



THE OPUS

Volume 38
Issue 6

April 2022

Dean's Corner

Dear Colleagues,

With April come thoughts of Spring and new life. We see trees putting on their attire of new leaves. We spy various plants poking their way up through the soil and others putting on new growth. As nature literally comes to life around us, our spirits tend to be lifted and we begin to feel invigorated to summon forth what may feel like new life within our own beings. Within the Christian faith, thoughts of new life center around the celebration of the Resurrection. We are now well into a new year of rehearsals, services and performances with much more to come before we may have a significant break from those activities. Nevertheless, these signs of new life around us will hopefully give us a new burst of energy and joy as we continue to serve in our various roles as musicians. If you're not "feeling it," take a moment to stop and take notice of the wonders of Spring and the joy of new life around you.



Rick Burk, CAGO

As a Chapter, our current program year is quickly nearing an end. There is our annual dinner meeting on May 23, but before that there is another important opportunity for which your participation is needed – our annual election of Chapter leaders. You have seen the list of nominees in the past two issues of the OPUS. You will now have the privilege of casting your ballot. If it hasn't already happened by the time you are reading this, you will soon be receiving information on the election process. Please take a few moments to respond and let your voice be heard.

To the joy of Spring and a feeling of "new life"!

Rick Burk, Dean

AGO CERTIFICATION EXAMS

At their January meeting, the members of the Executive Committee reinstated the policy of reimbursing the cost of certification exams to members of the Chapter once they have successfully completed an exam. This policy is effective retroactively. If you received your certification in the past eight years and are currently a member in good standing of the St. Louis Chapter-AGO, you qualify for such a reimbursement. To receive it, please contact our Certification Coordinator, Brent Johnson (brent@bretmjohnson.net). If you are interested in taking one of the exams in the future, you may also contact Brent for assistance in getting the process started or visit Certification (agohq.org). The AGO currently offers five levels of professional certification:

Service Playing Certification (SPC) | Colleague Certification (CAGO) | Choir Master Certification (ChM)
Associateship Certification (AAGO) | Fellowship Certification (FAGO)

The official publication of the St. Louis American Guild of Organists
www.agostlouis.org

Sub-Dean's Column

Dear Members,
Happy Spring!

As of this writing, our March Lenten recital is still in the future. How wonderful that we can have that program, considering that just weeks ago we weren't able to gather for the Epiphany celebration nor February Flourish. I hope many of you were able to make it and that the program was music to your ears.

As is our custom, we do not have an April meeting of the chapter. So many of us who serve religious institutions are entering into our busiest time of the year. May this year be life-giving, if not as complete or full as it used to be. We are in a rebuilding time, or maybe not even there quite yet! Two years ago was very much worse.

Bring the best you have to the work ahead. I look forward to seeing you in May.

Heather



Heather Martin Cooper - CAGO

From our history as we celebrate our 110th chapter anniversary year:

- 1910-1920: Founding of the Missouri Chapter of the American Guild of Organist
- 1920-1930
- 1930-1940
- 1940-1950: 1948 National convention held in St. Louis, registrants 500 attended. The St. Louis Chapter had 189 members in 1948.
- 1950-1960: 1953 Regional Convention, 160 registrants attended.
1956 Mid-Winter Conclave, 99 registrants attended.
1958 Choral Workshop, 102 registrants attended.
- 1960-1970: 1960 Mid-Winter Conclave. 98 registrants attended.
- 1970-1980: 1970 Mid-Winter Conclave, 52 registrants attended.
- 1980-1990: 1980 Regional Convention
- 1990-2000: Pipe Organ Encounters began.
4-4-96: STL AGO hosted the rock band, "The Grateful Dead" at St. Xavier Church, SLU.
3-21-98: Bach Marathon at Christ Church Cathedral.
- 2000-2010: 90th anniversary recital by previous Chapter Deans. World's Fair Revisited: Peter Conte at the Cathedral Basilica and STL AGO members' recitals at the Art Museum (Charles Collins, Henry Evans, Tim Jansen, Marco Krieger, Mary Hitchcock-Reinhart, Earl Naylor, Pat Partridge, Lee Riekk, Arthur Eichhorn, Henry Glass, Stephen Mager, Martha Shaffer, and Nancy Ypma)
- 2010-2020: June 21 thru 25, 2015: North Central AGO Regional Conference
7-14-19: French Music Marathon to benefit Notre Dame's organ repairs
- 2018-20: February Flourish
- 2020-2021: 110th anniversary of the St. Louis AGO Chapter.

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for publication consideration.

Material and calendar items should be e-mailed to
newsletter@agostlouis.org.

**Copy deadline for the May issue is
April 10.**

Send address changes or mailing labels requests to:
Regina Morris
3526 Oxford Blvd
St. Louis MO 63143-4209

**ORGAN LESSONS
FOR STUDENTS
OF ALL LEVELS**

David Sinden

degrees in Organ Performance
from Oberlin College (B.Mus.)
and Indiana University (M.M.)

Study on the three-manual
Mander organ of St. Peter's
Episcopal Church, Ladue

CONTACT:
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OFFICERS:

Dean - Rick Burk
Sub-Dean - Heather Martin Cooper
Secretary - Gaye Anderson
Treasurer - Mike Kaberline
Past Dean - Burnell Hackman

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J. D. Brooks
Dr. William Sullivan

Class of 2023

(Vacant)
Shawn Portell
Kit LaMar

Class of 2024

Sarah Bereza
Jill Griffin
(Vacant)

APPOINTED POSITIONS:

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2021-2022

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Choral and Organ Music at St. Peter's Episcopal Church

The Rev. David Hodges *Rector*
David Sinden *Organist & Director of Music*
S. William Aitken *Organist & Director of Music Emeritus*

Meditation on the Passion of Christ **Palm Sunday, April 10** **5:00 p.m.**

Ancient antiphons and modern poetry combine in this service meditating on Gethsemane, the Trial, and the Crucifixion of Jesus. Music by Antonio Lotti, Richard Felciano, Gerald Near, and Robert Lehman.

Organ Vespers in Eastertide **Sunday, May 8** **5:00 p.m.**

A contemplative service of candlelight, chant, and music from our Mander organ. Guest Organist: Matthew Gerhardt (St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Des Peres). Part of an ongoing celebration of the twentieth anniversary of St. Peter's Mander organ.

Organ Vespers on Trinity Sunday **Sunday, June 12** **5:00 p.m.**

This service includes music by Matthias Weckmann (c. 1616–1674), including his “O lux beata Trinitas” and Magnificat on the Second Tone.

For full details visit specstl.org