



Southern Nevada Chapter  
American Guild of Organists

# THE DESERT WIND

Editor: Bruce Behnke © 2011

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## Dean's Notes

Dear Colleagues,

My female cat, Figaro, whom I've had for 18 years, became critically ill 2 nights before our Advent/Christmas Recital. This kitty has been with us since my kids' early teen years. She now camps out in my bedroom and bath area because of a dog named Chopper who likes to chase her. That night, December 3rd, she was crying loudly, so I went to check. She ran up to me meowing frantically, trying desperately to explain what was hurting; and she was in obvious pain.

Four Nights and \$1300.00 later, Figaro is doing much better with the help of fluid IV's going into her 9th life as we enter the year 2011, lasting as long as I can keep the kidney disease at bay with twice-weekly administering of fluids.

Cats are known for their affection and trust for the humans who care for them. Her trust was so evident

that night as she meowed for help, knowing that I would fix the problem. The events surrounding her illness gave me pause to reflect on the concept of Trust. There's the trust from those for whom we care. There's the trust of ourselves that we will respond appropriately in given situations.

I came across an article in "The Music Teacher", the official Journal of the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA) that made me view Trust of myself in a totally new way: Trust during performance. The article was written by Bill Moore and Jane Magrath, the former who has written a book called "Playing Your Best When It Counts: Mental Skills For Musicians". Mr. Moore applies the same techniques and strategies used in sports psychology and how they could be used to enhance the performance of musicians.

And Trust seems to be the key: be-

ing defined as "letting go of the conscious controlling tendencies learned during skill acquisition, and allowing the automatic processes to run without interference, so that you can tend to the feeling and the emotion in the music".

What I get is that "practicing to perform is not the same as practicing to improve". After one achieves the mechanical and muscle memory necessary to play the piece, it appears that to really perform is to cast off the cognitive, Trust your muscle memories and let your emotional response to the music take over: accomplished only by actually gradually practicing this release of the cognitive in ever-increasing percentages of practice time.

There is much more to the article: a mental skills model that diagrams multiple areas of mental skills and abilities, all culminating in the mental goal of self-Trust. Impediments

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## AGO RECITALS CONTINUE TO RATE HIGH WITH AUDIENCES

Since our last newsletter, two recitals in our continuing 2010-2011 Organ Recital Series have been presented.

On Sunday, November 7 at 7:30 P.M. Polish organist Marek Kudlicki presented a program of works by Jeremiah Clarke, a Dance Suite from the Jan of Lublin tablature, J.S. Bach, Johannes Brahms, Samuel Barber, Robert Schumann, Frederick Chopin, Feliks Nowowiejski and Mieczyslaw Surzyński. About 120 people were in attendance. Sixty-six attendees completed the survey with the following results:

First time visiting Doc Rando Hall at UNLV: 4

First time hearing the Maureen Jackson Smith organ: 8

First time attending an AGO recital: 8

Those who have attended AGO recitals before:

1-3 times = 11    4-5 times = 7    more than 5 times = 40    no response = 8

How they heard about the recital:

E-mail= 35    flyer=10    previous program= 14    from a friend=23

other: radio, UNLV schedule, AGO member

Feelings about the program:

I loved it! = 28    I liked it a lot = 24    I found it interesting = 9

Might come back for another performance = 2

Wasn't really interested = 1    Wouldn't come again = 0

No rating = 2

Overall rating of the program:

Superb = 28    Excellent = 28    Average = 6    Fair = 1    Poor = 0

No rating = 2

Eight people requested to be added to the e-mail notification list.

On Sunday, December 5 at 4:00 P.M. the annual Advent-Christmas Recital was presented at Christ Church Episcopal, featuring the new 4-manual Schantz organ. Seven chapter members performed: Dorothy Young Riess, Cherrill Hoeft, Shireen Beaudry-Johnson, Bede Parry, Douglas Wilson, David Dorway and Paul Hesselink. About 150 people attended a varied program of Advent and Christmas works by Sigfrid Karg-Elert, Robert Manookin, Johannes Brahms, Healey Willan, Louis-Claude d'Aquin, Alfred Burt, Samuel Barber, David Conte, Robert Lau, Austin Lovelace, Diane Bish and Johann Pachelbel. Ninety-one people completed the evaluation form:



Photo: Dorothy Young Riess

First time visiting Christ Church: 33  
First time hearing Schantz organ: 44  
First time attending an AGO recital: 30

Those who have attended AGO recitals before:

1-3 times = 17 4-5 times = 11 more than 5 times = 43

How they heard about the recital:

e-mail notification = 38 flyer = 8 previous program = 15  
from a friend = 45 newspaper = 6 Christ Church newsletter = 7  
AGO Newsletter = 2 no response = 1

Feelings about the program:

I loved it! = 42 I liked it a lot = 30 Found it interesting = 16  
Might come back for another performance = 2 Wasn't really interested = 0  
Wouldn't come again = 0

Overall rating of the program:

Superb = 32 Excellent = 47 Average = 9 Fair = 1 Poor = 0  
No rating = 2

Twenty attendees asked to be placed on the e-mail notification list.



Bede Parry, Dorothy Riess, David Dorway, Cherrie Hoeft, Doug Wilson,  
Paul Hesselink, Shireen Baudry-Johnson Photo by Dorothy Riess

It is always “tricky” to make total sense of the statistics and to fully comprehend some of the comments people write on the evaluation forms. For example, at the Advent-Christmas program, one comment was that “no one played the organ loud enough” but another person said that sometimes the organ was too loud for the room! One or two people registered a complaint about all the selections being “unfamiliar” and “heavy.” While I haven’t done any formal tabulations, I think it is generally true that those who had never been to an AGO recital (or maybe never to an organ recital) tended to rate the

programs overall lower than those who had been to five or more recitals. Others responding are more positive and often add comments like “I loved it all” or “Thank you for providing these wonderful recitals!” I believe the cumulative totals say it all pretty well: 87.5% of those completing evaluations rated the recitals in the series this season as either “Superb” or “Excellent.”

A big thank-you to all members who support the series through their contributions, attendance at the programs, help in advertising, hosting guest performers, helping with the receptions, and performing as on the most recent members’ recital.

Paul S. Hesselink  
2010-2011 Recital Series Chair

# FANTINI FESTE II TO FEATURE TRUMPETS AND ORGAN

Saturday, February 26, 2011 at 7:30 P.M. in Doc Rando Recital Hall



The first recital of the new year in the 2010-2011 Southern Nevada Chapter's AGO Recital Series will be a "spectacular" featuring trumpets and organ. Fantini Feste II is the second such event to be held at UNLV which will bring to Las Vegas dozens of fine trumpeters from all over the country to participate in this newest festival mounted by the Department of Music. The festival bears the name of Girolamo Fantini (ca. 1600– ca. 1675), who with organist Girolamo Frescobaldi is credited with playing the first known trumpet with organ recital in 1634. Most importantly, Fantini is remembered today for his 1638 *Modo par imparare a suonare di Tromba*, one of the earliest treatises on playing the trumpet. The festival is under the organization and direction of UNLV trumpet teacher, Steven Trinkle. Our own member, Eugenie Burkett, will be the organist for the recital.

While the details of the program are not yet available, we are excited to be collaborating in the

sponsorship of this final program of the festival. Steven and Genie promise "multiple" trumpets in a program certain to raise your spirits. You won't want to miss this unique and exciting program...mark your calendars and plan to attend!

For more information, <http://www.festefantini.com/>



Performing Artist - Allen Vizzuti

# ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

4201 West Washington Avenue  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89107

50th Anniversary Concert

Saturday, January 8, 2010  
7:00 pm

Chamber Music performed by students from  
The Nevada School of the Arts

Works by Beethoven, Mozart & Dvorak

The program is free and open to the public.

Please call All Saints' office 702-878-2373

(Dean's Message continued from page 1)  
to the process include jamming (too many thoughts.  
. . .), over-aiming (excessive concern for accuracy. .  
. . .), Pressing (too fast, too loud. . .), and over-control-  
ling (guiding the correctness of movement in diffi-  
cult passages).

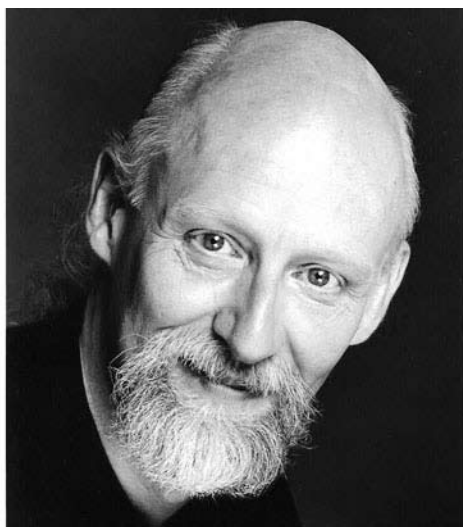
I for one would like to learn more. If you're inter-  
ested in this topic, give me a call (702-645-6546)  
and I'll share the source infor-  
mation.

And in the meantime, have a  
wonderful New Year, begin-  
ning a new stage in your life,  
hopefully not your 9th one,  
like Figaro.

As Always,  
Shireen



You are cordially invited to the closing concert of the nineteenth annual  
12th Night Handbell Festival  
Sunday, January 16, 2011  
4:00 P.M.  
Grand Ballroom  
South Point Hotel and Casino  
9777 Las Vegas Boulevard South



The festival concert will feature small group ensemble performances  
and massed ringing of over 120 bellringers under the direction of  
guest clinician Tim Waugh.

There will be thirteen  
choirs coming from  
Nevada, Arizona,  
California and

Oregon participating in this year's festival.

Free admission

An offering will be received to help defray  
expenses of the event.

This event is a registered and officially  
sanctioned event of the Area XII of  
The American Guild of English Handbell Ringers.



## ORGANLIVE MAKES IT EASY TO EXPERIENCE THE MUSIC OF THE ORGAN

Organlive.com is an Internet audio station dedicated to the music of the classical organ. Broadcasting since 2003, Organlive has become the most-heard organ station on the Internet. The broadcast is completely free to anyone with a broadband Internet connection and is now easier than ever to tune in. Listeners simply need one click at [www.organlive.com](http://www.organlive.com) to hear the broadcast through Windows Media Player, WinAmp, iTunes, Quicktime, RealPlayer, or any streaming MP3 player. Additionally the stream may be heard on most mobile devices such as the iPhone or Android based phones. The station is also listed in the classical radio stations on iTunes.

A new website makes it easier to search the the ever-growing library of organ music, which currently holds over 10,000 tracks from more than 850 albums of music recorded by organists all over the world. Listeners can log in to rate tracks and albums as well as leave comments on the same. Organlive plays albums recorded on pipe, digital, and combination organs played by the world's best concert organists, as well as tracks recorded and submitted by less renowned organists. Included are pairings of organ and orchestra, solo instruments, choir, or vocal solos. The listener is presented with the work title, composer, album title, a link to purchase the album or MP3 online, the organ, it's builder, size, and location, and a link to the specification of the organ being heard, and often a link to public domain copy of the sheet music of the work.

Listeners may browse the entire library searching by work, composer, organist, album, or organ and request tracks to be played. On Sundays the station features hymns, choral anthems, and music of the church. Monday's playlist consists of music from the 19th and 20th centuries. Wednesdays are all-baroque music, and Fridays feature the best music from our library, as rated by the listeners.

The station has been continually funded by the listeners, and an annual budget covering all operating expenses is raised every spring. Organlive is always accepting submissions for new music from organists, composers, and publishers. To listen to Organlive, or for more information on submitting your music, visit [www.organlive.com](http://www.organlive.com).



CONTACT: Brent Johnson, Organlive.com 314-496-1278  
[comments@organlive.com](mailto:comments@organlive.com) <http://www.organlive.com>

# Region IX 2011 Convention:

## **Past Convention Highlights from SFAGO History**

by Rob Kerman, Convention Registrar & Publicity Chair

Here is a brief look at how the San Francisco Chapter has provided convention leadership in the past (with a few other interesting items along the way).

1911

Northern California Chapter was established on June 20, with 16 members.

The Chapter inaugural service was at First Congregational Church of Oakland.

The first Dean, Wallace A. Sabin, was organist at Temple Emanu-El & First Church of Christ, Scientist, in San Francisco, and a faculty member at UC Berkeley.

1917

San Jose and Stockton split off from Northern California Chapter to form their own chapters.

1935

Northern California Chapter Jubilee took place to mark the Chapter's 25th year.

1952

SFAGO hosted the National AGO Biennial Convention in San Francisco.

1961

SFAGO hosted a Regional AGO Convention and changed its name to The San Francisco Chapter.

1984

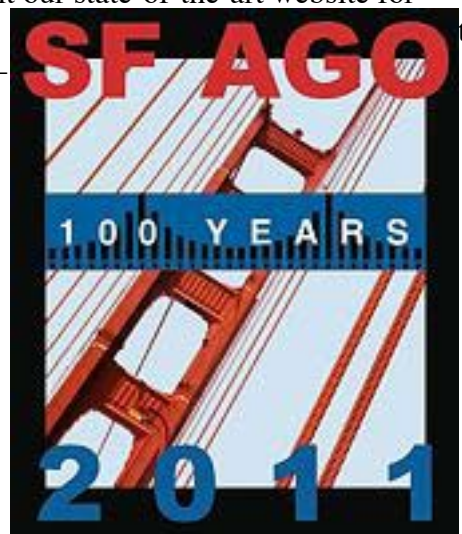
SFAGO hosted the National AGO Biennial Convention in San Francisco.

2011

It's our 100th anniversary and we are at it again! The Region IX Convention will take place in San Francisco on July 3-7, 2011. Exciting events are on offer at this convention, including a 100th anniversary commemoration at the opening service. Visit our state-of-the-art website for full details, and complete your registration early. Act now avoid disappointment—registrations are limited to space available, and there is a lot of interest in this convention.

Our convention website is

[www.sfago2011.org](http://www.sfago2011.org).



# 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!

