

# The Bellows

Greater Lansing Chapter-AGO

12/1/2014

Suite 1, Opus 4

## *FROM THE DEAN...*

...many unexpected blessings in the New Year!

We have had three exciting, edifying and energizing Chapter events this past Fall. Our November event, the Pops Concert, organized by Elsbeth, surpassed all expectations, both in participation and support for our education and scholarship activities. Our chapter closes out the year with its Holiday Party at the home of Robert Miller. Contributing to the ambiance of the occasion will be the Renaissance Allen organ, which everyone will have the opportunity to play. Please bring an *hors d'oeuvre* or dessert to share as well as a white elephant gift to exchange.

To start off the New Year, our Chapter will hold its annual Winter Brunch at Tavern 109 in Williamston from 1-3 p.m. on Sunday January 18<sup>th</sup>. Please make your reservation with Darlene. Spouses and friends are always welcome.

It is not too early to start considering attending our regional convention which will be held July 12-15 in Indianapolis.

## *Greater Lansing Chapter – American Guild of Organists*



**2014-2015 Bard Members**

**Dean:** Barbara Hiranpradist

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**Education:** Meredith Hines

**Public Relations:**

Stephanie Gewirtz

**Hospitality:** Caryn Welter

Take advantage of early registration, find a roommate, and set up a car pool. Information regarding venues and performers can always be found in TAO and on the AGO website.

Convener alert! Our Chapter Board has decided that the best manner in which to get an accurate account of a Chapter event is to have TAO article written and sent in by the event convener. The article should be sent as an attachment to the National Headquarters at: [chapternews@agohq.org](mailto:chapternews@agohq.org). I have sent in articles on the Neurofeedback and Organ Crawl events and would be willing to help or proof-read any article to be sent in on behalf of our Chapter. Photos are welcome as well.

Craig Cramer, a professor of organ at Notre Dame in Indiana, ([ccramer@nd.edu](mailto:ccramer@nd.edu)), has new and used organ music, books and other items for sale. Music is rated by condition and postage is set at \$2.50. I checked out the website – quite a substantial amount of music. Dr. Cramer is also interested in purchasing used music - so clean out your libraries!

For those still lingering in the afterglow of our organ crawl to Toledo, there are two events that I would like to bring to the attention of everyone. The Holy Rosary Cathedral will present Lessons and Carols on Sunday December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. Perhaps we can get a group to attend this Advent event. Our delightful septuagenarian host at Pilgrim NACCC, Martha Esbin, will be performing on the Dutch Cabinette organ (ca 1785 built by Johannes Strumphler) at the Toledo Museum of Art on Sunday December 28<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m.

I attended a Thanksgiving Interfaith Service a few days ago at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Lansing. Those in attendance were invited to join in song, in English, some of the beautiful and mysterious chants of the Orthodox Church.. We also experienced the soulful rendering of Islamic and Hindu chanting. As many of the representatives from each faith stated in their own thoughts, Lansing

has been more than kind to immigrants – and we have been so blessed by their inclusion into our community.

I wish for all of you many unexpected blessings in the New Year!

Peace

Shalom

Pax

Shanti

Paz

Pokoj

Heping

*Barbara Hiranpradist*

## **Winter Brunch**

The January 18 Brunch will, indeed, be held at Tavern 109 in Williamston. They are setting us up at tables of ten on the other side of the restaurant from where we were last year. Time is set from 1 - 3. We each order from their brunch menu. If anyone is interested in seeing the menu ahead of time, please go to Tavern 109, Williamston, MI on the web. Hope I'll see everyone there -- this will be my first outing after getting a new knee. **Darlene Ross**

*Okemos Church presents "An Evening of Lesson and Carols"*  
*To benefit homeless veterans.*

The public is invited to enjoy "An Evening of Lessons and Carols" on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 pm, at the Presbyterian church of Okemos, 2258 Bennett Rd., Okemos. The program will support Advent House programs that benefit Lansing area homeless veterans.

This year's annual event will feature an ensemble from the MSU Children' Choir and the Presbyterian Church Chancel and Hand-bell Choirs. A new work by Stuart Chapman Hill, commissioned for the 2014 Lessons and Carols, will be premiered by the Children's Choir with the Okemos Presbyterian Hand-bell Choir.

Admission is free. Proceeds from a freewill offering will go to Advent House, which offers immediate help to local homeless veterans in the form of food and shelter. In addition, long- term assistance provides life skills, training, recreational activities, and material assistance, which creates a bridge from homeless to permanent housing.

For more information, call the church at 517-349-9536 or visit their website :  
[okemospres.org](http://okemospres.org)



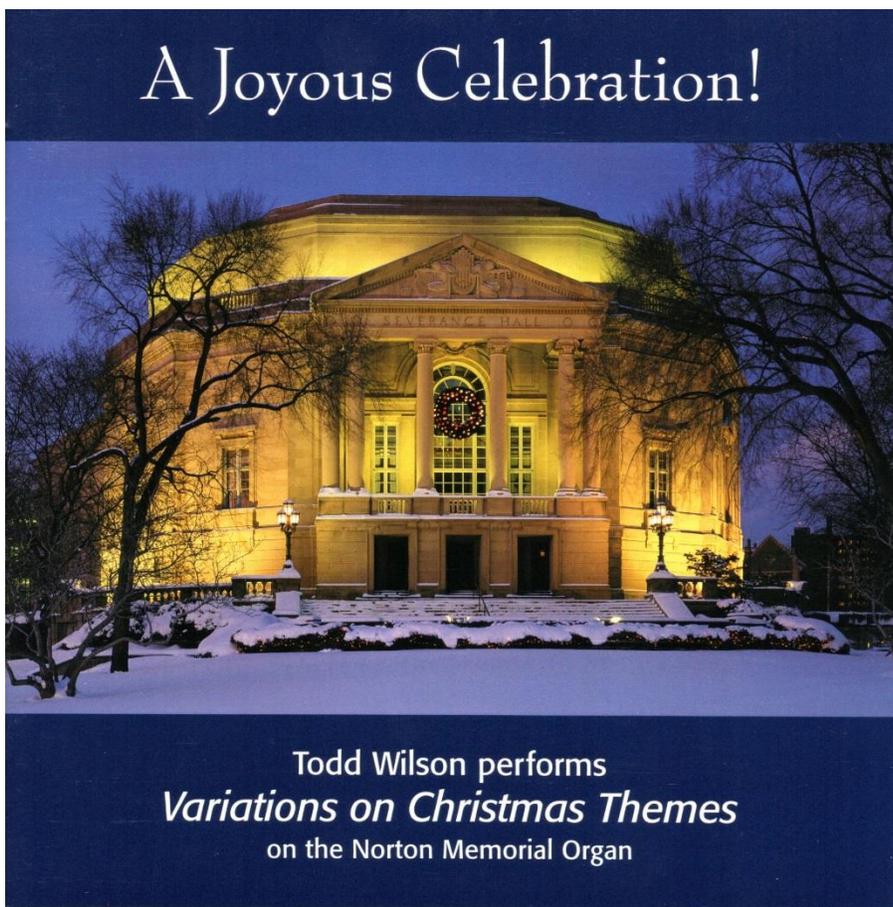
STEREO TCO-11009B

COMPACT  
disc  
DIGITAL AUDIO

My holiday offering is *A JOYOUS CELEBRATION* with organist Todd Wilson performing variations on Christmas themes on the Norton Memorial Organ , E.M. Skinner Opus 816 of 4 manuals, 94 ranks installed in 1931 in Severance Hall, Cleveland. The original installation was above the stage with very poor acoustics made worse by the installation of a band shell in 1958 making the organ almost useless. A 1998-2000

renovation of the hall included the restoration and relocation of the organ to the center stage area. The instrument is now featured in both solo performance and with the Cleveland Orchestra. Todd Wilson does an excellent job of displaying the many hallmark sounds for which Skinner is so famous. The disc is currently available at Amazon.

*Ed Corey*



**The Eighth Pops Concert Event was an over the top success!**

This chapter event brought in over \$1,300.00 for our scholarship and education program. Near capacity crowd and Great music from a most varying array made this a success. The sing-a-long was a hit! Let's keep it going.

It is important to be able to share a time of fellowship after an event like this. Thank you to everyone who brought cookies and prepared the punch and coffee. We have attended a few events like this in the recent past that did not have a time of fellowship afterwards. Something light like the cookies, it does not need to be a Buffet. It is a nice time to reach out to the community and each other.

**Good work people let's keep it up!**

## **Member's Recital** March 8 2015 at St. Paul Episcopal Church, Lansing

I meant to get this e-mail out well before we were in "the preparing for advent/ Christmas" mode. Obviously, I failed in that. This is going to all members who have agreed to, or are still considering participating in this event. There is no theme for this recital. It appears that we will have about 8 or 9 performers.

First of all, thank you for your participation- what an awesome group of organists! Second, I wanted to alert you all that there will be some work done on the organ at St. Paul episcopal church this winter- so, if you have any questions about the organ and it's compatibility with what you are playing, I encourage you to call Steve Lange for a visit with the organ soon.

Finally, if you would please send me what you plan to play. (fyi- I plan to do Bach's "g minor fugue" BWV 578.) Later, I will request a short paragraph about the piece you have chosen and/ or a humorous joke or a light hearted organ occurrence from your experience.

Again, my apologies for sending this as one of our "busy" seasons begins. May all your endeavors go well in the upcoming season? **Susanne Hoekzema**

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*"The woods would be very silent if the only birds that sang were those who sang best..." - Henry David Thoreau*

# Looking forward to our annual Holiday party at Robert Miller's home

This Friday December 5<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7pm.

2247 Burcham Drive, East Lansing. Bring your favorite holiday finger food, a white elephant gift and some music to play. Great fun, spirits, and friends see you there!

*Deadline for the GLAC-AGO newsletters is the last Wednesday of each month*

Mr. Bill editor: [mr\\_bill41@charter.net](mailto:mr_bill41@charter.net)  
Greater Lansing Chapter-AGO



*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year*  
I wish for all of you many unexpected blessings in the New Year!