



The Bombarde

The Official Newsletter of the Detroit
Chapter, American Guild of Organists

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The Dean's Column

Happy New Year everyone! I beg your indulgence while I wax philosophical for a few moments. There's always a certain angst as well as excitement for me as I begin a new year. I will be perfectly honest - I DO NOT get into making resolutions. For me resolutions are those things that come before the legislative sessions of a denominational body each year at the annual conference. Resolutions are debated on the floor, rewritten and amended and finally either passed by the delegation, defeated by the same body or tabled to another year. The latter being something I absolutely abhor. I recall one year that I was on stage to be the presenter of a particular piece of legislation - in an area of social justice about which I am most compassionate. It ended up being tabled. And I obviously registered my disdain for the tabled motion loud and clear because my District Superintendent cornered me at a party a few weeks later and told me never to play poker because I would never be able to make a bluff believable to the other players around the table - LOL!

Instead, I do goals - set specific goals for the next year - goals for my choirs and personal goals. The first full worship service in January, I play a chorale prelude written by a friend of mine to the hymn tune of This Is A Day of New Beginnings. It always sets the new year apart from the terribly busy Advent and Christmas season just past and allows me to zero-in on "new beginnings". And, oddly enough, for those that know I start kvetching about snow usually by the second snowfall each winter. But I actually like the first snowfall of the year-after that, I am ready for the temps to return to 70 and stay that way for the balance of the season. I look upon that first snowfall as a cleansing, a symbolic cleansing of all that is wrong with our earth and in the world. And I set about cleansing the huge pile of music that makes its way to the front pew of the choir loft, the bigger pile on my desk in my office and all that has been left unfiled.

With the above in mind, let us set aside this time for new beginnings and cleansing as we move forward into 2019. Exciting programming is in the offing for our chapter this coming spring- a couple things are skedded right away. Be sure to keep your newsletter and calendar close together so you do not miss anything coming up.

Our annual Epiphany banquet was a wonderful afternoon and evening. It began with choral evensong led by Jeremy Tarrant and his choir at Cathedral of St. Paul bookended with some very fine organ playing by Jeremy. The food was delicious and beautifully prepared and served. One highlight of the evening was awarding an Honorary Lifetime Membership to Ron Kressman.

Dean's Column, Concluded

Hoping you will join me in greeting 2019 with A Day of New Beginnings and use this weekend's impending snowfall as a cleansing so that 2019 is one of our best years ever. Continue to change the world one stop at a time! And as a personal favor I ask for prayers and good thoughts for our fellow member and dear, dear friend, Ken Holden who has been hospitalized since the holidays with an acute case of shingles.

Regards,

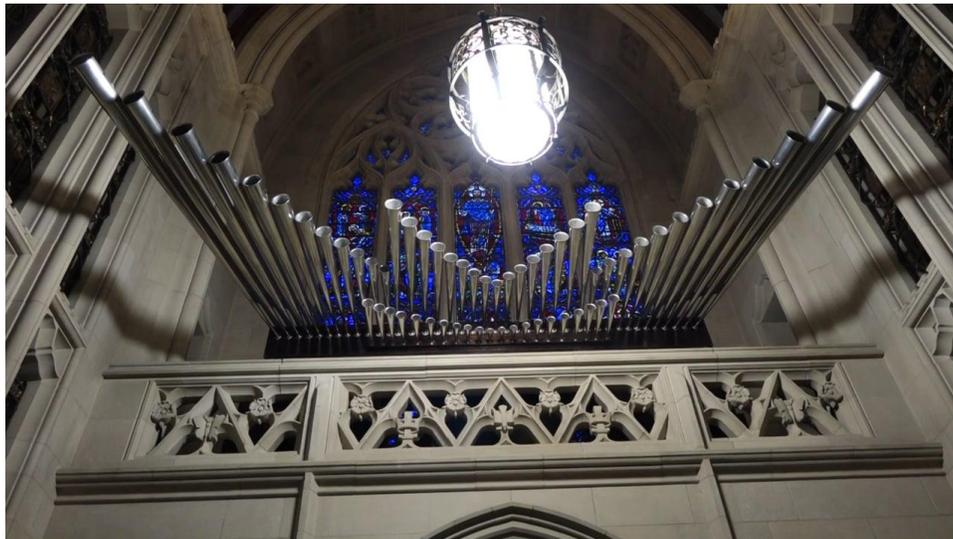
George Jonte-Crane
Chapter Dean

Chapter News and Events

Rising Stars Concert

Sunday, February 10, 2019 at 5 pm

Kirk in the Hills [1340 W. Long Lake Rd.](#), Bloomfield Hills



Come hear the next generation of organ stars from the University of Michigan!

Chapter News & Events, Continued

Scholarship Competition

Monday, March 18, 2019, 6 pm
First United Methodist Church
[320 W. Seventh St.](#), Royal Oak

This annual event relies on contributions from members and friends.
Please consider giving to this worthy fund!



Creative Hymn Playing with Michael Burkhardt
Saturday, March 23, 10 am
First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham
[1669 W. Maple Rd.](#), Birmingham

Spice up your hymn playing with tips from hymn-playing expert and composer, Michael Burkhardt

Member & Scholarship Recital

Monday, May 6, 2019 at 7 pm
Hartford Memorial Baptist Church
[18700 James Couzens Freeway](#), Detroit

Hear your fellow guild members and recent scholarship winners in recital
on the 90-rank Petty Madden organ.



Regional News & Events

AGO Regional to be held in Grand Rapids from June 20–July 3, 2019

The Grand Rapids Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. We're proud to be the hosts of the 2019 Great Lakes Regional Convention which will be held here in our city from June 30, 2019 – July 3, 2019. A great line-up of top-shelf artists and venues is scheduled. For details and (pre-)Registration, go to the [Regional website](#).



National HQ News & Events: Committee on the New Organist

The purpose of the [Committee on the New Organist \(CONO\)](#) is to introduce non-organists of all ages to the organ, and to further motivate and develop new organists.



The committee creates age-appropriate means, materials and programs for engaging them, and for enabling their development as performers. It oversees such programs and resources as [The New Organist web page](#). It also assists the COPOE, CCPE and other committees in projects involving new organist.

The AGO Committee on the New Organist, directed by Michael Koenig, is seeking a Panel of Advisors from the general AGO membership.

The new AGO Strategic Growth Plan presents many opportunities for CONO to become a major force in engaging, supporting, and uplifting every organist – especially those new to the organ. The CONO Panel of Advisors would serve voluntarily on an as-needed basis to advise the committee in their projects and directions.

The time commitment will be entirely at the advisors' discretion and can be small and occasional. As the support of new organists represents a significant opportunity for increasing the diversity of AGO membership, both nationally as well as internationally, Michael is highly interested in collaborating with a panel that represents such diversity.

Those interested in joining the CONO Panel of Advisors should email Michael at cono@agohq.org including the following information:

- Name, mailing address, email, phone
- Current activity or interest as organist
- Résumé
- A brief statement describing what you might be able to contribute as a CONO Panel member

Although there is no deadline for applications, the panel will begin functioning immediately.

Member News & Events (The List)

Friday, January 18, 2019, 7:30–9:30 pm

Audivi: Chiaroscuro—Music of Darkness and Light

First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham

[1669 W. Maple Rd.](#), Birmingham



Detroit's premiere professional choral ensemble in concert, featuring a mix of old and new works, including several world premieres. Tickets are \$10 at the door.

Sunday, January 20, 2019, 2 pm: Old St. Mary's Catholic Church (Greektown) [646 Monroe St.](#) Detroit, MI

Music for Two Organs: Dr. Joanne Clark and Bob Barnhart

Sunday, January 27, 2019, 4 pm

Cherry Hill Presbyterian Church

[24110 Cherry Hill St.](#) Dearborn, MI

"Music from Littlefield" - a concert by musical friends from The Littlefield Presbyterian Church (and some from Cherry Hill as well).

Friday, February 1, 2019, 7 pm:

Christ Church Grosse Pointe

[61 Grosse Pointe Rd.](#) Grosse Pointe Farms, MI

A Candlemas procession followed by a Solemn Holy Eucharist celebrating the Presentation of Jesus Christ in the Temple.

Member News & Events ("The List") Concluded

Sunday, February 10, 2019, 3 pm:

Grosse Pointe Memorial Church

[16 Lake Shore Dr.](#) , Grosse Pointe Farmss, MI

Memorial Church's talented choir section leaders offer an enjoyable afternoon of treats for the ears and the taste buds, featuring the second set of Brahms Liebeslieder Waltzes with Marilyn and James Biery at the piano.

Do you have news that you'd like to share with the Chapter? Please send your news no later than the 15th of the month to Gerald Furi at detroitago@gmail.com for inclusion in the next issue of The Bombarde.

