



American Guild of Organists

Chartered 1896

European Chapter

Chartered 1979

Newsletter January 2019

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The Dean's Corner

Dear European Chapter Members,

Happy New Year! I'm hoping that your year has started beautifully and you are fully charged to jump into 2019 empowered with enthusiasm. Here in the Netherlands, under our not-unusual January cloud cover, some of us have made a New Year's resolution to spend more time outside every day whether it's gray or not-so-gray, and so far the holiday spirit seems to be coming right along with us. Let's keep singing!

In this European Chapter January newsletter you will notice that on center stage is the latest information about our Spring Meeting 2019 during the week after Easter, April 21-26, in and around Warsaw, Poland. Please take the heartfelt invitation personally, from our member and organizer, Michal Szostak, and make your hotel reservation IMMEDIATELY. He is very excited to entertain us in his corner of the world. We ask you to do this by [January 31st](#) **!!** Once you have made your reservation we will place your name on the Spring Meeting Participant's List. The plans for the meeting can go into final gear to reserve the bus and to make meal reservations and so on, only after we know exactly how many members will be coming. Please help us out! You can find all the latest details in this newsletter! Already we know that it will be another wonderful group of organ and church music enthusiasts and friends who are coming together to meet and support each other and enjoy five very special days in Poland. And don't forget: This year at the Spring Meeting, the European Chapter of the AGO is going to celebrate 40 years since it was

founded in 1979, having been chartered in that year by approximately 10 American organists who were playing in American military chapels in Germany. Little did they realize what they had begun in Europe. Here we are, all these years later, still continuing to reach out to those interested in sharing our love of the organ and church music. The wonderful membership mix is now truly international. The majority of our members are still American (after all, it is a terrific American organization!), however, altogether we encompass 19 nationalities. We live in 18 European countries, 21 states in the USA, plus Canada and Australia. Counting all categories of membership and Friends of the European Chapter, we number **140**. Bring out the champagne! The European Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is here to stay.

With warm wishes for 2019,

Judy

The Secretary's Voice

Dear Members,

At the start of each New Year the finishing touches are put on the itinerary for the Spring Meeting and included in the Newsletter with the invitation to reserve your spot as a participant. In case you've forgotten just how attractive the offer is, refer to the October issue and refresh your memory! It's well worth the effort. And in the meantime, there is lots of other information in the pages ahead! Enjoy!

Bernard

bernard.sanders(at)web.de

Please submit your items for the next Newsletter before March 31st !

News from the Board

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Judy Riefel-Lindel
judith.riefel-lindel(at)outlook.com

Sub-Dean: Johan Hermans
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Support your Board, be an active Member!
Please note that the e-mail addresses are formulated with (at) in place of @. This is to foil the efforts of electronic "phishing" for such information on-line. In order to use the addresses please insert the @ before adding them to your address book. Thank you !

Spring Meeting 2019

Dear AGO Friends,
Christmas 2018 is already done, Easter is in a couple of months and directly after that - the Spring Meeting 2019 in Poland.

Time: Mon.-Sat., April 22-27, 2019

Place: Warsaw and vicinity

You can look for convenient flights to the Chopin or Modlin Airport, both in Warsaw.

Itinerary Outline

Our Meeting will begin, as usual, with the Opening dinner on Easter Monday evening.

On Tuesday we will visit three church organs in Warsaw: a Baroque-style organ in St. Anna's church (Pflüger, 1992, 30/2/P), a "universal" organ in the Cathedral (Eule, 1987, 60/3/P) and the symphonic organ of the Military Cathedral (Mentzel-Schlag&Söhne-Sauer-Kamiński, 1729-1882-1905-2005, 52/3/P). At the end of the day we will visit the Vodka Museum and will be able to taste the best Polish vodkas ever created!

Wednesday will begin with a coach ride to the largest organ in Poland (4th in Europe, 13th in the world) in Licheń (Zych, 157/6/P) and after to The Rubinstein Philharmonic in Łódź where we will see two interesting concert organs: one in baroque style by Wegscheider (2014, 37/2/P) and one in symphonic style by Rieger (2015, 66/4/P).

Thursday we will visit the instrument in the Warsaw Philharmonic (Schuke, 2001, 71/3/P) and one of the oldest Polish organs in the beautiful city of Kazimierz Dolny (Liliusz, 1620, 35/2/P) and for dessert the newly restored organ in the Protestant Church in Warsaw (Schlag und Söhne, 1900, 24/2/P).

Friday Morning we will spend in the workshop of the largest Polish organ builder Zych in Wołomin. After that we will visit one of the first instruments in Poland made in French symphonic style located in All Saints Church in Warsaw (Zych, 2002, 65/3/P). After lunch we will go to the Jewish Museum 'Polin', where we will be able to see the complex history of Polish country.

The official agenda of the Spring Meeting will conclude with the Closing Dinner on Friday evening, April 26th.

If you are able to stay in Warsaw for Saturday we have the opportunity to see the city from the 31st floor of the highest communistic building in the city and also be able to attend the Polish National Ballet in the evening accompanied by the Orchestra of The Polish National Opera. The music will be the two Piano Concertos by Frederic Chopin, e-minor and f-minor.

Hotel Information

The Spring Meeting hotel is the:
'Hotel GROMADA Warszawa Centrum'.
Address: Plac Powstańców Warszawy 2
00-030 Warszawa, Poland
Phone: +48 22 58 29 900 (24h)
E-mail:
[warszawahotel.centrum\(at\)gromada.pl](mailto:warszawahotel.centrum(at)gromada.pl)

Website:
www.gromada.pl/hotel-warszawa-centrum
(the currency in Poland is PLN 'Polish Zloty', 1 EUR = approx. 4,3 PLN)

Special room rates for participants of the 'AGO Spring Meeting 2019'

- Single bedroom 1 person = 300,00 PLN (approx. 69 EUR)
- Double bedroom 2 persons = 340,00 PLN (approx. 79 EUR)
- Twin bedroom 2 persons = 340,00 PLN (approx. 79 EUR)

Full buffet breakfast included, TV and service included.

Room Reservations

Please make your hotel reservation by **31 January, 2019** by email to the hotel: [warszawahotel.centrum\(at\)gromada.pl](mailto:warszawahotel.centrum(at)gromada.pl) and use the code "AGO Spring Meeting 2019" which will guarantee the above mentioned rates. Always clearly mention the type of room you want.

After you have made your reservation, write and tell Michal and Judy
[michal.szostak.organy\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:michal.szostak.organy(at)gmail.com)
[judith.riefel-lindel\(at\)outlook.com](mailto:judith.riefel-lindel(at)outlook.com).

Your name will then be placed on the "official" Participant's List. The sooner you do this the better, in order to help us and the hotel in our planning.

- After making your reservation, the above mentioned rates will show up on the confirmation notice.

Payment

- To guarantee the reservation, the hotel will send you an e-mail with a pro forma invoice which should be paid by bank transfer or by a credit card.

- You can pay until the date of arrival at the hotel. But the reservation is confirmed only after the payment is made. We encourage you to pay for your room as

soon as possible. We will check with the hotel regularly to see which of our members' reservations have been confirmed.

- Participants wishing to extend their stay from April 19th until May 2nd, 2019, can book the additional nights under the same conditions as mentioned above.

- Luggage at departure: For participants who want to spend Saturday, April 27th, 2019 in Warsaw, the hotel will arrange a secured room to hold the luggage after check-out until leaving.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask. My email:

[michal.szostak.organy\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:michal.szostak.organy(at)gmail.com)

All the best to each and every one of you!

Yours sincerely / Z szacunkiem,

Michał Szostak
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Note from the editor: for the complete itinerary with photos please refer to the October 2018 issue!

Update from our Webmaster

Don't forget our Chapter **Facebook page!** Not only that, but photos from all of our Spring Meetings have been put up there as an album. Follow this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.1291359287568257.1073741830.912597592111097&type=1&l=5c5fd786b0>

It is public, so people who are not on FB can see it too.

The **European Chapter Web Site**

can be visited at:

www.agoeurope.eu

See Newsletters from 2000 until present and pictures from the Spring Meetings !

Barry Jordan

European Chapter AGO

Additions/Corrections to Membership List

Kathy Cooper, new postal address:
1951 Columbia Pike, Apt. 44
Arlington, VA 22204

John Igoe, new email address:
[jpicatons\(at\)gmail.com](mailto:jpicatons(at)gmail.com)

Michael Koenig, current address:
31 Oxberry Avenue
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United Kingdom
+491705068414
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Mission, Vision and Value Proposition

The **mission** of the American Guild of Organists is to foster a thriving community of musicians who share their knowledge and inspire passion for the organ.

The **vision** of the American Guild of Organists is to engage, support, and uplift every organist.

Value Proposition

As a member of the American Guild of Organists you can:

- **connect** with other organists
- **enhance** your skills as an organist and choral conductor
- **celebrate** the organ in historic and evolving contexts
- **discover** news of the organ and choral world online and in *The American Organist*
- Engage wider audiences with organ and choral music.
- **nurture** new organists of all ages
- **share** knowledge and expertise
- **enjoy** camaraderie at chapter events and conventions
- **find** inspiration and challenge
- **receive** encouragement from colleagues
- **experience** great organs and organists
- **access** career opportunities and job listings
- **earn** professional credentials through AGO certification

*Approved by the National Council
May 9th, 2016; revised by the
National Council June 7th, 2016.*

Members' News

Meredith E. Baker had retired from her position of Director of Music of the Catholic Chapel at the United States Military Academy at West Point in 2016. After over a year of subbing at marvelous churches, she

realized she was a total failure at retirement. When a previous church position opened up, she immediately sent in her resume and cover letter, and was offered the post of Organist/ChoirMaster at Christ Church, Manhasset, New York. Meredith had been at that post from 1978 through 1984, and the present Senior and Junior Wardens were then in her youth choir. She returns to the 1971 Casavant (3 manuals, 59 ranks) which needs a new console, but otherwise is doing as well as an organ of that vintage can. The parish is now much smaller than before, and the choir is an excellent ladies' choir of 6 sopranos and 3 altos! She'll tell you all about it in Warsaw next April.

Celebrating the 200th anniversary of STILLE NACHT, **Bernard Wayne Sanders** presented several settings of this Hymn-Tune in a *Geistliche Abendmusik* on New Year's Eve, December 31st, 2018. The program in St. Mary's in Tuttlingen included world premieres of his own "Three Nocturnes", "Pastorale", and "Ciaccona", as well as a "Berceuse" composed by his brother David L. Sanders of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

A new Mass setting which Bernard composed for a choir gathering in the Tuttlingen area has been accepted by the publishing company Dr. J. Butz Verlag of Bonn, Germany. It is scheduled to be released early 2019 and will be performed in Mühlheim by 13 choirs on October 12th, 2019.

Introducing Our Members

Nicholas Will is the Director of Liturgical Music at the Pontifical North American College where he oversees all aspects of liturgical music, serves as principal organist, and directs the *Seminary Choir*. He is currently on a leave of absence as Assistant Professor of Music and Coordinator of the Sacred Music Program at Franciscan University of Steubenville. A graduate of Duquesne University and the Peabody Conservatory of Music, Nicholas has held parish and cathedral appointments and has performed throughout the eastern United States and Europe as a soloist and

accompanist, including national gatherings of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians and the Church Music Association of America. He is currently a member of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians' national Steering Committee for Organists. His recordings as organist and conductor have been released by Navona Records and Jade Music.

Nicholas Will
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 or nicholas.jos.will(at)gmail.com

In each issue we'd like to introduce another member. Send us your resumé for inclusion!

European News

Barry Jordan, our member in Magdeburg reports:

Some may remember the transept organ of Magdeburg, which we listened to and played in the freezing cold during the Magdeburg Spring Meeting some years ago. Even then we were talking of the

vague plans for the future of this fine organ of its time.

Commencing in 2020 the choir of the cathedral will be renovated and the organ will have to be removed. This seems to be the ideal opportunity to actually do what we have been planning; there is after all little sense in re-erecting a case which is headed for the tip, for example. All in all, the work will cost something like 350,000 Euro. The building work is scheduled to take 6 years, so I will be retired by the time the reinstallation of the organ takes place, but still, I would like to take some of the first active steps.

To this end I will be playing an **organ marathon on March 14th**. I will begin playing at 8am and play continuously until midnight (10 minute breaks every three hours are allowed). People are invited to sponsor me with a small (or large) sum per hour. Details of the work we are planning, my program, and a sign-up form are all available on our website starting at <http://www.magdeburgerdommusik.de/html/orgelmarathon.html> . I'd be very pleased if chapter members could or would support me, even more, if they'd help "spread the word"! Many thanks!

Recitals Past and Present

*You can advertise here for your concert engagements to come as well as report those past.
 Please submit items for the next Newsletter !*

2018

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|---|----------|--|-----------------------------|
| Sept. 29 th | 12:15 PM | Martin Welzel, Organ | Mariendom, Hildesheim (D) |
| Works by Vierne (Final from Symphony no. 5 op. 47), Whitlock, and Baker
(Deux Evocations, 2017) | | | |
| Oct. 11 th | 6:30 PM | Martin Welzel and Franz Comploi, Organ | Seminary Church, Brixen (I) |
| Works by Sweelinck, Pachelbel, Kerll, and Bruna | | | |
| Dec. 31 st | 10 PM | Bernard Sanders, Organ | St. Mary's Tuttlingen (D) |
| <i>Geistliche Abendmusik</i> on New Year's Eve celebrating 200 years of STILLE NACHT
Works by J.S. Bach, David Sanders, Bernard Sanders, Charles Ore | | | |

2019

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|-------------------------|------|------------------------|--|
| Jan. 13 th | 4PM | Katelyn Emerson, Organ | St John's Episcopal, Jacksonville, FL (USA) |
| Feb. 16 th , | 3 PM | Katelyn Emerson, Organ | St. Thomas Church 5 th Avenue, NY, NY (USA) |

"Grand Organ Recital Series IV," as a part of the inauguration of the Miller-Scott Organ

Feb. 22 nd , 7:30 PM	Katelyn Emerson, Organ	Park Street Church, Boston, MA (USA)
March 3 rd , 4 PM	Katelyn Emerson, Organ	Cogswell Hall, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Indiana, PA (USA)
March 10 th , 8 PM	Katelyn Emerson, Organ	Cathedral of the Madeleine, Salt Lake City, UT (USA)
March 17 th , 3 PM	Katelyn Emerson, Organ	First Presbyterian Church, Medford, OR (USA)
April 4 th 8 PM	Martin Welzel, Organ	French Ref. Church of Friedrichstadt, Berlin (D) (Französischer Dom)

Works by Bach, Pachelbel, Mendelssohn, Widor, Langlais, Dupré, and Rheinberger

Apr. 13 th , 12 PM	Katelyn Emerson, Organ	Västerås Cathedral, Västerås (Sweden)
Apr. 13 th , 7 PM	Katelyn Emerson, Organ	Svenska kyrka, Ockelbo (Sweden)
Apr. 14 th , 7 PM	Katelyn Emerson, Organ	Österfärnebo kyrka, Österfärnebo (Sweden)
May 5 th 8 PM	Martin Welzel, Organ	St. Maria, Schramberg (D)

Works by Bach, Mendelssohn, Widor, Reger, Dupré, and Rheinberger

Every Saturday (11:30) Organ Music at Market Time	Marktkirche, Wiesbaden (D)
Hans Uwe Hielscher and guest organists from around the world	

