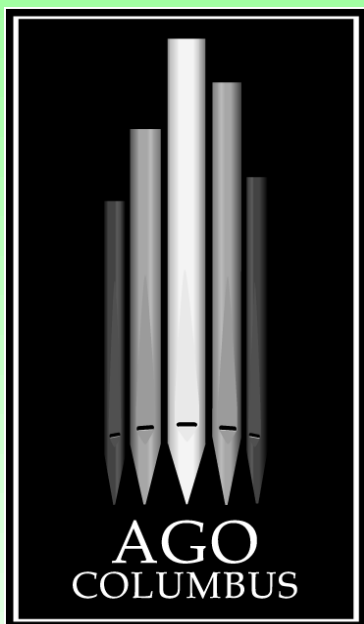


The Guild

NEWSLETTER OF THE COLUMBUS CHAPTER - AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS



ISSUE #1 - JANUARY, 2005
agocolumbus.org

January Columbus Chapter Meeting

NEW ORGAN REPERTOIRE

MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2005 - 7:30 P.M.

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH - DUBLIN

6135 Rings Road - Dublin, Ohio - (614) 889-2284



DEAN'S CORNER

James Yeager Last month my musings about Guild membership ended with a question, "Is the issue of instrument type relevant or of no consequence?" How does the type of organ we use connect to membership in the Guild? As in most areas of life, the simplistic explanation or answer often fails to treat an issue well. We don't define ourselves as organists alone on organ type. We think in terms of repertoire and its interpretation. We define our interests in larger professional matters such as choral work, teaching, program or ministry of music. We more often choose to categorize our interests in terms of compositional style, period, composer, school or method of playing.

Yet few organists would say that the type of organ is a matter of no consequence. Certainly the quality, construction, style, and other attributes of the instrument factor into the larger picture of our professional preferences (such as repertoire etc. above). Could one say that the weight of importance of instrument type lies along a scale that goes from small to large impact? Some organists would be cool while others might be hot about what kind of organ they might face in a job or in a recital. For some the larger picture of the job or recital might eclipse the small or meager organ, for others it would be a deal breaker. For some people compromise is acceptable, for others (when it comes to one level or another of organ type) no compromise is possible.

Could it be that this issue of organ type boils down to a mere temperament or personality? Some people find contentment more easily than others (perhaps in all the areas of their lives). Others would aver that there is no contentment to be found in lesser things (especially when it comes to art and music), that being uncompromising on a fundamental level means being authentic in what we do. It may be we can see value in both views.

Where does this musing lead me in terms of our Guild and its membership? And does this relate at all to the fact that a large portion of people who in fact are organists and regularly function as such in churches, synagogues, and schools opt not to join the Guild?

As always I have more questions than answers. A number of members responded with their own musings about this topic after the December issue. Their thoughts were equally insightful and engaging. I hope that more of you will reflect on this issue and perhaps communicate your own thoughts on the subject.

Next month, how do we explain the passions and often animated feelings that certain types of instruments elicit in many of us often to the point that we nearly divide into armed camps. And what of the "organ in fashion" phenomenon? Stay tuned!

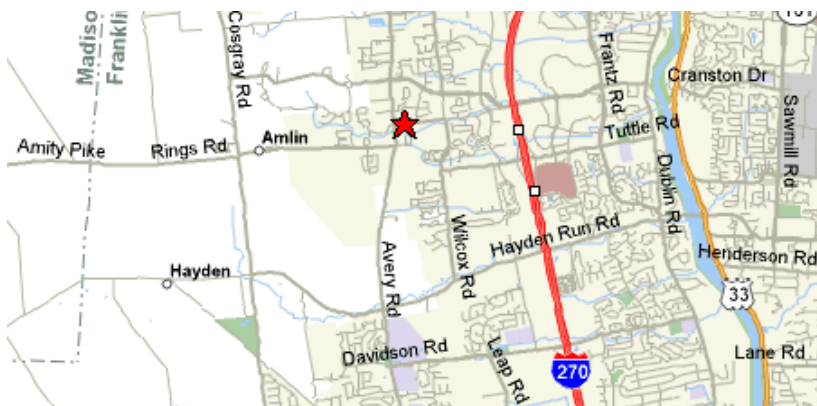
January meeting! Do come hear a new organ in a new church in a new area with a new guest organist who will perform new repertoire in the Happy New Year!

See you soon and often,

James A. Yeager

DIRECTIONS TO ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

On I-270, exit at the Marysville exit which is State Route 33. Go to first exit at Avery Road. Turn LEFT onto Avery Road. Proceed 2-3 miles, turn LEFT onto Rings Road (NOT SHIRE RINGS) The church is there.



UPCOMING EVENTS OF INTEREST TO AGO MEMBERS

Sunday, January 23, 2005 - 4:30 p.m. - Worthington United Methodist Church

Quattro corde String Quartet will present a concert at WUMC. The concert will feature complete works of the classical string quartet repertoire performed in worship services. Worthington UMC is located at 600 High Street, Worthington. For further information, please call (614) 885-5365.

Sunday, January 30, 2005 - 4:00 p.m. - Broad Street Presbyterian Church

On January 30, 2005 at 4:00 p.m., Broad Street Presbyterian Church will present **BATTLE OF THE ORGANS**, featuring Tony Monaco, jazz organist on the classic Hammond B3 and James Hildreth, Broad Street's organist. Each organist will present pieces in the musical idiom of their individual instrument and will combine on improvised arrangements of favorite hymn tunes. The church is located at 760 East Broad Street, Columbus.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Stephen Trumbull - Director of Music at First Baptist Church of Granville

115 W. Broadway Granville, OH 43023, 740 587 0423 - email: steve@musicregistry.com

Matt Scavo - New email address: SCAVOORGIST@aol.com

PIZZA AND PIPES

Please bring along the young people in your life to our February chapter Pizza and Pipes program. Your children's choir, church school, friends, neighbors, nieces, nephews, and/or offspring would probably love to experience some of the excitement of the King of Instruments. The program is targeted toward upper elementary students, nominally ages 8-12, although everyone is welcome.

Some of the fun things planned are:

T **DINOSAURIA** - a Mesozoic Menagerie for Organ and Narrator by Robin Dinda. Narration will be provided by Chuck Gillespie (channel 6 news anchor and weatherman) with performances by chapter members.

T **EXAMPLES OF ORGAN PERFORMANCE** - from beginning (students) to advanced (our own James Hildreth).

T **EXAMPLES OF PIPES** - chance to sound individual pipes supplied by Muller Pipe Organ Company.

T **HANDS-ON** - open console time for trying out the organ. No keyboard experience necessary.

T **FOOD** - Complimentary pizza!

T **WHEN** - Sunday, February 6, 2005 beginning at 3:00 p.m.

T **WHERE** - Broad Street Presbyterian Church, 760 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio



If you plan to bring a group, we would appreciate an RSVP to Laura Silva at (614) 798-4875; LauraSilva@aol.com) by February 1st.

Don't Go Extinct!

Your editor apologizes for the lateness of this newsletter. A complete lapse of memory occurred!!

