



THE OPUS

November 2007

Volume 24

Number 4

The official publication of the St. Louis Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

www.agostlouis.org

Homage to Dietrich Buxtehude at November Meeting

This month we celebrate the 300th anniversary of Dietrich Buxtehude's death with a special performance of his organ, choral and instrumental music, modeled on the Abendmusik services that the composer organized in Lübeck.

Buxtehude's influence on 17th century North German music was considerable. Many of us know of Bach's famous trek from Arnstadt to Lübeck (a distance of more than 250 miles) to meet the older master, hear him play, and "to comprehend one thing and another about his art." There is no doubt that this experience had a formative influence on the young composer. But organists may not be aware of Buxtehude's significance in the area of vocal music, especially the development of the cantata.

Like Heinrich Schütz, he played an important integrative role – bringing together many of the varied compositional approaches that existed at the time, crafting them and creating works of great beauty, eloquence and spiritual depth.

Some of the works on the November 26 program will include the cantatas *Jesu meines Lebens Leben* (Jesus, Life of my Life), *O Fröhlich Stunden* (O Happy Hours) and two cantatas from the extended devotional work *Membra Jesu nostri* (Remember our Jesus). The program will begin and end with organ works and also include a trio sonata for strings and continuo.

The program will be performed by *Speculum animae*, a new ensemble comprised of musicians from the conservatory at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, directed by Ryan Board. He is a member of the choral faculty at the University of Missouri-Kansas City where he conducts the Conservatory

Singers, teaches undergraduate and graduate choral conducting, graduate choral literature, and leads the graduate choral conducting program.

Originally from Boise, Idaho, Board received his Bachelor's degree in music education from the University of Northern Colorado, his Master's in choral conducting from Westminster Choir College, and recently completed his Doctorate in conducting from the conservatory at UMKC where his dissertation focused on the vocal music of Dietrich Buxtehude.

Dr. Board was artistic director and conductor of the Kansas City-based Armonia Early Music Ensemble from 2003-2007, with invitations to perform

at the ADCA National Convention in Miami in 2007 and the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in 2006 and 2007.

You are encouraged to invite your colleagues, friends, choir members and Early Music lovers to this wonderful program in a very appropriate setting. We look forward to seeing you on the 26th!

— Paul Vasile

The Details

Date: Monday, Nov. 26
Event: Concert celebrating the 300th anniversary of Dietrich Buxtehude's death
Location: St. Louis Abbey (Priory Chapel)
530 South Mason Road
St. Louis, MO 63141
Time: 6:30 p.m. – Dinner
7:30 p.m. – Program (Priory Chapel)
Host: Andrzej Zahorski
Cost: \$10 for dinner
Reservations: Kathleen Bolduan (314-725-1251;
or kbolduan@artsci.wustl.edu)
(Please confirm your reservations by Friday, Nov. 23)

Directions:

From I-64/U.S. Route 40 East/Westbound: Take the Mason Road North exit (#24). Follow Mason Road north for a short distance until you see the Abbey on the right.

Share AGO through 'Each One-Reach One'

I hope you will make plans now to attend the Buxtehude Abendmusik concert at the Priory on Monday, November 26. This evening of organ, instrumental, and vocal music will be performed by *Speculum animae*, a group of musicians from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Please invite choir members and friends to attend. This program is meant to be shared with all those you know who enjoy early music!

One reason Stephen Mager, Paul Vasile and I have been stressing the "bring an interested friend to a meeting" idea for the last four years is to encourage you to open

doors for visitors who may then become members. The AGO, like all professional organizations, depends on new members to maintain its viability. Two years ago, the National Committee on Membership Development launched the Each One-Reach One program to encourage chapters to increase their membership.

Our regional councilor, Dr. Jan Kraybill, discussed the Each One-Reach One initiative in her fall newsletter: "Let's share the AGO with other musicians in our community and encourage them to join us! It is all based on personal invitation. Think of

ways you personally can "reach one"... You might make phone calls or send e-mails with personal invitations to chapter activities. You might make it a goal to attend and bring a friend to every chapter function this year. Be courageous!"

The third and final phase of "Each One-Reach One" is a challenge campaign with a valuable prize worth \$1400*! People who recruit five new chapter members are eligible for a chance to have their registration, bus transportation, and 5-night hotel stay paid for the 2008 National convention in Minneapolis/St. Paul. See the "Win the Member Challenge" in this *OPUS* issue for the full contest guidelines and great tips for outreach. [*Funds for the challenge were given by a generous anonymous donor.]

As there is no *OPUS* issue in December, I'll close with best wishes for the season. May your programs and special services go well, may you and your choir members stay healthy. And in the midst of all the activity, may you find a sense of peace and fulfillment in your musical and personal life. Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, Happy New Year.

—Martha Shaffer

Membership Survey Reveals Interests in *OPUS*, Saturday Workshops, Special Chapter Activities

Congratulate yourselves!! As of Sept. 1, 89 members had returned the survey sheet that was sent out with the dues notice last April! This is well above the normal 5% return rate for a voluntary survey. Not everyone who returned the sheet replied to all the questions, but there were enough answers to give the Executive Committee a good indication of membership opinions and preferences and stimulate on-going discussion and examination.

Paper versus electronic distribution of *The OPUS* received the most attention, with votes running two to one in favor of paper copies. We will be doing some cost analysis (printing and mailing) to determine how to best move forward on this issue. In the meantime, please remember that the newsletter appears online around the 10th of each month, so if it's getting close to the monthly meeting date and the Post Office is lagging in delivery, take the initiative to visit the Web site (www.agostl.org) and stay informed.

Saturday workshops received sufficient interest that the Program Committee will be directed to schedule one each year. (The

2007-08 Saturday workshop to be presented by Jim Jordan of Paraclete Press will be held Jan. 26. More information will be provided in the January *OPUS* issue.) The excellent program suggestions have been referred to the sub-dean, who leads the committee. Interest in serving on committees received the least amount of interest (sigh), however all of you who bravely volunteered will be called!

The final question was yes/no if the Chapter should host another POE and/or host a regional convention. Of those replying, more members indicated interest in the possibility of a regional convention. The Executive Committee discussed this issue at its September meeting, noting the obvious concerns of membership numbers, treasury funds, and advance planning. Sub-Dean Paul Vasile has agreed to take an informal look at logistics, time frame, and costs. Please give Paul a call if you are interested in helping with brainstorming options. Thanks to all who participated in the survey. Your input was most helpful as we look to the chapter's future.

THE OPUS

The official publication
of the St. Louis Chapter
of the American Guild of Organists.

November 2007
Volume 24, No. 4

Wayne King, Editor

You are invited to submit material to the editor for publication consideration. Material and calendar items should be e-mailed to opusstlago@aol.com.

Next issue deadline: January 1, 2008

WIN THE MEMBER CHALLENGE



LET THE GUILD PAY YOUR EXPENSES AT THE 2008 NATIONAL CONVENTION IN THE TWIN CITIES OF MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL A \$1,400 DOLLAR VALUE

The National Committee on Membership Development and Chapter Support invites you to take the 2007-2008 Member Challenge! This flyer will provide everything you need to know to take part in the Challenge - an integral part of the 2007-2008 AGO National Membership Campaign: Each One—Reach One!

THE CHALLENGE FOR 2007-2008

2007-2008 is the third and final year of the Each One-Reach One campaign with the Member Challenge being the primary focus. This challenge promises fun, larger membership numbers, national recognition, and the opportunity to win a valuable prize - national headquarters will pay your major expenses while you enjoy the 2008 National convention in Minneapolis/St. Paul. Expenses include convention registration, the bus transportation package, and five nights in the convention hotel.

Start recruiting new and former members* today. When you have new recruits to report do the following:

REGISTER THEM ONLINE AT: <http://www.agohq.org/eachone-reachone/forms/recruit.html>

OR

PRINT THE FOLLOWING FORM AT: <http://www.agohq.org/eachone-reachone/forms/RecruiterForm.pdf>

ADDITIONAL MEMBER CHALLENGE INFORMATION: <http://www.agohq.org/eachone-reachone/index.html>

MEMBER CHALLENGE FLYER: <http://www.agohq.org/eachone-reachone/forms/MemberChallengeFlyer.pdf>

MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE GUIDELINES

1. Recruiters must obtain at least five new or former members* to be eligible for an award.

**Former members are those who were previously members of the Guild. Renewing members from the 2006-07 membership year do not count as former members. There is one exception to this rule: Chapter friends from the 2006-07 membership year who choose to change their membership to a voting membership can be counted as recruits.*

2. New members recruited must be full voting members (regular, special, student, or partner), and may become members of any chapter, or independent members. Chapter friends are not voting members of the Guild.

3. Dual members and POE students, who receive free membership, may not be counted as recruited members.

4. Registrars and Treasurers are not eligible to participate in the member challenge. Membership Coordinators are eligible unless they are also serving as Registrars or Treasurers.

5. Names and contact information must be submitted to AGO National Headquarters on an Official Entry Form (see below), and entries must be received by April 15th, 2008.

SUGGESTION: We are always looking for new members in the Guild. We are also looking to retain our past members as well. Talk with your Chapter Registrar / Membership Coordinator / Treasurer about past AGO members who have not renewed.

Up to five winners will be selected and notified in May of 2008 and will be recognized at the National Convention in Minneapolis/St. Paul June 22-26, 2008. Winners will be determined by the National Membership Committee based on the information received at AGO National Headquarters. All names reported on Official Entry Forms will be verified by the AGO National Membership Department records. Recruits will be counted only if names are reported by AGO Chapters on an official 2007-08 Dues Report or submitted to National Headquarters as Independent Members.



Bach at the Sem PRESENTS

THE AMERICAN KANTOREI

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The 2007– 2008 Season

Sunday, November 18, 2007, 3:00 p.m.

Barbara Raedeke, Guest Organist
Prof. of Organ, Washington University, Specialist on
Nickolaus Bruhns, Organist of the North German School
Organ works by Bach, Buxtehude, Bruhns
Cantata, *Alles was ihr tut*—Buxtehude
Sinfonie for Solo Flute and Strings—C. P. E. Bach
Jennifer Adams, Fl., Mieko Hironaka Bergt, Hpd.

Sunday, December 16, 2007, 3:00 p.m.

Patterned after *Abendmusik—Marienkirche, Lübeck*
Honoring Buxtehude 300 Years after His Death:
Celebrated liturgical motets
Cantata *Ihr Lieben Christen freut euch*
Solo Cantata *Sicut Moses*, Joy Boland, Soprano

Sunday, January 6, 2008, 3:00 p.m.

Organ Recital, Dennis Bergen
Organ works by Bach and the North German School
Solo Cantata, BWV 166 *Wo gehest du hin?*—J. S. Bach
Joy Boland, Katharine Lawton Brown,
Jeral Becker, David Berger, Soloists
Chorales, *Wienachts Oratorium*, Part II—J. S. Bach

Sunday, February 3, 2008, 3:00 p.m.

Magnificat—Buxtehude; motets and concert by
Bach, Handel, Telemann, Scheifedecker
Horn Concerto—Telemann
Jeffrey Snedeker, Natural Horn
President, International Horn Society
Trumpet Concerto—Handel
John Korak, Trumpet, SIU@Edwardsville

Sunday, March 16, 2008, 3:00 p.m.

First Lutheran Oratorio: *Membra Jesu nostri*;
Solo Cantata, *Lord In Thee Do I Trust*—Buxtehude
Jeral Becker, Tenor

All Performances are given at:

The Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus
801 Seminary Place
St. Louis, MO 63105

For more information visit: www.csl.edu/CampusLife_Music_BachattheSem_SeasonSchedule.aspx

"The Golden Age of Church Music"

The American Kantorei Chorus and Orchestra present the 2007-2008 *Bach at the Sem* concert series in The Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus, on the Concordia Seminary campus in Clayton, Missouri.

Prominent this season is the music of Dietrich Buxtehude, in this 300th anniversary year of his death. Throughout the season, the beauty and significance of the music by Buxtehude unfold as they are performed adjacent to the works of Bach, Handel, and Telemann.

The American Kantorei is a choral and orchestral ensemble dedicated to the performance of church music from the Renaissance, Baroque, Classical and Neoclassical periods. The works of J. S. Bach form the core of its repertoire. Conductor and music director Robert Bergt is known as an international Bach scholar, especially in understanding the centrality of the German chorale to all of Bach's musical compositions for worship.

For more information contact:

Seminary Relations,
Concordia Seminary,
801 Seminary Place,
St. Louis, MO 63105



(314) 505-7365
or: SemRelations@csl.edu

Bach at the Sem is made possible through the generous support of patrons and donors. An offering is taken at each concert to allow audience members to share in the creation and encouragement of fine live performance.

Items of Interest from the Regional Councilor's Newsletter

- The next National Convention will be in Region VI. Minneapolis/St. Paul will host the next event on June 22-26, 2008. Planning is well underway, and advance information is available on the Web site, www.ago2008.org.
- The next Regional convention, June 15-18, 2009, will be hosted by the Wichita, Kansas, Chapter. The theme is "Pipes on the Plains." Plans for the event have been reviewed by the Committee on Regional Conventions, and advance information will be posted as it becomes available on the Web site, www.pipesonthepalms09.org.

- The Wichita convention steering committee has proposed starting a new award to be given in 2009 and at future regional conventions. The award will go to a member who has given "excellent contributions to the goals of the AGO in Region VI." Look for more information in 2008 on the nomination procedure, and how you can propose nominees for the award.

- Two Pipe Organ Encounters will be hosted by Region VI in the summer of 2008:

- * May 18-23 — the Fort Collins, Colorado, Chapter will host a POE+ for adults age 19 and above.
- * July 6-11 — the Lincoln, Nebraska Chapter, will host the first-ever POE-Advanced for graduates of previous POEs. This is the premiere of a new program.

Organ for Sale

Highland Park United Methodist Church, Dallas, Texas, is selling its 1973 Austin organ (Opus 2558, 4-manual, 113 ranks, 85 stops) for \$100,000 (price negotiable). Instrument must be removed in April 2008. For more information contact David R. Davidson, director of music and arts, at davidsond@hpumc.org or (214) 523-2252. Web site: www.hpumc.org.

We Remember...

JoAnn Eyre, long-time AGO Chapter member, who died on Oct. 9 after a short illness. Over a 50 year period, she served several churches including Pilgrim Congregational Church, Salvador E & R, Bonhomme Presbyterian, St. John's UCC - Chesterfield. Most recently, she directed the bell choirs at St. Paul's Evangelical Church.



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On the Concert Horizon

Sunday, Nov. 18, 2:30 p.m. Christ Church Cathedral, 1210 Locust, St. Louis, Mo. Equinox Chamber Players. Beth Denisch's arrangement of Autumn Song, Gwyneth Walker's Encounters and the premiere of Bill Douglas' Suite Cantible.

Sunday, Nov. 18, 3 p.m. Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus, 801 Seminary Place, Concordia Seminary, Clayton, Mo. The American Kantorei, Robert Bergt, conductor and music director. Barbara Raedeke, guest organist. Works by Bach, Buxtehude and Bruhns.

Sunday, Nov. 18, 3 p.m. St. Margaret of Scotland RC Church, 3854 Flad, St. Louis, Mo. Zachary Hemenway in inaugural recital of new organ. Free-will offering.

Sunday, Nov. 18, 4 p.m. Emmanuel Episcopal Church, 9 South Bompert, Webster Groves, Mo. Organ recital by Earl Naylor. Free admission. Free-will offering for mission work of the church.

Sunday, Nov. 25, 9 and 11:15 a.m. Webster Groves Presbyterian Church, 45 West Lockwood, St. Louis, Mo. St. Cecilia Consort music for oboe, cello, recorders, violin and harpsichord during the morning traditional services.

Sunday, Nov. 25, 5 p.m. Christ Church Cathedral, 1210 Locust, St. Louis, Mo. Evensong with the Cathedral Choir.

Friday, Nov. 30, 8 p.m. Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, 4431 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. Chanticleer Christmas. Admission \$35, \$25, \$15. Call 314-533-7662 or www.stlcathedralconcerts.org.

Sunday, Dec. 9, 2:30 p.m. Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, 4431 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. Christmas at the Cathedral. Remaining tickets \$15. Call 314-533-7662 or www.stlcathedralconcerts.org.

Sunday, Dec. 2, 3 p.m. Salem-in-Ballwin United Methodist Church, 14825 Manchester Rd., Ballwin, Mo. "Christmas Around the World" holiday organ concert. Selections from "The Nutcracker" and carol sing-alongs. Bob Meinz, organist.

Sunday, Dec. 2, 6 p.m. Christ Church Cathedral, 1210 Locust, St. Louis, Mo. Diocesan Festival of Advent Lessons and Carols with ten choirs and instrumentalists.

Sunday, Dec. 9, 3 p.m. Graham Chapel, Washington University. Messiah Sing-along. John Stewart, conductor. William Partridge, organist.

Sunday, Dec. 9, 4 p.m. First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood, 100 East Adams, Kirkwood, Mo. The Chancel Choir and orchestra will perform their annual Christmas concert featuring the Vivaldi Gloria and Rutter Christmas favorites. Free.

Friday, Dec. 14, 7 p.m. St. Elizabeth Church, 2300 Pontoon Road, Granite City, Ill. Internationally known organist Carlo Curley in a Christmas concert. Free-will offering. Information: 618-876-1708.

Sunday, Dec. 16, 4 p.m. Webster Groves Presbyterian Church, 45 West Lockwood, St. Louis, Mo. "Christmas Joy," a celebration of the birth of Christ. Shawn Portell, organist.

Friday, Dec. 21, 7 p.m. St. Louis Art Museum. Art After Five: The Christ Church Cathedral Choir performs Christmas and Hanukkah music.

Sunday, Dec. 23, 9 a.m. Webster Groves Presbyterian Church, 45 West Lockwood, St. Louis, Mo. Festival of Lessons and Carols, Saint-Saens "Christmas Oratorio" performed by the Chancel Choir and soloists.

Sunday, Jan. 6, 3 p.m. St. Margaret of Scotland RC Church, 3854 Flad, St. Louis, Mo. Paul Fleckenstein, organist of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Wilmington, Del., in recital. Free-will offering.

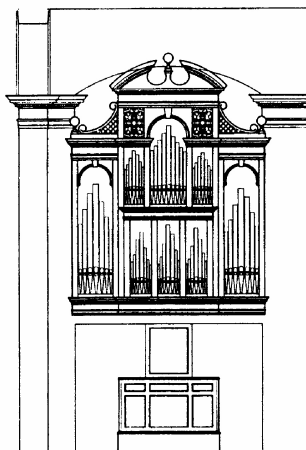
Tuesday, Jan. 22, 8 p.m. Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, 4431 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. Brass Spectacular with Susan Slaughter and the St. Louis Symphony Brass. Admission \$35, \$25, \$15. Call 314-533-7662 or visit www.stlcathedralconcerts.org.



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St. Peter's Choir, Soloists and Chamber Orchestra

Sunday, December 9 – 10:30 a.m. – Advent Lessons & Carols

Monday, 24 December – Christmas Eve

10:30 p.m. - Carols by St. Peter's Church Composers

11:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist – Music of Victoria, Marenzio & Davies

Sunday, 6 January 2008 – Recital & Choral Evensong

5:00 p.m. - William Stein - First Presbyterian Church-Kirkwood

5:30 p.m. – Evensong for Epiphany – Music of Davies, Blow, Handel

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Wayne King
OPUS Newsletter Editor

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**Send address changes or mailing
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Al Black
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Positions Available

Organist

St. Teresa Roman Catholic Church, 1201 Lebanon Ave., Belleville, IL 62221, seeks an organist to play for some weekday Children's Masses, Saturday 5 p.m. and Sunday 8 a.m. Masses and various other feasts where the choir does not perform. Contact Rich Thompson (618-233-3500) for more information.

Organist/Pianist

Zoar United Church of Christ, 9103 D Road, Columbia, IL 62236, seeks an organist or pianist. Duties include playing for the 10 a.m. service on the 1st, 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month along with special Lent, Easter, Christmas and Thanksgiving Eve services. New Allen electronic digital organ. Contact the church office (618-939-8479) for more information.

Organist/Accompanist

First Unitarian Church, 5007 Waterman Avenue, St. Louis 63108, seeks an organist and accompanist to support traditional worship services. Duties include playing for two services on Sunday from August through June. Accompany the choir on organ and piano and at Wednesday night rehearsals. Dobson Tracker organ. Atmosphere of artistic and religious freedom. Requirements include mastery of the traditional organ repertoire. Auditions will include self-chosen music as well as sight reading. For more information, see www.firstuustlouis.org or call Ken Dodds (314-822-3857).

Keyboardist/Accompanist

Shaare Emeth, 11645 Ladue Road, St. Louis, MO 63141, is seeking a regular accompanist. The ideal candidate possesses strong improvisational skills on piano; ability to read/improvise lead sheet; ability to read from full piano score; experience accompanying solo and choir. Strong piano competency is a must; organ competency desirable; choral directing/rehearsal experience desirable. Worship style is eclectic, often contemporary/blended with electronic keyboard or grand piano with volunteer instrumentalists and choir. Services take place Friday evenings and Saturday mornings with occasional weekdays for rehearsals and worship. NO Sundays. Salary is negotiable, depending on experience. E-mail resume and salary requirements to smurray@shaare-emeth.com. Shaare Emeth is an equal opportunity employer.

Director of Choirs

St. Paul United Church of Christ, 127 N. St. Paul Street, Columbia, IL 62236 seeks an energetic individual with strong interpersonal skills and experience in directing adult and children's choirs. These choirs support our traditional worship services. Interested individuals should send resume and three references to the attention of the Choir Director Search Committee at the church. For more information, call Rev. Bob Goddard (618-281-5102).

Choir Accompanist

St. Luke's United Methodist Church, 2761 Telegraph Road, St. Louis, MO 63125, seeks a part-time choir accompanist. Candidates must possess good piano skills and be able to work with volunteers and music director. Experience in leading sectionals preferred. Requires a 1.5 hour choir rehearsal each Tuesday evening (except summer) and services at 8 a.m. and 11 a.m. on Sunday. Additional rehearsals required for Christmas and Easter and other performances as needed. Salary is negotiable based on experience. Contact Rev. Jon Thompson (314-892-5595) for further information or send your resume and references to the church.

Director of Music/Organist

St. Joan of Arc Roman Catholic Church, 5800 Oleatha, St. Louis, MO 63139, seeks a director of music/organist. This position is full-time, although $\frac{3}{4}$ time may be considered. Responsibilities include four weekend liturgies, directing the adult choir and the contemporary ensemble. Resources include a 3-manual, 22-rank Wicks pipe organ and an upright piano. There are plans to purchase a new piano and synthesizer. Contact Msgr. Michael Turek (314-832-2838) for more information.

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

The OPUS

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