



# Principal Pipings

Vol. 69, Issue 2 October, 2013

## Greetings from the dean

Hello AGO Friends!

What a great start to the season it has been, with great attendance at our kick-off concert and workshop on creative hymn playing and improvisation given by Bruce Neswick on the new Randall Dyer organ at the Cathedral of Christ the King.

Next on the agenda is a master class by Dr. Jan-Piet Knijff on the Taylor and Boody organ at The Presbyterian Church in Danville. If you haven't already done so, mark your calendars for Saturday, October 19th and come to Danville to learn something about Dutch organ music from our self-described still-Dutch organist, who says that he probably still plays with a Dutch accent! If you haven't yet met Jan-Piet, who is currently in Lexington studying Latin and Classics at UK, you are in for a treat. We should hear some music that may be new to many of us as well. Don't miss it--more details elsewhere in this newsletter.



Our yearbooks for 2013-14 are back from the printers and if you were at one of our September events you may have already received yours. We will be mailing the rest soon, so watch your mailbox.

Check out our calendar of events for many upcoming organ events in the area. I hope to see you at some of them. And don't forget to bring a friend!

Jane

# 2013-14 Programs

## **Jan-Piet Knijff Master Class on Dutch Organists**

*Saturday, October 19, 9:30 am*

*The Presbyterian Church, Danville*

## **David Briggs “King of Kings” silent film accompaniment**

*Friday, November 8, 7:30 pm*

*First Presbyterian Church*

## **Reading Session & Social**

*Friday & Saturday, January 17-18*

*Tates Creek Christian Church*

## **Pedals, Pipes & Pizza**

*A Saturday morning in Feb., location TBA*

## **Olivier Latry, Organ Recital**

*Friday, February 28, 7:00 pm*

*Church of the Good Shepherd*

## **Bach Marathon**

*Saturday, March 22, 9:30 am - 5:00 pm*

*Maxwell St. Presbyterian Church & Faith Lutheran Church*

## **Exploring the Music of Gethsemani**

*Saturday, May 17*

*The Abbey of Our Lady of Gethsemani*



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# Reflections on Preparing for the Service Playing Exam

by Kathy Egner

When Diana Nyad completed her record-breaking swim from Cuba to Florida, she shared her life lesson: Never, ever give up. Well, I can hardly swim from one end of a swimming pool to the other, but aiming for the Service Playing Certificate is about equivalent to swimming from Cuba to Florida for me. Therefore, every day I repeat the motto: Never, ever give up!

Each month, I would like to talk about one aspect of the exam and how I am approaching it. This month I will talk about the repertoire.

I started thinking about what I wanted to play long before I was ready to start preparing for the exam. I read the lists in TAGO, looked through my music to see what I had, bought a few things that sounded interesting and played around with them. When the time came to make decisions, I had a pretty good idea already of what my choices were. In Group A, you have a choice between Bach and Buxtehude. Well, I was born with Lutheran DNA, and I was getting goose bumps over *Herzlich tut mich verlangen* when I was three years old, so naturally I gravitated toward Bach's *Orgelbüchlein*. I had already played many of these pieces, but I took the advice that I had read in one of the preparatory resources from the Guild, and chose two pieces that I had never played but wanted to and began learning them. After a while, it became apparent that one of these was much more likely to be successful in the amount of time I had, so I focused on it. My choices from Groups B and C were likewise matters of the heart. I simply picked pieces from the list that I fell in love with. And that is so important. It has become apparent that if I did not love the music, I would have been so tired of it by now, so unwilling to go on and polish all the little details, so terribly weary. But loving it makes it all worthwhile.

Finally, get a good teacher. Doing so has made an incredible difference to me. I haven't studied for years and was, quite frankly, rather terrified to work again with a teacher. But, you know what? I found out that there is more good than bad about my playing. And my teacher has helped me interpret the music in a way that I never could have done on my own. If you can't afford a teacher, perhaps an organist friend would be willing to work together with you.

So, here's the bottom line as far as repertoire goes:

**Never give up, love your music, and get a good teacher. You will be on your way to success.**

**Principal Pipings** is published ten times annually by the Lexington, KY AGO Chapter. The chapter also maintains the web site [www.agolexington.org](http://www.agolexington.org). Deadline for submission of articles is the 1st of each month. Address editorial correspondence and requests for changes to [www.agolexington.org](http://www.agolexington.org) to: Scott Heydinger, [sheydinger@yahoo.com](mailto:sheydinger@yahoo.com)

# September Area Events

SUN / 10.13.13

3.00p

**Zach Klobnak, Faculty Organ Recital**

Center College Newlin Hall, Norton Center for the Arts, Danville

TUE / 10.15.13

12.10p - 12.40p

**Michael Rintamaa, Organ Recital**

Hughes Auditorium, Asbury University, Wilmore

TUE / 10.15.13

12.20p - 12.50p

**Douglas Murray, Organ Recital**

Ransdell Chapel, Campbellsville University, Campbellsville

SAT / 10.19.13

9.30a

**Jan-Piet Knijff, Master Class on Dutch Organists**

The Presbyterian Church, Danville

SAT / 10.19.13

7.30p

**In Honor of Oriana, Lexington Chamber Chorale**

Second Presbyterian Church, Lexington

FRI / 11.01.13

7.30p

**Kentucky Bach Choir**

First Presbyterian Church, Lexington

SAT / 11.02.13

7.00p

**Kentucky Bach Choir**

Harrodsburg Christian Church, Harrodsburg

SUN / 11.03.13

3.30p

**Schuyler Robinson, Organ Recital**

Christ Church Cathedral, Lexington

TUE / 11.05.13

12.20p - 12.50p

**Rodney Barbour, Organ Recital**

Ransdell Chapel, Campbellsville University, Campbellsville

FRI / 11.08.13

7.30p

**David Briggs "King of Kings" Silent Film Accompaniment**

First Presbyterian Church, Lexington



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## New Sponsor

Many thanks to Buzard Pipe Organ Builders for sponsoring our annual directory. We missed getting the ad in the directory so we'd like to express our thanks here and on our website. And thanks, John-Paul, for the fine instruments you've provided to several of our members!



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