

T H E O P U S

SUMMER 2021



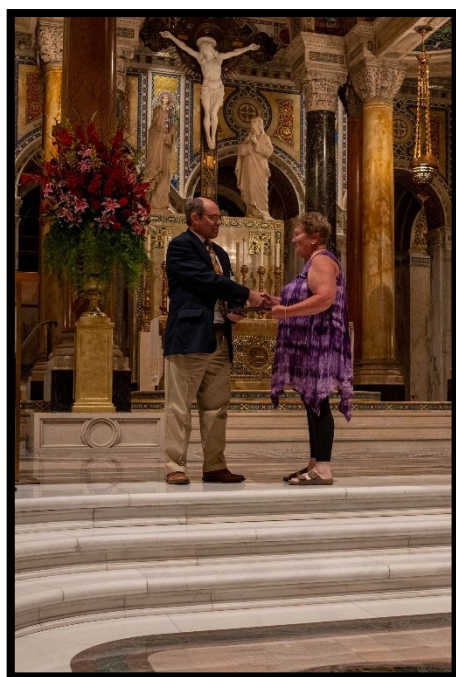
Volume 37 – Issue 9
The official publication of the
St. Louis Chapter of the
American Guild of Organists

ANNUAL MEETING/AWARDS RECAP



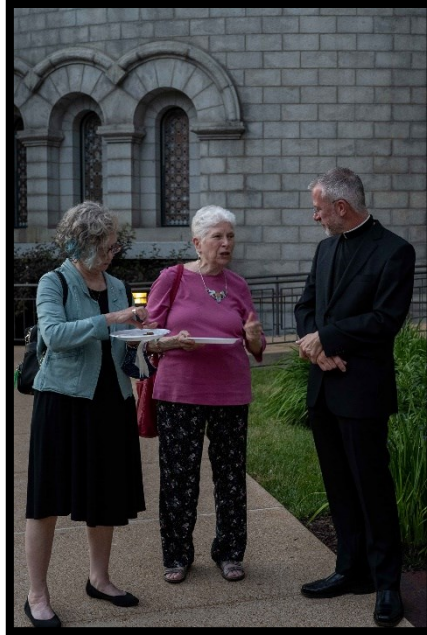
ST. LOUIS AGO CHAPTER

The St. Louis AGO Chapter program year (2020-20021) came to an end on Monday, May 24, 2021 with its annual meeting, awards presentations and then refreshments at the St. Louis Cathedral Basilica hosted by Dr. Horst Buchholz and Ben Blasingame. A wonderful evening spent by those in person and joining by *LIVE* stream were had by all. To watch the event, click [here](#). (Picture's courtesy of Rene Zajner)



ANNUAL MEETING/AWARDS CONT.

ST. LOUIS AGO CHAPTER



Dean



St. Louis AGO Chapter



Rick Burk (CAGO)

“Change is in the air!” That statement seems to be very apropos at the moment. On the one hand it seems like we have dealt with nothing but change over the past sixteen months. But now it seems that things are changing in a more pleasing way. More people have been vaccinated; fewer folks are getting sick with COVID and even fewer are dying. Thus, there has been an increase in social activities and an attempt to return to life as we knew it before the pandemic. Perhaps this could all be summed up in the phrase “the masks are coming off.” But what will we see when the masks are removed? What permanent changes have taken place while the masks were in place? I am not referring to just the physical appearance of those around us. Yes, some of us will most likely be revealing a few more facial wrinkles. But taking this beyond just the physical, what will be seen when the “masks” are removed, *i.e.* when we return to more in-person events such as worship and concerts? I think it is safe to say that things definitely will have changed. Time has marched on; not everything will be the same as before. Unfortunately I am not able to give proper credit, but I heard or read somewhere recently that “the former is the former.” In many ways there is no turning back. We must be prepared for what appears when the masks are removed and make an attempt to graciously accept the changes that are revealed and then move forward. It will be a time to make thoughtful decisions about how we will do things now and into the future. Perhaps some of the new technological skills we feel we were forced to learn in the past year may still be useful. Perhaps we will have learned to be better prepared for the unexpected. While it may be a time to celebrate the masks coming off, let us be prepared for what is revealed and give thoughtful reflection to how we move forward.

Our annual meeting held on May 24 was the first opportunity for our Chapter to experience the masks coming off. We were able to hold an in-person meeting in a large open venue while at the same time providing the opportunity for others to participate via live-streaming. Yes, extra planning had to take place to make this happen, but I think the results were a blessing for all involved. A special thanks goes out to the staff of the Cathedral Basilica for their help in providing the live-streaming as well as the great venue both indoors and outdoors.

During these summer months as more masks continue to be removed, take time to relish the experience but also find time for personal renewal. Plans are already well under way for an exciting program year beginning in September. Take some time now to relax and recharge, then plan to join us as we move forward.

Have a blessed summer!

Rick Burk – Dean
St. Louis AGO Chapter

PROGRAM YEAR OUTLOOK

ST. LOUIS AGO CHAPTER (2021-2022)



ALL EVENTS/DATES/TIMES/VENUES subject to change!

September 27, 2021

OPENING EVENT – BANQUET

Kickoff of the 110th Anniversary of the St. Louis Chapter
Presentation by Randy Zerkel – Historian
VENUE: TBD

October 10 & 11, 2021

ORGAN/HANDBELLS WEEKEND

Music weekend with guest artist Dr. John Behnke
Sunday afternoon Concert
Monday evening Reading Session
VENUE: Westminster Presbyterian Church

November 21, 2021 – 5:00p.m.

CHORAL EVENSONG & RECEPTION

A service of Thanksgiving for the ministry of musicians
hosted by Dr. Robert Lehman & Dr. Nick Bideler
VENUE: Church of St. Michael & St. George

NO MEETING IN THE MONTH OF DECEMBER

January 7, 2022

ANNUAL EPIPHANY PARTY

TIME: TBD
VENUE: TBD

February 12, 2022

FEBRUARY FLOURISH

TIME: TBD
VENUE: TBD



March 28, 2022

YEAR OF THE YOUNG ORGANIST CELEBRATION

A celebration of organists who are under 30. This event may include several celebration events.
TIME: TBD
VENUE: TBD

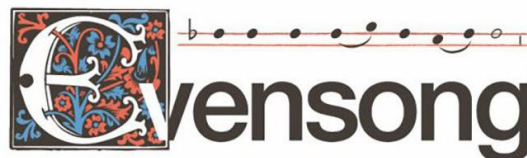
NO MEETING IN THE MONTH OF APRIL

May 23, 2022

ANNUAL CLOSING AWARDS/BANQUET

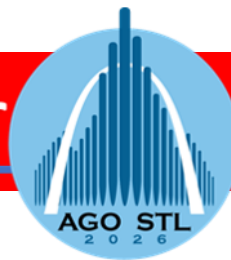
This is our annual closing meeting of installing new officers and presenting chapter awards.
TIME: TBD
VENUE: Boat Ride on the Mississippi River

PLEASE KEEP UP-TO-DATE ON CHANGES TO THE
PROGRAM YEAR BY VISITING OUR WEBSITE:
www.agostlouis.org AND READING THE OPUS
NEWSLETTER EACH MONTH.



Convention Coordinator

2026 National Convention



Burnell Hackman

CONVENTION DATES: July 6-10, 2026

CONVENTION HOTEL: Hyatt Regency of St. Louis at the Arch

OFFICERS OF THE CONVENTION:

Conference Coordinator – Burnell Hackman

Executive Assistant – Rick Burk

Executive Secretary – Kendra Ruesler

Treasurer – Mike Kaberline

Registrar – Regina Morris

STANDING COMMITTEES:

(Chairperson of each committee for the Steering Committee)

FINANCE COMMITTEE

REGISTRATION COMMITTEE

PROGRAM COMMITTEES

- *New Music
- *Performance
- *Workshops
- *Worship

LOGISTICS COMMITTEES

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

OTHER COMMITTEES

- *Facilities
- *Housing
- *Transportation
- *Exhibits

- *Information Technology
- *Website
- *Social Media
- *Program Book

- *Advertising
- *Gifts and Grants
- *Hospitality
- *Promotions
- *Volunteers
- *Youth

LIAISONS

- *Rising Stars
- *National Young Artists Competition in Organ
- *National Competition in Organ Improvisation

Ad-hoc committees will be formed as needed.
Committees will begin to be formed early next year.
Please fill out the Member Survey by clicking [here](#).

NATIONAL CONVENTION GIVING LEVELS

July 6-10, 2026

Early fundraising is one of the keys to a successful convention. Members of the St. Louis Chapter are all encouraged to make a pledge to the convention which you can pay in five installments the next five years. We will track donations and place your name in the correct category in the Convention Program booklet. There will also be many opportunities to underwrite concerts and programming closer to the convention.

Payments can be made with a credit card by using the ONCARD feature on the National AGO Website (www.agohq.org) or by mailing checks to:

Mike Kaberline, Treasurer

2 Holly Ridge Court

Swansea, IL 62226-2322

If you have any questions, please send me an email or call.



Burnell Hackman

2026 National Convention Coordinator

314-650-9415

agostl2026@agostlouis.org



BENEFACTOR:	\$10,000 & above
POSAUNE:	\$7,500-\$9,999
BOMBARD:	\$5,000-\$7,499
SOLO:	\$2,027-\$4,999
<u>2026 CLUB:</u>	\$2,026 (All contributions at this level and higher will be invited to a special event)
SWELL:	\$1,000-\$2,025
GREAT:	\$500-\$999
CHOIR:	\$250-\$499
FOUNDATION:	\$100-\$249
FRIEND:	Up to \$99



110 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

ST. LOUIS AGO CHAPTER



This coming year 2021-2022, our Chapter is celebrating 110 years. We were chartered in 1911. If anyone has any memorabilia that could be used for one of our fall program presentation, please contact our Historian, Randy Zerkel or Cathy Cassy this summer.

Randy Zerkel rzerkel@gmail.com

Cathy Cassy cmcass@yahoo.com

As a little teaser/preview – DO THESE BRING BACK MEMORIES?



AMERICAN GUILD of ORGANISTS

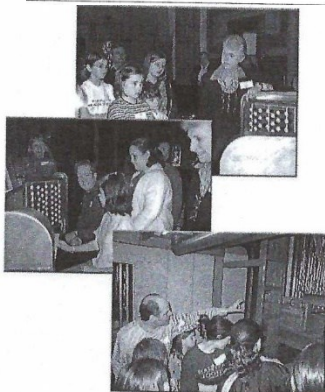
20 NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL CONVENTION 15

ST. LOUIS MISSOURI

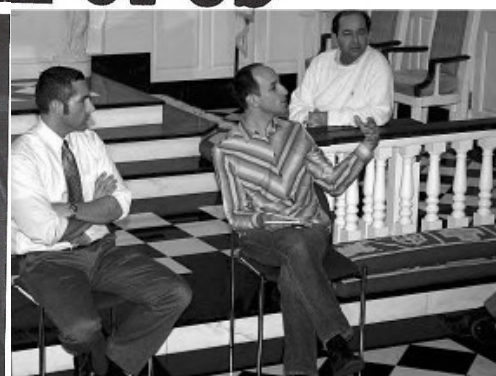


THE OPUS

THE OPUS



Pedals, Pipes and Ice Cream



DINNER COST: \$7.50, \$8.00, \$9.00, \$10.00, \$15.00

Reminders/Information

St. Louis AGO Chapter 2020-2021

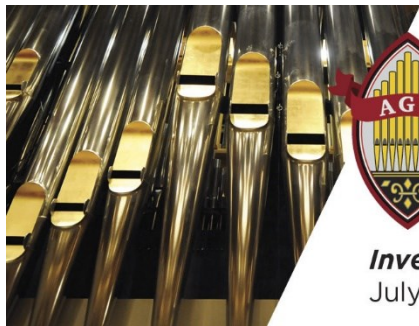


MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL



American Guild of Organists
PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTERS

AGO ORGANFEST 2021



**YEAR
OF THE
YOUNG
ORGANIST**

Investing in the Future
July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022



Webinars and Workshops
All Virtual

Handbell Association of Greater St. Louis

Virtual Reading Session – August 24 @7:00pm
Bellabration – February 27, 2022 @Kirkwood UMC
Find out more details by clicking on the Handbell icon.



Find us on:
facebook®



EXECUTIVE MEETING

August 23, 2021

Watch for more details



THE ST. LOUIS AGO CHAPTER
www.agostlouis.org

OFFICERS:

Dean – Rick Burk (CAGO)
Sub-Dean – Heather Martin Cooper (CAGO)
Secretary – Cathy Cassy
Treasurer – Mike Kaberline
Past Dean – Burnell Hackman

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Class of 2021
Martha Shaffer (CAGO)
Bob Chamberlin
Tim Jansen
Class of 2022
Dr. Steven Ball
J.D. Brooks
Dr. William Sullivan
Class of 2023
Gaye Anderson
Andrew Peters
Shawn Portell

APPOINTED POSITIONS:

2026 Convention Coordinator
Burnell Hackman
Auditor
Denis Doelling
Dinner Reservations
Dr. Cathy Bolduan
Directory Editor
Al Black
Educational Resources
Dr. Barbara Raedeke
Exam Coordinator
Brent Johnson
Historian
Randy Zerkel
Membership Coordinator
Kendra Ruesler

OPUS Editor
Ted Cronbaugh
Photographer
Rene Zajner
Professional Concerns Liaison
Shawn Portell
Publicity Liaison
Dawn Riske (CAGO)
Registrar
Regina Morris
Social Media
Rene Zajner
Webmaster
Brent Johnson

2020–2021