

THE COUPLER

The Dean's Message



Winter greetings! I hope that you are all staying warm during what has been a very cold month! If you're like me, then your instrument has sticking keys, air leaks, and out-of-tune reeds. While this northerner loves the cold air, I am looking forward to more stable temperatures as spring approaches.

Members and friends of the chapter enjoyed a wonderful road trip to Richmond this past month. While you can read about the trip elsewhere in the newsletter (*see page 3*), I do want to comment on the remarkable variety of

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MARCH 2015 In This Issue



Mark your calendar! Olivier Latry will be visiting the DC AGO Chapter for a master class on April 27 and a recital on April 28.

1



Have you seen the plans for this year's AGO Mid-Atlantic Regional Convention in Pittsburgh from June 21 to 25?

2



Even the snow couldn't deter our hearty members on their Presidents' Day road trip to Richmond.

3



Check out the calendar of members' events for March, including bagpipes, jazz, and more!

6

Olivier Latry Masterclass

The next DC AGO Chapter event will take place on Monday, April 27, at 7:30 p.m. Olivier Latry, Organist at Notre Dame de Paris, will offer a masterclass to DC AGO Chapter members. A reception will follow. Three players have been selected to perform in the masterclass:

- Joy Lelani-Garbut (*Vierne, Symphonie III*)

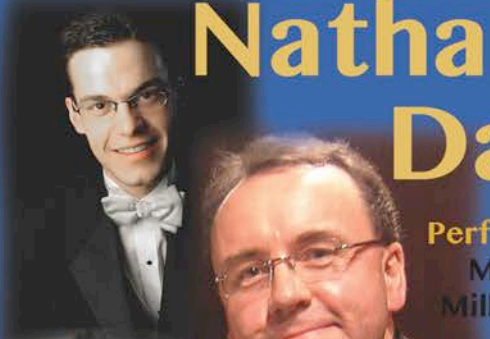
- Mary Mardarelli (Franck, *Grand Pièce Symphonique*)
- Andrew Vu (Messiaen, *Joie et clarté*)

The following day, on April 28, at 7:30 p.m., DC AGO and St. John's Episcopal Church, Georgetown, is sponsoring Mr. Latry in recital on the church's Casavant organ. Admission is \$15.

2015 MID-ATLANTIC AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS REGIONAL CONVENTION PITTSBURGH, PA JUNE 21-24



Nathan Laube
David Briggs



Performing Artists: Caroline Robinson, David Schelat, Mary Beth Bennett, Renée Anne Louprette, Marvin Mills and Marlissa Hudson, Reilly Lewis and Chatham Baroque, Brian Harlow, Christopher Jennings

Workshops: Three Rivers Ringers, Ann Labounsky, Elizabeth Daniels, Cynthia Dedakis, Music Technology

Ann Elise Smoot



Commissions: David Schelat, Mary Beth Bennett, Lucas Richman

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Presidents' Day Road Trip



On the road!

On February 16, members of the District of Columbia Chapter enjoyed a trip to Richmond, Virginia as part of their annual Presidents' Day Road Trip event. Members had the chance to see, play, and visit four unique instruments. During the morning hours, the group visited Saint Bridget Catholic Church (John-Paul Buzard organ) and Saint Benedict Catholic Church (Pasi organ). Following lunch at the Richmond Museum of Fine Art, the group traveled to Saint James Episcopal Church (C.B. Fisk organ, pictured) and Saint Paul Episcopal Church (Rosales organ). This annual event has become a favorite among members and, despite the slow drive back to DC in the snow, a good time was had by all! Stay tuned for details on next year's road trip!



Gathered in front of the organ of St. James



Irvin Peterson at the console at St. Bridget's



Rosales console at St. Paul's



View of the organ from the front of St. Benedict's

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



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The Coupler

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J. Michael McMahon,
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Dean's Message
Continued from page 1

pipe organs that we visited while in Richmond. Richmond's organ culture is exciting and features a beautiful array of instruments. The four organs that we played and heard were all very different, but stunning in their own respects. Experiencing these instruments made me wish that we had a greater variety of pipe organs in Washington. This is something to keep in mind should you find yourself venturing into acquiring a new pipe organ.

For those of us who play in a church, we are experiencing the "lull before the storm" so to speak. As Holy Week and Easter approach, we hone in on our practices and rehearsals to make sure that we can offer the best music possible for our congregations. It is my great hope that you are rewarded in your efforts by the outpouring of appreciation and robust congregational singing.

Amid the business of this month, don't forget to practice self-care. "Self-care" is a term that I learned from a Jesuit with whom I served on a job search committee. He would ask candidates how they practiced "self-care." Most applicants were stumped by this question. In a profession where most of us do not get a "Sabbath" day of rest, it is important for us to set aside time for ourselves to experience renewal and rejuvenation. This could be achieved in many ways; going to see a movie, taking a walk, or attending the next DC AGO Chapter event to be enriched and renewed in your profession by spending time with your colleagues. Whatever it is that you do, do something that you enjoy and religiously stick to doing it. You deserve nothing but the best for yourself.

Yours,
Russell Weismann, Dean

In Memoriam: Jim Rogers

Long-time DC AGO member Jim Rogers passed away on February 1. Born on December 14, 1930, in South Carolina, he served in the U.S. Army in World War II. He was preceded in death by his beloved wife Mabel and his son Laurence Rogers. He is survived by his daughter WonJoo; his niece Roma Farge; his daughter-in-law Linda Rogers; along with his grandniece, nephew, and a host of other relatives and friends.

Chapter member Arthur Roach mentions that Jim's health failed dramatically over the past few months, and that he had been moved to hospice care. Jim could be counted on to attend everything the DC Chapter held, whether meetings or special events. He served as an Evensong usher at the Washington National Cathedral.

Upcoming Members' Events

Wednesday, March 4, 12:10 - 12:45 p.m.

Pipes and More Pipes

St. John's Church, Lafayette Square

Jared Denhard, bagpipe, and Michael Lodico, organist

Friday, March 6, 12:15 - 1:00 p.m.

Organ Recital: *B Is for . . .*

National City Christian Church

Carol Feather Martin, organist

Sunday, March 8, 3:00 p.m.

Organ Recital

Evangelical Lutheran Church, Fredrick, MD

Paul Jacobs, organist

Sunday, March 8, 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Organ Recital

Franciscan Monastery

Russell Weismann, organist

Friday, March 13, 12:15 - 1:00 p.m.

Organ Recital

National City Christian Church

Vincent Carr, organist

Friday, March 20, 12:15 - 1:00 p.m.

Organ Recital

National City Christian Church

Stephen Kalnoske, organist

Friday, March 27, 12:15 - 1:00 p.m.

Jazz at the Organ

National City Christian Church

Lutz Felbick, organist, and Heribert

Leuchter, saxophone

Submit your event to dcagochapter@gmail.com

Young Organists' Competition at St. John's

On Saturday, March 14, from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., the Potomac and Northern Virginia Chapters will co-host an AGO/Quimby Regional Competition for Young Organists (RCYO) at St. John's Church, Lafayette Square. The winner will compete in June at the Mid-Atlantic AGO Regional Convention in Pittsburgh (*see page 2*). The audience will form a singing congregation for the hymn playing portion of each performance.

At the conclusion of the competition, there will be a luncheon beginning no later than

12:30 p.m. in the historic parlors of St. John's and the winners will be announced. RSVP to Michael Lodico at Michael.Lodico@stjohns-dc.org or (202) 270-6265 to reserve a box lunch for \$8.

You are invited to attend some or all of the competition. St. John's is located near the McPherson Square and Farragut North Metro stations. Limited street parking is available or you may park all day for \$11 at the Central Parking garage at 1620 I Street, NW.

Position Available

Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church seeks a skilled and experienced organist who can guide and inspire its congregation in worship and related religious activities. Warner is a 200-member congregation in Kensington, Maryland that values mission, music and education. Warner's congregation is warm and welcoming to all and appreciates the centrality of music to the worship experience. Warner offers a Moller, 3 manual, 29 rank, pipe organ, a harpsichord and pianos. The organist's duties include the following:

- one Sunday morning worship service;
- accompany adult choir during Thursday evening rehearsals;
- occasional special worship services and other church activities.

The successful candidate will have outstanding organ and keyboard skills and the ability to work closely with the Director of Music and Pastor to select music that is diverse, creative and enhances the worship service. The organist should have experience as a church organist and be knowledgeable about reformed worship.

The position requires a commitment of 8 to 9 hours per week, with more during busy periods of the church year and a reduced schedule during the summer. Salary is \$12,000 to \$13,000 per year, plus continuing education, paid vacation and opportunities to teach. To apply, please email a cover letter and resume to ruth328@msn.com.

For more information about Warner, please see www.warnermemorial.org.

Free Organ Music

Norberto Guinaldo, an organist/composer member of the Los Angeles Chapter of the AGO, has recently launched a website offering his organ compositions free of charge to AGO members. This large body of music (58 pieces as of this writing) for both service and concert work, came to be over a period of some 40 years. The music is available only through this website: www.guinaldopublications.com

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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.

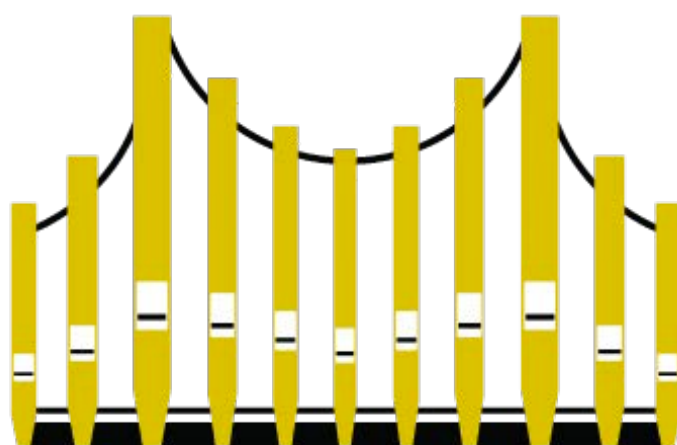
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Make checks payable to DC Chapter, American Guild of Organists.

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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/>