Volume 25, Number 1

January 2008

A Response to Difficult Questions

If our organization (i.e., our chapter) went away today, would it make a difference?

I believe it would, though it wouldn't be noticed immediately. I think we would find more organists and church musicians without an important outlet for job discussion and source of refreshment and "continuing ed," and this would lead to more people being burned out and quitting church music jobs—which would lead to a decline in the organ's presence in worship. This would lead to the public losing quality

music. I do believe that churches that have organists, even with all sorts of contemporary services and such and non-organ music, have more "quality" music--music with substance to the melody and the text, rather than the "rah, rah, sis boom bah, praise God" music that is becoming more prevalent. (I should clarify that I'm not an organ snob here--but music, regardless of style, must have substance to enhance worship, in my opinion.)

~Vicky Wms Sieben, Dean

Message From the Dean

New Year, New Opportunities...

I hope, when you are considering your resolutions this year, that you will take a



little time to consider your commitment to the RRV-AGO. An organization such as ours lives or dies with the support of its members.

Consider the Each

One, Reach One campaign. Can you introduce one organist to the organization?

Are you able to commit yourself to one contribution of time? One program? One committee service?

If each of us is committed to at least one small thing, that small bit of time and energy becomes a larger force in our community of church musicians.

In my experience, each volunteer opportunity I have accepted has surprised me with blessings.

New Year, New Opportunities...

~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

Just Blog It!

Dear AGO Region VI Deans, SubDeans, and Regional Officers, Happy New Year!

I am a big proponent of new year's resolutions, as a way to look over the past year's successes (and mis-steps!) and set goals for the future. As you know, it has been a goal of mine for some time to develop a regional calendar that would be accessible to all of our chapter members and to the public. I receive newsletters from many of our 50+ chapters in Region VI, but most of our members are only aware of what's happening in their chapter. And the public sometimes has no idea of the incredible programs we offer. An on-line regional calendar, updated frequently, has been one of my resolutions for about a year. I'm happy to say that this resolution has now been completed – and then some!

With the magic of technology, I have set up a Region VI blog. For those that are new to this term (like I was only a week ago!), a blog is a website with postings (short articles) containing text, images, videos, or links to other websites. The postings are customarily displayed in reverse order (i.e., newest at the top). I think that one of the most useful features of this blog will be the regional calendar. Check it out at

www.agor6.blogspot.com, and bookmark it so you can check it often!

I've made every attempt to enter the information about each chapter's events from newsletters that have been sent to me. Please check that your chapter's events are there and the details are listed properly. If your events don't appear, please

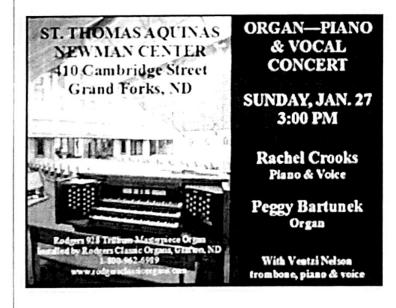
send me information on all chapter-sponsored programs that are open to the public that you would like added to the calendar. Maintaining this calendar could easily become a full-time job! To avoid that, I must restrict it to only AGO-sponsored events, at least for now. It will be enough for me to keep up with that. You can save me time by sending me full details about each event, including date, time, artist or title of event, location, and contact information for the Chapter Dean. Be sure to include the complete address with city and zip code. Google Calendar (the software program that creates the calendar) is amazing, and it will create a map (using Google Maps) so that your members and the public will have driving directions. Please take a look at the blog when you have a chance, spread the word to your members, and let me know what you think! And if you or someone you know would like to volunteer to maintain this calendar, that would be great. But that's for another resolution.

I hope this calendar helps build audiences and excitement for the excellent programs you offer! As always, thanks for all the work you do for the Guild.

Take care – Jan

Jan Kraybill
Region VI Regional Councillor
Principal Organist and Director of Music
Community of Christ International Headquarters

Upcoming Concert



PROGRAM

PIANO and ORGAN
Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee
(with congregation) arr. Raney
Crown Him With Many Crowns
arr. Fasig & Innes
Lift High the Cross—Raney
(with congregation) arr. Raney

ORGAN

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name—arr. Miller
Partita on Picardy—Zabel
(Trombone & organ)
Adagio in G Minor—Albinoni
Here I Am Lord—arr. Peggy Bartunek

Festive Trumpet Tune—German VOCAL

Ave Maria—arr. Glover Panis Angelicus—Franck O Divine Redeemer—Gounod Two Songs by Rachel Crooks You Are Mine—Haas

No admission charge.

Board Meeting Notes

November 15, 2007: The meeting was called to order by President Vicky Sieben. Other members present were Sonja Carlson, Ruth Strawn, and Robyn Vinje. Robyn served as acting secretary in the absence of Ruth Discher.

Ruth moved, Sonja seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of the October meeting as printed in the Pipeline. The treasurer's report was given by Ruth. She reported that she received payment for three ads

In the Pipeline. Sonja moved and Robyn seconded a motion to approve the report.

There was no report from the recorded music committee.

Vicki reported for the program committee. The Carol Sing-a-Long will be held December 2nd at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church with Carolyn Hensrud as chair. February 10th has been set as the date for the Organ/instrumental program at First Presbyterian Church with Sally Harmon as chair. April 5th we will have the "pianist to organist" program by Sue Knorr at Dilworth Lutheran Church. The last program of the year will be an organ crawl in Fergus Falls on May 4th with Lance Johnson as chair. Vicki stated that work on the program for next year will begin after the first of the year.

There were several items of old business.

- -List of churches/contacts not much has been done, but is very important, and we all need to work on it.
- —Each One Reach One continues to be encouraged by national, and incentives are listed on their web site.
- —We need to finish the development of the survey to be included with AGO programs for the public. We should all try to have our suggestions ready soon, so that they can be used at the program February 10th.
- —We will continue to bill for payment of Pipeline ads not yet received. Hanson-Runsvold has not paid, and they will be sent another bill by Ruth.

- —Ruth Discher is working on an updated membership application form for our chapter.
- —No discussion today on the treasurer position.

There were also several items of new business.

- —Vicki received an e-mail from national informing her that the IRS has changed the filing requirements. We will have to file a return but not pay tax, beginning in 2008.
- —National recommends forming a nominating committee in December. Vicki will ask Dawn Papenfuss to establish a committee. National recommends that we announce the candidates for office in March, confirm the ballot in April, and have voting completed by May 31st.
- —Lance Johnson faxed the Fargo Theatre noon concert announcements to Vicki. Several of our members will be providing them.
- —Vicki announced that she received two responses to questions in the Pipeline about lack of attendance at meetings. One response was that everyone is just plain busy, and the other was that people lack commitment to the organization.
- —We discussed potential programs for 2008-09, and the possibility of having only four programs, hopefully to increase attendance. There was no correspondence to read or discuss.

Ruth moved for adjournment, Sonja seconded.

Respectfully submitted, Robyn Vinje, acting secretary

Appointed!

Peggy Johnson, RRV-AGO member, was recently appointed District Convener for the North Dakota AGO chapters, a post held by Michael Olson for the last six years. (Congrats Peggy and thank you for your service, Michael!)

2008 National Convention

The early registration deadline of January 31 is rapidly approaching for the 2008 AGO National Convention, June 22-26, in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul, MN. You can take full advantage of the discounted early registration rates and get all the details about the convention at http://www.ago2008.org/.

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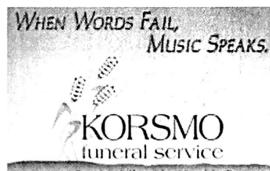
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Upcoming Events

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/Instrumental Concert First Presbyterian Church

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 Contact Information American Guild of Organists Red River Valley Chapter PO Box 2223 Fargo, ND 58108-2223 rrvago@hotmail.com

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