

The Bellows

Greater Lansing Chapter - AGO

Summer 2017

From the Dean

Barbara Hiranpradist

By reading the scriptures I am so renewed that all nature seems renewed around me and with me. The sky seems to be a pure, a cooler blue. The trees a deeper green. The whole world is charged with the glory of God and I feel fire and music under my feet.

Thomas Merton, Trappist Monk, The Abbey of Gethsemani, Kentucky

Our closing program event of the season, our annual banquet, held at the First Presbyterian Church in Mason, treated our Guild members not only to a wonderful dinner but to the accomplished talents of members from the Mason High School Band Program. Elizabeth Blousfield, Director of Bands, featured an oboist, flautist, clarinetist, bassoonist and pianist. The program consisted of solos and duets with Ruben Droscha as accompanist. The sanctuary setting for this recital was acoustically perfect and our thanks go to Darlene, organist at the church, for organizing such a fine event.

On May 15th our annual Scholarship Auditions were held at St. Thomas Aquinas church with three pianists and one organist participating. Please see details of the event elsewhere in this newsletter. Our thanks for organizing the event go to Meredith, our Education Chair.

Ballots will be forthcoming in two weeks and the Board asks that you send your ballot in soon. Our thanks go to Ed for supplying the mailing and return labels. Installation of officers will occur at our September meeting.

For most of our membership, dues renewal occurs on or before July 1st, so please use ONCARD for this purpose. As a convenience, National Headquarters will also send a reminder notice for those wishing to continue dues renewal by mail. For those who have joined our Guild at another time of year, you will be reminded approximately one month prior to your anniversary.

The Board would like to present the Event Program for 2017 -2018. Although some of the events exhibit incomplete details, we should have these in place by September.

September TBA Choral Reading Session: Holy Week; Dinner and Installation of Officers 6 p.m. Tentative presenter: Janine Smith, University Lutheran Church.

October 16th Organ Registration Workshop for Color and Clarity. Presenter: Conrad Donakowski. St. Thomas Aquinas, 7 p.m. Reception to follow.

November 12th Members' Recital, 3 p.m. Convener – Susanne Hoekzema, Trinity Lutheran Church Reception to follow.

December TBA Holiday Party – Home of Bob Miller

January 14th Winter Brunch - Coral Gables, East Lansing 1 -3 p.m. Convener – Meredith Hines

February 2nd Rhonda Edington, Guest Organ Recitalist (international soloist from the Holland AGO Chapter) St. Thomas Aquinas Church 7:30 p.m. Reception to follow.

March TBA Organ Crawl to Alma, St. Johns and Fowler 9 – 2 p.m. Convener – Brian Fowler

April No event

May 20th Hymn Festival – Our Savior Lutheran Church 4 p.m. - Michael Burkhardt . Convener – John Horak

And my heartfelt thanks to our members of the Guild who faithfully attend our program events. It is my hope for next year that we will see more of our members at our programs. The Guild strives for variety and professional development in scheduling events but I realize that each member is governed by other commitments when it comes to participating. When we gather as a group for an event, the camaraderie is most delightful. I hope that next season will bring more of us together to enjoy our friendship and to promote the music that we hold dear to our hearts.

Greater Lansing Chapter American Guild of Organists



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GLC-AGO Scholarship Announcement

Meredith Hines

The GLC-AGO Education Committee has awarded the 2017 Aspiring Organist scholarship in the amount of \$400 to Ava Harvey. Ava's hymn selection was "Christ the Lord is Risen Today." She played J. S. Bach's Invention No. 13 in A minor, BWV 784.

Ava is 13 years old and has studied piano for seven years, most recently with Robert Cornwell. Ava attends Grace Lutheran Church, has played numerous piano preludes there, and has performed in many recitals. She hopes to learn organ so she can contribute playing the organ for services at Grace.

In addition to the scholarship award, Ava 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 Barbara Hiranpradist for serving as adjudicators for the scholarship audition which was held on May 15, at St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church.

Lessons for the New Organist

30 Videos from AGO

Are you teaching a student who likes to learn from YouTube videos? Maybe you know a pianist who wants to play organ with more ease, but her life is too busy to devote herself to private lessons right now. Perhaps you want to find fresh ideas adding variety to your hymn playing.

The AGO [New Organist](#) education webpage now features [30 videos lessons](#) in which instructor and master organist Frederick Hohman speaks to the new organist about everything from pedaling to registration and hymn playing.



Second Attempt!

Susanne Hoekzema

We were unable to utilize the organ at Trinity Lutheran Church for our Members' Recital in 2016 due to technical issues with the organ. Thanks to the marvelous work of Fowler Organ Company and the resolve of the church's congregation, the organ is now in fine form and sounds brilliant. So, Trinity Lutheran Church, Lansing is honored to host the GLC-AGO Members' Recital on the afternoon of November 12, 2017. Our theme will be "Feasts and Festivals".

As always, we would love to have a program filled with musical contributions from many members. I have heard that there are members who would have loved to play for past recitals but didn't because they weren't asked. Consider this your invitation! To get on the program, please contact me at hoekzemas@gmail.com.

James Kibbie Plays Vierne



James Kibbie will perform Louis Vierne's *Symphony No. 6, Op. 59* at St. Mary Cathedral, 219 Seymour Ave., Lansing, **September 24 at 3 p.m.** For details, contact Tim

Costigan at tpcostigan@yahoo.com.

Kibbie, professor and chair of the Organ Department and University organist at the University of Michigan, performs regularly throughout North America and Europe.

Internationally renowned as an authority on the organ music of Johann Sebastian Bach, his recordings of all 270 Bach works are available as free downloads at www.blockmrecords.org/bach, and may be streamed at freemusicarchive.org/music/James_Kibbie/.

From the Publicity Chair

Susanne Hoekzema

As many of you consider the value of your membership in AGO, it is an appropriate time to remind you of one of the local benefits.

You may not be aware that sending out notice of organ/choral events is one of the benefits of membership in GLC-AGO. I maintain an email list of members and a list of people who have expressed interest in such events. When a member contacts me with a short write up or flyer attachment, I am able to send out that information to our network.

This year I have sent out information on several recitals, choral events, the rededication of an organ, and community concerts. This is a fast way to disseminate information to an interested group. Keep it in mind as you address publicity for events that you are organizing.

Please send announcements to hoekzemas@gmail.com. I look forward to receiving information from all of you.

Why Be An AGO Member?

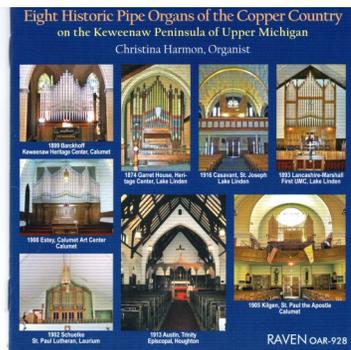
- **connect** with other organists
- **enhance** your skills as an organist and choral conductor
- **celebrate** the organ in historic and evolving contexts
- **discover** news of the organ and choral world online and in *The American Organist*
- **nurture** new organists of all ages
- **share** knowledge and expertise
- **enjoy** camaraderie at chapter events and conventions
- **find** inspiration and challenge
- **receive** encouragement from colleagues
- **experience** great organs and organists
- **access** career opportunities and job listings
- **earn** professional credentials through AGO certification

Approved by National Council May 9, 2016; revised by National Council June 7, 2016.

CD Review

Ed Corey

Eight Historic Pipe Organs of the Copper Country of the Keweenaw Peninsula of Upper Michigan played by organist Christina Harmon is this month's selection. Of the thirteen instruments still in use in the Copper Country, four are original trackers, one with some modifications. Two have hand pumps.



Harmon has selected eight instruments to put on this CD. They range in age from an 1874 Garret House to a 1916 Casavant Freres. Some builders were unknown to me like Garret House, Lancashire-Marshall, and William Schuelke. Others are more familiar names like Austin, Casavant, Estey, and Kilgen.

Harmon performs works ranging from Bach to modern composers. Every instrument sounded great performing her selections with no detectable mechanical noises common in many older mechanical action instruments. A worthy addition to anyone's collection, the CD is available as Raven OAR-928.

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Barbara Hiranpradist

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Members-at-Large

Meredith Hines (also Education)

Susanne Hoekzema (also PR)

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