

February 2018

The Guilder

The Newsletter of the Columbus Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

www.agocolumbus.org



The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to enrich lives through organ and choral music.

February Flourish: Let the 100th Birthday Party Begin!

by Sally Casto, February Flourish Coordinator



When it comes to celebrating our AGO chapter's 100th birthday, we find that the opportunities for recognizing this special occasion and for saluting all those who have participated over the years just keep growing. We hope you will be joining us when we begin the festivities with our February Flourish.

Let me tell you about additions to our workshop day on February 24 at Covenant Presbyterian Church from 9 a.m. to 4:30 pm. We begin with worship from 9:15 to 9:45. We are pleased to announce that the Cathedral Brass, working with Professor Jason Keefer from the Josephinum, will play for our opening service. We are also privileged to hear the Saint-Saens "Prayer" for cello and organ. Rev. Cynthia Adcock, our chapter chaplain, will offer a homily.

Chad Baker, organist at Christ Lutheran Church and organ instructor at Capital University, will be joining Janet Linker to present the workshop "Seasonal Sunday Selections" in the 2:20 workshop block.

Remember that our celebration has been designed to offer instruction at many different experience levels. The goal is to attract beginners as well as seasoned performers, so please invite that promising pianist from your church—or any volunteer organist friends you know would enjoy learning more about the organ.

Don't forget to submit your registrations by February 14. We are counting on you to help us extend the reach of our chapter throughout our region. What better way to begin than to come to the party!

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**Submissions for the next
Guilder are due by February
5.**

The March issue will be published on or by February 15 and will include concert dates from February 16 to April 1. Please send submissions to:

guilder@agocolumbus.org

In addition, you are invited to submit events to the [on-line calendar](#).

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The Dean's Comments

HAPPY NEW YEAR! It is the time of year for countdowns, resolutions, and fresh starts. I wish all of you a very happy and healthy new year 2018.

The Columbus AGO Chapter is days away from its 100th birthday. In 1916 an Organists' Association was formed. In the fall of 1917 the group applied to the AGO for the right to form an AGO chapter. In December 1917 permission was granted, and on February 4, 1918, the charter was signed to form the Central Ohio AGO Chapter.

Mrs. Wilbur Mills, charter member and long-time organist at Broad Street UMC, wrote about the start of the chapter. Elizabeth Lang, James Hildreth, and Pauline Fritz added summaries of the chapter's history. Please go the chapter website, <http://www.agocolumbus.org>, click on "Who We Are" and click on "History". You will be impressed with the chapter's achievements.

Since February 4 will be the 100th anniversary of the Columbus AGO Chapter, the 100th Anniversary Committee has planned a sensational year of events. These events are listed in the centerfold of your membership directory. Please plan to attend all the events and bring friends. The first event is the day of workshops called February Flourish. More info is on the front page of this newsletter. You are also invited to make a contribution to the 100th Anniversary Fund by sending a check to treasurer Al Adcock, 2480 Dunstan Dr., Columbus, OH 43235.

I would like to take a moment to go down memory lane. While Columbus had the magnificent Lazarus department store, we in the Toledo area had the Tiedke's department store. Although similar to Lazarus, it also catered to the many ethnic groups in the Toledo area. I enjoyed going there, especially at Christmas time. I mention the store because one of the brothers who started and owned the store was Ernest Tiedke, who lived at 4000 Dorr Street in Toledo. In his house he had a 24-rank Skinner pipe organ (opus 263-1916), which had the ability to be a player organ. Toledo also has a large Skinner pipe organ (opus 820-1931) at Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Catholic Cathedral. There is also a large Skinner pipe organ (opus 603-1927) with the ability to be a player organ at the Peristyle Auditorium, part of the Toledo Museum of Art. The Toledo Symphony performs there. Last February the Toledo AGO Chapter sponsored Paul Jacobs to play with the Toledo Sympathy. I never heard the organ in the Tiedke home, but as a child the organs in the Peristyle and the Catholic Cathedral thrilled and inspired me. They continue to thrill me to this day. It is easy in our busy-ness to take special things for granted. Once again, HAPPY NEW YEAR!

With warm regards,
Tom Gerke
Dean, Columbus Chapter AGO

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AGO Mission Statement

The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to enrich lives through organ and choral music.

To achieve this, we:

- Encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music;
- Inspire, educate, and offer certification for organists and choral conductors;
- Provide networking, fellowship, and mutual support;
- Nurture future generations of organists;
- Promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles; and
- Engage wider audiences with organ and choral music.

Zanesville Concert Association Update

by Jim McLaughlin

Two concerts in Zanesville of special note to chapter members are just a 55-minute drive from Columbus.

Tuesday, March 6, 7 p.m. Direct from Weimar, Germany, The Staatskapelle Weimar Orchestra of Germany performs on their first tour to the USA. The orchestra was founded in 1491, making it one of the oldest and most illustrious in the world. The orchestra's long music history shows through its association with Johann Hummel, Franz Liszt, Richard Strauss and many others. Kirill Karabits is the music director and principal Conductor. The program includes: Wagner's "Overture to the Flying Dutchman", Wesendonck's "Songs", and Strauss's "Don Juan" Op. 20 and "Death and Transfiguration" Op. 24.

Sunday, April 8, 3 p.m. Cameron Carpenter, featuring the International Touring Organ, performs on his second U.S. tour. Cameron is smashing the stereotypes of organists and organ music worldwide, all the while generating international acclaim and controversy unprecedented in his field.

Mr. Carpenter will also perform a special concert Monday, April 9 for nearly 1400 Muskingum County fourth-grade students. *Many thanks to the Columbus AGO Chapter for assisting with this children's concert.*

The ZCA is celebrating its 79th season of bringing world-class artists to the community. All concerts are held in Secrest Auditorium, 334 Shinnick Street, Zanesville. Individual tickets are \$55. The bargain is a season pass for \$65, which includes four concerts. Children are admitted free, as well as college students with a current ID. Please see <http://www.zanesvilleconcertassociation.com> for more information.



*Find us:
[Columbus Chapter AGO](#)*

More Opportunity for Substitutes

St James the Less Catholic Church is looking for substitute accompanists for our Saturday and Sunday liturgies. Can be either piano or organ. Mass times are Saturdays at 4:30 and Sundays at 8:00 and 11:00. We are located in northeast Columbus on Oakland Park Ave. Please contact Mari Kay Dono, Director of Music at 614-262-1179 or 614-390-6925.

Voice from the Past

Collected by Carol Hofer

From April 26, 1928:

"It was decided to have the annual banquet on Monday Eve. May 14, 1928 at 6.30 o'clock, the cost per plate to be \$1.50, 75 cts of which was to be paid by the chapter."

Mrs. Clara Strickler, Registrar, Central Ohio Chapter of The American Guild of Organists minutes, 26 April 1928, Collection of AGO Columbus Chapter, presently housed at All Saints Lutheran Church, Worthington, Ohio, 61.

From December 9, 1946:

"...[I]t was announced that the annual dues of the Guild would be raised to \$4.00 as of Jan. 1, 1947. In this, the price of the Diapason would be raised to \$1.50 and the Guild chapters would receive \$1.40 instead of \$1.05."

Mary Vukovich, in absence of Secretary Grace Bland, Central Ohio Chapter of The American Guild of Organists minutes, 9 December 1946, Collection of AGO Columbus Chapter, no page number.

From September 10, 1951:

"...[I]t was moved by Mr. Franck that we hire a dishwasher for \$5. for the fall potluck meeting. Seconded & passed."

Marie Ealy, Registrar, Central Ohio Chapter of The American Guild of Organists minutes, 10 September 1951, Collection of AGO Columbus Chapter, no page number..



Member Directory Updates

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If you change your address, phone, or email, please contact the Columbus Chapter Registrar Stan Osborn. It is especially important that you keep your email address up to date, since that is how we send most of our communication.

Stan Osborn
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Mount Vernon, OH 43050
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A Church Musician's Pilgrimage

by Luke Tegtmeier

*Sing, choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation!*

If you are like me, this inner verse of “O Come, All Ye Faithful” is more associated with the famous Will-cocks descant than with ADESTE FIDELIS. On Christmas Eve I had the incredible opportunity to attend the famous Lessons & Carols service at King’s College, Cambridge where this—and much other music—was made famous. I was able to do so because of a career change and because my organ teacher from Valparaiso University is currently supervising the VU study-abroad program in Cambridge. It was a perfect opportunity!

In preparation, I asked for advice from several friends who had attended the service in the past. They told me about waiting in line from about 5:30 a.m. until being let into the chapel at 1:30 p.m. for the 3 p.m. service. Thankfully, the College announced a change in policy for 2017: they would hand out re-served seating cards at 7:30 a.m.

To be sure of getting in, we were on our way to King’s by 4:15 a.m. after a sleepless night of expectation. The streets were deserted, until we turned a corner to see the small crowd already gathered outside the gates of King’s College. I had been told that “queuing” is actually a very pleasant experience as like-minded people from all over the world chat and drink tea. We certainly found this to be true!

The family in front of us consisted of a young music teacher and organist from Perth, Australia, and his parents. We talked about how Australians celebrate Christmas by going to the beach and barbecuing. The gentleman behind us was a Fellow at Cambridge, teaching engineering. Malcolm is also an organist. He told us about walking on the famous 500-year-old vaulted ceiling of King’s Chapel with a mechanical engineering colleague.

Chatting with our neighbors made the time pass quickly. As the line started to move into the gatehouse to collect tickets, the Dean of the Chapel chatted briefly with everyone. Soon we had our tickets. Not only were we going to attend King’s College Lessons & Carols, but we would be sitting in the Quire! To celebrate, we went out for breakfast, then home to take a nap and get ready for church.

Upon arriving at the Chapel, we were shown our seats (next to our Australian friends) during the first piece of prelude music. One of the organ scholars played nearly an hour-long prelude while we all found our seats. It alternated between Bach Christmas chorale preludes and selections from Messiaen’s “*La Nativité*”. We found the alternation between such different styles to be quite pleasant; we never tired of either harmonic language. We also noted that the organist used relatively quiet registrations throughout his entire prelude. This allowed ushers to communicate easily with attendees.

After the printed prelude ended, there was an extended improvisation, starting in the style of Messiaen, and incorporating hints of IRBY. Finally, there was a long silence, and the solo treble sang:

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed....

You can listen to the BBC broadcast of the entire service [here](#); the bulletin for Lessons & Carols can be

viewed [here](#). We found it challenging to concentrate on the music: the venue was so beautiful and the event so singular. But here are some highlights for us:

- Judith Weir's "Illuminare"—an *a cappella* setting except for an occasional, subtle use of the organ's Thunder Pedal.
- Francis Jackson, long-time organist at York Minster, who turned 100 years old in October. He sat in the choir stalls opposite us and bowed his head in quiet concentration as the choir sang his "Hoy", a very fun, energetic composition in early English that well reflected the shepherds' excitement when the angels announced Jesus' birth.
- "The Magi's Dream" by James Whitbourn—our favorite anthem. The text was clever, and the music modern yet accessible, expressing the text memorably well. This was also one of the few accompanied anthems.

Some things that surprised us:

- Following typical English practice, hymns were introduced very simply (sometime just the first line of the melody) before the congregation sang. This seemed surprising, given the wonderful tradition of English improvisation.
- Dr. Cleobury conducted every stanza of every hymn. This may have been an effort to keep the choir (and congregation) together with the organ. Even so, the first stanza of "God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen" fell apart slightly in our area of the chapel.
- Tempi were surprisingly brisk, given the acoustic, the occasion, and the long history of broad English tempi. I found myself wishing for a slightly more broad tempo on Howells' "A Spotless Rose" and Tavener's "Little Lamb".
- There was no noticeable amplification of any kind. But readers all enunciated very clearly.

Of course, the high point for me—and the true start of Christmas—was singing the Willcocks arrangement of "O Come, All Ye Faithful" with the descant and final re-harmonization. My wife spent weeks threatening to elbow me in the ribs if I tried to sing the descant with the choir, but I was too touched by the moment to sing at all. I just listened in joy.

After the two postludes (the second was a flawless rendition of Dupré's "Prelude and Fugue in B Major"!) we gathered our coats and walked with our new friend Malcolm to the chapel at Gonville and Caius College to briefly play the Klais organ there before adjourning to a memorable dinner.



One final note of amazement at the sheer volume of music sung at King's. Two weeks before Christmas Eve, the choir sang a slightly different version of Lessons & Carols which was broadcast on television on Christmas Day. Then they sang the Christmas Eve version we attended (with live radio broadcast). Finally, on Christmas Day, they sang the entire Mozart "Mass" with strings, plus several anthems (we attended this as well). All in addition to daily Evensong!

Luke Tegtmeier holds a BM from Valparaiso University and the MSM from Luther Seminary. Organ teachers include Timothy Guenther, Lorraine Brugh, and John Ferguson. He currently works as a Tonal Associate at Muller Pipe Organ. And, yes, he is available for subbing! If you would like information about attending Lessons & Carols in Cambridge next year, feel free to contact him at luke.tegtmeier@gmail.com.

Concerts and Other Events

The Columbus Chapter's on-line calendar may be found [here](#).

“What Is Sacred Music?”

Sunday, January 21, 3:00 p.m.
Saint Joseph Cathedral
212 E. Broad Street, Columbus 43215
www.Cathedralmusic.org

Lecture given by Cathedral Director of Music, Dr. Richard K. Fitzgerald: “What is sacred music? Music of the Church as defined by official documents.” Using enlightening Church documents on Sacred Music, Dr. Fitzgerald will explore music sanctified by the Church for Her liturgy. With examples of polyphony and Gregorian chant sung live by the Cathedral choir, this lecture/recital will be followed by a wine and cheese reception in the Cathedral undercroft. In addition, local cheese historian Dr. Leslie Lockett, will give a brief talk on the history of cheese while a string quartet from Ohio State University will accompany the reception.

Choral Evensong

Sunday, January 21, 4:00 p.m.
First Congregational Church
444 E. Broad Street, Columbus 43215
www.concertsatfirstchurch.org

Music of Herbert Howells. Tyler Robertson, organist; Kevin Jones, conductor.

Nathan Medley and Brian Kay, Ladies of Song

Sunday, January 28, 3:00 p.m.
St. John's Episcopal Church
700 High Street, Worthington 43085

"The compelling countertenor" (*LA Times*) Nathan Medley joins forces with lutenist Brian Kay of Hesperus and Apollo's Fire for an afternoon exploring female archetypes of the Renaissance and Baroque eras. Join in the perfect melding of the countertenor voice type and the lute as we discover the "Ladies of Song".

First Thursday Noontime Recital Series

Thursday, February 1, 12:15-12:45 p.m.
Asbury United Methodist Church
55 W. Lincoln Avenue, Delaware 43015

We welcome Joshua Brodbeck as our noontime recitalist. Minister of Music at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Josh also serves as Artistic Director of the Delaware Community Chorus. As always, tables will be set and beverages provided for those who wish to enjoy lunch during the recital. Asbury is handicap accessible from its rear parking lot entrance.

G. Dene Barnard, Organ

Tuesday, February 6, 12:15 p.m.
First Congregational Church
444 E. Broad Street, Columbus 43215
www.concertsatfirstchurch.org

John Walker, Organ

Sunday, February 11, 3:00 p.m.
Saint Joseph Cathedral
212 E. Broad Street, Columbus 43215
www.Cathedralmusic.org

Former President of the American Guild of Organists, John Walker is an American concert organist, choir master, and CD recording artist. Walker has performed throughout the United States, Canada, Asia, and Europe. He is "widely recognized for his flawless technique and execution as well as his controlled and passionate playing," said Duke University in announcing a John Walker recital at Duke Chapel. Since 2006 he has served on the faculty of the Peabody Conservatory of Music and George Mason University.

Choral Evensong

Sunday, February 18, 4:00 p.m.

First Congregational Church

444 E. Broad Street, Columbus 43215

www.concertsatfirstchurch.org

Music of Byrd. Tyler Robertson, organist; Kevin Jones, conductor.

Ray Nagem, Organ

Sunday, March 11, 4:00 p.m.

Central College Church

975 S. Sunbury Road, Westerville 43081

Central College Presbyterian Church presents organist Ray Nagem in concert on Sunday, March 11, 2018, at 4:00 pm. Dr. Nagem is the associate organist at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City. He also teaches organ at the Manhattan School of Music and has given concerts all over the United States. Admission to the concert is free, but a freewill offering will be taken. Refreshment will be served following the concert.

Please follow [this link](#) to listen to Pipedreams from American Public Media.

