

THE DESERT WIND

Editor: Bruce Behnke © 2012 Issue: November/December 2012

Dean's Notes



Southern Nevada Chapter
American Guild of Organists

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to another holiday season. This will be the last newsletter of the year so it's time to think about Thanksgiving, Advent and Christmas and even Epiphany! Even though my church does not follow the liturgical seasons, I like the idea of extending Christmas into January so we're not obligated to have the decorations down by January 1st!

Since our last newsletter we've had several fun events. The potluck at my house was great fun and the food was, as usual, plentiful and delicious. Dorothy, Paul, and Barbara reported on the conventions that they attended, making us all wish we could attend conventions more often, without the constraints of scheduling and money! Genie Burkett delivered a pack of post-

ers for all of us to distribute. If you haven't seen the poster and have a place where you could put one up (work, school, church) please email me and we'll arrange to get you a poster. gmajam@juno.com.

This past Friday was the first recital in this year's series. We are grateful that we have the use of Christ Church Episcopal for our recitals this year. We thank them for having a big, beautiful, new organ for us to use! Richard Elliott's recital was spectacular and he said he enjoyed the organ very much. The people at Christ Church set up the Parish Hall beautifully with tables and chairs and the reception was great. Everyone was able to visit with Dr. Elliott. Thanks to Carla Swift and Barbara Giles for heading up the receptions this year!

Our next recital will be the mem-

bers' chance to play on December 2. Please come and support your friends.

I hope everyone has a great holiday time this year and that everything will go smoothly for those of you responsible for services during this important time of the year.

Jan

The Southern Nevada Chapter of the American Guild of Organists has a web page located at sncago.org and is also on facebook and can be viewed at

<https://www.facebook.com/SoNvAGO?fref=ts> or just search for Southern Nevada Chapter.

Doris Francis is still looking for the lost fork from the potluck. It comes from a set she got from her mother. Please check for it.

In this Issue	Page		Page
Dean’s Message	1	Hesselink Recital	8
Opening Recital	2	Music Director Needed	8
Advent-Christmas Recital	3	Organ For Sale	9
Inflammatory Comments	3	1st Pres. Concert	9
Bill Moore’s Workshop.....	4	Membership Update	10
Beckerath Restoration	7	Organ Masterclass	10
New Member	7	Region IX Convention	11
POE Attendee	8		

Opening Recital a Smashing Success

If you missed the Organ Recital 2012-2013 Series' first recital Friday, October 26, you missed a stellar performance. Dr. Richard Elliott. Organist at the Mormon Tabernacle and accompanist to the famed Mormon Tabernacle Choir presented an exciting program at Christ Church Episcopal. About 200 people were in attendance making the church appear comfortably filled.

The program opened with the performer's own transcription of a Handel work, "The Rejoicing," and was followed by an exciting delivery of Bach's "Toccata in F." A lovely "Cantilena" by his former colleague John Longhurst provided contrast, and further variety was found in a lively performance of Dr. Elliott's own transcription of Gershwin's "I Got Rhythm." The final major work on the program was a transcription of Modest Mussorgsky's popular "Pictures at an Exhibition." Dr. Elliott found myriads of interesting colors on the 2010 Schantz organ for the various movements and even found a way to use both the cymbelstern and the chimes! The work was played entirely from memory with security and panache. The recital closed with an encore, Enrico Bossi's charming and well-known "Scherzo in G Minor."



Our AGO Chapter is indebted to Christ Church for making the organ, the church and the Parish Hall available to us for our recital series during the year the von Beckerath disaster at Doc Rando Hall is repaired. Music Director and member, Kathi Colman and her husband Jeff did a fabulous job of negotiating all the arrangements, including the set-up and use of the video and audio systems for the recital. One person at the reception asked, "How did the person running the cameras know when to switch from the camera showing the hands to the camera showing the feet?" The simple answer is that Kathi was following the score and could cue Jeff to make the transitions from one camera to the other at the proper moment. The video feature seemed to be quite a hit with the audience members. As incredible as it might seem, some members of the general public are really not even aware that we as organists also USE our feet!

Kudos are due to all who helped to make the recital and reception a great success. At risk of leaving someone out, I'll at least mention those who I know played a role: Jan Bigler (Dean), Genie Burkett (publicity) Susan Lasher and Paul Hesselink (programs and flyers), David and Barbara Dorway (ushers), Carla Swift and Barbara Giles (reception) and members of the Recital Series Committee: Jan Bigler, Shireen Beaudry, and David Dorway.

The next recital in the series will be our annual Members' Advent- Christmas Recital, Sunday, December 2 at 4:00 P.M. at Christ Church Episcopal, 2000 S. Maryland Parkway. The recital is free and will feature some of the local organists in the community.

Paul S. Hesselink, Chair

Southern Nevada Chapter Recital Series Committee

The numbers:

Following are the statistics gleaned from the evaluation forms completed by members of the audience in attendance at Dr. Elliott's recital.

Number of respondents: 103 (52% of audience)

First time visiting Christ Church: 36 (35%)

First hearing of the Schantz organ: 40 (39%)

First AGO recital: 36 (35%)

How attendees heard about the recital (several checked more than one option)

From a friend: 44

e-mail notification: 42

flyer: 21

previous program: 11

other: 14 (included church announcements, bulletins, Lobster Fest at Christ Church, Desert

Companion, newspaper

Statement regarding feelings about the recital

I loved it! 75 (77%)

I liked it a lot. 20 (20%)

I found it interesting. 3 (4%)

I might come back for another performance. 1 (1%)

[No response: 4]

Overall rating considering venue, instrument and performer

Superb 72 (72%)

Excellent 26 (26%)

Average 2 (2%)

Fair 0

Poor 0

Nearly 98% of respondents rated the performance as either “Superb” or “Excellent”

Numerous members of the audience were appreciative appreciation of the excellent video cameras and being able to watch the performer on the screen.

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

Performers for Advent-Christmas Members’ Recital

Last call for any members who would want to perform on the annual members’ Advent-Christmas Recital: the recital will be held at Christ Church Episcopal on the church’s 54 –rank four-manual and pedal Schantz organ completed in 2010. The organ is the largest (and the most recent, at least in Las Vegas) pipe organ in Nevada. Should you wish to participate, you need to call (702 242-1940) or email (stu40@cox.net) Paul Hesselink, organizer of the recital and organist at Christ Church VERY SOON. Rehearsal times will be arranged several weeks in advance of the recital (Sunday, December 2 at 4:00 P.M.) and an additional hour closer to the day of the program.

Inflammatory Comments

The Boston Globe recently published an inflammatory rant by a Jennifer Graham stating that the only way to save the Catholic Church was to kill all pipe organs. I can’t print the article because it is copyrighted but if you want to raise your blood pressure you can read it by searching [Boston Globe Jennifer Graham].

If, after reading the article you would like to respond to either Ms. Graham or the Boston Globe, here are their email addresses.

Ms. Graham:	Jennifer@jennifergraham.com
The Boston Globe:	letter@globe.com



Dr. Bill Moore's PLAYING YOUR BESTWHEN IT COUNTS

Mental Skills for Musicians

SEMINAR FOR MUSIC TEACHERS AND PERFORMERS

This seminar is built around the content in Bill's book series, *Playing Your Best When it Counts: Mental Skills for Musicians*. It provides a broader understanding of the mental and emotional aspects of performance while providing self-reflection, application and practice strategies for playing your best when it counts. The book series includes three books: *Mental Skills for Musicians*, *High-performance Workbook* and the *Mental Journal*, all designed to help musicians perform at their optimal level under pressure.



OVERCOMING MENTAL BARRIERS TO PLAYING YOUR BEST

In today's high pressure performance environments, a thoughtful and integrated approach to the development and refinement of performance skills is necessary. Best performances occur when you are totally absorbed in and connected to the task-at-hand, free from expectations, fears, doubts and other cognitive activity. Self-doubt, fear of mistakes, over-analysis of technique, and heightened anxiety are examples of mental barriers to performing your best. This presentation provides an understanding of these barriers and practical strategies for overcoming them.

MENTAL SKILLS FOR PLAYING YOUR BEST WHEN IT COUNTS

This presentation provides a broader understanding of the psychological and emotional aspects of music performance. The role mental performance skills play in the execution of well-learned, complex, precise movement patterns will be discussed and strategies for developing the three mental performance skills will be demonstrated, specifically, 1) Courage: the ability to direct your will to overcome fear and self-doubt, 2) Trust: the ability to let go of your desire to consciously control correctness and 3) Acceptance: the ability to perceive outcomes "as is" without any judgments as to "good" or "bad."

STRATEGIES FOR PLAYING YOUR BEST WHEN IT COUNTS

This interactive session provides specific strategies and exercises for integrating performance psychology into your studio classes and individual lessons. This session explores some of the differences between teaching for skill acquisition and coaching for skill performance. It provides a foundation for developing and executing mental performance skills necessary for playing your best when it counts. There is a clear distinction between the mental skills needed to 'put it in' during practice and those needed to 'get it out' during performance. Although mental skills make up just one part of the whole performance picture, they are often the part least understood and yet may be the most important in playing your best when it counts.

Dr. Moore is a performance psychology specialist working with musicians, athletes and business professionals helping both individuals and teams perform at optimal levels under competitive stress. He is president of Moore Performance Consulting and is currently a performance coach for a variety of individuals and organizations in the United States and Europe.

To purchase his books for musicians go to www.playingyourbest.com.

Nevada Music Teachers Association



CONVENTION 2012 @ UNLV

BEAM MUSIC CENTER RM. 160

Presentations:

Friday Nov. 2 6:30pm -9:00pm

Making a Living in Music in Today's Society"

Utah University's Briawna Anderson; First Christian Church Music Director Scott Sherman; Organist, Pianist, Arranger and Technical Guru Tim Cooper; and Organist Dr. Dorothy Reiss will discuss the facts of life in today's society and how it affects the bottom line. What skills does a musician need to be the Bread Winner? Teaching skills, collaborative music skills, marketing skills, and overall musicianship skills; they need it ALL.

Saturday Nov. 3 9:00am – 3:00pm

Bill Moore: Playing your Best When it Counts!

Moore is president of Moore Performance Consulting and teaches in the School of Music at the University of Oklahoma. He was also a keynote speaker at 2010's MTNA national conference in Milwaukee.

9:00-9:50 Overcoming Mental Barriers to Performing your Best

10:00-11:15 Performing Your Best When it Counts

11:20-12:00 lunch (available for \$15.00) see conference registration form

12:00-1:00 Fireside Chat.

1:00-3:00 Incorporating Performance Psychology Into Your Teaching

CCSD Teachers must contact Rick McEnaney @ 799-8531 **IMMEDIATELY** to request credit. Credit for class is \$10.00 send to Secondary Fine Arts @3950 S. Pecos, 89121

Saturday Convention \$35.00 for all days, \$20.00 per adult (Saturday only) Student price \$10.00. Lunch available for \$15.00 (see conference registration)

Send registration to Brenda Swan 6609 Secluded Ave. 89110 (checks payable to NMTA)

MTNA CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

NOVEMBER 2-3, 2011

UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA, RENO

NAME _____ PHONE (____) _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS (IF YOU WOULD LIKE CONFIRMATION OF REGISTRATION) _____

REGISTRATION

PLEASE CHECK BOXES THAT APPLY:

REGISTRATION BEFORE <u>October 27, 2011</u>	\$35.00 _____
REGISTRATION MEMBER/SPOUSE COMBO	\$45.00 _____
STUDENT REGISTRATION FOR SATURDAY EVENTS ONLY (MUST SHOW CURRENT SCHOOL ID)	\$10.00 _____
SATURDAY ONLY - ADULT	\$20.00 _____

LUNCH OPTIONS

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3TH BOX LUNCH:

DELI BOX (INCLUDES DRINK): \$15.00 _____

MEAT CHOICE (PLEASE CIRCLE ONE):

TURKEY ROAST BEEF TUNA SALAD HAM VEGGIE

PIE CHOICE (PLEASE CIRCLE ONE):

APPLE PECAN RAZZLEBERRY NO SUGAR ADDED RAZZLEBERRY PUMPKIN

REMIT FORM AND CHECK TO: **NMTA**

ATTENTION: BRENDA SWAN
6608 SECLUDED AVENUE
LAS VEGAS, NV. 89110

CALL OR E-MAIL BRENDA SWAN, NMTA TREASURER
WITH QUESTIONS: (702) 438-0209 OR eggnetna@nmta.net

Restoration update of the von Beckerath Organ in Doc Rando Hall



Many of our members have been asking “What is happening with the organ at UNLV?” The latest news is that the restoration is “on track” with parts needing to be replaced due to water damage (three chests, the console and the façade) under construction in the Beckerath shop in Hamburg, Germany. A crew of three from the company will begin work in Doc Rando on January 4 to remove all the pipes for safe storage, and removal of the damaged parts to prepare for their replacement. They will be here doing the work until January 17. The replacement parts will be shipped from Hamburg around April 1 in order to reach Las Vegas by mid-May. At that time, a crew from the company will return and will work through the summer to accomplish the restoration by mid- to late-August. The company decided to leave the façade

pipes in place from January until their arrival again in May so that the appearance of the organ would not be so grim during the intervening months when the hall will still have to function for recitals and concerts.

Paul Hesselink

New Member

Spencer Baker is a Las Vegas musician and piano teacher who is currently pursuing Doctoral studies in piano performance and working as a Graduate Assistant at UNLV. Spencer graduated magna cum laude with a Master of Music Degree in piano performance from UNLV in 2004. During his Master’s program, Spencer was a Liberace scholar and gained significant recognition in the Steinway Collegiate Artist MTNA regional piano competition in Tucson, Arizona. Spencer has been the musical director for several critically acclaimed Off-Broadway shows in Las Vegas. He also co-created an interactive children’s Educational theater production entitled, “Mini Musical Masters” and performs regularly as a choral, operatic, chamber and ballet collaborative pianist. Additionally, Spencer serves as organist for Green Valley Presbyterian Church.

Spencer has been a soloist with the UNLV Symphony Orchestra, Las Vegas Civic Symphony, and the Desert Spring Arts Chamber Orchestra. Most of Spencer’s solo appearances have centered in the Southwest, but have also taken Spencer to perform in Dallas, TX, Washington, D.C., Disneyland, CA, Niagara Falls, Montreal, Canada and China.



Local Student attends POE

Hello my name is Tiffaney-Anne Calabro, and I've been studying organ under Mrs. Shireen for about a year now. I would like to give a huge thanks to the AGO for giving me the awesome opportunity to attend San Diego's POE in July earlier this summer. Going to this POE enabled me to meet new people, and learn more about organ through my teacher and those leading the workshop. My stay at the POE mainly consisted of workshops, lessons, and listening to concerts played by amazing organists. We were even allowed to try some of the organs after the concert. One organ that I found interesting was the theater organ due to all of its sound effects and second touch response, which I'm not used to. Overall, I had a blast and I'm so glad I was able to attend!



Paul Hesselink Presents Recital at University of Arizona

Southern Nevada Chapter member Dr. Paul Hesselink was honored to perform a recital on the Roy A. Johnson Memorial Organ Series in Holsclaw Hall at the University of Arizona in Tucson on Sunday, October 21 at 7:00 P.M. The Isabelle B Harris Organ in the hall is a 3-manual and pedal organ of 33 ranks designed and built by the Schoenstein & Company, Organ Builders, San Francisco in 1994. Holsclaw Hall was specifically configured acoustically and architecturally for the organ and seats 200.



Roy Johnson was a faculty member of the University of Arizona Music Department for 29 years before his tragic murder in 1995. While details are not fully known it is believed he was hijacked at gun point on his return trip from participating in a Faculty Recital in neighboring Green Valley. The confessed and convicted murderer, who was a parolee from the prison, currently sits on death row going through legal appeal after appeal. Dr. Johnson's death was a great loss for the university, the music community in Tucson and his family.

The recital Dr. Hesselink presented was somewhat unusual in that it consisted entirely of works by Dutch composers: Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck, Johannes Worp, George Stam, Sietze DeVries, Anthon van der Horst, Joseph Ascher, Bert Matter and

Cor Kee. Most of these composers are not household names, so the recital was accompanied by somewhat amplified verbal program notes. Others appearing on the series this year are Dr. Pamela Decker, organ and theory professor at the university, and Jonathan Dimmock.

Music Director/Organist Needed

Old First Presbyterian Church in San Francisco is seeking a music director/organist. B.A., B.Mus., M.Mus. or equivalent desirable with skills at choral directing/ development and organ. Music program is anchored in the liturgical year. The job involves half time employment, with one evening rehearsal of the 16+ voice volunteer choir (2 hours), one Sunday morning rehearsal (1 hour) and one Sunday morning service and a number of special services during the liturgical year. Choir training and directing skills are very important. People skills (ie working with volunteer singers, with church staff, the pastor and others) are of paramount importance. Further details of the position can be discussed when/if an interview is scheduled. Start time will be after January 1, 2013. Salary near or within AGO 9and Presbyterian Church USA) Guidelines. 3 manual, 65 stop Hutchings/Visscher organ, description on church website (oldfirst.org). Information about Old First and its missions can be gleaned from the website. organ can be heard on Youtube website of sfbonedoc. Serious applicants please submit resume, references and any other pertinent information to George Becker, M.D., Assistant Organist, Old First Presbyterian Church, 1751 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, 94109. Email: sfbonedoc@aya.yale.edu

Organ For Sale

Conn theatre Organ Model 651 & Leslie 600 Speaker \$900

I am selling my organ. It has one key that sticks and few spots that need tuning but it can and should be serviced. Those are easy fixes. I bought it as a practice organ because it has a full foot pedal and 3 manuals and it works beautifully for those purposes-not to mention it looks super awesome in my living room. I have the original service manuals for the organ. Leslie is a good speaker company as well.

For information please contact Megan at 702 750-8783 or email PianoGrl6364@yahoo.com



Dr. David Dorway and Friends

*Sunday, December 9, 2012
at 1:00 p.m.*

*First Presbyterian Church of Las Vegas
1515 W. Charleston Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89102
702-384-4554*

Christmas Concert

Join us as we enjoy a variety of Christmas music.

This year's program will include
several Christmas carols from around the world,
plus a reading with sound effects
provided by Jim and Becky Aldridge.



Membership Update!

I am pleased to report that almost everyone has paid their dues for 2012-2013. I still hope 3 others will mail in their forms!

Here is a breakdown of our chapter:

Lifetime:	1
Regular members:	19
Special members:	21
Chapter friends:	3
Student:	2
Dual Voting:	2
Total:	48

David Dorway

ORGAN MASTER CLASS IN SANTA FE WITH JAMES DAVID CHRISTIE

by Dorothy Young Riess

In early October I traveled to Santa Fe, New Mexico, to attend a photography workshop. I find that an interest in some other art form besides music often improves the musical experience. The visual arts are especially appealing as they teach us to appreciate the world around us, whereas isolation in a practice room does just the opposite. Wherever I go, I'm always looking for musical events and discovered a new Fisk pipe organ, Opus 133 (III/31/2008) at First Presbyterian church and a recital series every Friday evening! I arrived in Santa Fe Friday afternoon and attended the recital that evening: Maxine Thevenot, piano and organ, and her husband, baritone, Edmund Connolly. It was a beautiful hour of musical excellence including a new work by Albuquerque composer, Frederick Frahm.

Listed on the program was a recital by James David Christie the following Friday. I knew I would be unable to attend because of photography class demands, but was delighted to find out about a Master Class Saturday morning. Nothing ventured, nothing gained, so I packed up, checked out of the hotel, and made it to the 10:00 AM class, prepared to leave for the airport immediately after.

The class was the high point of my week! Christie is a superb teacher and gracious human being. Three local organists performed two works by Bach and a modern work [during which I escaped to the back of the hall!]. Extra scores were on music stands for all of us to observe. Christie's remarks were about how to improve what was already a good performance. And not only did he make gentle suggestions, but often gave historical reasons why it should be so. He was absorbed by the music, and, following his lead, so was our group.

This encounter with a great teacher meant so much to me and I was delighted to end my photographic week in Santa Fe with this music experience - the arts enriching each other.





AGO REGION IX CONVENTION

JUNE 24-26, 2013, BAKERSFIELD, CA

June 23 7PM - pre-convention concert by Hector Olivera

June 27 10AM - post-convention concert by Dorothy Young Reiss

bakersfieldAGO2013.org

GOLDEN SOUNDS FROM THE GOLDEN VALLEY

FEATURED CONVENTION ORGANS

Bakersfield is home to some very fine organs!

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH



**Werner Bosch Organbuilders
Kassel, Germany
1990
Three Manuals
50 Ranks**

OLIVE DRIVE CHURCH



**Aeolian-Skinner/Robert Turner
Organ
Originally from The Memorial
Church Harvard University
1932/1988
Four manuals
133 Ranks, Opus 885**

ST. P AUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH



**Schantz Organ Company, 1996
Three manuals, 38 Ranks**

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



**Austin/Rodgers Pipe/Digital
Combination Organ
Austin Organ Company, 1984
Three Manuals, 44 Ranks**



**Rodgers Organ Company, 2009
Four Manuals, 180 Digital Ranks**

FIRST UNITED METHODIST

**Schantz/Rodgers Pipe/Digital
Schantz Organ Company, 1972
Two manuals, 22 ranks**

**Rodgers Organ Company, 2011
Three manuals, 180 Digital
ranks**