



# PIPELINE

American Organist Guild—Red River Valley Chapter

Volume 25, Number 2

February 2008

## Inside the Church

### *The Ladies' Aid*

We've put a find addition on the good old church at home.

It's just the latest kilter, with a gallery and dome,

It seats a thousand people – finest church in all the town,

And when 'twas dedicated, why we planked ten thousand down;

That is, we paid five thousand – every deacon did his best –

And the Ladies' Aid Society, it promised all the rest.

We've got an organ in the church – very finest in the land,

It's got a thousand pipes or more, its melody is grand,

And when we sit on cushioned pews and hear the master play,

It carries us to realms of bliss unnumbered miles away,

It cost a cool three thousand, and it's stood the hardest test,

We'll pay a thousand on it – the Ladies' Aid the rest.

They'll give a hundred sociables, cantatas, too, and teas;

They'll bake a thousand angel cakes, and tons of cream they'll freeze

They'll beg and scrape and toil and sweat for seven years or more,

And then they'll start all o'er again, for a carpet for the floor.

No, it isn't just like digging out the money

from your vest

When the Ladies' Aid gets busy and says: "We'll do the rest."

Of course we're proud of our bug church from pulpit to spire;

It is the darling of our hearts, the crown of our desire,

But when I see the sisters work to raise the cash that lacks,

I somehow feel the church is built on women's tired backs.

And sometimes I can't help thinking when we reach the regions blest,

That men will get the toil and sweat, and the Ladies' Aid the rest.

~Author unknown

## Message From the Dean

Do you ever think about the people who wrote the hymns we know so well? Much time last year was devoted to discussing a new hymnal for some of the local Lutheran churches. Who wrote the new hymns submitted? Any organists that you know?



My personal favorite composer in the Christian Science Hymnal is Percy Whitlock. I understand he was an organist and composer in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century. He created haunting, modern melodies. I don't have any of his music for organ, but it is out there. It would be interesting to track some down.

Another young organist and composer, circa 1870s, you will recognize for *Onward Christian Soldiers* and *Nearer My God to Thee*, is Arthur Sullivan, who is better

known for his work with W.S. Gilbert.

Earlier in the 1800s, another organist, John B Dykes, created *Eternal Father, Strong to Save*, *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*, *Holy, Holy, Holy!*, among many others.

Johann S Bach is probably the most famous organist/composer.

The winners of the International Year of the Organ Composition Competition were just announced. The press release stated that 36 compositions were submitted from 22 states and 3 foreign countries. Submissions were sent from both Minnesota and North Dakota. I wonder who these composers are?

Do you write music? Have you considered writing a hymn? Might we be singing your hymn in future services?

~Vicky Wms Sieben, Dean

### First Friday Luncheon

**Who** Everyone is Welcome!

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

**Where** Fryin' Pan Restaurant (Fargo)

### Chapter Officers

Dean: Vicky Wms Sieben

Sub-Dean: Robyn Vinje

Secretary: Ruth Discher

Treasurer: Ruth Strawn

### Board Members at Large

2008: Sue Clambey, Sally Harmon

2009: Sonia Carlson, Alpha Roeszler

2010: Gaylord Fagerland, Steve Eneboe

### Take Note!

The organ/instrumental program (Feb. 10) has been cancelled.

## Wanted: Archives Committee Chair

Description of the Archives Committee from RRV-AGO Standing Rules:

*The duties of the Archivist shall be to keep account of all Chapter publications, books, music, programs, and any article appearing in newspapers or magazines concerning the Chapter, and periodically deposit this material into the Chapter Archives maintained at Livingston Lord Library, Moorhead State University.*

Does anyone know when the archives were last updated, and who would have been in charge of them at that time? Are the archives at the Livingston Lord Library MSUM? Is someone willing to be responsible for this task of maintaining our archives? It is important for a healthy organization to document its activities. We need a volunteer, is it you?

## Handling Compliments

Be gracious. Even if you feel your music did not go as well as you had anticipated, respond with a "thank you" to any compliment. Nothing more is necessary. There is no need to explain that you forgot the sharp in the third measure.

*\*Excerpt from "The New Organist: Things they never tell you about playing for services", Margot Ann Woolard, AAGO, published December 1995, TAO.*

## 2008 National Convention

—June 22-26

—Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN

For more information: [www.ago2008.org](http://www.ago2008.org)

## North Central ACDA Convention in Fargo

Fargo will host the North Central American Choral Director's Convention March 5-8, 2008. Please spread the word to church professionals in our area. For more information go to: <http://www.ncacda.org/index2.htm>

## Upcoming Junior Recitals

Concordia College students at Trinity Lutheran Church – Moorhead, MN

—Mark Sell

Thursday, March 27, 7:00pm

—Lindsay Huwe

Sunday, March 30, 2:30pm

—Stephanie Wikstrom

Saturday, April 5, 2:30pm

## Board Meeting Notes

January 17, 2008: The meeting of the RRV-AGO was called to order at the Boulger Funeral Home by Dean Victoria Wms Sieben.

Those present were: Sonia Carlson, Ruth Discher, Alpha Roeszler, Victoria Sieben, Ruth Strawn, Robyn Vinje.

Robyn moved to accept the Board Meeting Minutes from November, 2007 as posted in the January Pipeline. Ruth S. seconded the motion and it was carried.

### Treasurer's Report

The savings account balance currently stands at \$4,657.08. The checking account balance is \$1,538.52 and the CD balance is \$5,242.76. Treasurer Ruth Strawn reported that the \$165 check written out last spring for placing an RRV AGO Chapter ad in the Regional Convention program never cleared the bank and remains outstanding. Vicky S. will check with the ad placement contact to see if the check was ever received and follow up. Alpha moved to accept the Treasurer's report as written. Robyn seconded the motion and it was carried.

### Recorded Music Committee

Robyn moved to disband the Recorded Music Committee at this time. Ruth S. seconded the motion and all members were in favor of the motion.

### Program Committee

December 2, 2007 Carol Sing-A-Long – proceeds from the free will offering were collected and distributed to the food bank.

February 10, 2008 Organ/Instrumental Program – due to conflicting program dates, we were unable to schedule a program at 1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian and no alternate venue is available. Vicky moved that the February program be cancelled due to lack of venue and lack of prep time at this point. Robyn seconded the motion and it was carried.

April 5, 2008 Piano to Organist Workshop – conducted by Sue Knorr will be at Dilworth Lutheran. Discussion continued as to how to advertise effectively. Sonia will check with Lance as to how previous sessions had been advertised. Alpha will present information about the event at the area music clubs and piano teachers meetings. Vicky will prepare a press release by the February meeting and the event will also be listed in the Forum in the "Classes" announcements section.

May 4, 2008 Organ Crawl in Fergus Falls, MN – Sue Clambey and Lance Johnson continue plans for this event. It was suggested that we send a press release to publications in surrounding communities such as Wahpeton, Fergus Falls, Alexandria, Wadena and Perham.

### Old Business

1. List of Churches/Contacts – no activity reported.
2. Membership Drive – "word of mouth" and in-person contact is probably most effective approach. However, work on the area church e-mail lists will continue.
3. No activity on the survey form.
4. There is still one outstanding bill for ad placement in the Pipeline. Vicky will send a hard copy bill.
5. RRVAGO Membership Application form – Ruth D. presented a revised form to be reviewed and Board members were asked to prepare suggestions for improvements to bring to the February meeting.
6. Treasurer Position – No discussion at this time.
7. Nominating Committee Appointments – Dawn Papenfuss, Marty Baumgartner and Carolyn Hensrud have volunteered to serve – Robyn moved to appoint them to the committee. Ruth S. seconded.
8. Program Committee – Michael Olson, Marty Baumgartner and Bill Tweten have consented to serve on the committee. Sally Harmon was recommended as Board Member representative on the committee.

### New Business

1. There is a need for articles each month for the Pipeline. All members are encouraged to submit articles of interest. Alpha is preparing a bio for the February newsletter.

### Correspondence

1. Ruth S. read a Thank You received from the food pantry for the cash contribution made from the proceeds of the December Carol Sing-a-long. She also reported that the Post Office revoked our non-profit mailing status due to non-use for over two years. The chapter has also received notifications for grant applications for this year.

The next AGO Board meeting will be Thursday, February 21, 2008 at Boulger Funeral Home at 4pm. The date for the March Board meeting has been changed from March 20<sup>th</sup> to March 27<sup>th</sup> because of Easter.

A motion to adjourn was raised by Robyn. Ruth S. seconded and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ruth Discher, Secretary

**Michael Olson Concerts**  
—Wednesdays at 12:45pm  
—First Lutheran Church, Fargo, ND

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## Upcoming Events

*September 15, 2007, 10:00 am*  
Paul Jacobs Master Class  
First Lutheran Church, Fargo

*September 16, 2007, 4:00 pm*  
Paul Jacobs Recital  
First Lutheran Church, Fargo

*October 14, 2007, 4:00 pm*  
Membership Meeting Potluck/Music Exchange  
Messiah Lutheran Church, Fargo

*December 2, 2007, 7:00 pm*  
Christmas Carol Sing-A-Long  
Good Shepherd Church, Moorhead

*February 10, 2008, 4:00 pm*  
Organ Instruction Program  
TBA

*April 5, 2008, 4:00 pm*  
Piano to Organist Workshop  
Dilworth Lutheran Church, Dilworth

*May 4, 2008, 4:00 pm*  
Organ Crawl  
Fergus Falls, MN

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