Lansing) the Chapter will present a program for the Lansing community titled “Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza.” The program will acquaint students in grades 4-12 with the sounds and the mechanism of the pipe organ. Parents are invited as well. Please let me know if you would like to help with this event. Beverages and pizza are needed for the lunch following the program. I can be reached at 517-321-1830 or [hinesm@comcast.net](mailto:hinesm@comcast.net).

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## November 20, 4–6 p.m. – Hymn Festival with World Premier

John Horak, Convener

You are all invited to a special music event that will be held at Our Savior Lutheran Church (7910 E. St. Joe Hwy., Lansing) on November 20, 4–6 p.m., which will feature acclaimed church musician Dr. John Behnke and a premier of a piece that he composed in honor of my parents, June and Bohdan Horak. The featured piece is based on the familiar hymn, “I’m But a Stranger Here.”



My parents are both now with their Lord and Savior in heaven. On their tomb stone is a scripture verse, Revelation 2:10, which was used at both of their funerals. What is a little unusual are the two hymns inscribed underneath their birth and death dates. For my dad, his favorite hymn “Nearer My God to Thee” became the plural *Nearer Our God to Thee* and my mom’s favorite hymn “I’m But a Stranger Here” has the line “Heaven is my home” which is now *Heaven Is Our Home*. Why plural? Because their faith was so much a part of their marriage and of our family.

To honor my parents, I commissioned Dr. John Behnke of Milwaukee, WI, to compose a piece based on the hymn “I’m But a Stranger Here,” which will be premiered at the Our Savior Hymn Festival, a special musical celebration of hymns, anthems, and songs. This composition, by Dr. Behnke, is a hymn arrangement or concertato for congregation, choir, organ, handbells, brass, timpani and cymbals. The following appears underneath the title of the composition: Commissioned by John Horak in memory of his loving Christian parents: June and Bohdan Horak. “Heaven is now their home.”

Leading our hymn festival with Dr. Behnke will be musicians from Our Savior, including a festival adult choir, adult hand bell choir, and grades 4-8 choirs from Our Savior Lutheran School, and several church choirs from our surrounding community. Most important to a hymn festival is the role of the congregation in the singing of these wonderful hymns from the church’s history: Reformation, All Saints Day, Christ the King, Thanksgiving and Advent. You won’t want to miss the opportunity to make a joyful noise with a 60+ choir, brass, timpani, and of course, the organ. I hope you can join us ! End the year with thanks and praise!

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## Conference – Honoring Skinner Organ at Jefferson Ave. Presbyterian Church

On Palm Sunday, March 26, 1926, Skinner Opus 475 was first heard at a worship service at Jefferson Ave. Presbyterian Church (8625 E. Jefferson Ave., Detroit). It was dedicated on April 8 with a performance by University of Michigan Professor, Palmer Christian. Due to the pragmatic care of the church and the watchful eye of Ken and Dorothy Holden, the organ has survived several major artistic changes in the organ world to emerge as one of the outstanding extant examples of Ernest Skinner.

The conference on October 1, 9:30 a.m.–9:30 p.m., will include lectures on the history and physical design of the instrument, an interview with Ken and Dorothy Holden on their restoration in the 1970s and the subsequent research leading to Dorothy’s authorship of the Skinner Biography, a lecture on the Skinner Roll-Player pipe organs, a talk on the legacy of Skinner’s successor, Carl Bassett, multiple organ demonstrations, Carillon picnic lunch, sit-down dinner, and an evening concert at 7:30 p.m. by world-renowned concert organist, Todd Wilson.

The conference directly precedes the University of Michigan Organ Conference in Ann Arbor October 2-4. (See next page.) Register at [skinner475.com](http://skinner475.com) or RSVP at 313-822-3456. Registration (meals included) is \$75, \$50 for students. Concert only, \$20. Inquiries may be emailed to [sjwarner@umich.edu](mailto:sjwarner@umich.edu).

## GLC-AGO 2016 Scholarship Winner

### Meredith Hines, Education Chair

The GLC-AGO Board voted to award the 2016 Aspiring Organist scholarship in the amount of \$400 to Timothy (Timmy) Bohan). Timmy could have played his audition selection on the piano; however, he chose to play them on the organ and did a fine job. His hymn selection was “Silent Night” and his Bach selection was “Prelude No. 1” from the *Eight Little Preludes and Fugues*. Timmy loves playing Bach! Just for fun, after the formal audition had been completed, he played the “Great Toccata and Fugue in D minor” from memory, no less!

Timmy has studied with Tom Andrews and is currently with Tim Costigan, taking organ lessons biweekly. Timmy is home-schooled and enjoys karate. Parents Matt and Liesl Bohan and sister Kelly are very proud of him.

In addition to the scholarship award, Timmy will receive one year of GLC-AGO membership dues, the TAO magazine, and the privilege of networking and mentoring with Lansing’s great AGO members!

As Chairman of the Education Committee, I’d like to thank Darlene Greenman-Ross and Susanne Hoekzema for serving as adjudicators for the scholarship audition.

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## CD Review

### Ed Corey



The disc *Virgil Fox Remembered* features selections from a 2012 concert by Peter Richard Conte on the Wanamaker Grand Court organ. Conte’s mastery of this world’s largest playing organ is displayed in works performed by Virgil Fox during his long concert career. From very romantic selections as Gabriel Faure’s

“Nocturne from Shylock” to bold works like J.S. Bach’s “Toccata in F” and Henri Mulet’s “Tu es Petra”, this live-in-concert disc is a “must have” for those who enjoy symphonic organ works performed on this most famous of all symphonic organs. The disc ends fittingly with Fox’s famous arrangement of “Come Sweet Death.” The disc is available from Raven recordings as OAR-976.

## Member News



Tim Costigan has been appointed Director of Music at St. Mary Cathedral in Lansing effective September 1.

This fall, Tim will also begin coursework toward a Master of Sacred Music - Organ degree at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor. He will study with James Kibbie, Kola Owolabi, and Darlene Kuperus. He anticipates graduating in 2019.

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## Conference on Organ Music

The University of Michigan Department of Organ would like to invite you to the 56th Annual [Conference on Organ Music](#) and 5th Annual Organ Improvisation Competition, October 2–4 in Ann Arbor. It will feature an array of artists and lecturers from the United States and Europe in addition to offerings by Michigan faculty and students.

Recitalists include Christian Bischof, St. Margaret’s Church, Munich, Germany; Scott Dettra, Church of the Incarnation, Dallas, TX; Prof. Joseph Gascho, University of Michigan; Prof. Tiffany Ng, University of Michigan; Prof. Kola Owolabi, University of Michigan; Dr. Kimberly Schafer, Carillonneur, Chicago, IL.

Topics for lectures and workshops include current practices in Christian churches; Gregorian and Anglican chant; a reading session with tips for African-American gospel, spirituals, and anthems; depictions of the carillon; and recent Bach discoveries for recitals, church, and teaching.

[Registration](#) is \$100 for general public and \$50 for students (non-U of M).