

Pipeline

American Organist Guild—Red River Valley Chapter

Volume 26, Number 9

December 2009

Message From the Dean

Dear Friends,

As I write to you this month, the leaves are completely off the trees and

we've had our first dusting of snow – a certain reminder of the days to come!

We also find ourselves in the midst of a very busy season of preparation. In our hurry-up

world, sadly, sometimes it seems that Advent is left to those few of us who work in and/or regularly attend worship. As one Advent prayer says – we recall “in joyful hope” the first coming of Christ in the Incarnation as we look forward to his Second Coming. Yet perhaps there is a more personal Advent coming for us this year – the presence of Christ in our hearts in the here-and-now of grace-filled moments.

We, in the church, routinely find our-

selves enmeshed in a swirl of activity and preparations for major worship events that have the certain potential to change the lives of those who worship with us. It is an awesome responsibility, and one which we all take seriously. Still, with these added responsibilities we face, it is crucial that we also must find time to worship, to ponder, and to pray.

Later on in this issue, you will find listings of member events that you may find enlightening, engaging, thrilling, relaxing, or stimulating. It is our hope that you will find time in your busy days and weeks of Advent to take in one or more of these events.

And, as we each move through our personal Advents this year, my wish and prayer for you is that you will find many, many moments of grace among those you love and those you work with.

Soli Deo Gloria,

Peggy



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: Peggy Johnson

Sub-Dean: Anna Goodin-Hayes

Secretary: Michael Olson

Treasurer: Open

Board Members at Large

2010: Gaylord Fagerland, Steve Eneboe

2011: Anna Goodin-Hayes, Erich Knapp

2012: Open

Board Meeting Notes

The AGO Board met on Saturday, October 31 at noon at the Fargo Village Inn Restaurant. The following members were present: Peggy Johnson, Anna Goodin-Hayes, Bill Tweten, and Michael Olson.

The minutes of the September meeting were approved as submitted.

Bill presented the treasurer's report. The beginning checking account balance was \$6291.67. The following receipts were listed: membership dues of \$92, CD sales (from the September meeting) of \$12, ad revenue (for the PIPE-LINE) of \$200, and recital income (from ticket sales) of \$226. Receipts totaled \$530. The following expenses were listed: AGO dues of \$55, AGO Annual Fund of \$12 (the CD sales from the September meeting were designated to be sent to this fund), and \$2000 to Kim Kasling for the organ recital. Expenses totaled \$2067. The current checking account balance totals \$4754.67. The CD totals \$5648.51, giving us a grand total in both accounts of \$10,403.18.

The bill from the Radisson will be forthcoming. We tried to take care of paying the bill following the recital, but the Friday night billing doesn't take place until the middle of the night (as I guess is the case at most hotels).

We had quite a discussion about the Kim Kasling organ recital held on Friday evening, October 30 at First Lutheran Church. He played very well and was a very nice gentleman. His verbal program notes in-between pieces, as well as his printed program notes, were all very helpful. The ticket prices were not unreasonable at all. So, where were all the people?? Perhaps a Friday evening concert is not the best time for various reasons. Perhaps Kim Kasling was "too local" or not well-known (although most recitalists who have come for recitals have not necessarily been well-known to those beyond the organ community). The weather earlier that day may have played a role in people, especially from out of town, deciding not to come. First Lutheran had its annual lutefisk/meatball dinner the Friday before, on October 23, and four hundred people came and ate. Perhaps we need to combine food and music at the same time?! We did decide to cancel the master class because it was difficult to find people to perform. By canceling the master class, Dr. Kasling agreed to have us waive that \$500 fee.

We discussed the possibility of a "virtual chapter" in addition to what we traditionally do as a chapter. Being in a rural part of the country, perhaps something on this order would bring others who might not otherwise be able to be physically present at meetings and events. This might also be a way to get younger folks, including organ students, involved as well. This might be on the order of Facebook, a very popular online social network, or a Yahoo chat group.

We're each a pocket of isolation in our own church setting. We need to publicize ALL our events for each other. We are so busy in planning and practicing our events that we forget to publicize and let others know what we're doing.

We discussed recruitment of members, retention of members, and how to reach young people.

Anna has agreed to set up a Facebook page for our AGO chapter. This will be a safe environment for students and adults alike.

Organ students of Peter Nygaard will present a recital on Monday, November 16 at 7:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Moorhead. We will host a reception for the students and those attending the recital right afterwards in the church lounge. Come and meet the performers and have refreshments! Concordia will print the programs as this recital is an "official" Concordia recital.

We have decided NOT to have the annual Christmas Sing-A-Long this year. We have decided instead to have us promote our own church events and concerts and recitals. We just need to let Sheila know ASAP so she can publish them in the PIPELINE.

Sunday, March 21, 2010 "just happens" to be Bach's birthday. Specifically, it's his 325th birthday. We would like to do something, but aren't exactly sure what to do as of yet. A progressive musical event (going to several churches) and including food was all discussed. This will be discussed further.

Our next board meeting is Thursday, November 19 at noon at Boulger Funeral Home. Bring something to share with others for our potluck lunch.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Olson, Secretary

Pipe Organ Competition

The next Carlene Neihart International Pipe Organ Competition will be held on April 10, 2010 in Kansas City, Missouri at the Second Presbyterian Church. The 1949 Moller Pipe Organ has been rebuilt and restored in 2009 and includes a new movable console. Contestants from various places in the United States and in other countries are expected to enter the competition.

The Carlene Neihart Organ Competition Foundation, with a 501 (C) (3) tax-exempt status was formed to organize, present the competition and fund the prize money to help sustain the future of the Pipe Organ.

The web site www.organcompetitions.com has more information about the competition.

Quimby Pipe Organs, Inc., will underwrite the first place award (\$2500) and the second place award (\$1500) is sponsored by Casavant Freres and Carroll Hanson. The third place award is \$1000.

2010-2011 Nominations Committee

Members who would like to serve on the nominations committee for this coming year, the deadline for getting the committee organized is Dec. 31. The only requirement is that you be a paid member for this year (2009-2010). Please contact Peggy Johnson if you are interested in serving (701-866-5993 or johnsonorganist@gmail.com).

A very special thank you to our supporters ...

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Upcoming Events

September 20, 2009

General Meeting, Music Swap and CD Sale
Gethsemane Episcopal Church

October 30, 2009 ~ 8:00 pm

Kim Kasling Organ Recital
First Lutheran Church

October 31, 2009 ~ 10:00 am

Kim Kasling Organ Masterclass
First Lutheran Church

December 13, 2009 ~ 11:00 am

The Festival of Advent Lessons & Carols
Gethsemane Episcopal Church

May 14, 2010 ~ 9:00 am

Guild Examinations

Contact Information

American Guild of Organists
Red River Valley Chapter
PO Box 2223
Fargo, ND 58108-2223
rrvago@hotmail.com
www.agohq.org/chapters/redrivervalley

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