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The Dean's Column

Well, I think summer has arrived. And your dean is getting much enjoyment out of being in my usual shorts and flip flops as the dog days of summer fast approach. While many of us have choirs who are on hiatus for a few weeks, most of us are heavy into planning for the next year-ordering new music, planning dates for large musical works and cantatas, arts series if our churches sponsor one, recruiting new choir members from our congregational ranks, and the list goes on and on.

As the weeks go fleeting by, it seems we barely get started and it's time to put everything back together again. In addition, in my congregation specifically, we have been in transition from our senior pastor retiring to an intentional interim pastor as the transition team put together the criteria that is generally wanted in a new pastor. It was announced this past Sunday that the work of the transition team has been completed and now we enter the call process. Not knowing who that person will be thrusts upon me, and people in the same position, the task of being very flexible and ready to make changes when that time happens.

But I digress. How many of you have more than just a speaking acquaintance with the French repertoire for organ? By the time I was out of school, I had only a few Vierne pieces under my belt along with a Dubois or two and that was about it. I did not develop an appreciation for the French repertoire until several years into my music ministry. I, for one, am excited at the prospect of a season of programming that includes French artists as well as repertoire. As you already know, we are kicking off our programming on October 23 with a recital by Johan Vexo. We are really looking forward to that evening. It will be at St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Rochester and will include our installation of officers and a dinner hosted by the church.



Dean's Column, Concluded

This is only the beginning of an exciting year of programming that is in the works for your Detroit chapter. It is my sincere wish that you will likewise be inspired to participate fully in the activities of your chapter - the programming is here for you.

Looking forward to seeing you in October and the months following. Meanwhile, stay cool during the summer months, remember to renew your dues and consider a donation to our scholarship fund.

Kindest regards,
George Jonte-Crane, Dean

Chapter News & Events

Installation of Officers and Organ Recital by Johann Vexo Oct. 23



Regional News & Events

A Report from Grand Rapids



The "Gather at the Grand" Great Lakes regional AGO convention is now history. It was four days of excellent organ music and camaraderie. Five days if you include the Quimby young organist competition on Saturday.

Everyone I talked to commented on how well the conference was organized, and I fully agree. Fifteen different venues were involved primarily in the downtown area of Grand Rapids, with another five in neighboring Holland.

Sunday started in the afternoon with a marvelous Evensong that included The Grand Rapids Choir of Men and Boys, one of the few English tradition choirs in this country, and featuring an organ prelude concert by Nicole Keller. The evening concert was Scott Dettra on the organ with the nine member Majestic Brass of Grand Rapids.

Monday started with a Festival Worship service, Don Saleirs, AGO Chaplain doing the homily, Jonathan Tuuk on the organ and Larry Biser leading the chorale. Around noon Katelyn Emerson was the first of a series of three concerts on very different organs. She was followed by Gregory Crowell, and Todd Wilson. The evening concert was by Ken Cowan.

Tuesday saw us out in Holland for recitals by Rhonda Sider Edgington and David Heinze in the morning. Lunch break provided smart ones an opportunity to dip toes in Lake Michigan at Holland State Park. The afternoon concluded with a recital by Huw Lewis. The evening was back in GR with a concert by Lynne Davis.

Wednesday's music included Clark Wilson demonstrating the theater organ in the GR museum and accompanying Laurel and Hardy's "Putting pants on Phillip", followed by Helen Hofmeister on the Beckering carillon at GVSU. The afternoon included the Quimby winner's recital and a recital by Nicole Simental. An excellent Grand Banquet was followed by the concluding concert by Nathan Laube. Most interesting was that Mr. Laube announced a changed program due to surgery on his left foot a month or so ago, from which he had just removed the cast 10 days ago. It was a standing ovation for an outstanding and difficult program. I counted at least 8 people from our Detroit chapter in attendance, and I hope this encourages others to consider attending a future convention. The next one is the National convention July 6-10, 2020 in Atlanta. In two years, the 2021 Great Lakes regional will be hosted by the North Shore (N of Chicago) chapter June 27-30.

Pete Townsend

ONCARD Software Purgatory

Earlier it was announced that the ONCARD system at National that handles all member records and membership renewals was going to be replaced, and that the system would be unavailable for several weeks in May, June, and/or July. Well, surprise! As with many software migrations, everything has been delayed and ONCARD is still alive and will be until the end of this year. Watch your TAO and the Bombarde for new information on the transition and on how to use Impexium.



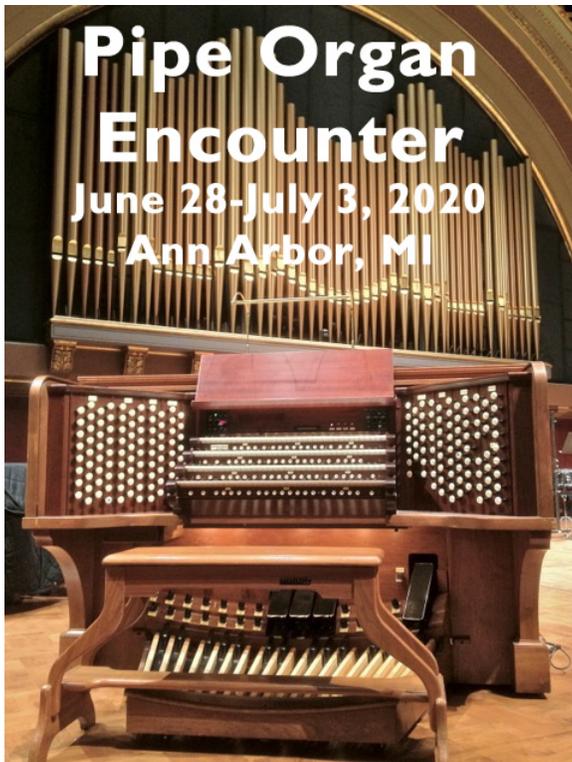
Pete Townsend

Member News & Events (“The List”)



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

Ann Arbor Pipe Organ Encounter



June 28– July 3, 2020, the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, will be the site of a Pipe Organ Encounter - Advanced. Hosted by the Ann Arbor Chapter, American Guild of Organists, and the Organ Department at the University of Michigan, the event incorporates Recitals, Master Classes, Lessons, Demonstrations, and, of course, lots of time to practice.

Along with the facilities at University of Michigan, including legendary Hill Auditorium, participants visit pipe organs from nearby Eastern Michigan University and local churches. Organ builders featured comprise: Aeolian-Skinner, Fisk, Létourneau, Casavant, Wilhelm, Reuter, Noehren, Ott, Wurlitzer, Kney, Noack, Schantz, Möller, and others.

A one day trip to the Metro-Detroit Area will expose students to other fine instruments in Southeast Michigan, as well as a Classical Radio station, where some students join the live broadcast.

The List, Concluded

Faculty consists of UM and EMU organ professors, local instructors, and other fine teachers from around the country. Housing and meals provided by University of Michigan air conditioned dormitories. Come to Ann Arbor, a safe and fun place to visit!!!

For more information, email Co-Director, James Wagner, A.Mus.D. jwagner@aacrc.org.

For Sale

Yamaha Clavinova Digital Piano For Sale

YAMAHA CLAVINOVA DIGITAL PIANO, Model CLP-950C

88 weighted keys. 3 pedals.

Voices: Grand piano I & II, Electric piano I & II, Harpsichord, Vibraphone, Church organ, Jazz organ, Choir, Strings, Wood bass, Electric bass.

Accessories: Reverb / Sound recording (2 tracks) / Metronome / Midi (In/Out/Thru) compatible / 60 Watt amplifier self-contained / Sliding key cover / Voice demos & Preset songs. Includes matching bench, and user manuals.

Cherry finish. Excellent condition (very seldom used)

Price: \$600

Contact: Dennis Souter (dnssout@aol.com)



For Sale: 5'7" walnut finish 1926 Steinway Grand and Bench



2004 reconditioned and refinished—Excellent condition—has been maintained and serviced every year by Greg Pond.

Contact: Angela Stead steadaa@gmail.com