

THE DESERT WIND

Editor: Bruce Behnke © 2007

Issue: November/December 2007

Dean's Notes



Southern Nevada Chapter
American Guild of Organists

On Friday evening, October 12, Chapter members and guests from the community gathered at United University Methodist Church to celebrate the Legacy of Charles Wesley by commemorating his 300th birthday. Wesley authored nearly 9,000 religious poems of which more than 6,500 were true hymn texts and which were published in his lifetime! Friday evening's well-planned program used only Charles Wesley hymn texts. The 40-voice Charles Wesley Festival Choir under the expert direction of Marshall Townsend, organist Margaret Hannah, trumpeter Tom Wright and the singing of the assembled congregation combined to make it an exciting occasion. The Reverend Mark W. Lansberry of Trinity United Methodist Church read a biography of Charles Wesley, prepared by Dr. Paul Hesselink and offered a prayer of thanksgiving for the life of this remarkable poet. Dean Shireen Beaudry-Johnson read the amusing "Directions for Singing" from John Wesley's Select Hymns, 1761. Included were the instructions (still valid today!): "Sing lustily and with a good courage; beware of singing as you were half dead

or half asleep; sing modestly, do not bawl; whatever time is sung, be sure to keep with it; above all, sing spiritually."

The two parts of the program outlined "Christ's Gracious Life" and "The Response of the Christian." Margaret Hannah had chosen and worked out wonderful accompaniments to the hymns. Her performance of Robert Hobby's five variations on "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" with Nathan van Arsdale reading the verses between the variations was stunning. Chaplain Bede Parry led the congregation in the reading of the Wesley text "Blest Be the Dear Uniting Love," which served as the closing benediction. The whole hour was spiritually refreshing and uplifting for me personally, and from the reactions I heard from others, for the rest of the audience as well. Thanks to Margaret and Paul for their detailed planning of this event.

One of the main goals of the Guild is to encourage excellence in performance in organ and choral works. Excellent it was, making me reflect on the power of music presented on this occasion.

Howard Ferguson, Dean of the Central Arizona Chapter, AGO relates a similar experience recently at the installation service of their new officers, and I quote some of his thoughts from his letter in their October 2007 Newsletter:

"For centuries people have been aware of the power of music. Popes have decried it or embraced it, depending on their place in time. Scientists have studied it intensely, yet can find no biological reason for the necessity of it. Musicians are probably more aware of its power than most. However, almost all are aware of its highest power when performed with excellence. Think back to those musical experiences that stand out in your mind, those that made your heart leap, your eyes close slightly, your mind strain to hear those notes that have long since faded. It is hard to quantify what defines quality and excellence.... quality cannot be defined, and our perceptions of it are learned from experience....quality is the fundamental force stimulating all in the universe.

(continued on page 7)

In this Issue	Page		Page
Dean's Message.....	1	Organ Series	9
Music, She Wrote	2	Buxtehude! Who?	10
Second Organ Marathon	7	All Saint's Series	10
Advent/Christmas Recital	7	Certification	11
Richard Wallace Recital	7	Utah Field Trip	11
Organ Series Patrons	8	Pipes in the Desert	12

MUSIC, SHE WROTE; A MINI-SERIES ON COMPOSITIONS BY WOMEN

Frances Nobert, D.M.A.

Introduction: Although there are many fine compositions in print, it seems that organ music by women is rarely heard in liturgical or concert settings. This mini-series is intended to provide information and to encourage organists to explore this body of literature. It has been my experience that congregations and audiences have been surprised, intrigued and enthusiastic after hearing preludes, interludes, postludes and concert pieces composed by women.

Part One: Service Music for Fall, Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas

The following two- to six- page compositions are appropriate for prelude, communion or postlude. Most are of moderate difficulty and are playable on instruments of various sizes. Asterisks indicate alternate hymn harmonizations by Emma Lou Diemer, Karen Keene and Janet Linker.

Fall and Thanksgiving

Emma Lou Diemer. *Seasonal Psalms for Organ, Volume II* (*Psalm 65*, based on the tune *Nun danket alle Gott* by Johann Crüger). The Sacred Music Press 70/1259 S.

Emma Lou Diemer. *Seasonal Psalms for Organ, Volume II* (*Psalm 149* for All Saints' Day).

Alice Jordan. *The Alice Jordan Collection: Hymn Tunes for Organ* (*Dialogue for Thanksgiving*, based on the Netherlands folk hymn *Kremser*). McAfee Music DM 00261

Kristina Langlois. *3 Hymns of Thanksgiving* (*Blessing and Honor, Let All Things Now Living and New Songs of Celebration*). Morning Star MSM 10-721

Emily Maxson Porter. *Five Hymn Preludes of Fall* (*Dix, Kirken den et Gammelt Hus, Lasst uns erfreuen, Lobe den Herren and Nun danket all*). MorningStar MSM 10-713. With the exception of the lengthy, quiet *For the Beauty of the Earth*, the rousing works would be suitable for either opening or closing voluntary. The hymn tune appears once in each setting and is accompanied with stirring accompaniments. Three of the compositions call for Trumpet en chamade to bring out a fanfare or a tenor melody. Porter indicates registrations throughout.

Emily Maxson Porter. *Partita on "Kremser."* Calfaria Music 00-205 Calfaria@aol.com

Advent

Jennifer Bate. *Introduction and Variations on a Old French Carol* (*Picardy*). Novello 01

0145 01. Bate has created an introduction and five variations on this well-known melody. The entire composition or portions thereof would be appropriate as a prelude for the Sundays in Advent, for communion or as a concert number.

Emma Lou Diemer. *Seasonal Psalms for Organ, Volume I* (Psalm 80, based on the tune *Psalm 42* by Clause Goudimel). The Sacred Music Press 70/1258 S.

Emma Lou Diemer. *Three Fantasies on Advent and Christmas Hymns* (*Valet will ich dir geben* and *Wachet auf*). Augsburg 11-9479. The extended fantasies would be excellent as long preludes, postludes or concert works.

Jeanne Demessieux. *Twelve Choral Preludes on Gregorian Chant Themes for Organ* (*Rorate Caeli*). Summy-Birchard, ISBN 0-87487-603-6.

*Karen Keene. *Ten Hymn Elaborations for Congregational Singing* (*Truro* or *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*). Harold Flammer HF-5104

Karen Keene. *The First Noel: Hymn Enhancements for Advent and Christmas* (*Adeste Fideles*, *Frue dich sehr* [two settings], *Forest Green*, *Hyfrydol*, *Stille Nacht* [two settings], *Sussex Carol*, *The First Noel* [three settings]^o, MorningStar MSM 10-157

Karen Keene. *Variations on “Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland”* (*Savior of the Nations, Come*). MorningStar MSM 10-016

Christmas

Diane Bish. *Merry Christmas from Diane Bish* (*The First Noel*, *Il est né*, *Lo*, *How a Rose e'er Blooming*, *Toccata on “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing,”* *We Three Kings* and *Christmas Fantasy with Angels from the Realms of Glory*, *Away in a Manger*, *Deck the Halls* and *O Come, All the Faithful*). Fred Bock BG0832

Jeanne Demessieux. *Twelve Choral Preludes on Gregorian Chant Themes for Organ* (*Adeste Fideles* - *Musette*). Summy-Birchard, ISBN 0-87487-603-6

*Emma Lou Diemer. *Gloria* from *Hymn Preludes and Free Accompaniments*. Augsburg 11-9398

Emma Lou Diemer, *Seasonal Psalms for Organ, Volume I* (Psalm 96, based on the tune *Stille Nacht* by Franz Gruber). The Sacred Music Press 70/1258 S.

Emma Lou Diemer. *Three Fantasies on Advent and Christmas Hymns* (*Antioch*). Augsburg 11-9479

Nancy Plummer Faxon. *Divinum from A Christmas Celebration*. MorningStar MSM 10-104. The two-page setting features quiet triadic harmonies in the right hand against the flute melody in the left hand. A brief interlude precedes the second entry of the melody in the pedal.

Nancy Plummer Faxon. *A Christmas Prelude* from *A Christmas Celebration*. MorningStar MS 10-104. Plummer fashions a lovely, effective-four-page composition with the melody of *Stille Nacht*

loosely incorporated. The rhythm of the familiar carol occurs throughout the quiet work.

Sandra Gay. **Christmas Postlude** from the cantata, *Tidings of Great Joy*, Zimbel Press #151. The three-page, easy work includes *Vom Himmel Hoch*, *God Rest You Merry Gentlemen* and *Tempest Adest Floridum*. Except for the final seven measures, the pedal has long notes for the cantus firmus of *Vom Himmel Hoch*. Gay indicates the registration for a two-manual instrument. The composition would be an excellent postlude for a service on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day.

Sandra Gay. **Footnotes Vol. III: Christmas Carols for Organ** (pedals alone). Zimbel Press #Z142. The volume contains settings of *Vom Himmel Hoch*, *In Dulci Jubilo*, *Stille Nacht*, *Coventry Carol*, *Personent Hodie* and *Still, Still, Still*. Each one-page composition includes double pedal and some chords.

Alice Jordan. **A Season and A Time” Organ Preludes: General, Christmas, Easter, Lord’s Supper** (Pastorale on an Austrian Carol, “As Lately We Watched;” Arioso on a German Carol, “Still, Still, Still;” Four Familiar nativity Melodies; All My Heart This Night Rejoices, Silent Night and two settings of Away in a Manger). Broadman Press 4570-37.

Karen Keene. **Fantasy on “Tempus Adest Floridum”** Gentle Mary Laid Her Child, Good King Wenceslas and Spring has Now Unwrapped the Flowers) MorningStar MS 10-158

Karen Keene. **Ten Hymn Elaborations for Congregational Singing** (O Come, All Ye Faithful, Joy to the World, Hark! the Herald Angels Sing, Silent Night and five other non-Advent or Christmas settings). Harold Flammer HF-5104

Karen Keene. **The First Noel: Hymn Enhancements for Advent and Christmas** (Adeste Fideles, Freudich sehr [two settings], Forest Green, Hyfrydol, Stille Nacht [two settings], Sussex Carol, The First Noel [three settings]). MorningStar MSM 10-157

Kristina Langlois. **Christmas** (Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus, Hark! the Herald Angels Sing, Now Sing We, Now Rejoice, with optional tambourine and hand drum, We Three Kings of Orient Are and What is This Lovely Fragrance?). MorningStar MSM 10-124

Kristina Langlois. *Let Our Gladness Have No End* from **Music with Minimal Pedal - Christmas**. MorningStar MSM 10-149. The cheerful, one-page setting has a pedal point of a fifth and a triangle part on five of the fifteen measures. Langlois uses canonic treatment in two-thirds of the brief work.

Kristina Langlois. **Three for Christmas** (It came upon the Midnight Clear, On This Day and Oh, Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair). MorningStar MSM 10-134

Kristina Langlois. **5 for the Christmas Season** (O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, Let our Gladness Have no End, Joy to the World, People, Look East! and The Angel Gabriel). MorningStar MSM 10-146

Janet Linker. **Carols of the Christ Child: Seven Carol Settings for Organ Solo** (Go Tell It on the Mountain, Trumpet Tune on “Angels from the Realms of Glory,” Infant Holy, Infant Lowly, Away in a Manger, Silent Night I, Silent Night II and Variations on “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”). Beckenhurst Press OC8

*Janet Linker. *The Last Verse for Christmas: Fifteen Free Hymn Accompaniments for the Christmas Season*. Beckenhorst OC16.

Phyllis Mains. *Carol Trilogy for the Merry Organ* (*The Holly and the Ivy, Patapan and Sussex Carol*). MorningStar MSM 10-118

Lynn L. Petersen. *Variations on “O Come Little Children”* (*Ihr Kinderlein, kommet*). CPH 97-6789. Petersen has crafted six moderately easy variations titled *Invitation (With fanfare)*, *The Reason (Andante)*, *Joyful Steps (With energy)*, *Ponderings (Calmly)*, *Lullaby* and *Thanksgiving (Joyfully)*. For each brief section she has provided a one- or two-sentence program note. The variations might be played individually, as a group of several, or in entirety.

Emily Maxson Porter. *At the Manger* (*Away in a Manger, When Christmas Morn is Dawning. Love Came Down at Christmas and Once Again My Heart Rejoices*). MorningStar 10-123

Emily Maxson Porter. *Carols for Christmas Eve* (*Silent Night, O little Town of Bethlehem, Lo, How a Rose Is Blooming, Oh, Sleep now, Holy Baby, I Am So Glad on Christmas Eve and Thy Holy Wings*). Calfaria 99-102, Calfaria@aol.com

Sharon Elery Rogers. *Preludes on Two Christmas Carols* (*Lo, How a Rose and Bring a Torch, Jeannette Isabella*). H. W. Gray Publications GSOC00075.

Margaret Verdell Sandresky. *Organ Music, Volume II, Solo Organ* (*Variations on “Morning Star”*) Edited by Virginia L. Haisten. Wayne Leupold Editions WL 600032.

Eleanor Whitsett. *In dulci jubilo: For Faces of a Folksong*. MorningStar MSM 10-154. This work was commissioned for the Region VII Convention of the American Guild of Organists, June 2003. The four movements of the moderately easy, thirteen-page composition are *Announcement; Christ is born; Shepherds, Hasten!*; *Lullaby* and *Dance of Joy*. Each piece might be performed separately or as part of the whole for a church service or in a concert.

Epiphany

Emma Lou Diemer. *Seasonal Psalms for Organ, Volume I* (*Psalms 72, based on the tune Puer nobis by Michael Praetorius*). The delightful and lively five-page work is for manuals except for the final, quiet section. It would be an excellent prelude, especially if the first hymn might employ the same tune. The Sacred Music Press 70/1258 S.

Brenda Durden.: *Vol. 2: Hymn Arrangements for Advent, Christmas and Epiphany*. These settings are the straight hymns with the melody in soprano, alto, tenor or bass. Pub. Durden.

*Janet Linker. *The Last Verse for Christmas: Fifteen Free Hymn Accompaniments for the Christmas Season* (*We Three Kings*). The setting begins in E minor and modulates to F minor for the final stanza. Beckenhorst OC16.

Janet Linker. **Three Epiphany Pieces** (*As with Gladness Men of Old; Brightest and Best are the Stars of the Morning; We Three Kings*). Of the moderately easy three- to four-page compositions, the first would be an excellent postlude, while the others would be lovely preludes. Augsburg Fortress 11-10974.

Emily Maxson Porter. **Bright and Glorious: Four Organ Chorale Preludes for the Epiphany Season** (*Bright and Glorious is the Sky, Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning; We Three Kings of Orient Are; How Good, Lord, to be Here*). The four- to six-page settings would be charming preludes, especially the jazzy version of We Three Kings. The catchy rhythms require practice, but the results are worth the effort. Calfaria Music 00-202, Box 21494, Fridley, MN 55421, Calfaria@aol.com.

*June Nixon. **Final Flourish: Two Hundred Last Verse Arrangements of Familiar Hymn Tunes** (*Caithness, Carlisle, Dix, Dundee, Puer nobis, Salzburg, Stuttgart and Wareham*). Nixon's collection contains excellent settings, many with a choice of two keys. The different harmonies are intriguing but never intrusive. Kevin Mayhew 1400108.

June Nixon. **Organ Miniatures: 200 Short Improvisations on Familiar Hymn Tunes** (*Caithness, Carlisle, Dix, Dundee, Salzburg, Stuttgart and Wareham*). The one- and two-page compositions might be played as hymn introductions, interludes or postludes. Some have the choice of two keys. Kevin Mayhew 1400196.

Copyright © 2007 Dr. Frances Nobert

Frances Nobert is College Organist and Professor Emerita of Music at Whittier College in Whittier, California. She is also serving as Region IX Councillor and as the Convener of Regional Councillors for the American Guild of Organists.

Dr. Nobert may be heard on Organ Historical Society's recordings of the Organs of Maine and on the Raven label release, *Music, She Wrote: Organ Compositions by Women*.



Second Annual Organ Marathon

On Saturday, November 10 from 1:00 P.M. to 6:00.M in Doc Rando Hall on the UNLV campus, the Chapter will hold its Second Annual Organ Marathon. The Marathon is being held as a benefit for the Raymond Barnes Memorial Scholarship Fund. This scholarship fund provides funds to assist young keyboard students in attending Pipe Organ Encounters sponsored by the American Guild of Organists, or to help with the costs of taking organ lessons.

Performers for this event are members of the Southern Nevada AGO Chapter. There are still a few slots available if you wish to perform. Additional people from the chapter will also be needed to help with ushering and contributions assistance. If you would like a half-hour slot to play or can assist in other ways, please call Alice Hohenthauer (656-7170) for more information.

Advent/Christmas Recital

The Southern Nevada Chapter's annual Advent / Christmas Recital will be presented to the public as part of our annual Recital Series on Sunday, December 2 at 7:30 P.M. David Dorway (873-3655) and Bede Parry (647-4221) are organizing the recital this year. If you would like to perform on the recital, please contact either of them to reserve a spot on the program, or call them for general information about the event. Please also help advertise this recital by inviting your friends.

Richard Wallace Recital

Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1730 North Pecos Road, invites you an organ recital on Saturday, November 10 at 6:00 P.M. The recitalist, AGO member Richard Wallace, will present a varied program. The recital is sponsored by the choir of the church as a fundraiser for some of the programs of the church, including the handbell program. Admission to the recital is \$9.00. You are welcome to stay for a dinner in the church fellowship hall following the recital. The cost for the recital and the dinner is \$15.00. If you wish to stay for the dinner, please RSVP to Richard at 896-8303.

Deans Message continued from page 1

This concept leads me to visions of lifetimes spent in practice rooms, of sweltering chapels and sanctuaries, always working to achieve excellence and quality in performance. . . .We all work so hard because mediocrity doesn't bring the effects created and experienced on Monday (Friday!) night."

May we all understand and appreciate how our hard work really does minister to people!

See you all at the Marathon at Doc Rando Hall on Saturday, November 10 from 1:00 to 6:00 P.M.

Sincerely,
Shireen Beaudry
Dean

2007-2008 Organ Recital Series Patrons

The Southern Nevada Chapter of the American Guild of Organists invites you to become a Patron. Your gift will help maintain this series as “open to the public without charge.” Choose as “loud” or as “soft” a category below as is comfortable for you. You will be listed in all subsequent recital programs in the series. We thank you for your support.

ff – fortissimo

\$250 and above

Kym and Wendy Cushing
Doris Frances and Sid Goodman
Dr. Paul S. Hesselink
Wayne and Melanie Larkin
The Reverend and Mrs. Michael R. Link
Edward D. Smith
Janet Ty

f – forte

\$200 to \$249

mf – mezzo forte

\$150 to \$199

Drs. David and Barbara Dorway

mp – mezzo piano

\$100 to \$149

Lillian Kollar
Dr. Samuel Lam
Linda S. Parker
Bob and Carla Swift

p -- piano

\$50 to \$99

Maxine Deacon
The Reverend Bede Parry
Shireen Beaudry-Johnson

pp – pianissimo

\$25 to \$49

Jan and Scott Bigler
Tim Cooper
Robert Frantzen
Don and Margaret Hannah
Cherrill Hoeft
Arthur Nelson
Sharon Watson

As of October 19, 2007 - \$4,625 from 28 patrons

Donations are tax-deductible and may be sent to:
David Dorway, Treasurer – Southern Nevada Chapter AGO
10613 Shoalhaven drive, Las Vegas, NV 89134

Organ Recital Series 2007-2008

Doc Rando Recital Hall - UNLV

Open to the Public without Charge

November 1 – (Thursday) 7:30 p.m.

All-Buxtehude Organ Recital A presentation by UNLV organ students

November 10 (Saturday) 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Organ Marathon To benefit Raymond Barnes Memorial Scholarship Fund

December 2 (Sunday) 7:30 p.m.

Annual Advent / Christmas Recital performed by chapter members

January 18, 2008 (Friday Recital) 7:30 p.m.

January 19, 2008 (Saturday workshop) 10:00 a.m.

Improvising at the Organ and Composing for the Organ

John Karl Hirten, organist

John Karl Hirten is a well-known performer in the San Francisco Bay area, regularly performing in such venues as Grace Cathedral, St. Mary's Cathedral, St. Mark's church – Berkeley, and the National Shrine of St. Francis. He has been staff organist at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor, playing monthly recitals on the museum's E. M. Skinner organ, and has also appeared with the San Francisco Symphony, the Oakland-East Bay Symphony, the Oakland Ballet, the Berkeley Symphony, and American Bach Soloists, among others. A published composer, his music is featured on various recordings by choirs and performers around the country. He was one of three finalists in the 2006 National Improvisation Competition held in Chicago.

February 22, 2008 (Friday Recital) 7:30 p.m.

February 23, 2008 (Saturday workshop) 10:00 a.m.

"Music She Wrote: Organ Compositions by Women"

Dr. Frances Nobert, organist

Frances Nobert is Professor Emerita of Music and College Organist at Whittier College. She is also serving as Region IX Councillor of the American Guild of Organists. Dr. Nobert earned the degrees Bachelor of Music from Salem College, Master of Music from Syracuse University and Doctor of Musical Arts from the University of Southern California. As a recipient of a Fulbright Grant, she studied organ, harpsichord and piano in Germany. Her organ teachers have included John Mueller, Helmut Walcha and Arthur Poister. She has performed for conventions of the American Guild of Organists and the Organ Historical Society, as well as for national and international festivals and conferences related to the position of women in the music profession. She has appeared as recitalist in many American cities and in China, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Holland, Italy, Korea and Spain. Dr. Nobert may be heard on Organ Historical Society's recordings of the Organs of Maine and on the Raven-label release of *Music, She Wrote: Organ Compositions by Women*.

April 11, 2008 (Friday Recital) 7:30 p.m.

April 12, 2008 (Saturday workshop) 10:00 a.m.

Watanabe Organ Duo, organists

Workshop: *The Organ Literature for Four Hands and Four Feet*

Kiyo and Chiemi Watanabe, an exciting young husband and wife duo-organ team, hold separate organ positions in two churches in Wichita Falls, Kansas. Natives of Japan, they have studied and settled in the U.S. Their teachers have included McNeil Robinson, Joyce Jones, John Weaver and others, and they have earned degrees in organ from Manhattan School of Music and Baylor University. They have presented concerts throughout the United States, Mexico and Japan.

The Maurine Jackson Smith Memorial Organ

Rudolf von Beckerath Orgelbau – 53 ranks, 38 stops - 2004

These recitals and workshops are sponsored by the
Southern Nevada Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

BUXTEHUDE ! WHO ?

Join the UNLV organ students in commemorating the 300th anniversary of Dieterich Buxtehude's death (1637-1707).

Thursday, November 1, 2007
7:30 P. M. – Doc Rando Recital Hall

An All-Buxtehude Recital

Performers: Doris Francis, Nancy West, Alice Hohenthanner,
Barbara Finn, Carla Swift, Derek Eggen and Cherrie Hoeft

Commentary by Dr. Paul Hesselink

Late in 1705, J.S. Bach walked from Arnstadt to hear the famed organist, Buxtehude at St. Mary's Church in Lübeck, a distance of 450 kilometers(280 miles). You won't have to walk nearly that far to hear some of this composer's fantastic music which had such an influence on the young Bach. Bach had an approved leave of absence for four weeks from his church post in Arnstadt but stayed in Lübeck four times that length of time, and was "in trouble" when he finally did return. He may have been offered the elderly Buxtehude's job, certainly the most prestigious church position in all of Germany. Come to the recital and learn what may have caused Bach to think better of accepting it!

All Saints' Episcopal Church
4201 West Washington Avenue
–Las Vegas, Nevada 89107
702-878-2373

Choral Evensong sung by All Saints' Choir followed by an organ recital by Father Bede Parry will be presented on Sunday evening, November 4, 2007, 5:30 pm, at All Saints' Episcopal Church, 4201 West Washington Avenue, between Decatur and Valley View. The service and organ recital are open to the public with no admission charge.

Please contact Father Bede 702-521-2746 for further information.

The Rev. Eldwin Lovelady, Rector
The Rev. Bede Parry, Music Director & Assisting Priest

Certification

If any of you are interested in certification for this year, I am the person that can help you. Carla and I passed the Service Playing exam and it was a little bit of work but less intimidating than we initially thought. Shireen passed the playing part of the CAGO.

There is a new list of repertoire for the Colleague exam and it seems to be easier than previous years. Shireen and I have been getting expert help on the theory/written part for the CAGO from Don Hannah. I'm sure he'd be willing to help others who need it.

These exams are great goals to work towards, even if it just means another certificate on the wall!

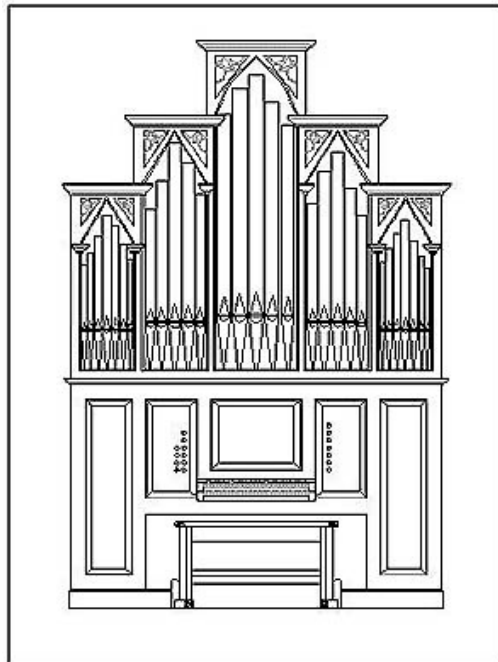
Jan

Field Trip to Utah in May

I hope most of you know about our trip to Utah in May. We're leaving Thursday, May 8 and coming back Saturday the 10th so we can all be home for our Sunday obligations. Some of the things we're going to do is to stop at the Bigelow organ company, go see the Hoopernacle, and do as much on Temple Square as we can schedule: noon recitals and hopefully, a private "tour and play" of as many of the organs as we can. We may also be able to get to the organ at the U of U or the Cathedral of the Madeleine. We are also trying to plan a party with the Salt Lake Chapter of the AGO.

What we need now from you is a tentative commitment if you want to go. We need to plan transportation. If enough of us go, we'll need to schedule a charter bus, which is a big commitment financially. Otherwise, we'll rent a big van or take individual cars. Please call or email me if you want to go. We'll make our decision on transportation based on your response.

Jan



PIPES IN THE DESERT – FEATURED PERFORMERS AND VENUES

The AGO Region IX Mid-Winter Conclave (Pipes in the Desert) will be held in sunny Tucson, Arizona, January 20–24, 2008. Among the featured organ recitalists are Paul Jacobs, chairman of the Organ Department at the Juilliard School in New York; Pamela Decker, composer, organist, and Professor of Organ and Theory at the University of Arizona; and Richard Elliott, Tabernacle Organist, Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Choral concerts will be given by the world-renowned Phoenix Bach Choir, known as one of the finest professional choral ensembles in America; and by the University of Arizona's select Arizona Choir, the premier choral ensemble at the University's School of Music.

In addition, there will be an innovative and inspiring opening hymn festival led by Michael Burkhardt and an intimate recital by the chamber ensemble Millennia Too!

The venues will feature organs by David McDowell/Pipe Organ Artisans of Arizona; Schönstein; Quimby; Aeolian Skinner/Pipe Organ Artisans of Arizona; Schlicker; and Schantz. The Phoenix Bach Choir will be heard at the historic St. Augustine Cathedral in downtown Tucson. Originally built in 1868, when Tucson had a population of 600 people, the cathedral was restored in 1968. The Arizona Choir will be heard at Santa Cruz Catholic Church, a national historic landmark since 1994.

Did you know that the Phoenix Bach Choir is the first North American Choir to have an album on Chandos, the world's largest independent classical record label?

Please visit the conclave web site at www.agoixaz.com and read all about it, then print the registration form and send it in! Special registration rates are available until November 15, discounted hotel rates until December 20.

PIPES IN THE DESERT



THE NEXT MID-WINTER CONCLAVE

EXPERIENCE ORGAN AND CHORAL MUSIC IN THE BEAUTIFUL SONORAN DESERT

EXPLORE WAYS TO RE-ENERGIZE CHURCH MUSIC

ENJOY MUSIC AND HOSPITALITY WITH A SOUTHWESTERN FLAIR

CONTACT: FERN HIEB
BARRYFERN@COX.NET

TUCSON, ARIZONA

JANUARY 20-24 2008