



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



Our chapter elections have now been completed after on-line voting was grounded to a halt in March. After a hiccup, paper ballots were mailed out to each member in order to cast your vote. I hope that each member took the opportunity to vote.

The results of the voting can be found on page five.

Congratulations to our new Dean, Sub-Dean and the class of 2023!



PAUL LOHMAN
800-326-7426
lohma004@gmail.com
www.schantzorgan.com





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Dean's Corner: BURNELL HACKMAN

WOW, what a crazy time we are going through!! Easter services cancelled or only on-line, many of our favorite stores and restaurants closed, County Parks closed and many other things we have never experienced happening. The National Headquarters of our Guild has been doing an outstanding job of keeping us informed on how the pandemic is affecting organists and how to apply for government assistance.

I hear from many of our members on the different ways they are helping their congregation worship each week. I appreciate the many creative ways we are keeping worship alive!

Our own member Dr. William Sullivan submitted the following information that you may find helpful. This applies to any of us who are independent contractors, gig workers, or sole proprietors. Dr. Sullivan said that he signed up today and it takes about 10 minutes. One can possibly get some pandemic relief money. **Important:** Anybody doing this should read the Department of Labor instructions to know how to navigate the form. Near the end of the month, the Department of Labor will send applicants a letter explaining the next steps. Since this is an entirely new thing, I suspect that they are figuring it out as they go along.

Follow these links below for more information:

[News Report:](#)

Announcement/Instructions on [Missouri's Dept. of Labor](#) website:

In the midst of the pandemic, a team of members tried to call every member of our chapter to just check in and say "HI". If you didn't get a call, it may have been because we do not have your most current information. Please visit the members portal on the nation website and update your information. ([Click here](#)) I thank Dan Riske, Dr. Kathleen Bolduan, Cathy Cassy, Kendra Ruesler, Robert Chamberlin, Lisa Cripe, and J.D. Brooks for making the calls. Your comments to our callers were very positive.

I congratulate our new officers: Dean – Rick Burk, Sub-Dean – Heather Martin Cooper, Class of 2022 – Dr. William Sullivan and the Class of 2023 – Gaye Anderson, Andrew Peters and Shawn Portell. This group will take office on July 1, 2020.

Our Annual End-of-the-Year meeting has been moved to Monday, June 29, 2020. If we can not meet in person at that time, we will host the meeting on-line.

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Con Spirito

2019-2020 Season
CONCERT SERIES

Twentieth Anniversary Season

2019

Oct. 20 Sunday @ 3:00

Hymn Festival:
Let All the Earth Rejoice
Aaron David Miller,
leader and organist



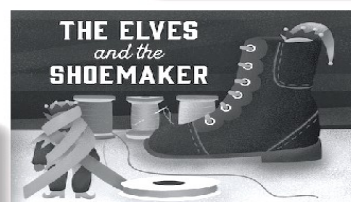
Nov. 10 Sunday @ 3:00

Women's HOPE Chorale
of St. Louis: *Illumination*



Dec. 8 Sunday @ 2:00

Imaginary Theatre Company:
The Elves & The Shoemaker



Dec. 15 Sunday @ 4:00

Chancel Choir & Orchestra
Christmas Concert



2020

French Friday Organ Series

Check for recital dates



Jan. 26 Sunday @ 3:00

Equinox Chamber
Players

April 19 Sunday @ 3:00

Jupiter String
Quartet

May 4 Monday @ 7:00
Annual Organ Dedication
Anniversary Recital
Bill Stein and Travis Evans



Join us for our
Tree of Life Chapel
Lenten Recital Series
each Friday @ noon from
February 28 through April 10

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF KIRKWOOD
100 East Adams, Kirkwood, MO 63122
conspirito@kirkwoodpres.org



Sub-Dean's Corner: CATHY CASSY



Greetings:

As we continue to work through these difficult and unusual times, I sincerely hope that you are all doing well. Members of our Board are taking the time to call or contact all our members to see how you're doing and if you need anything or want to share any news. If you haven't received a contact, please make sure you've given us your most recent contact information. If you don't receive a call, you should expect an e-mail or text.

Through our conversations with many of you, it has been interesting to hear how the various churches have dealt with the quarantine guidelines, such as Drive-in services, on-line individuals pulling together as one choir, live-streaming several times a day and more. St. Louis AGO members are creative, optimistic, and resourceful professionals.

I would love to hear about your new experiences with technology for services this year – the “Good, the Bad, the Ugly and the Funny.” Please share and we can put some new ideas out there by way of our OPUS or at least enjoy reading about your experiences.

Please send them to: cmcass@yahoo.com

As a response to members who are without work due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the National AGO has created a new page on their website which you may find interesting:

Resources: [Responding to Covid-19](#)

Reminder: Our May meeting has been moved to June 29th.

I've truly enjoyed serving as Sub-Dean and working with such a talented, productive group of individuals.

Cathy Cassy, Sub-Dean
St. Louis AGO Chapter



MEET YOUR **NEW** OFFICERS & CLASS OF 2023

Dean 
St. Louis AGO Chapter



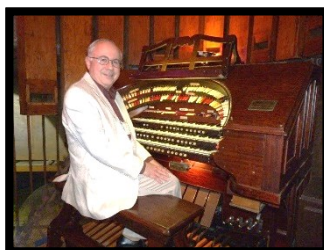
Rick Burk (CAGO)

Sub-Dean 
St. Louis AGO Chapter



Heather Martin Cooper

Executive Board
Class of 2022
St. Louis AGO Chapter 



Dr. William Sullivan

Executive Board
Class of 2023
St. Louis AGO Chapter 



Andrew Peters



Shawn Portell



Gaye Anderson



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Your elected Officers and Board members met on Monday, April 20, 2020. At the meeting it was unanimously moved to send a proposal to our National Committee on Conventions to host the 2026 National AGO Convention. I'll keep you posted on the progress of our proposal.

Please continue to stay safe and healthy. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to help.

Sincerely,

Burnell L. Hackman, Dean
St. Louis AGO Chapter



EVERY SUNDAY EVENING AT 6PM
HOSTED BY:



Brent Johnson Bill Stein Mark Scholtz

KING OF INSTRUMENTS

After four years of being the ONLY weekly source of organ music on the St. Louis airwaves, "The King of Instruments" will bid *adieu* with our April 26th episode (#220).

It has been a true labor of love on the part of the hosts. We believe in the mission of spreading the word about our art and instrument, and have gladly volunteered our efforts.

Alas, the current situation of the world demands more cautious fiscal responsibility. So, the Chapter's Executive committee made the challenging decision to cease funding. We are optimistic, however, that this is simply a deceptive cadence, and that the show has not reached the end of its run.

In the meantime, we extend our most sincere thanks to our Chapter, and those who, over the years, have contributed to help keep "The King of Instruments" on the air.

Bill Stein – host

Mark Scholtz – host

Brent Johnson - producer



On-line resource material you may find interested in checking out while isolated at home:

- ✓ [Tour of the St. Louis Fox Theatre Organ](#) – Hosted by Brent Johnson/Dr. Steven Ball
- ✓ [Your Sunday Service](#)
- ✓ [Organ Media Foundation](#)
- ✓ [Resources for the Organist during the Pandemic](#) (AGO)
- ✓ [FREE Public Domain Organ Music](#)
- ✓ [Facebook – St. Louis AGO](#)
- ✓ [FREE Public Domain Choral Music](#)
- ✓ [Washington National Cathedral](#)
- ✓ [Flying inside the Washington National Cathedral](#)
- ✓ [Explore St. Louis](#)
- ✓ [Explore St. Louis - Virtual](#)

