



# Pipeline

American Organist Guild—Red River Valley Chapter

Volume 26, Number 4

April 2009

## Get Your Bells On!

**BELL-ABRATON!** A Massed Choir Event celebrating the use of handbells with voice, choirs and the organ in worship, coordinated by Jessica Westgard. Six area handbell and vocal choirs participating. Join us on *Sunday, April 19, 2009 at 7:00 pm* at

*Church of the Nativity (1825 11<sup>th</sup> St. S., Fargo.)* This is free and open to the public, so invite all of your friends!

This event is also endorsed by the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, dedicated to uniting people

through the musical art of handbell and handchime ringing.  
[www.agehr.org](http://www.agehr.org).

For more information, please call:  
701.280.2189 ☎

## Message From the Dean

Dear RRVAGO members,

Today as I write this, it's Sunday, but that just doesn't seem right! Most of us had the day off—most of us didn't play organ today—as many church services were



cancelled due to the flooding Red River. My prayers go out to all of you—may God keep you and your homes safe as we fight the against the flood waters. I have

been humbled by the phone calls and emails of friends who are concerned about us here in the Fargo/Moorhead area.

When you are in the middle of a battle, you may not see how daunting things really are...as viewed from the "outside"! Us hardy Midwesterners have a work ethic that fires into high gear and **everyone** dives in and goes to work filling sandbags, and throwing them into place! I was so amazed at the efforts of the students who pitched in...every sandbag line I was a part of, was energized by these college students. We have nothing to worry about with this next generation of young people!!

It has been so heartwarming to visit with the volunteers who came from every direction to help us **just when we needed it the most!** Many had just finished fighting their own battles south of us and came up

north to give us a hand. And the National Guard was such a wonderful help. We can never thank them enough. May God richly bless them all for the help and support!

**We also have a great need for volunteers.** The RRVAGO nomination committee is looking for volunteers for the upcoming 2009-2010 year. We need people to step forward and offer their assistance to continue the work of the American Guild of Organists here in the Fargo/Moorhead area. We all know first hand that many volunteer diving in—makes the work easier for everyone. This year we were fortunate to have many volunteers from the regular board and from the Program committee. But now it's time to give some relief to the current "sandbagging crew" as some of them have served their time and now we need fresh recruits!

People generally volunteer **ONLY** when there seems to be a real emergency. Well, this is an emergency call—the RRVAGO is in dire need to fill many positions—so please consider your ability to help shore up the work of the RRVAGO. **We can only continue with YOUR help!** Please contact me (893-6712) or Gaylord Fagerland (233-6957) if you are willing to join the ranks of the RRVAGO board and help us this next year.

~Bill Tweten, Dean

*Happy Spring!*



### First Friday Luncheon

**Who** Everyone is Welcome!

**When** First Friday of the Month at Noon

**Where** Fryn' Pan  
302 Main Ave, Fargo

### Chapter Officers

Dean: Bill Tweten  
Sub-Dean: Marty Baumgartner  
Secretary: Michael Olson  
Treasurer: Ruth Strawn

### Board Members at Large

2009: Sonia Carlson, Alpha Roeszler  
2010: Gaylord Fagerland, Steve Eneboe  
2011: Anna Goodin-Hayes, Erich Knapp

## Board Meeting Notes

March 19, 2009: The following people were present: Alpha Roeszler, Ruth Strawn, Bill Tweten, Erich Knapp, Sonia Carlson, Gaylord Fagerland, Michael Olson, Anna Goodin-Hayes (and her little baby).

### **Take Note!**

The next board meeting is set for Thursday, April 16.

We had a great potluck lunch, complete with chocolate cupcakes with mint frosting!

Bill Tweten, dean, called the meeting to order at 12:13 p.m. after we were done dining.

The minutes of the February 19 board meeting were "aptly written" by Michael. Ruth made a motion, seconded by Anna, to approve the secretary's minutes. Motion carried.

The treasurer's report was submitted by Ruth. There was absolutely NO CHANGE from the last meeting. The total in the checking account is \$579.17. We have \$5484.11 in the original conventional CD and \$5000 in the new flexible CD for a total of \$10,484.11 in both CDs. The grand total of assets is \$11,063.28. Michael made a motion, seconded by Gaylord, to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried.

We discussed placing an ad in the 2009 regional convention book for Pipes on the Plains in Wichita in June. After some discussion, it was decided to place a 1/4-page black and white ad in the convention book. We are going to ask Sheila to design an ad for the book, due by April 1, and we will pay her design fee.

Gaylord is chair of the Nominating Committee. He is looking for two other people to serve with him on that committee. Several names were mentioned, so Gaylord will contact those individuals to see if they would consent to serve with him to secure nominations for several board positions: two members at large (to serve July

2009 through June 2012) plus a treasurer (as Ruth will have served two one-year terms). Depending on the wishes of the current dean, sub dean, and secretary, there may be up to three more offices needing to be filled for the coming AGO year.

We are discussing having a guest organist or a hymn festival leader for the 2009-2010 calendar year. Names have been discussed before, but today's names included Daniel Sullivan, Isabelle Demers, Kim Kasling (from St. John's University), John Ferguson, and Mark Sedio. We were thinking that it would be great to begin next fall with an organ recitalist or possibly a hymn festival. Someone will need to be secured rather quickly if such is the case.

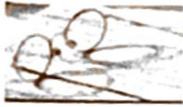
Board members who are going to bring "goodies" for the reception following this Monday evening's student organ recital at Trinity Lutheran Church are asked to have them in the lounge at Trinity (located not too far south from the sanctuary) by 6:30 on Monday evening, March 23.

We need to find out if there will be a reception following the Bell-abration at Church of the Nativity on Sunday evening, April 19, or if there is anything else we can do to help with this event.

The May "meeting" will be a potluck at the home of Bill and Deb Tweten, 6207 17th Street North in Fargo, on Sunday, May 17 (Sytte Mai for you Norwegians!) at 4:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Olson, Secretary



## Composer Corner

### Adolph Friedrich Hesse (1809-1863)

Adolph Friedrich Hesse, born August 30, 1809, in Breslau, Germany, was the son of an organ builder. He learned keyboard technique and composition from Friedrich W. Berner, director of the Breslau Church Music Institute. Berner gained the favor of Felix Mendelssohn for his improvisational skills. Hesse was Berner's most famous student.

In 1828 and 1829, Hesse gave a series of recitals in Leipzig, Kassel, Berlin, Hamburg, and Weimar. During this period, he became acquainted and studied with Hummel, Rinck, and Spohr. As Rinck had studied with J.C. Kittel, a student of Bach, Hesse was thus in a direct line of instruction from J.S. Bach. Hesse became a noted teacher himself, Jacque Lemmens was his best know pupil.

True to his pedagogical heritage, Hesse took every opportunity to promote the music of J.S. Bach. He is said to have been instrumental in introducing the works of Bach to France in the wake of the devastation of its many organs during the French Revolution (1789). In

1844, after a recital performed at Saint-Eustache in Paris, he was hailed "a giant at the organ" by Hector Berlioz. He was also featured at London's Crystal Palace during the 1851 exhibition.

Although successful in other areas, Hesse's salient legacy is his compositions, which include some 300 organ pieces, ranging from pedagogical volumes to sophisticated recital pieces. Also he composed numerous orchestral and choral works. Although many of these were published in early in the twentieth century, they have virtually disappeared.

Hesse was a fine recitalist, teacher, and composer; in fact, his compositions are compared occasionally with those of Mendelssohn. Yet few of his works approach such a lofty standard. Hesse was a faithful church musician, serving as organist of St. Bernard's in Breslau from 1831 to his death in 1863. 🍷

~Bill Tweten, Dean

Credit: *A Dictionary of Composers for Organ*, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. John Henderson Publishing Ltd, 1999



Johnson Organ Company band organ. Photo provided by Alpha Roeszler



## Hymn Stories

*Check back next month for a new Hymn Story!*

Bill wanted to share this email he received from AGO HQ...it's nice to know that people are thinking of us!

From: "James E. Thomashower" <jet@agohq.org>  
To: <btweten@juno.com>  
Subject: AGO in Fargo  
Date: Sat, 28 Mar 2009 11:06:24 -0400

Dear Bill,

I have been thinking and worrying about our good AGO colleagues and their families in the Red River Valley Chapter as the flooding in Fargo continues to make headlines from New York to Seattle. Is everyone okay? Any report would be welcome. Please let us know if there is anything we can do for you.

With concern,  
James

James E. Thomashower  
Executive Director  
American Guild of Organists  
475 Riverside Drive, Ste. 1260  
New York, NY 10115  
[www.agohq.org](http://www.agohq.org)

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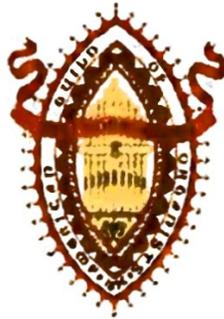


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## Upcoming Events

*September 21, 2008, 4:00 pm*

The 2008 Minneapolis National Convention Revisited  
Peace Lutheran Church, Fargo

*October 19, 2008, 4:00 pm*

Pipe Spectacular – Music for Organ, and Others  
First Presbyterian Church, Fargo

*December 7, 2008, 3:00 pm*

Christmas Carol Sing-A-Long  
St. Joseph Catholic Church, Moorhead

*February 11, 2009, 1:00 pm*

A Valentine Recital – Music of Love  
First Lutheran Church, Fargo

*March 23, 2009, 7:00 pm*

Concordia College Organ Students in Recital  
Trinity Lutheran Church, Moorhead

*April 19, 2009, 7:00 pm*

BELL-abration! A Massed Performance of Handbells,  
Vocal Choirs, Organ and Other Instruments  
Nativity Catholic Church, Fargo

*May 17, 2009, 4:00pm*

Member Potluck  
The home of Bill & Deb Tweten, Fargo, ND

## Contact Information

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