

THE COUPLER

The Dean's Message



Dear Friends and Colleagues:

Happy spring and happy Easter!

Many of us have set our sights on the end of the church choir season, which falls early this year because of the early

celebration of Easter, but things are not slowing down for your DC AGO chapter. In fact, we are still going strong!

Great thanks to the many of you who attended our last event with guest organist Thomas Ospital,

Continued on page 4



APRIL 2016 In This Issue



Don't miss an afternoon of theater organ music with Dave Wickerham on the Hardman Wurlitaer organ on April 23. **1**



Do you know a student who would benefit from POE+? **9**



All aboard for the re-scheduled DC AGO Chapter Road trip - but with a new destination. **10**



Come and learn from Dr. Jeremy Filsell about the benefits of and opportunities for AGO certification. **10**

April Event: Theater Organ Concert

Sponsored Jointly with Potomac and Northern Virginia Chapters

Saturday, April 23, 2016, 3:00 p.m.

Dave Wickerham, Organist

Home of Jack and Mildred Hardman

Great Falls, Virginia

[Click here to register](#)

2015-2016 DC AGO Chapter Schedule of Events

*Monday, September 21, 2015, 7:00 p.m.
Organ Recital and Installation of Officers
Mary Beth Bennett, Organist
First Congregational United Church of Christ*

*Sunday, October 4, 2015, 5:15 p.m.
Tri-Chapter Pipes Spectacular
Renée Anne Louprette, Organist
Washington National Cathedral*

*Saturday, November 7, 2015, 10:00 a.m.
Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza
National City Christian Church*

*Monday, January 4, 2016, 6:30 p.m.
Annual Twelfth-Night Dinner and Service
(with Northern Virginia and Potomac Chapters)
All Saints Episcopal Church, Chevy Chase*

*Wednesday, March 2, 2016
DC AGO Members' Evensong and Happy Hour
Church of the Epiphany*

*Friday, March 18, 2016, 7:00 p.m.
Silent Movie with Organ
La vie et la passion de Notre Seigneur Jésus-Christ
Thomas Ospital, Organist (co-titulair of St. Eustache,
Paris)
Saint Jane Frances de Chantal Church, Bethesda*

Continued on page 3

DC AGO Board of Directors



Dean

Russell J. Weismann

Sub Dean

Karen Bredberg

Secretary

Kathleen Cooper

Treasurer

Rob Church

Hospitality Coordinator

Irvin Peterson

Education Coordinator

Jeremy Filsell

Historian

Irv Lawless

The Coupler

A monthly newsletter
published by the District
of Columbia Chapter,
American Guild of
Organists

J. Michael McMahon,
Editor

To contact the DC AGO
or for newsletter
submissions:
dcagochapter@gmail.com

Continued from page 2

Saturday, April 23, 2016, 3:00 p.mn.

Theater Organ Concert with Dave Wickerham
(Joint event with Northern Virginia and Potomac Chapters)
Jack and Mildred Hardman Residence, Great Falls, Virginia

Saturday, April 30

(Postponed from Presidents' Day)

Southern Pennsylvania Road Trip
See page 10 for more information

Saturday, May 7, 2016, 10:00 a.m.

(Rescheduled from January 23)

AGO Certification Workshop
Jeremy Filsell, Clinician
Church of the Epiphany
1313 G Street, NW (Metro Center)
See page 10 for more information

Monday, May 23, 2016, 7:00 p.m.

Potomac Organ Institute Student Recital
All Saints Episcopal Church, Chevy Chase



Acoustical Design
Collaborative Ltd

Neil Thompson Shade, FASA

President & Principal Consultant

410.821.5930

www.akustx.com

Your Sound...Our Passion

*Dean's Message**Continued from page 1*

from Paris, France. We marveled at Thomas' incredible music making. I was delighted to spend time with him, learning a lot about music and the organs of France, and brainstorming ways that we can enhance our local AGO chapter through European models. I've heard many organists play in my lifetime, but none has ever astonished me to the level of Thomas Ospital. His is a name to keep an eye out for!

Our next chapter event takes place on April 23 at 3:00 p.m. at the residence of Jack and Mildred Hardman in Great Falls, Virginia. For those of you who do not know Jack and Mildred, they own a lovely home in Great Falls, complete with a Wurlitzer pipe organ! It is really a first rate instrument. We are partnering with our Northern Virginia and Potomac friends to offer a very entertaining

program of music for the theater organ performed by Dave Wickerham. You must register for this event. You may [click here to register](#) or you may visit the DC AGO web site to find more information and to access the registration link.

We were snowed out for two of our winter events, and I am happy to report that we are working on offering those to you during the spring season. Dr. Jeremy Filsell, our Education Coordinator, will offer his AGO Certification workshop on Saturday, May 7, at 10:00 a.m. at the Church of the Epiphany (Metro Center). Many had signed up for this event when it was originally scheduled in January. We hope that those of you who were signed up can attend the new date.

Continued on page 5



The 2016 AGO National Convention will showcase vibrant performances, world-class instruments, enlightening workshops, creative new music, and inspiring worship. There will be many opportunities to meet fellow musicians and create dynamic connections. Come and experience a warm welcome at the Hilton Americas-Houston, at the various convention venues, and throughout this exciting city. This is a convention you won't want to miss! Registration and information at <http://www.agohouston2016.com>

Dean's Message
Continued from page 4

Secondly, we also had to cancel our Presidents' Day road trip to Atlantic City because of snow. We hope to plan a trip to Atlantic City next fall, but in the meantime, our archivist and historian, Irv Lawless, has put together a wonderful itinerary of southern Pennsylvanian organs including the E.M. Skinner at Mercersburg Academy, the Lawless/Lyon and Healy (originally housed at St. Paul's K Street) at Saint Paul's United Methodist Church in Chambersburg, and the Andover organ at the Gettysburg Seminary. We are hoping to make this trip on Saturday, April 30, but in order to do so, we need a few more folks to sign up. If you are interested, please send us an email at dcagochapter@gmail.com

We have one more event in May, the Potomac Organ Academy Recital and reception on May 23, but I will focus on that in next month's newsletter.

I end this column asking you to consider nominating either yourself or someone that you know for a position on the DC AGO Board. I am proud of the great success that this chapter has made during my time serving as your sub-Dean and Dean, and I hope that our reenergized efforts will persist with next year's Board of Directors and

beyond. Your board is currently planning a wonderful set of events for next year that will offer you, as members, the opportunity to:

- Interact with other organists and church musicians
- See and hear inspiring programs
- Connect with other organists
- Experience opportunities that you otherwise might not have independently

Your chapter needs you. We are bigger and stronger than ever and we need to keep that momentum going! Be well.

Your #1 fan,

Russell Weismann

Welcome, New Members!

We extend a warm welcome to these new members of the DC AGO chapter:

Iris Lan
Mary E. Steele

Patrick J. Summers, M.S.

SUMMERS & ASSOCIATES, LLC

Bookkeeping, Accounting, Tax Prep, Audit, and Financial Management

*Serving Church Musicians, Performing Artists,
and Nonprofit Organizations Nationwide*

1775 "I" Street, N.W., #1150
Washington, DC 20006
202-390-4018

201 Saint Charles Avenue, #2500
New Orleans, LA 70170
504-940-8313

pjsumm@aol.com summersllc.net

Member: National Society of Accountants, Institute of Management Accountants

Members' Events

Friday, April 1, 12:15 p.m.

Music at Midday: April Fools' Concert
National City Christian Church
Kenneth Lowenberg, organist

Friday, April 8, 12:15 p.m.

Music at Midday
National City Christian Church
James Kosnik, organist

Sunday, April 10, 3:00 p.m.

Organ Recital
Augustana Lutheran Church
Didier Hennuyer, organist

Sunday, April 10, 4:00 p.m.

Organ Recital
Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land
Carolyn Booth, organist

Friday, April 15, 12:15 p.m.

Music at Midday
National City Christian Church
Derrick Ian Meador, organist

Friday, April 15, 7:30 p.m.

Complete Organ Works of Maurice Duruflé
National Presbyterian Church
Erik Wm. Suter, organist

Sunday, April 17, 4:00 p.m.

Organized Rhythm
Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church
Organist Clive Driskill-Smith and
Professor Joseph Gramley

Friday, April 22, 12:15 p.m.

Music at Midday
National City Christian Church
Wesley Parrott, organist

Friday, April 22, 7:30 p.m.

Silent Movie with Organ Improvisation
Immanuel Chapel, Virginia Theological Sem.
Dorothy Papadakos, organist

Sunday, April 24, 3:00 p.m.

Organ Recital
Brown Memorial Park Avenue Presbyterian
Church, Baltimore
Fred Swann, organist

Sunday, April 24, 5:00 p.m.

Organ Recital
St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, College Park
David Houston, organist

Friday, April 29, 12:15 p.m.

Music at Midday
National City Christian Church
Christopher Schroeder, organist

Sunday, May 1, 7:30 p.m.

Organ Dedication and Concert
Cathedral of St. Thomas More, Arlington
Russell Weismann, organist

Members are encouraged to submit recitals and concerts for public listing on the DC AGO website. Submit your event for web or newsletter listing to dcagochapter@gmail.com

Organ Available

Goodwin House Bailey's Crossroads has a beautiful model 301-C (early digital organ with contemporary console, 1974) to donate. It would need new or pre-owned speakers and a service call to have the combination action working, but has many useful years of service ahead. If interested, please contact Rev. Pierce Klemmt at (703) 578-7224.

The Organ Masters Series
at Augustana Lutheran Church



Didier Hennuyer, organist
Cathédrale de Boulogne-sur-Mer, France

3:00 p.m. Sunday, 10 April 2016

Augustana Lutheran Church
2100 New Hampshire Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20009

Corner of V Street, ½ block east of 16th Street

Metro: Green/Yellow Line
U Street/Cordoza

Reception following

Music @ the Monastery



Located on forty-four acres of beautifully landscaped gardens, the Franciscan Monastery (Mount St. Sepulchre Franciscan Monastery) is a beautiful architectural gem hidden in the northeast corner of Washington, D.C. Built in 1899 in the shape of a Jerusalem Cross in neo-Byzantine architectural style, the Monastery includes gardens, replicas of various shrines throughout Israel, a replica of the catacombs in Rome, an archive, a library, as well as bones of Saint Benignus of Armagh, brought from the Roman Catacombs and originally in the Cathedral of Narni, Italy. The Monastery's Lively-Fulcher pipe organ was built in 1998 and contains forty ranks of pipes over three manuals and pedal.

Together with the Franciscan Monastery, the DC AGO is proud to support a series of community outreach musical events titled, "Music @ the Monastery". These events are free of charge and take place on the second Sunday of every month at 4pm, followed by a reception. All are welcome!

2015-2016 Recitalists

October 11: Russell Weismann (St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Bethesda)

November 8: David Houston (St. Andrew's Episcopal, College Park)

December 13: Sarah Bereza (Trinity Lutheran, Bethesda)

January 10: Ronald Butts-Boehmer

February 14: Russell Weismann (St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Bethesda)

March 13: Brass and Organ (Brass of Peace Ensemble with Lisa Galoci, Organist)

April 10: Carolyn Booth

May 8: Dr. J. Thomas Mitts (Shenandoah Conservatory and Augustana Lutheran Church)

**The American Guild of Organists
Harrisburg Chapter hosts**

**Pipe Organ Encounter
for Adults**

POE+

**July 10-14, 2016
Messiah College,
Mechanicsburg, PA**

www.harrisburgago.org

OVERVIEW

POE+ is an educational event organized by a local AGO chapter under the sponsorship of The American Guild of Organists. This program provides organ instruction to students 19 and older who are interested in developing and improving their service-playing abilities. All applicants should be able to play intermediate level piano literature. Participants are introduced to organ skills through lessons as well as classes. Previous organ study is not required. Registrants will experience greater confidence and competence at the organ.

POE+ HIGHLIGHTS

The Harrisburg POE+ will include daily organ lessons (one teacher for every two students) as well as practice time. Other activities will include recitals, workshops, and master classes. Topics covered will include registration, repertoire, hymn playing, choral accompanying, and beginning and intermediate improvisation.

FACULTY

Faculty members will include distinguished organ teachers, university professors and concert organists.

ACCOMMODATIONS/TRAVEL

Lodging will be available on the beautiful campus of Messiah College. Meals will be at the dining hall on campus. The registration fee includes five nights lodging and all meals during the POE+. Participants commuting to the POE+ will have all lunches and dinners included in their registration fee. Free parking is available on campus. Directions are available on the chapter website.

APPLICATION AND REGISTRATION

The registration fee covers tuition, materials, local transportation, room & board and special event fees. Unless you are applying for scholarship funds from your home chapter full payment is due at the time of registration.

Registration is limited to 30 participants.
Early registration deadline is April 1, 2016.
Final registration deadline is May 1, 2016.

- Single occupancy - \$495. \$445 if registered by April 1.
- Double occupancy - \$425. \$375 if registered by April 1.
- Commuter (includes lunch and dinner) - \$325.
\$275 if registered by April 1.

Visit <http://harrisburgago.org/POE+2016.htm> for complete POE+ details and for registration information.

For questions about registration contact:

Carol Hunter, Registrar
717-367-0882
carol.hunter09@gmail.com

Cancellations received electronically or postmarked prior to June 1, 2016 will receive a full refund minus \$30 processing fee.



Parmer Hall at Messiah College

Rescheduled DC AGO Chapter Events

AGO Certification Workshop (Rescheduled from January 23)

Join us on **Saturday, May 7, at 10:00 a.m.** at the Church of the Epiphany (1317 G Street, Metro Center Metro Station) for an educational workshop led by **Dr. Jeremy Filsell**, our chapter's Educational Coordinator. This workshop was rescheduled from January 23 on account of weather.

Jeremy will assist chapter members in preparing for AGO Certification Exams at all levels (Service Playing Certificate, Colleague, Choir Master, Associate, Fellow). He will focus on ideas of musicianship, sight-reading, transposition, open score reading, harmonization, and improvisation – all skills necessary and valuable for any organist whether or not he/she is preparing for a certification exam.

Road Trip Organ Tour (Rescheduled from Presidents' Day)

The Presidents' Day Road Trip to Atlantic City was canceled because of snow, but plans have been made for a trip of **Saturday, April 30**, provided enough members and friends sign up. Irv Lawless has put together a tour of organs in southern Pennsylvania that includes the E.M. Skinner at Mercersburg Academy; the Lawless/Lyon and Healy (originally housed at St. Paul's, K Street) at Saint Paul's United Methodist Church in Chambersburg; and the Andover organ at the Gettysburg Seminary. If you are interested, please send an email to dcagochapter@gmail.com.

THE COUPLER

District of Columbia Chapter
The American Guild of Organists

Promote your event, product, or cause with an advertisement in The Coupler, the official publication of the District of Columbia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Rates are as follows: full page (4 times per season), \$100; half-page (4 times per season), \$50; quarter page (four times per season), \$25. Please email advertising requests to dcagochapter@gmail.com with "The Coupler" in the subject field.

Make checks payable to DC Chapter, American Guild of Organists.