TWO EXCITING EVENTS!

Here we are at the conclusion of another program year of AGO STL activities with two events in May! The first is a recital on Monday evening, 4 May, at 7:30, co-sponsored by the Chapter and the First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood featuring the duo-organist team of Elizabeth and Raymond Chenault on the mighty Casavant. Having performed extensively throughout the United States and in Europe, the Chenaults specialize in works written for two performers, of which they have commissioned and premiered over forty. According to The Journal of the Association of Anglican Musicians, “No one can contest the spectacular facility, musicianship, and ensemble that these two offer in every musical style represented. Amazing artistry and technique, creative and diverse programming, and an accurate sense of what the public—from casual listeners to highly trained church musicians—will enjoy and appreciate.” Dinner for the chapter will be at 6:30 (part of the pre-paid plan) with the recital commencing at 7:30. Bill Stein will be our host.

At 7:30 we will move into the Church to hear a recital by Thomas Herzer, Kantor of the famous Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. Herr Herzer’s tour through the United States has been to raise money for the relocation and rebuilding of a chancel pipe organ in the Castle Church (think Martin Luther in 1517 and his 95 Theses, as Europe prepares its 500th anniversary celebration of Reformation in 2015). Trinity’s historic pipe organ was built by the Pfeffer Organ Company for the opening of Trinity’s original church in Soulard in 1864. It was remodeled by the Kilgen Organ Company after the cyclone of 1896 into a more romantic instrument. In 2014, the Schantz Company of Orville, Ohio, restored about 20 of the older ranks and added many new voices as well, widening its range and color palette.

I’ll see you in Kirkwood and Soulard!

Cheers - Mark

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**THE DETAILS**

**Event:** Recital—The Chenaults
**Location:** First Presbyterian Church
100 East Adams Avenue
Kirkwood, MO 63122

**Date:** Monday, May 4, 2015
**Time:** Dinner—6:30 pm; Recital—7:30 pm

**Host:** Bill Stein
**Cost:** Dinner $10 with a reservations: $12 at the door
**Reservations:** Kathleen Bolduan (314-725-1251) or Kathleen.bolduan@gmail.com by 4/29/15

**Directions:**
- From I-44: Take exit 278 (Big Bend). Keep right onto Big Bend. Turn right onto S. Kirkwood, then right onto East Adams.
- From 270: Take the exit for Dougherty Ferry Rd. Go east on Dougherty Ferry, then right onto New Ballas Rd, which becomes Adams.

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**THE DETAILS**

**Event:** Annual Dinner and Meeting, Installation of Officers
**Location:** Historic Trinity Lutheran Church in Soulard
812 Soulard St.
Saint Louis, MO 63104

**Date:** Monday, May 18, 2015
**Time:** Dinner—6:30 pm; Recital—7:30 pm

**Hosts:** Wes Kassulke and Norbert Krausz
**Cost:** Dinner $10 with a reservations: $12 at the door
**Reservations:** Kathleen Bolduan (314-725-1251) or Kathleen.bolduan@gmail.com by 5/13/15

**Directions:**
- From I-64—points east (Illinois): Follow signs for I-70/ St. Louis. Use exit 249 and keep left for Tucker Blvd.
- Follow Tucker to Lafayette Ave. and turn left. Then turn right on S. 8th St. Turn right at the first cross street (Soulard).
- Fpm I-64 eastbound: Take exit 40 for South 6th St., go left on Gratiot St., then right on S. Broadway. Turn right on Soulard St. Trinity will be on the left.
- From I-44/SSS from points south and west: Use Exit 290C, merge onto Park Ave. toward 7th St. Right on 7th, then right on Soulard.

See article about Avis Blewett Award on Page 5
FROM THE DEAN . . .

The excitement is mounting. Next month our Chapter hosts the North Central Regional Convention of the American Guild of Organists. So. Very. Amazing. The venues are reserved, all the arrangements have been made for the artists and the presenters, and the schedule is all in order. Now we get to add the finishing touches by attending, listening, and becoming the most hospitable, welcoming volunteers in any region.

And even before that, two great events await us this very month. Hearing Elizabeth and Raymond Chenault play a concert on the splendid Casavant at First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood will be a peak experience. And knowing that we can share a meal together beforehand—well, what can I say? Life is good!

And of course, May 18 at Historic Trinity in Soulard promises to be a wonderful evening. Of course, a fine banquet will be served, and we will gladly present the 2015 Avis Blewett Award to Dr. Kathleen Bolduan. Our new officers will also be installed, and I imagine that Brent Johnson might bring a few door prizes, as well. And that is not all, no! We will also hear Thomas Herzer present a wonderful recital. The Cantor of a Historic German Church playing at our own Historic Trinity—does it get any better than this?

At times, I wonder how so many quality events can be sustained in the greater Saint Louis area. And how could this all happen, except through the perseverance and selfless efforts of people like you?

It doesn’t need to be Thanksgiving for me to express gratitude to the Regional Convention Steering Committee, the Chapter Officers and Executive Board, the Committee Members, the editor of the OPUS, past Deans who have been such a great support, and everyone who has attended a Guild event this year. Honestly, words are not sufficient, but truly, thank you.

Soli Deo Gloria! Deaconess Dawn Riske, CAGO

JUST IN: Many members of the Chapter AGO know Peter Tkach, musician and harpsichord builder. On April 9, his Webster Groves house caught fire. Peter escaped but was hospitalized. Sadly, his daughter Anne died in the fire. She was a musician as well, mostly known as a bassist. We hold Peter in prayer and ask God's blessing on him.

NEWS BRIEF . . .

We congratulate David Ball, a chapter member who is a graduate student at Juilliard. Some of us may also remember him serving as John Romeri’s organ scholar at the Cathedral Basilica several years ago. David competed and won the chapter competition of the Regional Competition for Young Organists, which was held in Wichita, KS. He will play in the final round of the competition at the regional convention in Saint Louis this June. Let’s try to fill First Presbyterian in Kirkwood on Monday afternoon, June 22 when the competition will be held. David has even let us know that the new competition rules allow audience members to sing the hymns for the first time! Kudos, David! Keep up your fine work, and thank you for representing us so well.

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Our regional convention takes place next month!!!!
After over two years of planning and work by the Convention Steering Committee we are excited to see things take place with convention attendees.

As of the writing of this, we have 1/3 of our chapter members registered. If you haven’t registered, there’s still time to register! Avoid possible last minute registration delays and the chance of the convention selling out by registering now. Don’t miss this opportunity to attend great recitals and informative workshop sessions right here in Saint Louis. And remember, there are no driving or parking worries – everyone takes the bus!

If you can’t attend the full schedule of events, one-day registrations are available for Tuesday and Wednesday. Visit the convention website at www.ago2015.org to register online, or contact convention registrar Regina Morris for more information at 314-647-0475 or morrisrp@swbell.net.

Used Music Sale

Want to help support the convention and acquire some "new" music?

A used music sale will be held as part of our May 18 chapter event at Trinity Lutheran Church in Soulard. The sale begins at 5:30 pm and will run through the conclusion of dinner. Come and look over all of the gently used treasures that have been donated to this sale! All proceeds from the sale will go directly to the convention. Payments for purchases can be made through cash, check, or credit card.

We appreciate all of the generous donors who are making our convention possible. There is still time to make a gift to the convention!

If you'd like to contribute with a check, please make your check out to AGO 2015 Regional Convention and send it to:

AGO 2015 Regional Convention
Attn: Mike Kaberline, Treasurer
P. O. Box 140159 Saint Louis, MO 63114-0159

or go to www.ago2015.org if you wish to pay with a credit card.

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The Avis Blewett Award

The Avis Blewett Award was established in celebration of the 75th anniversary of the American Guild of Organists in Missouri. The award is presented by the Saint Louis Chapter of the American Guild of Organists to those who have made a significant contribution to the musical life of the Saint Louis area.

Avis H. Blewett was a member of Second Baptist church, whose musical tradition was long and proud. The church had a fine tracker-action Odell organ, and Miss Blewett had occasionally played it as far back as 1883, when the instrument was four years old.

In response to call for a suitable organ to replace the non-functioning Kilgen instrument in Graham Chapel at Washington University, Ms. Blewett signed a contract with the M.P. Möller Organ Company for a chapel instrument, requesting that the organ case be carved with the quotation, “To Make Undying Music in the World.”

Avis Blewett died in 1946 before the organ was completed. In her will, she bequeathed money for the purchase of what is now Blewett Hall on Forsyth; as well as funds for the endowment of a Department of Music at Washington University.
MAY

Friday, May 1—12:30–1:00 pm—Third Baptist Church
“Friday Pipes” Organ Recital. Jaime Carini, Organ Scholar, Plainfield United Methodist Church, Plain Field, Indiana. 620 N. Grand Blvd, Saint Louis, MO 63103.

Friday, May 1—7:00 pm—First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood
Webster Presents: University Choral Ensembles. Trent Patterson directs in the final concert of the school year. $3.00 general admission. 100 East Adams Avenue, Kirkwood, MO 63122.

Saturday, May 2—7:30 pm—Christ Church Cathedral
Shepley Series. Masterworks Chorale & Southwestern Illinois College Chamber Singers. Poulenc’s Gloria. Stephen Mager & Andrew Jensen, conductors; Andrew Peters, Organ; Stella Markou, soprano. 1210 Locust Street, St. Louis, MO 63103.

Sunday, May 3—2:00 pm—Christ Church Cathedral
Shepley Series. “The King of Instruments—a Parade of Music and Verse for Organ and Narrator.” Douglas Reed (University of Evansville) Organ and William Partridge, Narrator. 1210 Locust Street, St. Louis, MO 63103.

Sunday, May 3—3:00 pm—Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Word and Sacrament: A Hymn Festival In celebration and thanksgiving for the 30th Anniversary of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church’s Sanctuary. Cake and coffee reception to follow the hymn festival. 2030 Union Road, St. Louis, MO 63125.

Sunday, May 3—4:00 pm—Webster Groves Presbyterian Church
Concert. Combined choirs of: Webster Groves Presbyterian Church, Peace UCC of Webster Groves, Christ Lutheran of Webster Groves, First Congregational of Webster Groves. Shawn Portell, Director of Music/Sr. Organist and contact: 314-962-9210 x 3211. 45 West Lockwood Ave., Webster Groves, MO 63119.

Sunday, May 3—5:00 pm—St. Peter’s Episcopal Church
Doubles Concert II (Back by popular demand). Charles Metz and William Attken—Music for Two Harpsichords and Two Organs. 110 North Warson Road, Saint Louis, MO 63124.

Monday, May 4—7:30 pm—First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood
Concert, Duo Organists—The Chenaults. We conclude the Year of the Organ on the one year anniversary of its dedication. Ray and Beth Chenault, internationally acclaimed duo organists, will play a varied program of music for 4 hands and 4 feet. You will not want to miss this concert! This program is co-sponsored by the St. Louis Chapter, American Guild of Organists. 100 East Adams Avenue, Kirkwood, MO 63122.

Thursday, May 7—12:30–1:00 pm—Christ Church Cathedral
Shepley Series—Recital. William Partridge, organist. 1210 Locust Street, St. Louis, MO 63103.

Friday, May 8—12:30–1:00 pm—Third Baptist Church
“Friday Pipes” Organ Recital. Dawn Riske, Director of Music Ministries, Christ the King Catholic Church, University City. 620 N. Grand Blvd., Saint Louis, MO 63103.

Sunday, May 10—2:00 pm—Christ Church Cathedral
Shepley Series—Mother’s Day Concert—Piano Four-Hands. Annette Burkhart and Jennifer Lim Judd, piano; and company. 1210 Locust Street, St. Louis, MO 63103.

Wednesday, May 13—8:00 pm—Cathedral Basilica
Empire Brass with Douglas Major, organist. Internationally acclaimed brass quintet. Tickets: $39, $29, $19 may be ordered at: http://www.cathedralconcerts.org/events or by phone at: 314-373-8200. 4431 Lindell Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63108.

Thursday, May 14—12:30–1:00 pm—Christ Church Cathedral
Shepley Series—Organ Recital. William Partridge, Organist. 1210 Locust Street, St. Louis, MO 63103.

Friday, May 15—12:30–1:00 pm—Third Baptist Church
“Friday Pipes” Organ Recital. Elizabeth Clark, Director of Music, North Christian Church, Columbus, Indiana. 620 N. Grand Blvd., Saint Louis, MO 63103.

Saturday, May 16—10:30 am—Webster Groves Presbyterian Church
Worship Service—Oikos Jazz Ensemble. Shawn Portell, Director of Music/Sr. Organist. Contact: 314-962-9210 x 3211. 45 West Lockwood Ave., Webster Groves, MO 63119.

Sunday, May 17—3:00 pm—Peace Lutheran Church
Recital. Ryan Murphy will present a recital on Peace’s Martin Ott Pipe Organ. 737 Barracksview Road, St. Louis, MO 63125.

Sunday, May 17—3:00 pm—Concordia Seminary
Bach at the Sem—Easter 5. J. S. Bach, Mass in G minor, BWV; 235 Hymn, This Joyful Eastertide LSB 482; Cantata (Sinfonia)—J. S. Bach: from Am Abend aber desselbigen Sabbats, BWV 42/1; Cantata—J. S. Bach, Oster-Oratorium, BWV 249. 801 Seminary Place, Saint Louis, MO 63105.

Sunday, May 17—5:00 pm—Christ Church Cathedral
Shepley Series. L’Esprit de Musique. Lorraine Glass Harris, baroque violin; James Harris, baroque flute; and ensemble. 1210 Locust Street, St. Louis, MO 63103.

Continued on Page 9
CONCERTS & CHORAL EVENSONGS
FIRST SUNDAYS from OCTOBER through MAY
The St. Peter's Singers - S. William Aitken, Director

Sunday, 3 May 2015 — 5:00 P.M.
DOUBLES CONCERT II—Charles Metz and William Aitken
Music for Two Harpsichords, Two Organs & Organ and Harpsichord.

Wednesday, 24 June 2015, 9:00 AM
Service for the Regional AGO Convention
Music of William Walton, Herbert Howells, Leo Sowerby and “Cantate Domino” – Sasha J. Manning (newly commissioned)

Visit our website: StPetersEpiscopal.org
Click Worship/Music to find our new list of Choral Music, Concerts and Choral Evensongs for 2014-2015. Follow music announcements on our Facebook page.

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CHILDREN AGE 7 AND OLDER ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND
May—continued from page 6

Monday, May 18—6:30—Historic Trinity Lutheran Church
AGO Annual Dinner and Meeting. Our Chapter’s Annual Dinner and Meeting will be held at the Historic Trinity Lutheran Church in Soulard. Monday evening, 18 May at 6:30. Thomas Herzer, Kantor of the famous Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany, is touring the United States early this year to raise money for the relocation and rebuilding of a chancel pipe organ in the Castle Church (think Martin Luther in 1517 and his 95 Theses, as Europe prepares its 500th anniversary celebration of Reformation in 2015). After six concert events east of the Mississippi, Herzer will present a final concert here in St. Louis May 18, 2015, following the American Guild of Organists’ 6:30 p.m. dinner meeting. The recital commences at 7:30 p.m. The AGO has opened the free concert to the public. Herzer will play the newly-renovated organ. 812 Soulard St., Saint Louis, MO 63104.

Thursday, May 21—12:30-1:00 pm—Christ Church Cathedral
Shepley Series—Organ Recital. William Partridge, organist. 1210 Locust Street, St. Louis, MO 63103

Friday, May 22—7:30 pm — First United Presbyterian Church of Belleville. BACH on FRIDAYS. Dennis Bergin, Concert Organist. (Principal Organist for the American Kantorei BACH At The SEM Concert Series at Concordia Lutheran Seminary, St. Louis, 1997-2013). Program includes two virtuosic showpieces : Toccata, Adagio and Fugue in C Major BWV 564 and the Prelude and Fugue in D Major BWV 532. 1303 Royal Heights Road, Belleville, Illinois 62223. (618) 233-0295

Thursday, May 28—12:30-1:00 pm—Christ Church Cathedral
Shepley Series—Organ Recital. William Partridge, Organist. 1210 Locust Street, St. Louis, MO 63103.

Sunday, May 31—3:00 pm—Union Avenue Christian Church

JUNE

Sunday, June 21 —7:00 pm—Historic Trinity Lutheran Church
Organ Recital—Christopher Houlihan. Presented in collaboration with historic Trinity Lutheran Church and the St. Louis Chapter, American Guild of Organists as a prelude to the Regional Convention. 812 Soulard St., Saint Louis, MO 63104

OPPORTUNITY

Gail Uetrecht is moving to Florida and has a Kimball Imagination organ that she would like to donate to a good home. If you are interested, contact Gail at 314-233-9189
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