



Principal Pipings

Vol. 69, Issue 9 May, 2014

Greetings from the dean

It's hard to believe that we've finished another year—2013-14 has been full of wonderful concerts and programs, not to mention fun and fellowship with our members. I hope you have been able to hear some of the new instruments in the area. Maybe you've been inspired to learn some new music or to prepare your own program for our enjoyment. But we can't stop now! We have a great slate of officers for the upcoming year. Your executive committee members old and new will be getting together next month to continue making plans for 2013-14, so watch for a newsletter later this summer with all the details.

I am excited to report that because of our growth in membership in 2013-14, the Lexington Chapter is eligible for awards from AGO National! We increased our overall membership by more than 5%, and we also added six new members under the age of 30! This is especially important as we try to reach out to younger musicians to get them involved. Let's try to build on this momentum and recruit even more members for 2014-15! If you know of someone who enjoys organ music, why not invite him or her to become a member in our "Friends" category? If you know young people who like organ music, bring them along to the next concert and tell them about our organization. Wouldn't it be wonderful to have 10 or 15 new members for next year? We can make it happen. It just takes a little effort to get the word out.

ONCARD is up and running to collect your dues for next year. You'll be receiving an invoice from AGO National soon, so when you receive it make sure you either go online to pay your dues or mail in your dues to National—your local dues portion will be returned to our treasurer. We'll be using the ONCARD information to compile our membership directory, so make sure you check to see that your information is correct. You can make any necessary changes either online or by mail when you pay your dues. Brian Hunt is our chapter's ONCARD liaison, so direct any questions you have to him or to me.

Lastly, a huge shout-out to our retiring executive committee members. Bonnie Harstad has been an invaluable help in her role as Sub-Dean, bringing excellent ideas and expertise to our programming. Kate Covington has been an outstanding Registrar, keeping all of our membership records up-to-date and assisting with the transition to ONCARD. Ted Gentry finishes a productive three-year term as an at-large member, and has also been ably serving as our chapter Historian. Please thank these folks for their service the next time you see them. I'd also like to thank Scott Heydinger for his amazing work on our newsletter and chapter website—it's a huge undertaking, and we consistently get comments from people about how much they love the look of both. To all of our returning board members, Larry Sharp, Brian Hunt, Glenna Metcalfe, Lisa Hall, Schuyler Robinson, Larry Sivis, Scott Heydinger, and to our newly elected members Roland Herzel, Don Seevers and Mark DeAlba, I can't wait to build on the great accomplishments the Lexington Chapter has already achieved. Here's to 2014-15! -- Jane

Music at the Abbey

SAT / 5.17.14

11.15p

after lunch

Lexington AGO May Event

Lunch and officer installation, Talbott Tavern
Court Square, 107 W. Stephen Foster, Bardstown, KY
Members' Program, Gethsemani Abbey

Lexington AGO Officer Installation and Abbey Visit

by Bonnie Harstad

No, not Downton, but Kentucky's own Gethsemani! Enjoy an afternoon of fellowship, music, and contemplation at the Abbey of Gethsemani in Trappist, KY, where monks have lived, worked and prayed for over 150 years.

You may be familiar with their cheese, fruitcake, and the writings of the notable Thomas Merton, but praying the Liturgy of the Hours is at the heart of religious life at the Abbey. Singing through the 150 psalms according to a 2-week cycle forms the backbone of their 7 daily prayer services, and our chapter will have the opportunity to participate in one of them.

We will begin our excursion with lunch in Bardstown at Talbott Tavern at 11:15, including the Installation of Officers led by our chapter chaplain, Larry Sivis. From there, we proceed to the Abbey, where Br. Luke will show and invite us to play the church's LeTourneau organ, followed by the 2:15 service of None, approximately 15 minutes long and open to the public. Next, we adjourn to the choir room for an introduction to the choral works of Gethsemani composer Fr. Chrysogonus Waddell. Br. Luke will share some of Waddell's unpublished hymns written for the Abbey, and Bonnie Harstad will lead a read-through of several octavos published and provided by World Library Publications. From that point, you are free to roam the Abbey's 1200 acres, visit the Welcome Center, and attend the 5:30 Vespers service if desired, leaving whenever you wish.

Feel free to bring a guest or family member to participate in our planned activities, or to explore the church and grounds on their own. For more information about the Abbey of Gethsemani, visit their website at www.monks.org; drive time from Lexington is approximately 1.5 hours.

Lunch and Carpool Information: Please RSVP by May 10

by Larry Sharp

We have a private room reserved at Old Talbott Tavern just for the Lexington AGO. Please RSVP by May 10 to Chapter Secretary Larry Sharp at (859) 744-2211, or at agolarry@att.net, so we may provide an accurate headcount. Additionally, anyone interested in carpooling to Bardstown and the Abbey of Gethsemani from Lexington, please contact Larry. We will see what we can work out!

Upcoming Area Events

See www.agolexington.org for any additions or changes throughout the summer.

5.1 - 5.4

American Bach Society Biennial Conference
Kenyon College, Gambier, OH

FRI / 5.2.14

7.30p

John Linker, Organ Recital
Christ the King

SUN / 5.4.14

4.15p

Zachary Klobnak, Organ Recital
Good Shepherd

SUN / 5.11.14

4.15p

Ted Gentry, Organ Recital
Good Shepherd

FRI / 5.16.14

7.30p

Beethoven 9, Lexington Chamber Chorale
Singletary Center

SAT / 5.17.14

see accompanying story

Exploring the Music of Gethsemani
The Abbey of Our Lady of Gethsemani, New Haven, KY

SUN / 5.18.14

4.15p

Larry Sharp, Organ Recital
Good Shepherd

SUN / 5.18.14

3.30p

Elizabeth Clark, Organ Recital
Christ Church Cathedral

SUN / 5.18.14

4.00p

The Sweet Adeline's Barbershop Chorus
St. John's, Versailles

SUN / 5.25.14

4.15p

Margaret Dickinson, Organ Recital
Good Shepherd

SUN / 6.1.14

3.00p

Glenna Metcalfe, Organ Recital
Holy Spirit Catholic, Louisville

SUN / 6.1.14

4.15p

Robert Nicholls, Organ Recital
Good Shepherd

6.23 - 6.27

AGO National Convention
Boston

Music at St. John's

AGO Member Begins New Concert Series

Upon accepting the position as organist/choirmaster of St. John's Episcopal Church, Versailles, I observed that a somewhat disorganized attempt was made by the Parish Life committee to have occasional concerts at the parish. After speaking with our Rector, we decided to formalize the concert series under the direction of the organist/choirmaster.

Accordingly, after taking suggestions from the parishioners, I recognized the need for two kinds of concerts: 1) Since church music is the focus of our music life each week, there was a need for our Parish Choir to participate in this concert series, performing music for the Daily Offices of Evensong, Morning Prayer, Noonday Prayer, and Compline. 2) Other artists and ensembles outside the realm of church music in secular music needed to be included, for the parishioners to hear church music every week at St. John's, and this would attract folks from the community.

After listening to parishioners, I decided to take a populist route. A "fun" concert can often attract folks who might otherwise not attend such events. The selection of the men's and women's barbershop choruses, The Kentuckians (male) and the Sweet Adeline's (female) has been a huge success, as has the Louisville Mandolin Orchestra. For its part, the Parish Choir of 24 members presented a beautiful Evensong during the season of Epiphany. Using the old adage "give them food and they will come," our Parish Life committee hosts a pot luck dinner after each Sunday afternoon concert or service in the concert series.

Because the music program at St. John's has an endowment fund and a substantial music budget from the Vestry, funding this series has not been a problem so far. Our parishioners and others who attend these concerts give liberally to these events. The general worship music at St. John's includes both traditional and contemporary Anglican choral music, Anglican Chant for the psalms, inspired congregational singing of hymns, and some contemporary Christian music. Recent restoration work on our 1897 Hook & Hastings tracker pipe organ has blessed our worship, which, on Rite II Sundays includes music from the piano in our nave. Once work on the organ is completed, a rededication recital is planned.

We welcome our friends from other faith traditions and our AGO friends to the Music at St. John's concert series.

Soli Deo Gloria;

William Webber, B.A., MTS, STM, CAGO, Organist/Choirmaster, St. John's

Events (continued)

7.13 - 7/17

Hymn Society National Conference
Columbus, OH

SUN / 7.20.14

3.00p

Organ Chamber Music Recital
The Presbyterian Church, Danville

About this issue

Scott Heydinger, editor & webmaster

This issue marks an end to another season of newsletters. Since our next issue is not until August we've included all of the events from our website through July. If you know of additional events please send them to Scott Heydinger at sheydinger@yahoo.com and I'll put them up on the website, www.agolexington.org, and in upcoming newsletters. Guidelines for inclusion are provided on the events web page. Be sure to check the site for additional events added throughout the summer.

Also notice in this issue the invited submission by **Bill Webber** about the Music at St. John's Concert Series. Members who have initiated some special programming at their institutions are welcome to submit articles for future issues. Surely other members would appreciate hearing about what worked, what didn't, how you overcame problems, etc.

Thanks to **Kathy Egner** for sharing with us throughout the season as she prepared for AGO certification. If you see her at an upcoming event be sure to congratulate her - she passed!

Next year we'd like to publish some additional member submitted articles. Submissions relating to certification preparation and other professional growth experiences and techniques are especially encouraged. Another idea is to write about how you became an organist. There must be some interesting stories out there! Perhaps those in academia could write about their students and programs. We're open to interesting ideas.

The chapter also extends a major thanks to our sponsors, **John Paul Buzard Pipe Organ Builders** and **Goulding & Wood Pipe Organ Builders**, both for their financial support of this newsletter and their contributions of fine instruments within our chapter area.

Finally, thanks to our members for keeping in touch with our chapter. This newsletter is sent to over 100 people via email and print (for those without internet access), and so far this year nearly 500 people have made over 1000 visits to our website from 38 states and several other countries, but overwhelmingly from the three city triangle area within Kentucky. We know you're out there and appreciate your interest in making ours an active and successful chapter! Have a great summer.



St. Bridget Catholic Church, Richmond, VA, Opus 42

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