Dr. Bergt’s Insights on Buxtehude and Bach at April Meeting

This month, join us for an evening of conversation about music of the Bach, especially the influence of Buxtehude on Bach’s musical imagination. We will have an opportunity to hear Dr. Robert Bergt’s insights, drawn from a life of study and performance, and also have an opportunity to hear Guild members play several pairs of pieces on the 63-rank Casavant instrument in the Chapel of St. Timothy and Titus.

The works performed will include the Buxtehude’s Fugue in C Major (a la Gigue) (BuxWv 174) and Bach’s Fugue in C Major (a la Gigue) as well two chorale preludes on Nun komm der Heiden. You are invited to bring your scores and encouraged to bring your questions to Dr. Bergt’s Insights on Buxtehude and Bach at April Meeting.

In June 1995, Dr. Bergt was appointed artist in residence/Bach scholar-lecturer at Concordia Seminary. In this capacity he is conductor and music director of the American Kantorei, founded in 1968. The chamber-sized orchestra and chorus is the performance medium of the concert series known as Bach at the Sem. Previously Bergt conducted the Concordia Cantata Chorus which he founded in 1955; he also was conductor of the Concordia Seminary Chorus and the Chapel Choir beginning in 1953. The Kantorei evolved out of the Concordia Cantata Chorus.

(Continued on Page 3)

Special Ballot Issue: Vote * Vote * Vote * Vote * Vote

* * * * Two (count ‘em) Stellar Opportunities * * * *

to participate in the democratic process and use your personal influence in selecting AGO leadership!


Turn to pages 56-60 in the April issue of TAO, read the biographies, and mark your choices for national and regional Guild officers on the ballot post card included at page 56. Paste a stamp on it, and get YOUR VOTE counted in New York!

2. St. Louis Chapter Election, 2008

Turn to page 4 of this OPUS issue to read biographies of the nominees for election to our Chapter’s leadership. Then mark your ballot on page 5. Cut out the page, place it in an envelope, paste on stamp, and mail it to Denis Doelling by May 7. Get YOUR VOTE counted right here in Glendale!

PLEASE take the time to do this.
Your vote is important and counts across the country.
— From the St. Louis Chapter Dean…

It’s Election Time! Your Vote Is Important!

I need to explain to you some things about the 2008 ballot and the election process for the St. Louis Chapter this year. As you all know, our leadership structure is based on the dean and sub-dean serving two-year terms, with the sub-dean then moving on to the dean’s position, while the dean moves to a three-year term on the Executive Committee.

That pattern will be altered this year, as our sub-dean, Paul Vasile, has been appointed minister of music at Park Avenue Christian Church in New York City. Paul will leave St. Louis in May to assume his new duties. His talent and energy have given a big lift to our programs the past two years, and while I know he will go on to great success in New York, he will certainly be missed here in the St. Louis. I know you all join me in wishing Paul well in his new position.

For personal reasons, I will not be moving on to the Executive Committee. The Nominating Committee has selected six nominees for the three Executive Committee openings in the Class of 2011. Their biographies are in this issue, and I appreciate their willingness to have their names placed on the ballot. They all are active members who are interested in the welfare of the Chapter, and I can truly say that whoever you choose will be an asset to the Executive Committee. My sincere thanks to Ruth Ayers, Cathy Bolduan, and Earl Naylor for their work on the Nominating Committee.

In discussion at its March meeting, the Executive Committee decided to approach the leadership issue by seeking a candidate for dean from the Executive Committee and for sub-dean from the Program Committee. That way, the nominees will have a working knowledge of the last few years of Chapter business. (When I accepted the sub-dean position four years ago, I had not held any previous chapter positions, and the learning curve was very steep!)

Chapter to Sponsor Workshops at National Convention

The Executive Committee has voted to sponsor three workshops at the National Convention in Minneapolis/St. Paul in June. The sessions are:

M28  ECS Publishing and MorningStar Music Publishers Choral Music Reading Session
Monday, 3:30-5 p.m. Check out the new music for next season (and say hello to Tom Pearce and Mark Lawson!).

T13  Growing Young Organists: Great Ideas from San Diego
Tuesday 3:30 - 4:15 p.m.
Panel discussion with members of the national AGO Committee on The New Organist. Attend and get some ideas for our next POE!

Z14  Staying Pain-Free at the Console
Thursday 1 -2 p.m.
Practical advice from the former organist at the Air Force Academy Chapel in Colorado Springs, who now is a licensed therapist and really understands posture and repetitive motion problems!

Addition to Substitute List

There is a positive note for our Chapter due to recent changes in local businesses. We will be getting several new members as a result of the A.G. Edwards-Wachovia merger. First to arrive is Rick Burk, CAGO, from Richmond, Va. Rick has a Master’s degree in sacred music from Duquesne and many years of experience. While he looks for a permanent music position here, he will be available to substitute on Sundays and for weddings and funerals. Contact Rick at 314-256-1187 or ricndar1@msn.com.

Chuck Peery has agreed to place his name on the ballot for the office of dean. He was elected to the Executive Committee in the Class of 2009. Chuck recently took responsibility for organizing and updating the Chapter bylaws, and we all owe him thanks for work well done. Henry Evans has agreed to have his name placed on the ballot for the office of sub-dean. Henry has been serving on both the Executive and Program committees for the past three years. He also served in leadership positions with the former Gateway East AGO Chapter.

The Executive Committee, along with Paul and I, are grateful to Chuck and Henry for agreeing to be nominated as your Chapter’s leaders and trust that Chapter business will move forward with continuity under their oversight.

Now please turn to pages 4 and 5, read the nominees’ biographies, and do your part in this process. Your input into the governance of YOUR Chapter by voting is important. Please note the postmarked mailing date for your ballot. Denis Doelling is awaiting your mail!

— Martha Shaffer

THE OPUS
The official publication of the St. Louis Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.
April 2008
Volume 24, No. 8
Wayne King, Editor
You are invited to submit material to the editor for publication consideration. Material and calendar items should be e-mailed to opusslago@aol.com.

Next issue deadline: April 24, 2008
On the Concert Horizon

Sunday, April 20, 2:30 p.m. Christ Church Cathedral, 1210 Locust, St. Louis, Mo. Wanda Becker, violin; Natasha Rubenstein, cello; Paul Vasile, piano.

Sunday, April 20, 4 p.m. Second Presbyterian Church, 4501 Westminster Place (in the Central West End), St. Louis, Mo. Easter Vespers with English music, featuring Benjamin Britten’s “Rejoice in the Lamb.” The Second Church Adult Choir, Andrew Peters, organist and director; and Pat Partridge, organist. Free.

Sunday, April 20, 4 p.m. Webster Groves United Methodist Church, 600 North Bompart, St. Louis, Mo. Robert Ray’s “Gospel Mass” with Chancel Choirs of Webster Groves Presbyterian and Webster Groves United Methodist Churches.

Sunday, April 27, 2 p.m. Second Baptist Church, 9030 Clayton Rd., St. Louis, Mo. 175th Anniversary recital celebrating new 7’ 6” Yamaha grand piano. Martin Kennedy, Washington University assistant professor of composition, featuring works by Schumann, Bach, Gershwin, and Liszt. Free-will offering.

Sunday, April 27, 3 p.m. Bethel Lutheran Church, 7001 Forsyth Blvd., University City, MO 63105. The Gateway Ringers present “American Tapestry.” Free admission, donations welcomed.

Sunday, April 27, 3 p.m. Ivy Chapel United Church of Christ, 620 North Woods Mill Road, Chesterfield, Mo. Concert celebrating the newly installed Johannus Rembrandt organ featuring the Ivy Chapel Chancel Choir under the direction of Marsha Medley and guest organist Charles Collins.

Sunday, April 27, 5 p.m. Christ Church Cathedral, 1210 Locust, St. Louis, Mo. Evensong with the Cathedral Choir.

Saturday, May 3, 7:30 p.m. Christ Church Cathedral, 1210 Locust, St. Louis, Mo. Flower Festival concert. Collegium Vocale, Bruce Carvell, music director. Baroque music for springtime.

Sunday, May 4, 2:30 p.m. Christ Church Cathedral, 1210 Locust, St. Louis, Mo. Manuela Kaymakanova, violin; Tracy Andreotti, cello, Amanda Kirkpatrick, piano.

Sunday, May 11, 2:30 p.m. Christ Church Cathedral, 1210 Locust, St. Louis, Mo. Mother’s Day concert. Annette Burkhart and Jennifer Lim, piano four-hands.

Sunday, May 18, 10 a.m. Webster Groves Presbyterian Church, 45 West Lockwood, St. Louis, Mo. “Motion in the Ocean” Children’s choir musical.

Dr. Bergt (Continued from Page 1)

Chorus. He was instructor at the seminary from 1956-1960 and then assistant and associate professor in areas of church music and worship from 1960-1974

In the same years he assisted numerous congregations with pastoral services and as minister of music. He was concertmaster and assistant conductor of the St. Louis Philharmonic (1949-1955), first violinist of Ford Foundation Young Audiences String Quartet (1960-1968) and guest conductor of the St. Louis String Ensemble and Kirkwood Symphony. He often was violin soloist, especially in Baroque concerti, with the community orchestras and ensembles.

Bergt has held tenure at three academic institutions at the graduate and undergraduate levels: Concordia Seminary at St. Louis, 1960-1974; Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, 1974-1984, and at Valparaiso University, 1984-1988. Musashino Academia Musicae in Tokyo engaged him as orchestral conductor and graduate professor of chamber music in 1981 and again on a continuing basis from 1988-1995. He was given the Avis Blewett Award by the St. Louis AGO Chapter in May 1996 in recognition of distinguished musical contributions to the community. In May 2004 he was honored by KFUO Classic 99 for outstanding service and contributions to St. Louis and the region through music and teaching.

Saint Peter’s Episcopal Church
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Biographical Sketches of Nominees  
for Dean, Sub-Dean, and the Executive Committee

For the office of Dean

Charles Peery
Charles (Chuck) Peery is music director/organist at St. Paul United Church of Christ, Belleville, Ill., a position he has held since July 2004. He has been a church musician since 1970, predominantly in and around Cincinnati, Ohio, where he was born and raised. He taught choral music in the public schools there for 28 years. He was a piano/music ed/composition major at the College Conservatory of Music, University of Cincinnati. Chuck has served on the Chapter Executive Committee since 2006. He was recently named director of the Gateway Ringers handbell group in St. Louis.

Henry Evans
Henry Evans, MM, is the organist and choirmaster at Saint Andrew’s Episcopal Church, Edwardsville, Ill. He has been a guild member since 1982. He served on the Chapter program committee and 2006 POE faculty. He is finishing a three-year term on the Chapter’s Executive Committee and is a former sub-dean of the Gateway Eastern Chapter. He holds degrees from SIUE and the University of North Texas. His teachers include: Kathleen Thomson, Jesse Eschbach, and he was one of the last American students of the French organist Marie-Madeleine Durufle.

For Executive Committee Membership (three to be elected)

Gregory Caldwell
Greg attended The Cleveland Institute of Music earning a BM in bassoon performance. He has performed with many orchestras on the East Coast as well as recording Mahler’s 2nd Symphony with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra. After serving as the principal bassoonist with the Augusta (Ga.) Symphony for 5 years, Greg moved to St. Louis to work for the Wicks Organ Company. After working on many fine jobs with Wicks, he started his own business, Gregory P. Caldwell - Organ Reed Restoration. The business continues to grow and attract many pipe organ builders as well as pipe organ service companies who enlist his services in the restoration of reeds.

Catherine Cassy
Cathy is assistant organist and choir director at St. Elizabeth Parish, Granite City, Ill., where she works with fellow Guild member James Dedera. By profession, she is a communication arts curriculum supervisor for grades 6-12 in St. Louis Public Schools. Music has always been an avocation and an important part of Cathy’s life. Cathy grew up with a love and appreciation of the power and majesty of the organ. She began playing church services at the age of 12. She feels privileged to be a member of the St. Louis American Guild of Organists and to have the opportunity to meet and learn from the esteemed members of this Guild.

Norbert Krausz
Norbert Krausz is the director of liturgy/music and organist at the Catholic Church of the Immacolata in Richmond Heights. He also teaches music at Immacolata School and directs the Immacolata School choir and youth cantor team. He received a Bachelor of Music Education degree with majors in organ and voice from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. Norbert has taught public school music in the St. Louis and Kansas City areas. He has served as director of music/organist at St. Paul United Church of Christ, Belleville, Ill., and as assistant organist and contemporary music director for the First Presbyterian Church in Las Vegas, Nev.

Bill Stein
Bill Stein, a native of northern Illinois, completed his undergraduate work in organ performance at Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington and a Master’s in Sacred Music at Northwestern University. He held church positions in Chicago and Rockford before coming to First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood in April 2006. While in Rockford, Bill served the AGO chapter there as a member-at-large for 3 years and dean for 2 years. He has done several tours in Europe as both organist and choir director and is now planning a fall 2009 trip to Scotland, Wales, and England for the Chancel Choir of First Presbyterian.

Fr. Joseph Havrilka
Fr. Joseph currently serves as chaplain to the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George and St. Anthony’s Health Center, Alton, Ill. Fr. Joseph’s interest in organ music began when he began taking lessons in the sixth grade from a Dominican sister. He continued his studies with a Franciscan priest in High School Seminary and was given a deep appreciation for the sacred liturgy, as well. He studied organ for two years on the college level and was organist in many churches and convents over the years. Fr. Joseph is a strong supporter of organ and liturgical music. In addition to the AGO, he is member of the Wisconsin Chapter of OHS. He firmly believes that pipe organs and organ literature in churches should be preserved and promoted.

Jeff White
Jeff was born and raised in St. Louis. His formal training in church music began with Charles Cordeal. Under the guidance of Dr. Barry Bobb, he began playing for worship at age 15 at Salem Lutheran Church, Affton. He attended Concordia University, Chicago, for one year, studying with Dr. Carl Waldschmidt. Currently, Jeff is working to complete a Master’s degree in church music with an emphasis in organ under Dr. Nancy Ypma and Dr. John Behnke, with hopes of graduating in December 2008. He has held posts at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Columbia, Ill.; Holy Cross Lutheran Church, St. Louis; and is currently serving Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in South County. Jeff is a member of the Gateway Ringers of St. Louis and serves as board president. He served a one-year appointment to the Chapter Executive Committee in 2006-2007.
For the office of Dean:  
Term of Office: July 1, 2008, to June 30, 2010

___ Charles Peery

For the office of Sub-Dean:  
___ Henry Evans

For Executive Committee Membership:  
Term of Office: July 1, 2008, to June 30, 2011
VOTE FOR THREE NOMINEES

___ Gregory Caldwell

___ Catherine Cassy

___ Fr. Joseph Havrilka

___ Norbert Krausz

___ Bill Stein

___ Jeff White

Send your ballot by First Class U.S. Mail to:

Denis Doelling, Auditor
St. Louis Chapter, American Guild of Organists
1210 Brownell Avenue
St. Louis, MO  63122-3208

Ballot must be postmarked by May 7, 2008.
Positions Available

Music Director

St. Martin’s Episcopal Church, 15764 Clayton Rd., Ellisville, MO 63011 is seeking an experienced organist/music director for a full-time position. Music director will serve as principal organist, bell director, and adult choir director. The music director will develop new ensembles to meet the emerging needs of St. Martin’s. Position reports directly to the rector. It is expected the music director will fully participate in St. Martin’s team ministry, working towards the mission and goals of the parish. St. Martin’s serves the west St. Louis County area. Salary commensurate with experience. Submit resumes to the Rev. Susan K. Crawford, interim rector, scrawford@stmartinschurch.org. Church phone 636-227-1484.

Director of Music

Incarnate Word Catholic Church, 13416 Olive Blvd., Chesterfield, MO 63017, seeks a director of music and organist. Weekend liturgies are celebrated at 5 p.m. on Saturdays, and at 8:45 and 10:30 a.m. on Sundays. Additionally, the successful applicant will be responsible for wedding, funeral, and school liturgies. Ensembles include adult, children, and handbells. The church utilizes a two-manual Rodgers organ and a grand piano. The church also owns a set of Malmark handbells. A cantor program is in place. Salary is per Archdiocesan scale. Interested persons should forward pertinent materials to the Rev. Timothy Vowels, pastor, at (phone 314-576-5366, fax 314-576-2046, or e-mail frvowels@incarnate-word.org).

Director of Music & Liturgy, Organist

St. Teresa of the Child Jesus Catholic Church, 1201 Lebanon Avenue, Belleville, IL 62221, seeking a director of music & liturgy, organist. Responsibilities of this part-time position include playing organ or piano for two or three weekend liturgies, Holy Days, special liturgies, two school Masses per week, weddings, funerals and directing a contemporary choir. Candidate must have strong leadership skills, knowledge of the Roman Catholic liturgy and be a competent organist and pianist with knowledge of handbells. Instruments include a three-manual Wicks pipe organ with digital voices; 6’8” Yamaha grand piano and three octaves of Schulmerich handbells. Detailed job description is available on request. Send resume to Rev. David Darin at the church.

Director of Music

St. George Catholic Church, 4980 Heege Road, St. Louis, MO 63123, seeking a part-time director of music and organist. The instrument is a two-manual Wicks pipe organ. Weekend liturgies are at 9 and 11 a.m. on Sunday. The choir rehearses on Wednesday at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Fr. Thomas Robertson (314-352-3544, fax 314-832-6916).

Choir Accompanist

Wentzville United Methodist Church, 725 Wall Street, Wentzville, MO 63385, seeking a choir accompanist to rehearse and perform with the Sanctuary Choir. The position requires a one-hour evening rehearsal with the choir during the week and one anthem at the traditional-style 8:30 a.m. Sunday service. Candidates should possess proficient piano skills and reliable transportation to arrive punctually for each rehearsal and service. Those with organ or/and voice training are preferred. The position pays $75 weekly with an opportunity for added responsibility/compensation. Contact the church office (636-327-6377) or Jeremy Melton (636-497-5380).

Organist

Calvary Presbyterian Church, 3400 Lemay Ferry Rd., St. Louis, MO 63125, seeking an organist. Duties include playing for the 10 a.m. Sunday service and the Maundy Thursday and Christmas Eve services. For more information, contact Joan Delaney (314-892-0233) or Eva Shrum (314-845-2833).

(See St. Louis Chapter Web site – www.agostlouis.org – for more listings.)
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