



American Guild of Organists

Chartered 1896

European Chapter

Chartered 1979

Newsletter January 2013

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The Dean's Corner

Dear European Chapter Members,

With the holidays behind us and winter weather all around, January is a top time for taking inventory of the old and starting fresh with the new. The National AGO Secretary, Councillor for Membership and a Dual member of our chapter, Lois Toepfner, writes a letter to us in this newsletter... a preview of the article coming out in the January TAO. Please don't miss reading her message and taking to heart her plea to consider the *potential* for renewed inspiration and membership growth as highlighted in the new AGO Mission Statement. As I read through the various actions of the Mission Statement again and considered what the members of the European Chapter are "busy with" right now, I'm filled with excitement and pride. We have an amazing number of members giving concerts around the globe, winning contests and new commissions with their compositions, organ builders continuing to build organs to inspire new generations of organists and congregations, members directing choirs and teaching students young and old, a member preparing to take an AGO exam, a member taking steps to offer a Pedals, Pipes and Pizza here in Europe, a super number of organ friends and fans who with their interest in music, organs and churches are "there" for us all, and - lest we forget: THE place to be for networking, fellowship and mutual support is, of course → our **European Chapter**

Spring Meeting 2013 in Magdeburg! Go to our new webpage for all the details: www.agoeurope.eu! February 15th is the deadline for registration, so be quick to decide and then start making definite plans to attend. If you're looking for new inspiration this spring, the Spring Meeting will be it.

May I introduce our newest member Matthias Mück from – of all places – Magdeburg! Spring Meeting participants will be meeting Matthias when visiting the Catholic Cathedral of St. Sebastian in Magdeburg where he is the Cathedral organist. Welcome, Matthias!

And a Happy New year to you all,

Judy

The Secretary's Voice

Dear Members,

This issue may be short but it pays to read it all and very attentively! Corrections and New Members should be kept up to date on your own Membership Lists, as Judy mentioned, the activities of our members are varied and exciting, the Web Site has been improved in leaps and bounds since Barry took over, have a look! Not to forget the DEADLINE for registering to attend the Spring Meeting!

There's certainly something here for everyone! Hope your New Year is off to a good start!

Wishing you all a good read !

Bernard

Please submit your items for the next Newsletter before March 28th !

News from the Board

**European Chapter AGO
Membership list 2012-2013**

1. **Rev. Frederick Brinkmann (new address)**
2130 Muliner Ave. #1C
Bronx, NY 10462-2069
USA
2. **Prof. Hannfried Lucke (new address)**
Lawenastrasse 42
LI-9495 Triesen
LIECHTENSTEIN
3. **Dominik Axtmann (new address)**
Kiefernweg 55
D-76287 Rheinstetten
GERMANY
4. **Kathleen C. Cooper (new address)**
921 21st Street South
Arlington, VA 22202
USA
5. **Nicole Ortega (address correction)**
82 rue d'Angue // Tel. +33
6. **Joy Mullen (new e-mail address)**
MullenJY57@aol.com.
7. **John Swindells (e-mail address correction)**
wjohnmswindells@hotmail.com
8. **Carolyn Shuster-Fournier (e-mail address check)**
cshusterfournier@orange.fr
9. **Jim Chidester (mob. Phone correction)**
+1 408 858 8725
10. **Kerry Beaumont (e-mail address correction)**
kerrybeaumont@gmail.com
11. **Lois Toepfner (e-mail address correction)**
loistoepfner@gmail.com
12. **Matthias Mück (New member!)**
kathedralmusiker@bistum-magdeburg.de
Max-Josef-Metzger-Str. 1a
D-39104 Magdeburg
GERMANY
+49 391 5961 707 or 54 95 95 25
Mob: +49 172 68121 50

**A NOTE from your Membership
Coordinator**

Since there are so many changes to the membership list that I sent to you in December, any member who would prefer to receive a new membership list from me rather than make your own changes to the earlier list, please let me know and I will send one to you.

Judy

European Chapter New Web Site !

Dear members and friends, at our last board meeting in Hasselt I volunteered to help to set up an informative and, I hope, attractive web-site about our activities. This has been online for some time now at <http://www.agoeurope.eu/> . What it still lacks is definitely some colour! Faces are always good. To this end I would like to set up some photo galleries from our previous Spring Meetings and would like to appeal to you all to help me by sending me any material you might have on your computers. If you can reduce any photos to usual internet size (approx. 1000 pixel in width) before sending them, that would save me some time and trouble, but if necessary I'd be prepared to do this. To see the sort of thing I have in mind, please take a look at our choir picture galleries: <http://www.magdeburgerdommusik.de/html/bildergalerien.html>

Looking forward to seeing you in Magdeburg (and showing you my toys) !

Barry

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Members at large: Ruth Ahrend
Ruthahrend@aol.com

Giorgio Parolini
info@giorgioparolini.com

Support your Board, be an active Member!

European Chapter Spring Meeting 2013 in Magdeburg

Last Call ! Deadline: Feb. 15th !!!

After an appetizing sketch in the July issue and the whole itinerary in the October issue it's now time to make concrete plans to attend.

Our convention hotel is the Hotel Ratswaage, a 4-star hotel which is offering us the unbeatable rate of just € 50 single (€ 68 double) including breakfast. Their website is at www.ratswaage.de. Bookings can be made there starting December 1st. Please quote "American Guild of Organists" when booking to get the special rate!

Be sure to let Judy Riefel-Lindel and me know that you are coming so that we can plan travel and meal arrangements accordingly.

Participation in our Spring Meetings requires no registration fee for European Chapter members, including Chapter Friends. Non-members have the choice of paying a registration fee of \$25 or €20, or becoming a Chapter Friend (\$20 or €16), or, of course, becoming a full member.

Please be prepared to pay the fee for transportation and some group meals (including the opening and closing banquets) in cash when checking in and receiving your registration packet. Those participating will receive mail ahead of time with the exact amounts necessary. There will be pictures of the organs and more information about them within the next weeks on our brand-new website

www.agoeurope.eu

or

www.agoeurope.eu/html/spring-break.html

Barry Jordan

Members' News

Jens Korndoerfer was appointed organist at the First Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, Georgia, effective September 2012. His responsibilities include playing the churches Möller/Zimmer (IV/105) and Klop (II/15) organs in services and concerts, accompanying the choir and orchestra, and teaching organ in the school of fine arts.

In October 2011 the Wichita Chapter of the AGO decided to honour Irene Shaw for her pioneering work in directing its Children's Pipe Organ Project "**POPs for KIDs**" through the over-20-years since its founding in 1991. Some of its history and approach can be viewed at the *POPs* web site www.kids.agowichita.org. Also with Irene's urging and effort, a new online teaching program has just been released (available on the site), moving the *POPs* program into the twenty-first century. Because of his connection to Wichita State University (MM, '83) and his success with "Ornament of Grace" (First Prize, AGO Composition Contest 2008) the Chapter chose **Bernard Wayne Sanders** to fulfil the commission. A presentation of the resulting piece "**Prelude, Recitative, and Fugue**" took place at the Chapter Meeting in January 2013 while the premier performance will take place at a special *POPs for KIDs* concert in the Spring.

From Lois Toepfner, our National AGO Secretary and Councillor for Membership:

Colleagues,

2012 was a wonderful year. I enjoyed meeting some of you and participating in the Yorkshire organ week. I consider my association with your European Chapter AGO as one of the highlights of 2012!

About a week ago, Pres. Eileen Guenther asked each of the other three national officers to write something which will appear in the TAO January 2013 President's Page. I have written the following which I would like to share at

this early time. If you are as involved in Advent/Christmas music as I am on this side of the Pond, you know that I will never have a free minute in December. Enjoy the read and hopefully I can inspire one or more of you to invite other organists to membership in AGO.

In the meantime, should you be travelling in the greater Boston/New England area of the USA, please contact me as I will gladly show you some of the marvellous organs in our area and will even invite you to our home! Have a great holiday filled with much good music and may you be richly blessed in the year ahead.

Sincerely,

Lois Toepfner

New Year Greetings to each of you,

Permit me to quote from Ellen Goodman: “We spend January 1 walking through our lives, room by room, drawing up a list of work to be done, cracks to be patched. Maybe this year, to balance the list, we ought to walk through the rooms of our lives...not looking for flaws but for **POTENTIAL**.”

Our American Guild of Organists’ recently revised **statement of mission 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
- engage wider audiences with organ and choral music

Colleagues, these are strong directives requiring deliberate action—individually and by chapters.

Consider the **POTENTIAL** for membership growth if we undertake just one of these six actions!

May each of you have a 2013 year filled with good health, good music, and many collegial friendships.

Lois Z. Toepfner

Introducing Our Members

Ronald Butts Boehmer is a musician from Dallas, Texas who currently resides in Formia, Italy. He studied piano in Dallas with Lois Nielson and was winner of numerous piano competitions. His organ teachers include: Paul Riedo, James Livengood, Dr. Linton Powell (University of Texas Arlington) and Dr. Jesse Eschbach and Marie-Madeleine Duruflé-Chevalier (University of North Texas). He served 4 years in the U.S. Armed Forces as a musician, graduated from Armed Forces School of Music, Virginia Beach (1994) and was a member of the NATO band stationed in Naples, Italy (1994-1997). There he obtained a Degree in Orchestral Conducting from the Italian State Conservatory of Music in Salerno. In Europe he has participated in organ master classes in Paris and Bologna. Church positions as organist and choirmaster in Texas have included: Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, Terrell, (1984-1988), Grace-First Presbyterian, Weatherford, (1988-1992), St. Timothy’s Episcopal, Fort Worth (1992-1993), He served as Convention organist for the 1988 National Council of Churches and was an active member of the Fort Worth AGO Chapter before moving to Italy. There he served as Organist at Christ Church, Naples (1994-2000) and Basilica di Santa Chiara, Naples (1997-2007). At Teatro San Carlo, Naples he was maestro collaboratore and English coach for Britten’s “Peter Grimes” (2008). Since 2000 he is Director of the Choral Scholars of Naples leading an active programme of concerts with organ recitals, choral and instrumental concerts with presentations including: Handel’s “Esther”, “Israel in Egypt”, “Coronation Anthems”, annual presentations of Handel’s “Messiah” and the complete choral works of Gabriel Fauré and Maurice Duruflé.

Ronald Butts Boehmer

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

Humor(for insiders)

Barry, you've just put a big smile on my face. What fun. I think your comments here must be able to find a way for others to read them, too, at some point, so don't forget them. Have a great day. *Judy*

----- Original Message -----

From: [Barry Jordan](#)

To: [Judy Riefel-Lindel](#)

Sent: Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Subject: Spring thingy

Hi everyone !

I must confess, I've *always* called it the Spring break [instead of the Spring Meeting] because I thought that was what it was called! I remember thinking it was quite clever with its associations - other people go to Cancun, we freeze in unheated churches and look at organs. So, it wasn't deliberate (though I sorta like it...) I will change it asap.

Best

Barry

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 !*

- Feb. 6th 8:30 PM Carolyn Shuster Fournier, Organ Notre-Dame d'Auteuil, Paris (F)
Program in homage to the musicians in the 16th district in Paris, in memory of Jacques Taddei (1946-2012): works by A.Guilmant, C. Franck, F. de la Tombelle, C. Delvincourt, J. Bonnet, C. Tournemire, D. Lesur, J. Ibert, P. Cochereau and L. Vierne. Free admission.
- Feb. 19th Carolyn Shuster Fournier, Organ Hospital de los Venerables in Sevilla (Spain)
on the Grenzing organ for the Focus-Abengoa Foundation
Works by Marchand, de Grigny, Selby, Balbastre, Franck, Chauvet, Guilmant and Alain.
- Feb. 9th 5 PM Giorgio Parolini, Organ Duomo, Monza (Italy)
- March 4th 1 PM Carolyn Shuster Fournier Bales Organ Recital Hall, Lawrence, Kansas
2 PM Masterclass
- Lecture on "The Music at the Trinité Church in Paris: from Théodore Salomé to Olivier Messiaen;
- March 4th 7:30 PM Carolyn Shuster Fournier Bales Organ Recital Hall, Lawrence, Kansas
Concert on the Wolff Organ, Op. 40, in memory of Dr. Gary Zwicky and his wife Elaine.
Works by J. S. Bach, de Grigny, Selby, Balbastre, Franck, Chauvet, Guilmant and Vierne.
- March 7th 7:30 PM Carolyn Shuster Fournier Stone Chapel, Drury Univ., Springfield, MO
Concert on the Lyon & Healy Organ (1906) The Eclectic Spirit of Parisian Organists
Works by J. S. Bach, de Grigny, Selby, Balbastre, Franck, Chauvet, Guilmant and Vierne.
- March 10th 4:30 PM Carolyn Shuster Fournier, Organ Epsicopal Church in San Antonio, TX
Organ concert in memory of Don Campbell
- March 10th 4:30 PM Bernard Sanders, Organ St. Petrus & Jakobus major, Nendingen (D)
Evening of Sacred Music in Lent with Dr. Martin Weidner, Trumpet
- March 17th 4:30 PM Bernard Sanders, Organ St. Mary's, Tuttlingen (D)
Evening of Sacred Music in Lent with Voice Students of Gudrun Marquardt-Teuscher
- March 29th 3 PM Bernard Sanders, Directing St. Gallus, Tuttlingen (D)
Good Friday Service with the Passion According to John (1568) by Jakob Meiland
Catholic Church Choir of Tuttlingen
- March 31st 9 AM Bernard Sanders, Conducting St. Gallus, Tuttlingen (D)
Easter Service with the Missa brevis in g-minor (11774) by Nikolaus Betscher
Catholic Church Choir of Tuttlingen, Soloists, Orchestra

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

