

THE DESERT WIND

Editor: Bruce Behnke © 201

Issue: November/December 2010



Southern Nevada Chapter
American Guild of Organists

Dean's Notes

Another concert season is unfolding, and we have already experienced one wonderful concert by Dr. Ken Udy. About 150 concertgoers were in attendance. If you weren't there, you missed a very inspiring performance. Dr. Udy's clearly crafted rendering of the pieces in four groups of well-chosen repertoire, both in individual style and mix, brought a heart-felt standing ovation from the audience. It was an event that won't be repeated. Perhaps you're feeling a little twinge of regret at not having been there?

The first weekend in November brings Marek Kudlicki to Las Vegas for a workshop and recital. The workshop will be held the day before the recital: on Saturday, November 6, 2010 at 10:00 a.m. to Noon in the Guild Room at Christ Church Episcopal (2000 South Maryland Parkway at Saint Louis).

Park in the lot on the south side of the church, walk through the iron gate into the courtyard and the Guild Room will be on your right. The workshop topic is: "The Polish Organ In Sight and Sound". All you history buffs come join us!

Then on Sunday the 7th of November at 7:30 p.m. in Doc Rando Hall, Mr. Kudlicki will play his recital: another event not to be missed.

Sharing these musical hours with artists is such an uplifting experience that I don't know how anyone would miss them. With all the pressures and hub-bub of day-to-day living, it is a gift to us to be given a time to wrap ourselves in masterful performances that provide balm for the soul, inspiration for our own professional growth and a joyous community musical celebration.

In case you've misplaced the schedule, you will find it reprinted in this edition of the newsletter

To make these evenings possible and to book the best artists available, money is an issue, as it is with any worthwhile activity. Our Patrons Fund Donation Program has been allowing us to keep the concert series alive, thanks to a good group of generous givers. The Concert Series is our Guild's gift to the community, our outreach to improve the cultural life of the City of Las Vegas. Send a donation to our treasurer, Dr. David Dorway (10613 Shoalhaven Drive, Las Vegas NV, 89134) to do your part in this cultural contribution.

I'll look forward to seeing You and You and You at our next recital and workshop.

As always,
Shireen

In this Issue	Page	Page	
Dean's Message	1	Mildred Andrews	6
Organ Weekend	2	Santa Barbara Concert	7
Las Call Advent Recital	3	San Francisco Update	8
Race to Renew	3	Meet the Councillor	9
Kenneth Udy Recital	4	All Saints Series	9
Attn. Singers and Organists	5	Recital Series	10

“ORGAN WEEKEND” November 5, 6, and 7

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, November 5, 6, and 7 will offer organ aficionados an exciting series of events. You won't want to miss any of them!

On Friday, November 5, 2010 at 7:30 P.M. Ty Woodward will be presented in recital at Christ Church Episcopal, 2000 South Maryland Parkway at St. Louis. Mr. Woodward is the area representative for the Schantz Organ Company of Orrville, Ohio's. He was involved in the design and sale of the organ to Christ Church for the duration of the 15-year organ project. The Christ Church organ consists of 54-ranks on four manuals and pedal and is the largest pipe organ in Nevada.

Ty Woodward is currently Staff Organist at Disney's El Capitan Theatre in Hollywood. He has played both classical and theatre organ concerts throughout the U.S. Performances have ranged from Westminster Abbey, London; Trinity Church, New York; The National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, Washington, D.C.; St. James Cathedral, Toronto and the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels, Los Angeles to Shea's Theatre, Buffalo; the Byrd Theatre, Richmond; the Paramount Theatre, Cedar Rapids; the Alabama Theatre, Birmingham and the outdoor pipe organ in Balboa Park, San Diego. He has played several major works with orchestra including the Symphonie Concertante of Joseph Jongen and Saint-Saens Symphony No. 3.



His recording credits include a solo classical recording on the Aeolian-Skinner organ at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. and a theatre organ recording on the Wurlitzer organ at the Auditorium Theatre in Rochester, N.Y. along with accompaniments for numerous choral recordings.

Mr. Woodward holds a Bachelor of Music Degree in Organ Performance and a Masters degree in Choral Conducting from the University of Southern California. He is a former Dean of the Los Angeles Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, and has served on the Commission of Liturgy and Music for the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles.

Mr. Woodward's program will include works by Geoffrey Bush, Schumann, Mendelssohn, Dan Locklair, Widor, Alan Menken, Leon Jessel, Scott Joplin and Leo Sowerby. Tickets for the concert can be purchased at the door for \$15.00.

On Saturday morning, November 6, from 10:00 A.M. to noon, Marek Kudlicki will present "Polish Organs in Sight and Sound" in the Guild Room at Christ Church Episcopal. (If you come to the Friday evening Woodward recital, you'll know exactly where to come for the workshop the next day.) The Guild Room is on the right immediately after you have come through the gate to the courtyard from the parking lot. Poland has a long and rich history of organ-building with many impressive and exciting instruments. What better person to take us on a tour of instruments and to tell the story than a native Polish organist?

On Sunday, November 7 at 7:30 P.M. in Doc Rando Hall in the Beam Music Center on the UNLV campus, Mr. Kudlicki will be featured as the second recitalist in the Southern Nevada AGO Chapter's 2010-2011 Organ Recital Series. His program will include works by Clarke, Bach, Brahms, Barber, Schumann, Chopin, Feliks Nowowiejski and Mieczyslaw Surzynski.

Marek Kudlicki is one of a few organists who earns his living almost exclusively from appearing in concerts. He tours the world constantly and has performed on every continent achieving great acclaim. He was born in Thomazów Lubelski, Poland. He studied organ under Professor Krzysztof Missona at the Academy of Music in Cracow and completed his diploma with distinction. While still a student, he began his performing career by giving concerts in many cities of Poland. In the summer of 1973 he took part in the master course in Mechelen (Belgium) with Flor Peeters. He continued his post-graduate studies with Hans Haselböck at the Vienna Academy of Music.



He has concertized in almost all of the European countries, many times in the United States and Canada, and in Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Colombia, Argentina, Mexico, Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore and Taiwan.

Both the Saturday and Sunday organ events are free and open to the public.

Last Call for Performers on the Advent-Christmas Recital

There is still a little space available for performers on the annual Members' Advent-Christmas Recital to be held Sunday, December 5, 2010 at 4:00 P.M. at Christ Church Episcopal. If you have been itching to get your hands on the new four manual and pedal 54-rank Schantz organ at the church, here is your opportunity. To be included on the program, contact Dr. Paul Hesselink, organist at the church, at 242-1940 or by e-mailing paulshesselink@peoplepc.com

RACE TO RENEW

We entered the race and we WON! Won What? \$500.00! David Dorway, our industrious Treasurer, found out that National was running this race to encourage each chapters to get 90% of last year's membership to pay dues and return the form by the first of September. Those chapters who reached this goal were divided into categories: small, middle-sized and large. A winner was picked in each category through a drawing, and we won in our category. We won because David kept close watch, made lists, called me with his lists, made phone call, and achieved the goal! Congratulations, David! The Board will decide how best to use this money to help advance the goals of our chapter.

-Shireen



Dr. Kenneth Udy, organist from Salt Lake City, opened the 2010-2011 Organ Recital Series of the Southern Nevada Chapter of the AGO on Friday, October 1, 2010. His varied program of works by Bach, Mozart, Harm Hoeve, Oskar Lindberg, Marilyn Biery, Handel, Saint-Saëns, Myron Roberts, Denis Bédard, Joseph Jongen and Vierne was performed on the 2004 Rudolf von Beckerath organ in Doc Rando Recital Hall at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Future recitals in the series include: Marek Kudlicki (November 7), an Advent-Christmas recital performed by members of the chapter (December 5), Fantini Feste II, a recital of music for organ and trumpets (February 26, 2011), Hans U. Hielscher (April 10) and Dorothy Young Riess in her 80th birthday celebration recital (May 6, 2011), More information can be found at <http://members.cox.net/snc-ago>

Dr. Kenneth Udy Opens 2010-2011 Recital Series

On Friday, October 1, 2010 Dr. Kenneth Udy opened the current Organ Recital Series in Doc Rando Hall with a delightful program with “something for everyone.” About 125 people were in attendance. Member Barbara Giles orchestrated the lovely reception following the program. Evaluations were returned by 75 of the attendees (60%). Here is the breakdown of the data collected (note: sometimes percentages and totals do not fully add up to 100% or 75 because all respondents did not always reply to all questions):

First time visiting Doc Rando: 5 (7%)

First hearing of the Maurine Jackson Smith organ: 13 (17%)

First time at an AGO recital: 16 (21%)

Those attending earlier AGO recitals:

1-3: 14 (19%)

4-5: 11 (15%)

More than 5: 33 (44%)

How did they hear of the recital? (respondents were able to check more than one)

e-mail notification: 38

flyer: 11

radio: 2

previous program: 8

from a friend: 28

other: AGO website, UNLV website, UNLV concert list, Christ Church
Newsletter

Feelings about the program:

I loved it: 41 (55%)

I liked it a lot: 29 (39%)

I found it interesting: 5 (7%)

Overall rating:

Superb: 41 (55%)

Excellent: 27 (36%)

Average: 6 (8%)

Fair: 0
Poor: 0
No rating: 1 (1%)

Thirteen respondents asked to be added to the e-mail notification list.

The numbers are extremely useful to us at the time of writing our grant for support to the Nevada Arts Council. Our collection of the data sets us apart from many who apply for grant money. Our figures indicate several things: an extremely high audience satisfaction rate (for this recital those choosing the “Superb” and “Excellent” overall ratings comprised 91% of those in attendance). The figures also indicate that we continue to attract new people to the recitals but that we also have a high percentage of returning listeners. When we come to cumulative figures for the season, the conclusions that grant panelists make can only be that the recital series maintains a very high quality.

A recent comment about the series made by someone who attends regularly was, “It’s about the best deal in town---great performers and programs, punch and cookies afterward, and it’s all free!”

Thanks to the generosity of our Patrons, we have been able to continue these programs for the community. To date, twenty-two members of the Southern Nevada AGO Chapter have made contributions to the Patrons Fund for the current season. That represents fewer than 48% of the membership. If you haven’t yet made a contribution to support the series, we ask that you send your donation to our treasurer, Dr. David Dorway, 10613 Shoalhaven Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89134.

Paul S. Hesselink, Chair
2010-2011 Organ Recital Series

ATTENTION SINGERS AND ORGANISTS:

The First Church of Christ Scientist, Las Vegas, is looking for professional quality substitute singers and organists. The singer’s role is to lead three hymns and sing a pre-selected solo for the congregation. The pay is \$80.00. The organist’s job is to play ten minutes of prelude music, play three hymns which are selected for the service, accompany the soloist, and play an offertory and a postlude. The pay is the same as the soloist. The service is on Sunday mornings from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

If interested and available, please contact Ruth Lombardo at the phone numbers listed below. An audition before the music committee is required since it is a paid position.

RUTH LOMBARDO
HOME PHONE- 254-4398
CELL PHONE – 630-6814

COMMENTARY ON MILDRED ANDREWS

by Dorothy Young Riess

“The successful teacher is demanding; s/he never tolerates anything less than a student’s best efforts and insists on accuracy and proper fingering. The organ must be presented as a musical instrument. It is a fallacy that the organ is not a rhythmic instrument, for no instrument is of itself rhythmic or non-rhythmic. If the performer lacks a basic sense of rhythm he alone is responsible for the result. The same organ may sound vitally alive or deadly dull, depending entirely on the performer’s ability. But teaching is more than a matter of technique; it is an art. The one unchanging fact is that the truly great, the inspired teachers are those who stimulate and challenge the strong student, support and encourage the weak, and by their own ideals and enthusiasm instill in all their students a love for the best in their art.” (Mildred Andrews)



Miss Andrews (we NEVER called her Mildred!) was a hard taskmaster. She demanded and she got what she wanted from us students. She arrived at OU in 1941, Bob Whitley* in 1947 and me in 1949. She saw something special in us and spared no effort to make us better than we ever thought we could be. She pushed us as fast as we could go, and never let up on the pressure.

Her approach was absolutely “no nonsense”. Never did she indulge in chatter. Never did she care whether or not we were tired. She cared very much if our lesson was not prepared. She also had an annoying

habit of personally checking the practice rooms to make sure we were there working during our assigned hours. Her choice of repertoire was the finest organ literature we could manage, and we had absolutely no say in the matter.

Pieces for noonday student recitals were not only learned but played for memory always. She set registrations on the old Kilgen Organ, and we just accepted them (what did we know anyway!). By the end of my Freshman year, I played a full concert at First Presbyterian Church Oklahoma City including Bach T&F d minor; Franck Chorale a minor; Sowerby Toccata, all for memory.

Her attention to rhythmic certainty was legendary. She would sit at the back of the auditorium and we would have to count out loud as we played a Bach Fugue. (Try doing that yourself for the Bach g Minor!). Not only did you have to move fingers and feet, but count out loud simultaneously. I had a tendency to mumble (hating the very exercise) and she would shout “I can’t hear you!” One didn’t dare argue - so I learned how to do it (and find myself doing it still - especially for the g minor).

We learned from Bach-Dupre editions exclusively and every finger and pedal mark was written in. If it changed, that was written in also. Nothing was left to chance. Every finger did the same thing the same way all the time. Did this result in sterile playing? It might have, but the true result was a certainty that made playing easier and allowed for more expression later.

I don't recall any discussion about personal interpretation. Her job was to make sure we learned correct mechanics for every single minute, and that we memorized to be free of the music. Personal style evolved because of who we were. Bob's style was his personality, and my style was mine. We did not sound the same or like her ever.

Bob Whitley was the first winner in the first AGO Young Organists Competition 1950, and I was the second winner in 1952. The preparation for these competitions was single minded and razor sharp. She would meet me at the organ at 5:00 AM to practice if need be. She was with me on the bench until just minutes before the Regional Finals. She did not come to San Francisco, but her presence was all around me and the technical drill she insisted upon resulted in absolute certainty of performance (for memory) and a win.

To this day, I still hear her voice from the back of the room "I can't hear you.", and follow everything she taught me about learning. Without accuracy and technical certainty there can be no interpretation of value.

We all have many teachers in our lives, but we remember best the ones who put us to the test, who challenged us to be better, who demanded excellence, who rarely expressed praise, but who knew the reward would be within us for a job well done.

*Bob Whitley died of cancer in 2005 shortly after a reunion of Miss Andrews students at OU.

DOROTHY YOUNG RIESS, M.D. PRESENTS LECTURE CONCERT IN SANTA BARBARA

Southern Nevada Chapter member, Dr. Dorothy Young Riess, was sponsored by Santa Barbara AGO in a lecture-recital Sunday, August 29, 2010, at First Presbyterian Church. She played the five manual Casavant organ of almost 5,000 pipes, 74 ranks, and 58 stops plus 14 electronic stops.



She played the following program and preceded each selection with a narration about the composer and the music:

J.S. Bach	Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist BWV 671
Enrico Bossi	Stunde der Freude, Op.132 #5 (Hour of Joy)
Richard Wagner-Liszt	Pilgerchor aus Tannhauser (Pilgrims' Chorus from Tannhauser)
Herbert Howells	Rhapsody Op.17 #3 in C# Minor
Fritz Kreisler-Riess	Liebesfreud (Love's Joy)

The enthusiastic audience brought her back for an encore, J.S. Bach, In dir ist Freude (In Thee is Gladness). The program was recorded and CD will be available soon.

2011 AGO Region IX San Francisco Convention Update:

The Region IX AGO/Quimby Regional Competition

By Angela Kraft Cross, Region IX AGO/Quimby Competition Chair

Every two years in odd-numbered years, the AGO holds a nationwide series of competitions for young organists. The current cycle of competitions will culminate in nine regional competitions at the nine regional AGO conventions in the summer of 2011. These competitions are not to be confused with the National Young Artists' Competition in Organ Performance, "NYACOP," which features advanced college and grad student organists and culminates in a final competition at each national convention during even-numbered years.

Young organists, who need not be AGO members but must be under age 24 as of August 1, 2011, are encouraged to compete in either the region of their school location or the region of their legal home address. They begin this process by competing at a local chapter competition, playing a Bach prelude and fugue, a composition from a composer born in the 1800s, and one from a composer born after 1900, in contrasting styles. Competitors must also prepare to play a hymn, choosing either Lobe den Herren, Nicaea, or Mit Freuden Zart.

The winner of each chapter competition then will move on to compete at that chapter's regional convention in the summer of 2011. Finally, the nine winners of the nine regional conventions will perform at the 2012 National Convention in Nashville in the "Program of Rising Stars." At both the chapter and regional levels, there are cash prizes awarded. Each chapter offers its own cash prizes (set by the hosting Chapter). Local chapters are also encouraged to provide performance opportunities for their local chapter winners.

The regional prizes are made possible by a generous grant from Michael Quimby, President of Quimby Pipe Organs, Inc. In addition to the \$1000 first place cash prize and the \$500 second place cash prize at the Regional convention, the first place winner also receives the golden opportunity to perform a forty-five minute concert at the regional convention.

The Region IX AGO/Quimby Regional Competition will take place as a pre-convention event on Saturday July 2, 2011 on the Aeolian Skinner organ at beautiful St. Luke's Episcopal Church in San Francisco. The chapter winners who get the opportunity to play the wonderful instrument in this inviting space will think the trip well worth their effort!

Please note the upcoming deadline of October 22 for local deans to apply to hold a chapter competition. Let's encourage our young organists!

Region IX Convention News: Meet Our New Regional Councillor

By Leslie Wolf Robb, AGO Region IX Councillor

I'm excited to be serving as your new Regional Councillor for Region IX! I've been a part of the AGO since my college years and earned my C.A.G.O. not long after graduation. Currently I serve as Director of Music Ministries for St. Paul's Lutheran Church and School in San Diego and teach piano and organ to both children and adults. I've served on the board of San Diego AGO in many capacities and have been privileged to serve on two national AGO committees. My passion is getting young people interested in organ study and I believe that we need to reach out in a variety of ways to help our student members become active, engaged participants in AGO. I believe that long-range planning and goal setting are crucial for long-term growth for chapters and for the AGO as a whole, and look forward to continuing to help the AGO grow and flourish as we work together.



Region IX includes Arizona, California, Western Colorado, Hawaii, Korea, Nevada, Utah, Singapore, Sydney, and our newest chapter in Taiwan – and has a host of tremendously gifted musicians within its borders. You'll have the opportunity to hear many of them next summer!

The San Francisco Chapter will celebrate its 100th birthday in 2011 and has partnered with the Palo Alto/Peninsula chapter to present a phenomenal program for the 2011 Regional Convention. I'm looking forward to hearing the new instruments that have been built since the 1984 convention, being inspired by and learning from artists, composers, and workshop presenters from all over our region, and getting to know all of you! Mark your calendars now for July 3- 7, 2011, and join us in the beautiful City-by-the-Bay and surrounding communities for a wonderful five days of music, learning, and connecting with colleagues.



All Saints' Episcopal Church

4201 West Washington Avenue

Las Vegas, Nevada 89107

702-878-2373

The Rev. Gary Goldacker, Interim Rector

The Rev. Bede J. Parry, Organist & Choirmaster

MUSIC AT ALL SAINTS' 2010-2011

SUNDAY	November 28	Advent Lessons & Carols	All Saints' Choir	10:00 am
FRIDAY	December 24	Music of Christmas	All Saints' Choir	10:30 pm
SATURDAY	January 8	Chamber Music Concert		7:00 pm
WEDNESDAY	February 2	Candlemas Evensong	All Saints' Choir	7:00 pm
SUNDAY	April 3	Organ-Plus & Compline Bede Parry, Organist	All Saints' Choir Julie Williams, Flute	7:00 pm

The American Guild of Organists, Southern Nevada Chapter

Organ Recital Series 2010-2011

Friday, October 1, 2010 – 7:30 P.M.

Dr. Kenneth Udy

A native of Salt Lake City, Dr. Udy earned his doctoral degree in organ performance from Claremont Graduate University. A practicing church organist for over twenty years, he currently serves as Director of Music at Wasatch Presbyterian Church in Salt Lake City and often appears as guest organist at the Salt Lake Tabernacle and with the Utah Symphony.

Sunday, November 7, 2010 – 7:30 P.M.

Marek Kudlicki

Polish organist Marek Kudlicki is one of a few organists who earns his living almost exclusively from appearing in concerts. He tours the world constantly and has performed on every continent achieving great acclaim.

Sunday, December 5, 2010 – 7:30 P.M.

Advent-Christmas Recital

This year's edition of the holiday recital will again be performed by members of the Southern Nevada Chapter. Being held at Christ Church Episcopal, the recital will showcase the church's new 4-manual and pedal, 54-rank Schantz pipe organ completed in January of 2010.

Saturday, February 26, 2011 – 7:30 P.M.

Fantini Feste II

In collaboration with UNLV's newest established festival, this concert will feature guest trumpeters of national stature in works from the literature for organ and trumpet(s). A concert not to be missed!

Sunday, April 10, 2011 – 7:30 P.M.

Hans U. Hielscher

Hans U. Hielscher has been Director of Music and Carillonner at Wiesbaden Marktkirche, Germany, since 1979. Since 1962, Hans Hielscher has appeared in more than 2200 organ recitals worldwide, including 31 concert tours in 39 states throughout the United States. He has performed in Festivals and major recitals at most of the Cathedrals in Europe.

Friday, May 6, 2011 – 7:30 P.M.

Dr. Dorothy Young Riess

Dr. Riess won First Place in the American Guild of Organists National Competition in San Francisco in 1952. After a 30-year career as a medical doctor, she returned to serious study and playing of the organ when she moved to Las Vegas in 2000. This recital is given in celebration of her 80th birthday. You'll want to be there!

All recitals in Doc Rando Recital Hall in the Beam Music Center on the UNLV Campus, except for the Advent-Christmas Recital at Christ Church Episcopal (2000 S. Maryland Parkway at St. Louis Avenue)

All recitals open to the public at no charge

The Organ Recital Series is supported through the generosity of Patrons in the community.

Contributions are tax-deductible. To become a Patron, send your check made to

"Southern Nevada Chapter, AGO" to Dr. David Dorway, Treasurer,

10613 Shoalhaven Dr., Las Vegas, NV 89134

This Organ Recital Series is funded, in part, by a grant from the **Nevada Arts Council**, a division of the **Department of Cultural Affairs**, and the **National Endowment for the Arts**, a federal agency.



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE ARTS



NEVADA
ARTS COUNCIL



NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF
CULTURAL
AFFAIRS