



Pipeline

American Guild of Organists—Red River Valley Chapter

Volume 31, Number 1

Mar/Apr/May
2017

Message From the Dean

It's been encouraging this week to see the temperature starting to climb once again. You can almost see more spring in everyone's step! We know the year will continue to "climb" as well as we enter into Lent and Easter. For the RRVAGO New Year's Resolution 2017 – I'd like to see our Guild members connect with other organists. Join in on our First Fridays' Noon lunch if you can at the Fry'n Pan downtown Fargo. It's important for us to share knowledge, enjoy the camaraderie and celebrate what we do collectively! When you get involved you also help to enhance your skills, and find the inspiration to continue growing as an organist. I can't help but look back at various conventions and remember the surge of energy that is "caught" when we take the time to attend seminars and recitals. In our own churches we are so isolated, that we work in a sort of "vacuum". So let's get more involved and ready to share encouragement and to be an encourager ourselves. It's truly our task to celebrate the organ and continue to make beautiful music for worship and concert.

Here are some upcoming events to consider: Our own March 19th Organ Crawl at St. Anne & Joachim Catholic Church, Fargo; Music exchange and potluck on May 16th; South Dakota Chapter is hosting a

POE in Sioux Center at Dordt College from June 11-16 (for ages 13-18); The River Valley Iowa Chapter is busy planning our regional convention this summer for June 19-22 in Iowa City and the registration is only \$265 if you register before March 1st!

Thanks for reading and hope to see YOU soon!

Bill Tweten

RRV AGO Chapter Dean

Update Our Email List

If you are aware of an RRVAGO member/friend who is not receiving the quarterly publication of the *Pipeline* and would like to, please encourage them to forward their name and email address to Ruth Discher at rrvago@hotmail.com. We appreciate the sincere interest of our readers in the activities of our colleagues in the Fargo-Moorhead area music community, especially in areas relating to the preservation of and stimulating continuing interest in the pipe organ.

First Friday Luncheon

Who Everyone is Welcome!

When First Friday of the Month at Noon

Where Fry'n Pan
302 Main Ave, Fargo

Chapter Officers

Dean: Bill Tweten

Sub-Dean: Sally Harmon

Secretary: Brad Steen

Treasurer: Brad Steen

Board Members at Large

2016: Andrew Steinberg

2017: Alpha Roeszler

2018: Jean Hellner

Board Meeting Notes

Minutes of the RRV/AGO Board Meeting December 2, 2016

Location: Fry'n Pan Restaurant, Main Avenue, Fargo, ND

Members Present: Tweten, Harmon, Steen, Roeszler, Hellner

Members Absent: Steinberg

Minutes from the November meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's Report: \$4,291.94 in RRVAGO checking account.

Membership Report: Nineteen (19) paid members—(regular 11, special 5, student 1, friend 1, dual 1)

Christmas Carol Sing-A-Long will take place on Monday, December 5, at 7:00 pm at First Presbyterian Church, Fargo with the free will offering benefiting the Fargo Food Pantry and Music Scholarships. Sponsored by the FM Area Music Club and the RRVAGO.

Sts. Anne & Joachim Church, Fargo, Tour and time at Organ on Sunday, March 19, 2017, 4:00 pm to 6:00pm.

Music Exchange and Potluck—May 2017—Date, Time, and Location to be announced.

First Friday Lunch Gathering at the Fry'n Pan Restaurant on Main Avenue in downtown Fargo, on Friday January 6, 2017 at 12 noon.

January 2017 Board Meeting will take place on Friday, January 6, 2017, 11:00 am, at the Fry'n Pan Restaurant on Main Avenue in downtown Fargo, immediately before the First Friday Lunch Gathering which follows at noon.

Meeting was adjourned.

Bradley J. Steen, Secretary

Board Meeting Notes

Minutes of the RRV/AGO Board Meeting January 6, 2017

Location: Fry'n Pan Restaurant, Main Avenue, Fargo, ND

Members Present: Tweten, Harmon, Steen, Roeszler

Members Absent: Hellner, Steinberg

Minutes from the December 2016 meeting were read. Roeszler moved. Harmon seconded. Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: \$4,291.94 in RRVAGO Checking Account. Roeszler moved. Harmon seconded. \$60.00 Annual P.O.Box fee to be paid. \$10.00 Annual North Dakota Non-Profit Organization Report and Fee be paid.

Membership Report: Nineteen (19) paid members—(regular 11, special 5, student 1, friend 1, dual 1).

Christmas Carol Singalong took place on December 5, 7:00 pm, at First Presbyterian Church, Fargo, with the free will offering benefitting the Fargo Food Pantry and Music Scholarships. Sponsored by the FM Area Music Club and the RRVAGO. AGO received and donated \$426.46.

Sts. Anne & Joachim Church, Fargo, Tour and Time at Organ on Sunday, March 19, 2017, 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

Music Exchange and Potluck—Tuesday, May 16, 2017 at Harmon's.

Next Pipeline will be published in early February and more details about March and May meetings will be given.

First Friday Lunch Gathering at the Fry'n Pan Restaurant on Main Avenue in Downtown Fargo, on Friday, February 3, 2017, at 12 noon.

February 2017 Board Meeting will take place on Friday, February 3, 2017, 11:00 am, at the Fry'n Pan Restaurant on Main Avenue in downtown Fargo, immediately before the First Friday Lunch Gathering which follows at noon.

Steen moved. Tweten seconded. Meeting was adjourned.

Bradley Steen, Secretary

Board Meeting Notes

Minutes of the RRV/AGO Board Meeting February 3, 2017

Location: Fry'n Pan Restaurant, Main Avenue, Fargo

Members Present: Tweten, Harmon, Steen, Roeszler

Members Absent: Hellner, Steinberg.

Minutes from January 2017 meeting were read.
Harmon moved. Roeszler seconded. Minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report \$4,291.94 in RRVAGO checking account.

Membership Report: Eighteen (18) paid members—(regular 11, special 5, friend 1, dual 1)

Sts. Anne & Joachim Church, Fargo, Tour and time at Organ on Sunday, March 19, 2017, 4:00 to 6:00 pm.

Music Exchange and Potluck—Tuesday, May 16, 2017 at Harmon's.

First Friday Lunch Gathering at the Fry'n Pan Restaurant on Main Avenue in downtown Fargo, Friday, March 3, 2017, at 12 noon.

March 2017 Board Meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 14, 2017, 7:00 pm at First Presbyterian Church, Fargo.

Roeszler moved. Harmon seconded. Meeting was adjourned.

Bradley J. Steen, Secretary

New AGO Membership Dues Structure

A new membership dues schedule was approved at the January 2017 meeting of the AGO National Council. Several notable changes were also made to membership categories to better meet the needs of the changing constituency. All changes take effect on April 1 for new members, and on the renewal date for renewing members with expiration dates beginning on or after July 1, 2017.

Dues: For the first time in two years, modest increases were made across all membership dues categories in response to rising costs of operating a national not-for-profit membership association while combating declining membership totals. Increased operating costs include new and expanded educational programs and the committees that support them, compliance

with recent mandates imposed by the Federal Trade Commission, and costs associated with strategic planning to ensure a healthy future for the Guild. The dues change also includes increased support for local chapters.

A discount of \$8 is available to all members who elect to receive electronic delivery of TAO rather than a printed copy. Local chapters will receive the same local dues portion as they do for members who choose printed magazine delivery.

Membership Categories: The Student membership category (for full-time students) was eliminated and replaced with the Young Organist membership category. This change is to make AGO membership affordable not only for students, but also for recent college graduates who may be seeking employment or working in entry-level positions.

The Partner membership category was eliminated. Partner members paid a reduced rate because they did not receive a second copy of TAO sent to the same address as the primary member. That discounted rate was disproportionate to the actual cost of mailing a second magazine. Partner members still enjoyed 100% of membership benefits.

Are membership dues going up? If you are a Regular, Special, or National Subscriber: Yes, your dues will go up by \$5. Your local chapter and the national organization will both receive portions of this increase. However, if you choose electronic delivery of TAO, your dues will go down by \$3.

If you are a Student member: Yes, your dues will go up by \$10 when you renew as a Young Organist member. If you choose electronic delivery of TAO, your dues will go up by only \$2.

If you are a Partner member: Yes, your dues will go up by \$30 if you renew as a Regular member and by \$5 if you renew a Special member. Your dues will go up by \$22 if you renew as a Regular member or down by \$3 if you renew as a Special member and choose electronic delivery of TAO.

How do AGO membership dues compare to other similar music organizations?: AGO dues are competitive or less than those of comparable music organizations: Regular AGO membership bundled with a printed TAO subscription is 16% less than ACDA and RSCM, 15% less than NAFMW (formerly MENC) and 10% less (on average, dues vary by state) than MTNA.

Are there other advantages to electronic delivery of TAO?: Yes, TAO is already available in electronic form to all members through the AGO website. Those who read the magazine online can take advantage of recorded sound samples of the instruments featured on

New AGO Membership Dues Structure (cont. from Page 3)

the cover, hyperlinks from display ads to websites, as well as online keyword and article searches. Of course, there are environmental advantages, as well, to online publishing.

This article along with a chart showing the breakdown of Membership Categories, Descriptions, TAO Format, National/Chapter Split, and Total Dues will appear in the April issue of TAO.

Reminders to Chapter Officers: The new membership dues structure and schedule will take effect this year. If any member is in need of assistance in updating any membership information in ONCARD, don't hesitate to call (212) 870-2310 or contact Leah Semiken, Manager of Membership and Chapter Relations, American Guild of Organists, 475 Riverside Drive, Ste. 1260, New York, NY 10115. Leah.Semiken@agohq.org.

Tour and Organ Visit at Sts. Anne & Joachim Church—March 19, 2017

The Tour of Sts. Anne & Joachim Church and visit to experience the new Rodgers organ installation will be held Sunday afternoon, March 19, at 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. Fr. Kyle Metzger, Associate Pastor of the church, will be giving the tour of the main church and its magnificent works of art and stained glass windows, the two chapels and the ambulatory shrines during the first hour of the tour. During the second hour, those present will have an opportunity to hear and play the organ. Following completion of the visit at 6:00 pm, those present will have an opportunity to adjourn to a nearby restaurant for informal supper and conversation.

The Rodgers Infinity 361 was installed in November of 2014 with a three-manual console, and five manual divisions plus pedal. In addition to the digital ranks, the organ contains 23 ranks of pipes that were built and installed by the Moe Pipe Organ Company of Wadena, MN.

Specifications:

61	stops/376 total voices
61	primary voices
135	voice "palette" voices
121	Library pipe organ sounds voices
59	Library orchestral voices
Chimes and Zimbelstern	

Organ Manuals: 3

Control Type Options: Mechanical (optional) or lighted, Divisional pistons-5great, 5 swell, 5 choir, 5 solo, 5 pedal

Organ Controls: Drawknob

General Pistons: 12

Toe Pistons: 24 Configurable

Couplers: 19 plus 8 Midi Controls; Bass, Melody Swell, Melody Choir, Melody Solo Couplers

Memory: 99 Levels per Piston

Shoes: 2 Expression, Crescendo

Tremulants: 4 plus Main Tremulant Alternate and Flute Tremulant Alternate

A complete stoplist can be found on the website [Infinity Series 361—Rodgers](#).

International Music Camp Registration Open

Registration is now open for the 62nd season of the International Music Camp 10834 Peace Garden Drive, Dunseith, ND.

The International Music Camp Summer School of Fine Arts offers cultural study for students and adults.

Students study music, dance, creative writing, visual arts, theater and several other fine arts disciplines in weekly sessions.

A staff of more than 150 artist-teachers, guest conductors and clinicians from the United States and Canada provide instruction to students from around the world.

The International Music Camp offers a Piano/Organ program during Session 4 from July 9-15, 2017. This program is open to students ages 10 through adult with at least two years of piano experience, who already know how to play the piano and are interested in learning about the organ.

Campers can register by going to the International Music Camp website at www.internationalmusiccamp.com and clicking on the "Registration Info" button at the top of the page or by calling the IMC Winter office at (701) 838-8472 or emailing info@internationalmusiccamp.com.


\$435 if registered before May 1/\$450 after May 1.

A set of two Private Lessons with Organ/Piano Instructor Marilyn Schempp of Augustana University Faculty in Sioux Falls, SD and North Central AGO Regional Councillor is included in the fee.

GETHSEMANE CATHEDRAL'S SILENT MOVIE NIGHT

THE GENERAL

MONDAY • MARCH 20 • 7:00 P.M.



Gethsemane's "Sanctuary Screen" presents a "warm up" to the **Fargo Film Festival**, March 21-25, Fargo Theatre.

Gethsemane Cathedral's Silent Movie Night—March 20, 2017

On Monday, March 20, at 7:00 pm, Gethsemane's "Sanctuary Screen" presents a "warm up" to the Fargo Film Festival (at the Fargo Theatre, March 21-25) with a showing of **THE GENERAL**. Guest organist Jason Roberts will provide an improvised accompaniment to this 1926 Buster Keaton silent film. Keaton considered this film to be his best. Both Keaton and Roberts perform dangerous stunts, one on the screen and the other on Gethsemane's Robert Sipe pipe organ!

Jason Roberts is Associate Music Director at St. Bartholomew's Church in New York City. He began his musical career as a chorister at St. George's Cathedral in Perth, Western Australia; and is a graduate of Rice University, the Yale Institute of Sacred Music, and the Manhattan School of Music. He is winner of the 2008 Albert Schweitzer Organ Competition USA, and he has been a finalist at competitions in St. Albans, England and Haarlem, The Netherlands. Jason spent several years as Organist/Choirmaster at St. James's Episcopal Church in West Hartford, Connecticut, USA before moving to New York in 2014. He serves on the faculty at Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey, and keeps an active recital schedule.

The event is free and open to the public. Gethsemane is located at 3600 25th Street South in Fargo.

Dubois Cantata Singers Invited to Join Performance

Performance, Wednesday, April 12, 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary of First Lutheran Church, Fargo
Rehearsals, Wednesdays, March 9—April 5, at 7:00 pm at Celebration Station (the Choir Room).
Sing the Dubois Cantata with the Cathedral Choir! It is a First Lutheran tradition for the Cathedral Choir to perform "The Seven Last Words of Christ" cantata by Theodore Dubois during Holy Week. Interested singers are invited to join. David Ferreira is the conductor. Featured vocal soloists include David Hamilton and Peter Halverson from Concordia College, and Darci Bultema from Northern State University, Aberdeen, SD. A 30-piece orchestra, comprised of First Lutheran members and Fargo-Moorhead Symphony players will provide instrumental accompaniment. Communion will be served and a freewill offering will be taken. Come and hear God's Word portrayed through music and song. You will be blessed.

NDSU Performance of Bach's St. John Passion

Sunday, April 30 at 2:00 pm in the Sanctuary of First Lutheran Church, Fargo, the NDSU Challey School of Music will perform J.S. Bach's masterpiece, St. John Passion. The NDSU Concert Choir, voice faculty members Robert Jones, Mariane Lemieux-Wottrich, and Virginia Sublett will perform, as well a NDSU alumnus Clara Osowski. Christopher Cock, director of the Bach Institute at Valparaiso (Ind.) University will return to the Fargo-Moorhead area singing the Evangelist role, which has become a signature role for him. Jo Ann Miller, director of choral activities, will conduct the choir and Baroque Festival Orchestra.

Bach first performed his St. John Passion on Good Friday of 1724. It is a work full of drama and lyric beauty, with powerful choruses, colorful orchestral writing, and stunning arias woven together by the Evangelist's recounting of the passion as told by John. The St. John Passion was one of the few works that Bach revised and revived intermittently until the end of his life. He clearly placed a high value on this work.

The passion music is in two parts: Part I would have been performed immediately before the sermon and Part II after it. Bach's anonymous librettist drew on poetry from various writers for the aria texts. The gospel narrative is from St. John, but, to heighten the drama, Bach inserted two dramatic episodes from the gospel of St. Matthew—the crowing of the rooster after Peter denies knowing Jesus and the earthquake that follows the crucifixion.

Tickets will be available from the NDSU Performing Arts Box Office, www.ndsu.edu/performingarts and at (701) 231-7969.

The Dakota Brass and Organ Concert

Mother's Day, Sunday, May 14, at 4:00 pm in the Sanctuary of First Lutheran Church, Fargo, the Dakota Brass ensemble and Michael Olson, organist, will present a concert of music on celebrating our Mothers! The event is free and open to the public. All are invited.

Former FM Area Resident Erich Knapp to Present Recital

Erich Knapp, presently serving a congregation in Brenham, Texas, will be playing an organ recital at First Lutheran Church in Fargo on Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at 12:45 pm. It will be a recital of all-Norwegian music for Syttende Mai.

Mr. Knapp's recital is part of First Lutheran's weekly midday recital series regularly presented by Michael Olson and guests.

Concordia College—New York to Present Hymn Festival

First Lutheran is hosting the choir from Concordia College—New York (Bronxville, NY) for a hymn festival on **Friday, May 19, 2017 at 7:00 pm**. The choir is making a 12-day tour from New York to Fargo with various stops in between. The program will feature a range of musical hymn styles including Renaissance, Baroque, Gospel, and traditional Evangelical. Piano, organ, and horns will accompany the performance. The choir is directed by Dr. Jason Thoms, a graduate of St. Olaf College, Northfield, MN and Michigan State University.

NDSU Concert Choir & Madrigal Singers Present Spring Tour Concert

The NDSU Concert Choir and Madrigal Singers will present their 2017 Spring Tour Concert on **Sunday, March 19 at 7:30pm at Peace Lutheran Church, 1011 12th Avenue North, Fargo**. The program features dynamic choral works that include music by composers Josquin, Sweelinck, Grieg, Mendelssohn, Rautavaara, Finzi, Argento and others. The program also features three new works: The New Moon by Nicholas Ryan Kelly (winner of the 2016 Fissinger Prize); I Will Come to You by NDSU student Michael Fairbairn, and Hummingbird, a collaboration by Jocelyn Hagen and electronic musician Spearfisher. Dr. JoAnn Miller conducts the Concert Choir and Dr. Michael Weber conducts the Madrigal Singers.

Registration Open for North Central Regional Convention

The American Guild of Organists is excited to call the Cedar Rapids/Iowa City Corridor home for the 2017 (June 19-22) North Central Regional Convention. It's time to reserve your spot to participate in the many concerts, workshops and exhibits. This year's convention features performances by Karen Black, Ken Cowan, Stefan Engels, Ahreum Han, Aaron David Miller, Dana Robinson, Pamela Ruiter-Feenstra, Wyatt Smith, Jeff Weiler and more are being added.

Workshops being offered include an Organ Masterclass/Stefan Engels, The Organ Music of Gerhard Krapf/Gerhard Krapf, Czech and Slovak Music Old and New/Joan DeVee Dixon and Sr. Anita Smisek, New Organ Music Reading Session/Stephen Hamilton, AGO Chapter Programming Ideas/Marilyn Schempp, Leading a Schola/Marie Rubis-Bauer, Choral Reading Session/Aimee Beckmann-Collier, Children's & Youth Choral Reading Session/Tanya Malloy, Oldies But Goodies: Twelve Handbell Compositions/Timothy Hein, Muse for Children/Learn, Sing to Learn!/Pamela Ruiter-Feenstra.

Concerts and workshops will use a variety of venues offering a broad palette of instruments.

Complete information on the convention, including online registration, can be found at www.northcentralago2017.org. Special discounted registration fee rates apply if registration is completed before June 1, 2017.

AGO Pipe Organ Encounters (POE) Offers Intensive Study of The King of Instruments through Summer Programs

The American Guild of Organists (AGO) is proud to announce eight summer programs for teenagers and adults will be supported with generous funding from the Associated Pipe Organ Builders of America (APOBA), the American Institute of Organbuilders (AIO), the Jordan Organ Endowment, and the NEA. Four Pipe Organ Encounters (POEs) for students aged 13-18, two POE (Advanced) for students entering grades 9-12, one POE (Technical) for students aged 16-23, and one POE+ for adults.

The summer schedule follows:

<u>POE for ages 13-18</u>	June 11-16	Sioux Center, Iowa
	July 16-22	San Diego, California
	July 16-21	Harford, Connecticut
	July 23-27	Winchester, Virginia
<u>POE (Advanced)</u>	June 25-30	Birmingham, Alabama
	July 23-28	Seattle, Washington
<u>POE (Technical)</u>	July 9-14	Berkely Lake, Georgia
<u>POE+</u>	June 25-30	San Antonio, Texas

The Pipe Organ Encounter (POE) is an introduction to the pipe organ through instruction in organ playing, repertoire, history, design, and construction. These regional summer music institutes for teenage students provide private and group instruction in service playing solo repertoire, opportunities to learn about the musical heritage of various religious denominations, and a chance for young musicians to meet others with similar interests. Piano or organ proficiency ranging from intermediate to advanced is required. Scholarship assistance is available.

The POE (Advanced) provides intermediate to advanced classes in areas such as organ literature, history, pipe organ construction and design, music theory, improvisation, conducting, and service playing for students who have achieved a high level of success in organ study. Scholarship assistance is available.

The POE (Technical) is a program designed for students who are interested in learning the art and craft of organ building. The event is hosted in the workshop of an organ builder working in cooperation with a local AGO chapter.

The POE+ is a summer program filled with practical information and instruction for adult keyboard musicians interested in improving their service-playing skills. Participants will be introduced to basic organ skills through private instruction and classes. The weeklong experience will lead to greater confidence and competence at the organ.

Complete contact information for each Pipe Organ Encounter can be found in THE AMERICAN ORGANIST magazine and online at Agohq.org/education/poe.

Composer's Corner— Johann Gottfried Walther

Johann Gottfried Walther was a German music theorist, organist, composer and lexicographer of the Baroque era. He was born on September 18, 1684 in Erfurt, Thuringia, Germany. He entered the lower school of Erfurt in 1691, took singing lessons and began his first organs lessons with Johann Bernhard Bach and Johann Andreas Kretshmar. He soon became an able child singer and landed his first organist position at the Thomaskirche at Erfurt in 1702. After a brief flirtation with the study of philosophy and law at the local university, Walther decided to devote himself and his study to music, especially music theory. In 1703 he began a period of travel, touring Germany and meeting such influential musicians as Andreas Werckmeister, a fellow theorist who took Walther under his wing. Walther soon became one of his proteges. In 1706 he studied with Wilhelm Hieronymus in Nuremberg, and obtained his first and only "real" adult job, being appointed organist at the Church of St. Peter and St. Paul in Weimar (Stadtkirche) in 1707 and remaining there for the remainder of his life, another four decades.

While in Weimar, Walther served as music teacher to Prince Johann Ernst, nephew of the reigning duke. In 1708 J.S. Bach, who was a second cousin to Walther on his mother's side, came to the ducal court and the two struck up a close friendship lasting for several years. This friendship benefited Walther artistically as much as, and perhaps more than, his relationship with Werckmeister had. Walther was an omnivorous collector of information on music and theory, which led to the publication in 1732 of greatest legacy, the *Musicalisches Lexicon*. The Lexicon was an enormous dictionary of music and musicians, probably written as an instruction manual for Johann Ernst. It was the first dictionary in the German language to contain both musical terms and biographical information about composers and performers up to the early 18th century. In all, the *Musicalisches Lexicon* defines more than 3,000 musical terms and included information on such subjects as notation, musical terms, and the art of composing, all compiled from more than 250 separate sources. Walther's career stalled out, though, and he never rose through the Weimar musical system, much to his bitter regret.

In addition to Walther's Lexicon, he also left a solid body of compositions, mostly organ pieces. Most of the organ works are based on Lutheran chorales: individual chorales, chorale partitas, and chorale fugues, most of them comparable in quality and brilliance of keyboard technique to J.S. Bach. As an organ composer Walther became famous for his concerto transcriptions by contemporary Italian and German masters. He made 14 transcriptions from concertos of Albinoni, Gentili, Taglietti, Giuseppe Torelli, Vivaldi and Telemann. These works were the models for Bach to write his famous Vivaldi transcriptions. Johann Gottfried Walther died on March 23, 1748 in Weimar.



Upcoming Events

March 19, 2017, 4:00—6:00 PM

Architecture and “Hands-on” Organ Tour
St. Anne and Joachim Catholic Cathedral,
Fargo, ND

May 16, 2017

RRVAGO Chapter Potluck and Music Exchange
Hosted by Sally Harmon
Time and Place to be announced.

Contact Information

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Publication Title: *Pipeline*
Issue Date: Mar/Apr/May 2017
Statement of Frequency: Quarterly
Editors: Alpha Roeszler and Ruth Discher

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