

# THE COUPLER

## The Dean's Message



I extend sincere thanks to my DC AGO Board members for all of the work and effort that went into our Annual Meeting event on January 11<sup>th</sup> at the Franciscan Monastery. I also want to thank Keevin Lewis and Dan Elmer for serving as our nominating committee in order to fill the Secretary and Sub-Dean Board positions (more on that below). Lastly, the evening would not have

been as beautiful without music and liturgy from the Schola of the Church of the Epiphany and the masterful organ playing of Jeremy Filsell. It was wonderful to have nearly fifty members in attendance. I don't ever recall an annual meeting with such a high turnout. Thank you!

**Continued on page 5**

## Happy Hour on February 4: Bring a Prospective Member!

Join us at the Church of the Epiphany (1317 G Street NW; Red Line, Metro Center) at **6:00 pm on Wednesday February 4** for Choral Evensong sung by Schola Epiphaniensis, followed by a DC AGO members-only reception geared towards welcoming new and prospective

members. All members are welcomed and encouraged to attend, but please consider bringing a friend who is not a member, but should be! Spread the word - we hope for this to be a great social event.



### FEBRUARY 2015 In This Issue



Welcome to the DC AGO Chapter's new Secretary, Kathleen Cooper.

2



Mark your calendar! Olivier Latry will be visiting the DC AGO Chapter for a master class on April 27 and a recital on

2



All aboard for the Presidents' Day Road Trip on Monday, February 16, to experience four amazing organs in Richmond.

3



Make plans now for the AGO Mid-Atlantic Regional Convention in Pittsburgh from June 21 to 25.

7

## Welcome to Our Newest Board Member

At the Annual Meeting held at the Franciscan Monastery on Sunday, January 11, the Chapter voted two members into Office. Below is information on our new Secretary, Kathleen Cooper. We look forward to working with Kathleen when her post will commence on July 1, 2015.

Kathleen Cooper completed her BA in Music (Organ) at Connecticut College as a student of John Anthony and served as a substitute, interim and permanent organist in New London County, CT. She served as Sub-Dean and Dean for the New London County

chapter AGO before moving overseas with her husband Chris (courtesy of the US Navy). While living in Madrid, Spain, she studied early Spanish organ music and took great advantage of dual membership with the European Chapter of AGO. Here in the DC area, she has been subbing as an organist, doing sculptural welding, and running along the Potomac. She is also very active in music activities and outreach volunteer work as a member of St Columba's Episcopal Church, Washington DC.



*New DC AGO  
Board member  
Kathleen Cooper*

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## Olivier Latry Master Class and Recital



The DC AGO Chapter, along with along with Saint John's Episcopal Church, Georgetown, is sponsoring Notre-Dame de Paris Cathedral organist, Olivier Latry in master class and recital on April 27 and 28, 2015. On Monday evening, April 27<sup>th</sup>, enjoy a DC AGO members-only master class and reception with Olivier (non-members will pay a small admission fee). On Tuesday evening, April 28<sup>th</sup>, Olivier will play a recital (\$15 admission) on the church's Casavant organ. We are looking for three organists to play in the master class. If you are interested, please email [dcagochapter@gmail.com](mailto:dcagochapter@gmail.com) with your name, email address, and the organ work that you would like to perform. All ages and abilities are encouraged to apply.



## Presidents' Day Road Trip

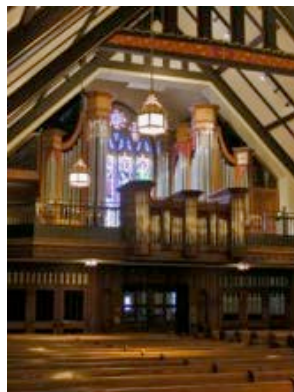
The DC AGO Board very excited to share with you the itinerary for the annual Presidents' Day Road Trip.

This year, we are traveling to Richmond, Virginia on Monday, February 16th. We will visit four very different pipe organs - organs unlike any instruments found in and around the District. Cost per person is \$30.

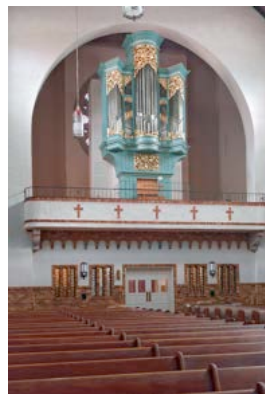
### *Schedule*

7:45am  
Depart St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish  
(9701 Old Georgetown Rd. Bethesda MD 20814)

First stop:  
St. Bridget Parish  
(Buzard Organ)

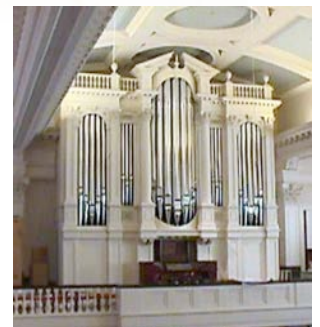


Second stop:  
St. Benedict RC Parish  
(Pasi Organ)



Lunch on your own in neighborhood

Third stop:  
St. James's Episcopal Church  
(Fisk Organ)



Fourth stop:  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
(Rosales Organ)



4:15pm  
Depart and return to 9701 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD by 6:30-7pm

Keller Transportation will once again schedule Marvin as our bus driver. Many of you remember him from previous trips - super nice guy!

There is limited seating, so please reserve your space early. This annual event has become more and more popular each year. RSVP to [dcagochapter@gmail.com](mailto:dcagochapter@gmail.com). Non-members are welcome to attend, as well.

**Continued on page 5**

## 2014-2015 DC AGO Chapter Schedule of Events

*Monday, September 22, 2014, at 7:30 p.m.  
Hymn Festival with Installation of Officers  
John Walker, organ  
Church of the Redeemer, Bethesda, MD*

*Sunday, November 16, 2014, at 4:00 p.m.  
Tri-Chapter Pipes Spectacular  
Parker Ramsay, organ  
Saint Luke Church, McLean, VA*

*Sunday, January 11, 2014, at 6:00 p.m.  
Vespers and Annual Dinner and Meeting  
The Franciscan Monastery, Washington, DC*

**Monday, February 16, 2015  
Presidents' Day Road Trip  
Richmond, VA**

**Monday, April 27, 2015, at 7:30 p.m.  
Masterclass with Olivier Latry  
St. John's Episcopal Church, Georgetown**

**Sunday, May 17, 2015  
First Annual DC AGO/Franciscan Monastery  
Young Organists Competition  
The Franciscan Monastery, Washington, DC**

### DC AGO Board of Directors



**Dean**  
Russell J. Weismann

**Sub Dean**

**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](mailto:dcagochapter@gmail.com)

## Dean's Message Continued from page 1

We have a busy month ahead of us. On Wednesday, February 4, we are hosting a post-Evensong Happy Hour Reception at the Church of the Epiphany. We hope that this informal, low key event will attract intrigue by organists of our town who are not members of the AGO or of our chapter. All DC AGO members are encouraged to attend, however, I personally ask you to bring a friend who you think should become a member. It would be wonderful to see lots of new faces there!

On February 16<sup>th</sup>, we will go on our annual Presidents' Day Road trip. Details of this popular yearly event are found later in this newsletter.

The DC AGO is alive and well. Our membership is increasing (we now have 152 members!) and our chapter events are thriving with participation and activity. This is all thanks to you -THE MEMBERS. This chapter is for you. You will get out of it what you put into it. Let us continue on our campaign for membership growth and collegial comradely. There are yet still too many organists in our town who are not a part of the Guild. Together, we can achieve much more than we can alone.

Don't forget the reasons why you are an organist. If you are feeling burned out, then come to our Happy Hour next month and have some laughs with me. If you are tired of playing a less than ideal instrument, plan to attend our Richmond Road trip, where you can experience four of the finest organs in the state of Virginia. Together, we are doing great things. Together, we make up the American Guild of Organists. Together, we ensure the longevity of organ and choral music in our nation's capital region.

All best,  
Russ

## Presidents' Day Road Trip Continued from page 3

Everyone attending the trip will have the opportunity to see/hear/play the instruments, however, we would like for 2 participants to specially volunteer at each location - one to play a hymn and another to play an organ work. If you are interested, please mention this in your reply.

To reserve a space for this exciting trip, send a message to [dcagochapter@gmail.com](mailto:dcagochapter@gmail.com) with the number of names of those planning to participate. The \$30 fee per person will be collected as you board the bus on February 16.

## Acoustic Design Services

Acoustical Design Collaborative, Ltd specializes in ecclesiastical spaces where natural acoustics for music and unobtrusive amplified speech are essential for worship celebration. We have completed over 90 successful projects involving the following services:

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## Upcoming Members' Events

### Wednesday, February 4, 8:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Organ Recital  
Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts  
Taylor Cameron Carpenter, organist

### Friday, February 6, 12:15 – 1:00 p.m.

Organ Recital  
National City Christian Church  
Hans Uwe Hielscher, organist

### Sunday, February 8, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Organ Recital  
St. Columba Episcopal Church  
Eight organists on the mighty Flentrop!

### Sunday, February 8, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Organ Recital  
Franciscan Monastery  
Victoria Shields, organist

### Friday, February 13, 12:15 – 1:00 p.m.

Organ Recital  
National City Christian Church  
James D. Hicks, organist

### Friday, February 13, 8:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Organ Recital  
St. Mary Catholic Church, Fredricksburg, VA  
Westin Jennings, organist

### Sunday, February 15, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Organ Recital  
Washington National Cathedral  
Iain Quinn, organist

### Friday, February 20, 12:15 – 1:00 p.m.

Organ Recital  
National City Christian Church  
Alan Hommerding, organist

### Sunday, February 22, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Organ Recital  
Washington National Cathedral  
Jeremy Filsell, organist

### Friday, February 27, 12:15 – 1:00 p.m.

Organ Recital  
National City Christian Church  
Kimberly Ann Hess, organist

*Submit your event to [dcagochapter@gmail.com](mailto:dcagochapter@gmail.com)*

## AGO Begins Rolling Dues

During the past year, the AGO has changed its way of collecting dues, including the introduction of ONCARD, a convenient online method of payment. Dues are now collected by the AGO national headquarters, with a portion allocated for the member's local chapter(s).

Previously the AGO membership year had run from July 1 until June 30, but from now on memberships will be "rolling," extending

for one year from the date of a joining or renewing.

While the new system will require chapter leaders to adjust their ways of maintaining membership rosters and conducting financial affairs, it is far simpler and more cost-effective. It also allows us to invite our colleagues to become members at any time of the year without any complications in their status.

## Music @ the Monastery

### 2014 – 2015 Recitalists

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

October 12: Paul Hardy (Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle, DC)

November 9: Andrew Vu (St. Janes Frances de Chantal, Bethesda)

December 14: Paul Campbell (Sacred Heart, Winchester)

January 11: DC AGO Solemn Vespers and Annual Dinner

February 8: Victoria Shields (St. Paul, Rock Creek)

March 8: Russell Weismann (St. Jane Frances de Chantal, Bethesda)

April 12: Jeremy Filsell (Epiphany, DC)

May 17: DC AGO Young Organists' Competition



*All are welcome to these free events, jointly sponsored by the Franciscan Monastery and the DC AGO Chapter, held on the second Sunday of each month at 4:00 p.m.*

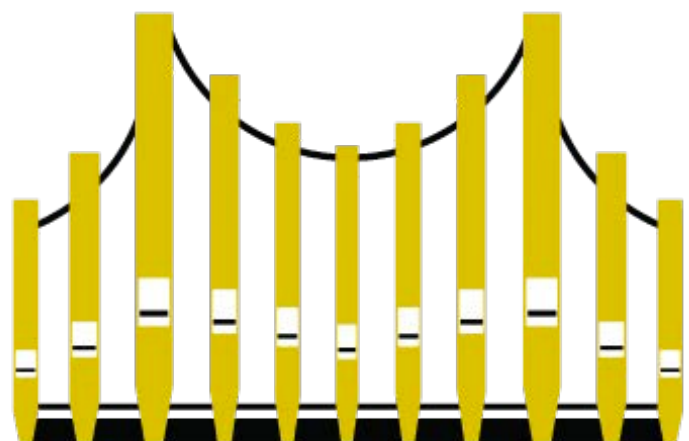
*Promote your event, product, or cause with an advertisement in The Coupler, the official publication of the District of Columbia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Rates are as follows: full page (4 times per season), \$100; half-page (4 times per season), \$50; quarter page (four times per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

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

## THE COUPLER

District of Columbia Chapter  
The American Guild of Organists

**2015 A G O**  
**MID-ATLANTIC**  
**REGIONAL CONVENTION**  
**PITTSBURGH**  
**PENNSYLVANIA**  
**JUNE 21-25**



Convention information at <http://agopgh2015.com>

Online registration now available at <http://agopgh2015.com/registration/>