AGO, NPM Chapters in Joint Choral Conducting Seminar

We are excited to welcome John Stewart from Washington University in St. Louis as our speaker for the October program at St. Gabriel the Archangel Church. Mr. Stewart will be retiring from Washington University after this academic year and has a wealth of information and experience to share. The October meeting will be a combined meeting with the St. Louis Chapter of the National Association of Pastoral Musicians. Bruce Ludwick, Jr. will be our host.

American tenor John Stewart began his serious musical studies as an instrumentalist, starting with violin lessons when he was only 7 and later going on to piano and viola. Stewart studied at Western Reserve Academy then received a BA in composition and theory from Yale University, where he was the assistant director of the Yale Glee Club, conducted the Apollo Glee Club and was a member of the famed Whiffenpoofs. After Yale he earned an MA in composition and theory from Brown University where he was the assistant director of choral activities. After a postgraduate year at New England Conservatory, Stewart was an apprentice at the Santa Fe Opera, and his operatic debut as Pinkerton followed soon after. For 20 years Stewart sang with most of the leading opera companies and orchestras in Europe and the U.S., including such companies as the Metropolitan Opera, the New York City Opera, and The Opera Theatre of St. Louis. In September of 1990 he joined the music department of Washington University where he is director of vocal activities, directs the school’s Concert Choir and helps direct the opera program, as well as teaching private voice, vocal pedagogy, and vocal literature. For the annual Chancellor’s Concert at Washington University, Stewart has conducted, among other works, the Mozart Requiem, Verdi’s Quattro Pezzi Sacri, Stravinsky’s Symphony of Psalms, The Rio Grande by Constant Lambert, the Poulenc “Stabat Mater” and the Polovetsian Dances of Borodin.

In February 1994 and 2004, the Concert Choir was chosen to sing at the Missouri Music Educator’s Annual Convention. The choir has sung in Chicago, Dallas, Kansas City and other midwestern venues. Stewart is in frequent demand as clinician and judge, as well as for his inspiring master classes. In the summer months, he conducts at the Festival of the Arts in Spearfish, South Dakota, and has taught at the University of Miami’s Summer in Salzburg program.

— Dr. Bill Wade, CAGO

The Details

Date: Monday, October 25, 2010
Event: Choral Conducting Seminar
Location: St. Gabriel the Archangel Church
6303 Nottingham
St. Louis, MO 63109
Time: 6:30 p.m. Dinner
7:30 p.m. Program
Host: Bruce Ludwick, Jr.
Cost: $10 for dinner
Reservations: Kathleen Bolduan (314-725-1251 or kathleen.bolduan@gmail.com)
(Please confirm reservation by Wednesday, Oct. 20)

Directions:

From I-64/U.S. Route 40 and I-44 East/Westbound:
Exit at Hampton Avenue South. Proceed south for approximately three miles, crossing Chippewa. When you reach the cross street Nottingham Avenue, turn right. Drive along Nottingham Avenue, a residential area, for several blocks until you reach the intersection of Nottingham and Tamm. The church is on the northwest corner at that intersection, across the street from Francis Park.
Are You Ready for AGO’s Professional Certification?

Is this the year when you are ready to test for certification with the American Guild of Organists. Perhaps you would like to take the examination for the Service Playing Certificate. This test may be taken any time between now and April 30, 2011.

Maybe the Colleague exam is the right level for you. CAGO tests are November 12, 2010; May 13, 2011; and November 18, 2011.

The Choir Master Examination is set for June 1, 2011. and those testing for Associateship and Fellowship will test on June 2 and 3, 2011.

Examinations are open to members and non-members. For more details and a complete listing of requirements, see the July issue of The American Organist or look online at agohq.org. A number of our St. Louis Chapter members have taken the step of obtaining AGO professional certification. They can be identified by the designations (SPC, CAGO, FAGO, etc.) following their names in the chapter year-book. Perhaps talking with one or more of them or with Exam Coordinator Dawn Riske (314-397-2651) would inspire you to take this valuable step.

— Henry Evans

Think about the people who embody the Guild. A diverse group of people who love the organ. This group includes everyone from top-ranking professionals to the part-time church musician. It also includes people who don’t play the organ. Yes, there are Guild members who are fascinated by organs and organ music, but they can’t play a note.

For me, the most rewarding experience of Guild membership is interacting with this diverse crowd and learning from all of them. Or I should say, from all of you. This year the St. Louis chapter and national organization are focusing on our diversity. Special attention will spotlight the part-time organist.

Our very successful September meeting, a wonderful Guild service, shed light on the themes of diversity, invitation, inclusiveness, and celebration. Anthems, hymns and readings were especially selected to play in and on those themes. Many thanks to our hosts Chuck Peery and Robert Chamberlain, Fr. Michael Kinman, Webster Groves Christian Church Pastor Rev. Jeff Moore and everyone who participated. In the coming months, please join me and your fellow Guild members as we celebrate diversity. If we can approach each other with an all-embracing outlook, we will learn from each other, learn things about ourselves, and contribute to the prosperity of the Guild. Plus join us at our joint meeting with the National Association of Pastoral Musicians in October and let’s CELEBRATE!

— Henry Evans

November issue deadline - Oct. 20

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

October 2010
Volume 27, No.2

Wayne King, Editor

You are invited to submit material to the editor for publication consideration. Material and calendar items should be e-mailed to jason418@aol.com.
Bach at the Sem 2010-2011 Season Concert Dates

Sunday, October 10, 3:00 p.m.
The American Kantorei performs the Kyrie and Gloria in Excelsis from the Mass in B Minor of Johann Sebastian Bach.

Sunday, December 5, 3:00 p.m.
The American Kantorei performs the Credo, Sanctus, Benedictus, and Agnus Dei from the Mass in B Minor.

Sunday, February 13, 3:00 p.m.
Organist Dennis Bergin performs Bach’s transcriptions of Four Concerti by Antonio Vivaldi and Johann Ernst. The American Kantorei performs a cantata by J. S. Bach.

Sunday, April 17, 3:00 p.m.
The Magnificat and Cantata 4, Christ lag im Todesbanden. Dr. Jeffrey Wilson conducts the Greenville Illinois College Choir, performing Renaissance, Baroque and Modern motets.

The Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus
Concordia Seminary, 801 Seminary Place, St. Louis, MO 63105
www.csl.edu

The American Kantorei
Robert Bergt, Music Director and Conductor
Dennis Bergin, Bach at the Sem Organist

Tickets not required. For more information, call 314-505-7362 or visit www.csl.edu.
ORGAN RECITAL and CHORAL EVENSONG
FIRST SUNDAYS from OCTOBER through MAY
The St. Peter’s Singers - S. William Aitken, Director

Sunday - November 7 - All Saints’ Celebrations
10:30 a.m. – Mass in G – Franz Schubert (with strings/trumpets/continuo)
5:00 p.m. – Recital: S. William Aitken, Organist
5:30 p.m. – Choral Evensong for All Saints’
Introit: Holy is the True Light – Harris
Responses: Sumson
Service: Collegium Regale – Herbert Howells
Anthem: Give Us The Wings of Faith – Ernest Bullock

New Recording Released by REGENT RECORDS of England
“INSPIRATIONS FROM ENGLAND”
SCOTT MONTGOMERY playing both Mander organs at St. Peter’s
Music by Manning, Byrd, Sweelinck, Bach, Walond,
Mendelsohn, Bridge, Guilmant and Vierne
Available through the church — $15

SAINT PETER’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Warson and Ladue Roads • Saint Louis, Missouri
(One block east of Lindbergh Boulevard on Ladue Road)
Position Available

Organist / Choir Director

The Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd, 1166 South Mason Road, Town & Country, MO 63131, seeks a skilled and enthusiastic organist/choir director to lead the musical elements of our worship. This is a part-time position requiring approximately 10 hours per week. Primary responsibilities include playing for the 10 a.m. Sunday service and special services during the year, leading weekly choir rehearsals, choosing liturgically appropriate service music, and working collaboratively with the pastor and choir. The instrument is a 13-rank 2-manual Moller. A Technics keyboard is also available. The ideal candidate will be a skilled organist with experience or training in working with a choir. Experience with the liturgy of the Episcopal Church is preferred, but we are willing to work with a creative and talented person who has an appreciation for liturgical music (simple and complex) and a willingness to learn. Resumes may be sent to Vicki Cutting Thompson at vcutting2001@yahoo.com or mailed to the address above.

On the Concert Horizon

Sunday, October 17, 4 p.m. Second Presbyterian Church, 4501 Westminster Place (at Taylor), St. Louis, Mo. Charlene Clark, violin, and Deborah Bloom, piano, in concert. Both are members of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. Free.

Sunday, October 17, 4 p.m. St. Mark’s Episcopal Church, 4712 Clifton Ave., St. Louis, Mo. Organist Barbara Raedeke plays the new Juget-Sinclair pipe organ.

Sunday, October 17, 7:30 p.m. St. Louis Cathedral Basilica, 4431 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. Apollo’s Fire. The Cleveland Baroque Orchestra with Apollo’s Singers. 17th and 18th century music performed on period instruments for which it was written. Information and tickets at www.cathedralconcerts.org.

Friday, October 22, 7:30 p.m. St. Paul United Church of Christ, 115 West ‘B’ Street, Belleville, Ill. Celebration brass quartet. Free-will offering. Information 618-233-3303, ext. 118.

Sunday, October 24, 9 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. Webster Groves Presbyterian Church, 45 West Lockwood, Webster Groves, Mo. Erin and Zak Sparks, contemporary duo, in worship concert.


Thursday, November 4, 2:30 p.m.
Friday, November 5, 8 p.m. St. Louis Cathedral Basilica, 4431 Lindell Blvd., St. Louis, Mo. Vienna Boys Choir. Can these little rascals really sing like angels? Information and tickets at www.cathedralconcerts.org.

Saturday, November 6, 7 p.m. First Presbyterian Church, 100 East Adams, Kirkwood, Mo. The Mississippi Sawyers bluegrass group. Free-will offering.

Friday, November 12, 7:30 p.m. St. Paul United Church of Christ, 115 West ‘B’ Street, Belleville, Ill. Tony ‘D’ and the Groove Merchants jazz concert featuring Tom Birkner, trumpet. Free-will offering.

NOTE: Holiday/Christmas musical events to be listed in the “Concert Horizon” section must be received by October 20 for the November OPUS edition.
The Couts Music Series
Second Presbyterian Church
presents
St. Louis Symphony Orchestra memberr
Charlene Clark, violin
and
Deborah Bloom, piano
p.m. Sunday, October 17
Free and open to the public. Childcare provided with reservation by October 13.
Second Presbyterian Church
4501 Westminster Place (at Taylor) in the Central West End
314-367-0367 www.secondchurch.net