



# PIPELINE

American Organist Guild—Red River Valley Chapter

Volume 24, Number 2

March 2007

## And They Came Two By Two...

On Sunday, March 25, 2007 at 4:00 PM the public is invited to attend **An Afternoon of Organ and Piano Duets** featuring the newly installed three-manual, 59 rank Schantz Pipe Organ at First Presbyterian Church, 650 - 2nd Ave. N, Fargo.

Organ and piano duets will be performed by area organists: Norma Halverson, Sally Harmon, Carolyn Hensrud, Dawn Papenfuss, Michael Olson, Judy Sanders and Bill Tweten. Featured pianists are Trudy Eide, Jill Post and Lavonne Rustad. A variety of sacred and secular music will be presented.

The Schantz Organ Company of Orr-

ville, Ohio is the oldest and largest pipe organ building firm in the United States still under original family ownership. Today under the management of the third and fourth generations of the Schantz family, the company is widely considered to be America's premiere builder of electro-pneumatic pipe organs. In the rural community of Orrville, Ohio more than 90 artisans work on commissions to build organs ranging from only a few ranks in size to some of the largest and most complex organs in the world.

The organ console at First Presbyterian is made of oak with keyboards of bone and ebony. The organ includes 3,367 pipes, 99 levels of memory, a moveable

console, adjustable bench and a transposer.

All-in-all this instrument is one of the largest and most elaborate pipe organs in the Fargo-Moorhead area and will serve the congregation of First Presbyterian for many generations. The Red River Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists with the kind cooperation of First Presbyterian Church is delighted to offer this program to the public at no charge.

Come and be inspired by this spectacular new organ!

## Message From the Dean

Friends,

Calling all program ideas! The program committee needs input for the 2007-2008 program season.



What would interest you? Organ crawls? Workshops? Music exchange? Subject matter? Now is

your chance, let us know what you would like to see on the schedule next year. Send your ideas to [rrvago@hotmail.com](mailto:rrvago@hotmail.com) or directly to me at [vsieben@cableone.net](mailto:vsieben@cableone.net).

March 25<sup>th</sup> is the last program of this season. The Organ/Piano Duets program is being coordinated by Sally Harmon, and will be hosted at First Presbyterian in Fargo on their new organ. I hope you all find the time to attend.

~Vicky Wms Sieben, Dean

## Organist Guild Lunch Club

~First Friday of the month at Noon

~Fargo downtown Fryin' Pan Restaurant

~Everyone is welcome!

## Chapter Officers

Dean: Vicky Wms Sieben

Sub-Dean: Robyn Vinje

Secretary: Ruth Discher

Treasurer: Lance Johnson

## Board Members at Large

2007: Brad Steen

2008: Sue Clambey, Sally Harmon

2009: Ruth Strawn, Alpha Roeszler

## Board Meeting Notes

February 15, 2007: The meeting of the RRV AGO was called to order by Dean Victoria Wms Sieben. Those present were: Ruth Discher, Sally Harmon, Victoria Sieben, Ruth Strawn, Robyn Vinje.

Sally moved to approve the Minutes from the January 18, 2007 Board meeting. Robyn seconded the motion and the Minutes were approved as written.

Vicky presented the Treasurer's report checking account balance = \$731.50. \$10.20 interest was earned on the money market account.

No expenses were submitted for the Wedding Music Program - all participants performed at no charge.

Robyn presented a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Ruth S. seconded the motion and the report was approved.

### Recorded Music Committee

Recommendations for participants were discussed - Robyn will call prospects.

### Program Committee (for 2007-2008 season)

Recommendations for participants were discussed - Robyn, Vicky and Ruth will call prospects.

### Nominating Committee

Prospective candidates for positions on the RRV AGO Board were discussed. Two member-at-large positions will have to be filled: Two Board member-at-large terms will conclude June 30, 2007. Lance Johnson's term as treasurer will be ending June 30, as well. The following Board members were nominated to serve another year: Victoria Sieben - Dean; Robyn Vinje - Sub Dean; Ruth Discher - Secretary; Ruth Strawn - Treasurer.

### Old Business

1. Paul Jacob's Recital - September 16, 2007; \$3250 concert, \$500 master class.

2. 2006-2007 Programs - Ten members and guests performed for approximately 50 attendees at the Wedding Music Program

held on February 11, 2007 at Grace United Methodist, Moorhead. A display of sheet music and related items was provided by Mellberg's.

- Piano/Organ Duet Program, March 25, 2007 at 4PM will be held at First Presbyterian Church, Fargo (note change). First Presbyterian is publicizing the event as a "new organ"-related event. Sally will submit a bill for posters and programs.

3. List of Churches/Contacts - Portions of the list of area churches were divided and distributed among Board members willing to make a contact in an on-going effort to increase organization membership.

4. Region VI AGO Convention June 2007 - Vicky will contact Lance to follow up on the payment for a 1/4 page advertisement in the Convention brochure.

### New Business

1. The Board received and regretfully accepted the resignation of Dawn Papenfuss from the Board, effective immediately, as member-at-large. The Board expressed their appreciation for her contribution to the organization. We look forward to her continued activity with the chapter.

2. The Board received the National AGO membership list. It was also noted that National dues will be increasing to \$88 for regular membership. A review of details regarding membership and dues will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

3. Ruth D. will contact the Forum with regard to the change of location for the March 25<sup>th</sup> Piano/Organ duet program.

Ruth S. moved to adjourn the meeting. Vicky seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ruth Discher, Secretary

### **AGO Region VI Convention**

Region VI AGO Convention in Lincoln, Nebraska on June 18-21, 2007. "Winds on the Prairie" will be four days of world-famous organists, interesting clinicians and workshop leaders, two beautiful cities to see, and, most important, world-famous organists playing the newest organs in Lincoln and Omaha.

These organists include: Paul Jacobs, James David Christie, Victoria R. Sirota, Samuel Gaskin, 14-year-old organ prodigy from Beaumont, Texas, Jeffrey Biersch, David Spicer, Marie Rubis Bauer, Jonas Nordwall, and Brett Valiant. Check out our website at [www.agolincoln.org](http://www.agolincoln.org)

## Event Updates

### Wedding Music Program



Judy Sanders



David Hamilton and Darci Bultema



Kay Forkner and Mark Forkner



Sue Clambey



Norma Halverson

### Guest Organists at First Lutheran Church

#### Wednesday Recital Series

**\*Wednesday, March 21 ~ 12:45 PM** – Peter Rogahn, senior organ performance major at Concordia College and student of Peter Nygaard

**\*Wednesday, April 4 ~ 12:45 PM** – Erich Knapp and Robin Allebach Knapp, Directors of Music at First English Lutheran Church in Menahga, MN (Erich will play the organ and Robin will share her beautiful soprano voice)

**\*Wednesday, May 23 ~ 12:45 PM** – Ruth Strawn, Organist at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church in West Fargo and student of Michael Olson

These are the known special guests at this time; there may be others as the months progress! If YOU would like to play a piece or a recital, please contact Michael at [molson@flcfargo.org](mailto:molson@flcfargo.org) or 701.235.4567, ext. 135.

## Pipeline Profile

*Your Name Here!*

**This space for lease. Will build to suit.**

Please contact RRV-AGO at [rrvago@hotmail.com](mailto:rrvago@hotmail.com) if you are interested in sharing in this wonderful opportunity to get to know one another!

NOTE: The "Pipeline Profile" has been created so members can get to know more about each other. We encourage everyone to write their own profile and send it along with a picture of yourself (.jpg or .bmp format) to us at [rrvago@hotmail.com](mailto:rrvago@hotmail.com). We may need to edit content if necessary and will feature a member in each edition (space permitting). We look forward to meeting each of you!

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## Upcoming Events

**September 17, 2006, 4:00 PM**

Membership Meeting and Music Exchange  
Messiah Lutheran, Fargo

**October 15, 2006, 4:00 PM**

Funeral Music Program  
St. John Lutheran, Fargo

**December 3, 2006, 7:00 PM**

Christmas Hymn Sing  
Peace Lutheran, Fargo

**February 11, 2007, 4:00 PM**

Wedding Music Program  
Grace United Methodist, Moorhead

**March 25, 2007, 4:00 PM**

Organ/Piano Duet Program  
First Presbyterian, Fargo

**May 6, 2007, 4:00 PM**

Membership Potluck  
Vicky Wms Sieben Home, Moorhead



## Contact Information

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Publication Title: *Pipeline*

Issue Date: March 2007

Statement of Frequency: Monthly, except June and July

Editors: Sheila Baumgartner & Marty Baumgartner

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## Letters to the Editor

### *Update on Contemporary Worship*

An organizer of a praise band told the church organist (A Concordia grad, ABO member, a superb organist) that most people in the congregational didn't like her playing. She resigned.

A choir director who holds masters in choral conducting was no longer invited to planning meetings for worship. The praise band has assumed all control over the worship service. He resigned.

A church gave away their pipe organ which was almost new as they now intended to have contemporary music only. A grassroots campaign to save the organ had no sway.

A church built a new building, left the pipe organ in the old one and bought a keyboard.

A Lutheran church removed their cross, alter and communion rail and installed a praise band for all future services.

An organist showed up to play a worship service and after turning on the blower, music light and had all the stops ready to go, was told curtly by the pastor that they were no longer having a traditional worship service.

A church told the organist that she would no longer be playing their pipe organ. If she wanted to stay, she would have to play the electronic keyboard.

An organist was told one Sunday that she would not have to play as they had brought in a Dixieland band.

A church had just started an organ fund. The music committee took the money and instead bought a karaoke machine.

The writer was invited by a ten member organ committee to a luncheon meeting so it could be explained how the old organ could be installed in the new church. After my presentation, one member said, "We don't need an organ!" Whereby several nodded in agreement. I was so shocked at this comment in my presence that I could hardly finish my meal. After I left, they voted to have the pipe organ in the old church.

At the current rate of organs being shut down, we could see ten-percent of all FM churches with no organ music by 2020.

This memo from Pastor David Holte at Trinity Lutheran Church in Brainerd: "Two [Lutheran churches] NEVER use the traditional Lutheran service. Two of them occasionally use the traditional Lutheran service, but the most frequently style is contemporary."

The situation in Jamestown has also deteriorated. Prof. William Wojnar of the Jamestown College organ department is taking an active role to preserve the traditional service. More on this later.

~Lance Johnson

## Your Vote Counts!

It's almost that time again! Election time is approaching. Listed below are the nominees for the RRV-AGO Board for 2007-2008:

*Dean.....Vicky Sieben*  
*Subdean.....Robyn Vinje*  
*Treasurer.....Ruth Strawn*  
*Secretary.....Ruth Discher*  
*Board Member-at-Large.....Steve Eneboe*  
*Board Member-at-Large.....Gaylord Fagerland*

The election will take place in April, so watch for your ballots in the mail and be sure to vote!

### **Organ Dedication Concert**

***Dr. Mark Ring performing....***

Sunday, March 18, 2007 ~ 3:30 PM

St. Joseph's Catholic Church, 218 - 10th St S.,  
Moorhead

*The concert is free and open to the public.*