



Detail of organ case, St George's Church, Heaviley, UK. Shared via CCA-SA 4 International license.

Bombarde



Newsletter of the Greater Kansas City Chapter – AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

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May, 2020

FROM THE DEAN

Everywhere we look, we see how many things have changed. Almost everyone has experienced new schedules, new ways of shopping, challenges to doing things as we used to do them. Who would think it so strange to wonder about going to a ball game, going to a crowded church sanctuary, or attending a party with a large group of friends? What used to be commonplace is now almost out of the ordinary. The microscopic coronavirus has made a huge impact on our lives. Conversations, the news, and our daily lives are all wrapped up in it. Even the Dean's Message for a group of organists and music lovers is dominated by it.

Our May Bachathon has been cancelled. It was an annual event that we have sponsored for 40 years. I would like to thank Nara Newcomer and Lara West for assembling a great group of organists, accompanists, and singers for the intended program. Our board has wisely vot-

ed to compensate the nonmember musicians and soloists who would have been a part of the program with honorariums for what would have been their part of the afternoon of Bach immersion. These are difficult times, and we believe in supporting our fellow musicians.

The board voted to cancel the May 18th program. It was expressed by many that the 18th was too soon to know how many restrictions might be lifted, or left in place, for public gatherings. We are thankful to Gerry Oehring and Beth Elswick for their part in putting this program together. It was a much anticipated demonstration of a pipe and digital organ built by Gerry, with Beth playing the instrument for us.

Our program year, lately, has been crowded with cancellations. The last remaining event for the 2019-2020 season is our potluck on June 1. The board of the church where it was to be held has decided they did not

know with certainty whether it would be safe for us to assemble there at that date. We are now looking for an alternative place to meet. Perhaps we will gather at a public park and have our own sack lunches while distancing ourselves from each other. Suggestions would be appreciated.

The board wants our members to know that we would like to help them if they are seriously impacted by a lack of work, job loss, or income restriction. Please refer to the members only section of our newsletter for details of this offer.

I was informed by the family of Dr. William Racer that he passed away on April 14. Dr. Racer was a former member and had been Dean of our chapter for the 1975-1976 season. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.

There is a notice in this newsletter from the family of Reggie Watkins about the events they have

(continued on page 2)

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FROM THE DEAN (CONTINUED)

planned to memorialize his life and music. Many of us knew Reggie well and enjoyed his musical talents and sweet personality.

We welcome the newly elected board members from our recent election. Mike Maiden, our current Sub Dean has put together a great program for next year, and he will be our new Dean as he implements the concerts and events. Other elected board members are also listed in this month's newsletter.

The old ways are out. The new ways are in. We have much to be anxious about, much to be thankful for, and we have great hope for the future. We are creative, hardworking, and alive! We celebrate each new day knowing we will work together to get through these tough times and forge a future we hope will bring us all back together to enjoy the organ and its music that we so cherish!

Boyd Ahrens, your Dean



Newsletter
Submissions:

*Deadline is the 20th of
each month for the next
month's edition.*

*All submissions must be
sent to the editor at
bombarde@kcago.com.
No other email addresses,
please.*

CHAPTER OFFICERS ELECTED

Our election results have been tabulated and the following are the newly elected officers and board members to serve on our chapter board for 2020-21.

Dean: Mike Maiden

Sub-Dean: Geoffrey Wilcken

Secretary: Jacob Hofeling

Treasurer: Dan Madura

Registrar: Boyd Ahrens

At Large Members/Long Range Planning Class of 2023:

John Deahl, Joshua Hearn

Auditor: John Davies

With many thanks to all of our chapter members for serving on our board. Together we achieve more.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT CORNER

Hello again: In Installment 5 of the "Lessons for the the New Organist" found at agohq.org, Fred Hohman focuses on the Pedalboard. He first demonstrates a classic flat 30 note pedalboard on a historically designed organ, and then modern 32 note concave radiating pedalboard. He recommends practicing on different organs to become accustomed to the different pedal designs. He shows how to use pedal and heel technique and how manuals may be coupled to the pedals. He demonstrates achieving a legato with the pedals by using heel and toes. He closes the session with a Bach passage for pedals, using only toes. He notes that in Bach's time only toes were used to play the pedalboard. There are also a series of Master Classes available to view at agohq.org, one of which is by Catherine Crozier. It opens with a her discussing her life and career, including her marriage to Harold Gleason. The pieces she works on with students includes Chorale Number I by Cesar Franck, and then the Dorian Toccata in D minor by Bach. I hope you find these and other resources available through the AGO website enjoyable.

Dan Cline.

GKCAGO PROGRAMS 2020-21

We are excited to announce the chapter program year for 2020-21, which has been reviewed and approved by the chapter board. This promises to be another successful program year for our chapter. Please mark your calendars now and join us at these chapter events.

Sunday, August 23, 2020

2:00 - 5:00 PM French Organ Music Festival VIII
Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, KC MO

Monday, September 21, 2020

7:30 PM Pipe Dreams - The Documentary
Blue Valley Baptist Church, OP KS

Monday, October 19, 2020

7:30 PM Adam Pajan in Recital
Grand Avenue Temple, KC MO

Monday, November 16, 2020

7:30 PM Schola Cantorum & Members Recital
Visitation Catholic Church, KC MO

Monday, January 18, 2021

7:30 PM Organ Music Reading Session
Episcopal Church of the Resurrection, Blue Springs MO

Sunday, February 14, 2021

3:00 PM David Briggs in Recital - Great Spaces
Grace Episcopal Cathedral, Topeka KS

Sunday, March 21, 2021

2:00 - 6:00 PM Pedals, Pipes and Pizza
Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, KC MO

Monday, April 19, 2021

7:30 PM Reuter in Recital
St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Olathe KS

Sunday, May 2, 2021

2:00 - 6:00 PM Bachathon XLII
Village Presbyterian Church, PV KS

Monday, May 17, 2021

7:30 PM Jacob Hofeling - German Romantics
Atonement Lutheran Church, OP KS

Monday, June 7, 2021

6:00 PM Chapter Potluck
Liberty Christian Church, Liberty, MO

With many thanks to the program committee members:
Betty Bauer, Dan Brown, Stephanie Henry, Dale Ramsey,
Tom Watgen.

Dan Cline

BACHATHON XLI UPDATE

Our physical Bachathon XLI scheduled for May 3 at Grace and Holy Trinity Cathedral has been cancelled. We are currently in the process of making all the cancellation contacts. We are grateful that the Board agreed to financially support KC musicians by paying our non-AGO colleagues who were scheduled to play.

Our thanks also go out to our volunteers who have worked to make this event happen:

Betty Bauer, Dan Madura, Rick Deasley
(advertising/programs)

Mary Davis (marionettes)

Kateri Determan, Mike Maiden

(facebook, website, posters)

Ardeith Hopkins (ushers)

Paul Meier (Grace & Holy Trinity host)

Stephanie Henry (grants)

Ann Marie Rigler, Jan Kraybill, Tyler Boehmer,

Kurt Knecht, Elisa Bickers, Paul Meier

(performers)

William Jewell Concert Choir

GKCAGO Schola Cantorum

And the rest of our chapter supporters and volunteers.

We intend to create a "Virtual Bachathon" playlist, featuring some of the same performers we had planned to hear in person.

We plan to release this in late May, so watch Facebook and email for more information. In the meantime, we look forward to Bachathon XLII in 2021!

Nara Newcomer and Lara West, Co-chairs

MEMBER NEWS

Reginald Jordan Watkins

celebrations of his life September 11-13, 2020

(see poster next page)

Sharon Davies is recovering from Covid-19 after being in Research Hospital for over 30 days. She hopes to move into rehab this week.

Her survival and recovery has been miraculous. She was informed this week that her doctor did not expect her to make it. She says she thanks her survival to wonderful medical care and the prayers of her friends and church.

Nancy Ramirez, Member Liaison

Tom Brown, former member, RSHS 1971, will retire in May from his position as Minister of Music--choir director, organist and administrator of the comprehensive music program at the University Presbyterian Church, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Tom has had a distinguished career and still cherishes his formative years in the Kansas City area. He was inducted into the Raytown Alumni Hall of Fame in 2013 and enjoyed reliving experiences in the area.

Tom has been aware of a declining sensitivity in his feet and two fingers of his left hand for a few years due to type II diabetes, but he has coped. Currently his feet do not "feel" the pedals because of diabetic neuropathy.

Tom was to be invited to perform at this year's French Festival at Grace and Holy Trinity in K.C., but declined. His last public recital was for his local AGO last spring.

The retirement will be observed in Chapel Hill in May 2020. Well-wishers from our area are invited to send a note or card of congratulations by **May 20** to the church representative:

Judy
703 Emory Drive
Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27517

LUYBEN'S ORGAN MUSIC SALE

50% off many scores! Call 816-753-7111
between 10am-2 pm or online order@LuybenMusic.com

VARIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

From Ben Spalding for the Spire Chamber Ensemble:

The COVID-19 pandemic has upended our lives in ways we never could imagine. I believe music can be a powerful tool to keep us connected through shared experiences where we all leave the everyday behind and enter a world of wonder and enchantment - even if for the time being this is from the safety of our homes.

I wanted to share a very special behind the scenes look from my home studio. I love to compose and improvise and have had extra time to do so these last few weeks. This video shows a little bit of my process when creating new music. I have always loved the early American hymn "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" and my longtime Spire colleague Sascha Groschang (cello) and I are delighted to share our improvised version with you. We hope that it will brighten your day!

<https://youtu.be/vV0H55eAWIg>

Watch the FULL BEHIND THE SCENES VIDEO NOW

https://youtu.be/icWmly_fXaU

Watch the PERFORMANCE VIDEO NOW

We are also grateful for your generosity and support. As Spire navigates these unprecedented times, please know that we are thinking of you and wishing the best for you and your family. You are the heart and soul of what Spire is about, and we look forward to being together again, surrounded by music and renewed optimism in our future.

With profound gratitude!

OUR AGO MEMBERS IN NEED

The board discussed ways that we might be of assistance to our members who may be in need due to the coronavirus and its effects on their lives. They voted to offer a limited amount of monetary support to those members who may be suffering at this time. If you, or a chapter member that you know of, is having financial difficulty, please let us know. If you could really use some support to get through this hardship, we would like to assist where possible.

Please send an e-mail to: Dean@KCAGO.com with an explanation of the assistance being requested, such as: electric bill, doctor co-pay, prescriptions, groceries, etc. The Dean will then discuss that need with the Executive Committee and will respond to your request. To be considered, e-mails must be received by the Dean NO LATER THAN MAY 15th to expedite the process.

Boyd Ahrens, Dean

Reginald Jordan Watkins will have "Celebration Of Life" services during his birthday weekend.... September 11 - 13, 2020

Four different public celebration services at institutions where Reggie gave decades of his talent, heart and attention are being planned...

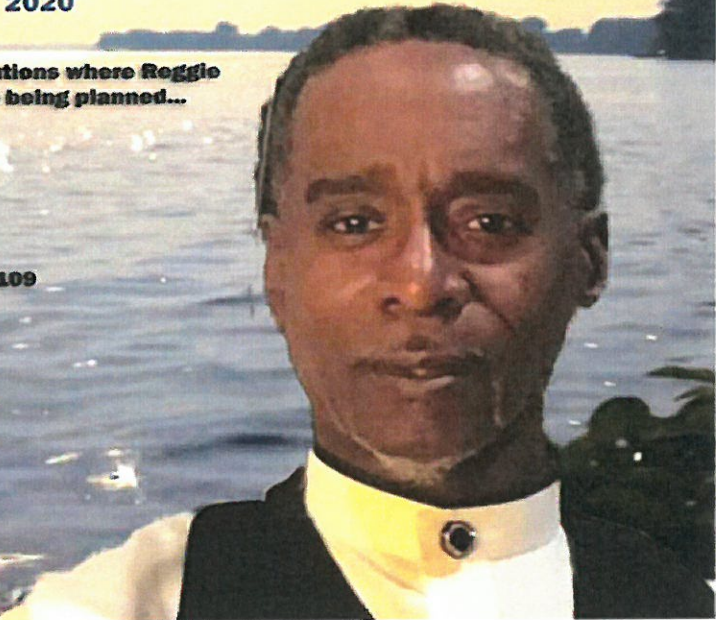
Eighth Street Baptist Church
 8th and Oakland Ave... Kansas City, Kansas 66101
 Contact Mrs Lynette Lasley ... 913.371.6221

Metropolitan Baptist Church
 2310 East Linwood Ave ... Kansas City, Missouri 64109
 Contact Ms Theresa Wilder ... 816-923-3689

Young Memorial Church Of God In Christ
 2401 N 9th Street... Kansas City Kansas 66101
 Contact Pastor Harold Dwight ... (913) 371-4090

A Jazz Celebration For Reggie, The Blue Room
 18th and Vine... Kansas City, Missouri
 Contact Mr. Craig Lindsay / Mr. Charles Williams
 Mrs. Felicia Safir / Mr. Rodrick Bettus

Services have been entrusted to Watkins Memorial Chapel



Substitutes Available

Substitutes listed are members of the local organ guild. The people who hold AGO certificates have passed requirements of the National American Guild of Organists for various levels of service playing and choral conducting. However, the GKCAGO is not an endorsement agency for service provided by the persons listed here. To learn proficiency of substitutes, feel free to ask them for references. Feedback regarding the hiring of GKCAGO substitutes is welcome and encouraged. Please send feedback to John Schaefer canonjohn40@gmail.com.

Mary Bronaugh Davis, MA, CAGO	organ	816-436-1419, c. 816-456-0343
Nancy Custead, CAGO, S.S. Music Ed	organ/piano	816-590-9414 nancustead@gmail.com
Barbara Eichenberger, BM, CAGO	organ/piano	816-568-3873 musicaltouch36@gmail.com
Stephen Kucera, CAGO, BM	organ/piano/lit.	913-568-3873 skkansas@gmail.com
Linda Mann, BME, SPC (Weddings/Funerals only)	organ/piano	816-353-4826, c. 816-289-9760
Marjorie O'Konski, MM, MME, SPC	organ/piano	785-766-2545 mjokonski@hotmail.com
John Pitchford, MM, SPC	organ	913-663-3768 johnpitchford@kc.rr.com
John Schaefer, AAGO, Ch M	organ/piano/lit.	816-520-2084

SPC = service playing certificate | CAGO = Colleague certification | AAGO = Associate certification | FAGO

The following have various degrees in organ or church music at the college or post-graduate level:

Joyce Berg, MM	org	816-741-7388 joyberg74@gmail.com
Alisa R. Carmichael, BM	org, piano	270-535-4881 charmichael.alisa@gmail.com
Franklin Coleman, MM, FTCL	org, dir, lit	816-442-8570 erzhalerii@gmail.com
John Deahl, MM	org, dir, lit, bass soloist	785-250-4141 johndeahl@gmail.com
Stephanie Henry, DMA Choral	org, piano, dir, lts	816-678-6372 sahenry652@gmail.com
Sharon Hettinger, DMA	org, lit, dir, handbell	785-842-2053 slhett.sunflower.2016@gmail.com
Ronald Krebs, BM, MM	org, lit	785-843-2622 rkrebs@reuterorgan.com
Sarah Lyons, DMA	org, piano, lit, dir	309-333-8745 sarah.orr.lyons@gmail.com
Caroline Neal, BFA	org, piano, lit, dir	913-499-9201 carolinemneal1957@gmail.com
MacKenzie Reed, MFA, BM	org, piano, lit, dir	ivoryfistrule@gmail.com
Ann Marie Rigler, DMA	org, lit	816-808-8663 amrwjc@gmail.com
Nancy Stankiewicz, BA	org, lit	913-642-8642

The following also offer their services:

Boyd Ahrens	org, lit	816-453-8406 boydlee@aol.com
Betty Bauer	org, lit	913-814-9021 hababab@earthlink.net
Doris Daniels	org, lit	816-431-3244
Phillip Grubbs	org	816-721-2325 pgrubbs@embassylandscape.com
Edward Poston, KU Student	org	edward.rposton@gmail.com
Marilyn VanderLinden	org, lit	816-665-4441
Margaret Werth	org	785-478-0256

org = organist | lit = liturgical worship | dir = choral director | piano = pianist | lts = long-term sub



18th-Century organ by the Spanish Gómez Herrera, Monastery of Santa Cruz, Coimbra, Portugal . Photograph shared via Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported license.

Soli+Deo+Gloria