



American
Guild of
Organists

July/August 2011 Portland Prestant

www.portlandago.org



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The Portland Prestant is the official publication of the Portland Oregon Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Deadline for submissions is the 20th day of the month preceding publication.

pdxally@gmail.com

Dean's Letter

I will be brief this month, as we have a lot going on. As you have been hearing about all year, we are hosting a Pipe Organ Encounter (POE) this year, and it's almost here! I realize that putting on an event like this can be a real strain, but I can't overstate its importance. In my opinion, there is very little business of the Chapter right now that is as important as sharing the power and beauty of great music with the next generation. (Editor's Note: See all of the exciting Pipe Organ Encounter and Centennial Organ Festival events listed on page 2.)

When I started writing these Dean's Letters, I made a conscious choice to try to avoid dwelling on the negative. You do not need me to tell you that times are tough for everyone right now. Many places of worship and other non-profits are struggling. I have had serious crises this year in my professional lives (both my day job and my church job). But none of that is inspiring.

So here's the crux: if you believe in what you are doing, if you love organ and choral and other music of value, you simply have to want to pass that love along to a new generation. It's easy to fall into nostalgia for the "good old days". But before we get too nostalgic, let me point out that when I started to learn the organ, I had to struggle to get support and bench time from a less-than-competent organist who didn't want anyone but herself touching "her" organ. That's a part of our past we're better off without, in my opinion. I would have greatly benefited from something like a POE. We didn't have them then, but we have them now. And that's inspiring.

James Isaak, Dean

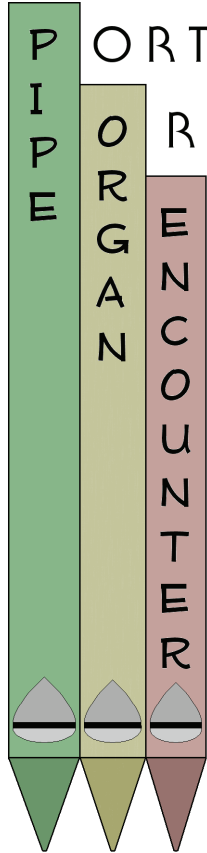
TIME TO PAY YOUR DUES



Renewals are due July 31.
See page 4 for a membership
renewal form.



2011 Pipe Organ Encounter & Centennial Organ Festival



PORTLAND Question: What takes 30 venues, thousands of dollars, 11 months of meetings, and 30 volunteers?

OREGON Answer: Your Pipe Organ Encounter Portland Oregon! And we are now ready for prime time.

Attend as many events as possible and bring guests -- you will find it fun and encouraging to see the excitement on the faces of our young people! But more than that, these are quality events, the best our community offers in honor of our 100 years as a chapter.

Here is a list of some of the events you can attend...

Sunday, July 10 7:30 pm: Douglas Cleveland in Concert at First Presbyterian Church. Douglas Cleveland is one of America's most celebrated organ recitalists, and has performed all over the world, including Westminster Abbey, the Cathédrale de Notre Dame in Paris, and the Moscow Conservatory. His performances are regularly broadcast on NPR and the BBC, and he has recorded several CDs, including the critically acclaimed "Cleveland in Columbus." Admission is \$12 for the general public, but POE volunteers may attend, with up to one spouse or friend, free of charge.

Monday, July 11, 2:00 pm: Portland's own Jonas Nordwall accompanies a Silent Film and demonstrates the Theatre Organ at Cleveland High School. Jonas is a very popular performer, and this should be an entertaining event for both students and the general public! There is no admission charge.

Monday, July 11, 7:30 pm: Concert by the POE Faculty at First United Methodist Church. This event showcases the notable skills of the talented individuals who are instructing the students this week through lessons and workshops. The programs will have a lot of variety, and includes audience participation! There is no admission charge.

Tuesday, July 12, 4:00 pm: Skating Party at Oaks Park Bring your skates or rent ours! Gary Russell will play the Wurlitzer Theatre Organ, while POE students join other skaters on Portland's biggest roller-rink. The Wurlitzer's pipes are suspended right over the center of the rink for a spectacular effect--it will be fun just to watch! (Free skate rental for any POE volunteers brave enough to join in!) Gary will give a short talk afterward, including the history of Oaks Park, the Great Flood of 1948, and other interesting information about the theatre organ, which was installed in 1955.

Wednesday, July 13, 7:30 pm: Nathan Laube in Concert at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral Nathan will have just turned 23 the week before this concert, but he is already earning national and international recognition as a rising star among classical musicians. He is noted for his colorful virtuosity and maturity of technique. Admission is \$12 for the general public, but POE volunteers may attend, with up to one spouse or friend, free of charge.

Thursday, July 14 2:00 pm: POE Student Recital at St. Michael's Lutheran - Meet these kids! Who will be the next rising star? Come hear our POE teens demonstrate what they've learned this week, and you may be able to say, "I knew them when...!"

--Walter Krueger, for the POE Team, wkrueger@teleport.com

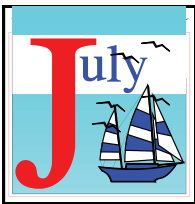


Send Your Membership Renewal Today!

Please consider filling out the membership form on page 4 and sending it to Fred Beal as soon as possible. Many, many of you have not done so and if this keeps up, we will not have enough members to run a chapter. As of this date less than half of you have renewed. We need all of you in order to continue providing concerts, picnics, and other get-togethers for all of you who labor so hard on behalf of your various congregations. Our program chairman Grant Edwards has put together some very nice things to enjoy in the upcoming fall season. So please remember we all need to pull together to keep our Chapter going.

Elizabeth Ann Farrington, Registrar

Please note: Payment must be received by July 31, 2010 to ensure continuous membership and, for voting members, delivery of The American Organist. Renewals received after July 31st will not be included in the 2010-2011 Directory.



July 3 - 7 AGO Region VIII Convention in Boise, ID

The Les Bois (Boise) chapter of the American Guild of Organists invites you to the Region VIII convention. www.convention.agoboise.org

Sunday - Thursday, July 10 - 14

Pipe Organ Encounter & Centennial Organ Festival in Portland, OR

The Portland chapter of the American Guild of Organists presents a Pipe Organ Encounter for youth and a Centennial Organ Festival celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Portland chapter. See page 2 for a list of events.

Tuesday, July 19 7:00 PM Portland AGO Executive Board Meeting

Meeting is at the Bond organ factory. For more information, contact James Isaak, Dean at jamesisaak@msn.com or 503-242-5734.

Portland AGO Monthly Luncheon 11:30 AM General membership, non-business meeting on the last Tuesday of each month at Newport Seafood Grill, 1200 NE Broadway in Portland (just north of Lloyd Center, next to Safeway). Members and guests are invited to come to enjoy good food and good chatting, some organ-related, some not. Everyone is on his/her own for lunch.



Sunday, August 7 2:00 PM Organ Recital

Christopher Wicks, F.A.G.O., will present an organ recital at Christ the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 4440 State Street in Salem. The recital will feature a cantata by Buxtehude cantata, works by Bach, Tunder, and some chorale preludes by Christopher Wicks. The recital is free and open to all.

L O O K I N G A H E A D

June 23 - 26, 2013 AGO Region VIII Convention in Salem, OR

Salem Chapter has the honor of being "hosts" to the Region VIII AGO Convention in 2013. Please mark your calendars now and plan to attend. We're excited about developing the program around our theme "Passing the Organ from Generation to Generation." We extend an invitation to any from your chapter who would enjoy working on our executive committee. We are a small group, but very active and would be happy to include you. Elaine McNitt, Convention Coordinator, 503-769-2520, emcn@att.net



AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS PORTLAND, OREGON CHAPTER
MEMBERSHIP DATA FORM for 2011-2012 (July 1 to June 30)

Name (please print) Spouse/Partner (optional unless member)

Mailing Address

City State Zip

Home Phone Office

Church Other

E-mail Prestant sent electronically Yes No

Position(s)

Organization (church/synagogue)

Degrees, AGO Certificates, etc.

The above information will appear in the Chapter Directory. If the current directory entry is complete and correct, please only print your name above and sign below. Your signature indicates your willingness to abide by the AGO Code of Ethics printed on page two.

Membership category (check one)

Table with 3 columns: Membership category, Amount, and Amount. Rows include Regular voting member (\$92), Special voting member (65 & over, under 21, or disabled) (\$67), Student voting member (full-time, with valid school ID) (\$37), Partner voting member (only one TAO per household) (\$67), Dual voting member Primary Chapter (\$35), Student Dual Primary Chapter (\$15), and Chapter Friend (Non-voting) (\$36).

Other:

Table with 2 columns: Other contribution and Amount. Rows include Portland Chapter Annual Fund Contribution, Memorial Scholarship Fund Contribution, and Professional Card Ad in Directory (\$15).

Total Enclosed (due by July 31, 2011)

Signature Date

Make checks payable to Portland Chapter A.G.O. and return completed form with your check to:

Fred Beal, Treasurer
Portland Chapter AGO
4731 NE Davis Street
Portland, Oregon 97213



Portland Chapter AGO Executive Committee Meeting Minutes - June 14, 2011

Present: Fred Beal, Karen Corbett, Grant Edwards, Ann Farrington, Michael Fox, Mitch Groh, David Howard, James Isaak, Bill Kuhn, Bob Spiers.

The meeting was called to order by the Dean.

Minutes: MSC to accept the minutes of May 10.

Dean's Business:

1. There is one member on the nominating committee so far, (Katie Lewis). We need at least one more.
2. Officers whose term is expired: Michael Fox, Bob Spiers, Dave Howard
3. We should ask Dick Walker to tally the ballots once again when they are received.

Registrar's report:

1. The Dues Reports have been sent to headquarters.
2. Membership applications so far: 34

Program report:

1. The June social will be at Michael Fox's place on June 26, 2:00 p.m. Members are invited to bring amusing musical pieces.
2. We will aim for mid-September for the annual meeting and installation of officers.

3. One suggested program for next year would be the introduction of new repertoire by members.
4. St. Marks definitely wants the Bachathon next year.
5. St. Luke's Episcopal in Vancouver would be a fine venue for an organ-plus-other-instruments concert.
6. We will still plan to schedule the Temple Beth Israel concert in the Fall.

POE Report:

1. There will be tote bags for the kids from APOBA
2. Jonas Nordwall will play the theatre organ program.
3. There are 24 students enrolled and 2 on the waiting list.
4. Still need housing for Douglas Cleveland, Nathan Laube and Peggy Evans.
5. Certain volunteers are still needed.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. Respectfully submitted,

David Howard, Secretary

Next meeting: July 19, 7:00 at Bond organ factory.

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Portland Chapter
American Guild of Organists
14781 S. Buckner Creek Rd
Mulino OR 97042-9621