

# The Prelude

November 2009



## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

### DEAR FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES,

My sincere thanks go out to everyone involved in the chapter's October Organ Crawl - those who made the trek to Seneca County and those who were our hosts.

The first stop was at Tiffin St. Mary's where Terry Brassell was on hand to show off the recently installed *Rodgers* combination organ. Many of our members enjoyed playing this versatile instrument.

The group then traveled to Trinity UCC to be welcomed by Joan McConnell. Joan spoke eloquently about Trinity's 3-manual *Schantz* and then led us on a visit to the pipe chamber. Following, we took our seats to listen to Joan's Faculty Artist Recital. She chose a variety of composers (Bach, Mendelssohn, Langlais, Calvin Taylor and Doug McConnell) to allow the organ to show off many of its tonal attributes. Program notes were well written and appreciated.

St. Wendelin's in Fostoria was our final destination. Cal Leferink greeted us, ushering us into the comfortable 'fellowship hall' for a delicious buffet supper. Cal then took us into the striking sanctuary and presented the 1993 *Holtkamp* - a 2-manual, 26 rank beauty.

In setting up this event, the Board was guided by members' suggestions in a survey taken a couple of years ago. It was unfortunate that there were at least two other activities scheduled for the same time.

Be sure to mark your calendars NOW for our November program - Monday, the 23rd featuring Ernest Nichols. Terry has details elsewhere in this newsletter.

We are all saddened by the deaths in October of John Boesenhofer and Herb Greunke. I would also like to make mention of a colleague and friend who

died on September 4, Burt Sigley. Burt and I worked together at Glenwood Lutheran. He was the organizer of the area's annual Martin Luther King, Jr. service and chaired the Northwestern Ohio Synod - Lutheran Church - Multicultural Committee and helped organize a multicultural choir. He served in several Lutheran churches, most recently Peace in Bowling Green and Zoar in Perrysburg.

Adding to my little collection of quotes on "Music," here are a few courtesy of Martha Esbin:

**Music must take rank as the highest of the fine arts**—as the one which, more than any other, ministers to human welfare. - *Herbert Spencer (1820-1903) British philosopher and sociologist*

**Music is an expression**, a feeling, a movement that is truly alive and colorful. From the simplest notes, it carries one to a world of beauty, a life surrounded by emotion and character. I feel privileged to sit at a piano, and I am honored that life is blessed by the gift of music.

**Music gives one choice**; it is the first stage of independence and the beginning step towards understanding structured life. Music taught me structure and structure brought my life to harmony. Since the day I touched my first note on the piano to my very last breath that I might take, music is engraved in my soul, a part of me. Music is something that can never be taken away, for the gift has been planted within me, no matter what the future shall bring. - *Asher Perzigian excerpts from "Music Through the Eyes of a Student" written at the age of 16*

A Blessed Thanksgiving Season to each of you.

### IN HARMONY,

Rev. William O. Gill, Dean

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Check-out our  
webpage at  
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*The purpose of the American Guild of Organists is to promote the organ in its historic evolving roles to encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music, and to provide a forum for mutual support, inspiration, education, and certifying of Guild members.*

**VIRGIL FOX LEGACY**

The program for November will feature the incredible talents of T. Ernest Nichols and his presentation of *Virgil Fox: The Innermost Secrets*. This unique event will be held **Monday November 23, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Bowling Green, Ohio**. The church is located at 315 South College Avenue just ½ mile south of Wooster Street, across from the BGSU campus. Ample lighted and secure parking is available behind the church with easy access to the sanctuary and organ.

Ernest Nichols was a prominent organist and pupil of Virgil Fox, became a teacher of well known pianists such as Kevin Oldham, and is author of the newly published *Virgil Fox/ The Innermost Secrets*, a book of Fox's technique and performing styles. Available from Café Press or the Organ Historical Society. ([www.cafepress.com/virgilfoxmusic](http://www.cafepress.com/virgilfoxmusic) or [www.ohscatalog.org/vifoinsideby.html](http://www.ohscatalog.org/vifoinsideby.html))

Nichols was one of Fox's most gifted students, who also include Robert Hebble, Carlo Curley, and Doug Marshall. Ernest was one of the main presenters at the "Virgil Fox Legacy Twenty-fifth Anniversary Concert Weekend" held in October 2005, at Trinity Church-Wall Street in New York City. His program will feature images of Virgil Fox-interlaced with thoughtful narrative, a demonstration of the performing styles (and often idiosyncrasies) of Fox including his unique manual/pedal techniques. This is one program you will not want to miss! The organ's greatest ambassador of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century was surely Virgil Fox and this is the next best thing to having him here with us. This is also an excellent opportunity to bring along a "friend" of the organ. The AGO now has a number of new opportunities for membership, even for non-players.

We look forward to seeing you on November 23<sup>rd</sup>!

**NEWSLETTER INFORMATION**

If you'd like to see this newsletter in bigger print and with color pictures, log on to our website at [www.toledoago.org](http://www.toledoago.org) and download a copy today!

**SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS**

Please join us in congratulating this year's organ study scholarship winners and their teachers:

*Melissa Flowers* \$500 – teacher Kevin McGill  
*Grant Wohl* \$250 – teacher Charlotte Mariasy  
*Garrett Law* \$250 – teacher Gary Jaskulski  
*Allison Barrick* \$100 – teacher Charlotte Mariasy

These students, along with students of Dr. Vernon Wolcott, will present a recital on Sunday, March 21, 2010, at 3:00 p.m.

**SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUND**

Our chapter has now officially opened a special savings account to start earning interest on our scholarship funds. When making a contribution to our scholarship fund, checks are still made out to "Toledo Chapter AGO" and they can be sent to either Pam Davis or Sr. Mary Ellen Nagle. But please mark all contributions "scholarship fund." All contributions are tax-deductible, and you will receive a letter receipt. While we may have a long way to go before we can "live" off of the interest, we are at least moving in that direction.

In addition, the executive committee approved having Pam Davis added as a signer on our bank accounts to assist the Treasurer in handling the scholarship account.

**SCHOLARSHIP WINNER UPDATE**

Anne Doerfler has good news to report about AGO Student Member and past Scholarship Winner - **Lindsey Marugg**. After a delightful conversation with Lindsey's mother, Anne is happy to report that Lindsey is a freshman at the University of Notre Dame and has made it into the Liturgical Choir! Lindsey was a student of Travis Powell until his sudden death last January. After Travis' death, Lindsey helped fill in as organist at the Basilica and National Shrine in Carey where she grew up and where Travis was Director of Music. Lindsey's mother said that her experiences with the AGO, support and education from Travis, and her college goals have set her on a great path for a career in music.



*The Toledo AGO expresses their sympathy to  
 Martha Gregory whose husband  
 Elmer "Dick" Richard Gregory  
 passed away on Sunday, October 11, 2009.*

**MESSIAH SING-A-LONG**

Christ the Word Presbyterian Church (PCA) will host its Sixth Annual Messiah Sing-A-Long on Sunday, December 13, 2009 at 7 p.m. The public is encouraged to attend and participate in the performance, as well as the following dessert reception.

Rev. Dr. Andrew Dionne will conduct a talented group of soloists including Curtis Cook, Celesta Kirk, Sarah Dionne, Robert Fredrick, and Don White. Nathanael Filippelli of Springfield, MO will accompany on the piano. However, keep in mind that the most important performers of the evening are seated in the audience. Since its inception, Handel's Messiah has been associated with performances involving a volunteer chorus.

In keeping with this tradition, Rev. Dr. Andrew Dionne states, "The God-glorifying music of Handel's Messiah is a delightful reminder of why we celebrate Christmas. The only thing better than hearing a performance of Handel's Messiah is actually participating in a performance. So, we are asking audience members to be the choir for our performance of Messiah."

Audience members will receive scores of music and will be encouraged to raise their voices in song throughout the evening. The performance will consist of the first section of Handel's Messiah, chronicling the coming of Christ and His birth, as well as the renowned Hallelujah chorus. During the evening, we will take an offering. The performance will be followed by a reception consisting of punch, coffee and finger desserts.

Christ the Word Presbyterian Church's Sixth Annual Messiah Sing-A-Long will take place on Sunday, December 13, 2009, at Toledo First Seventh Day Adventist First Church located at 4909 Sylvania Ave. The performance begins at 7 p.m. and will be followed by a reception. In keeping with the history of performances of Messiah as charity events, a collection will be taken to benefit the Pregnancy Center of Greater Toledo. The performance is free and open to the public.

Additional information can be obtained at [www.messiahsing.com](http://www.messiahsing.com) or by calling (419) 329-1100.

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

Have you seen the new collection of hymn tunes and liturgical settings written by Paul Manz over the course of his life? Entitled "Sing to the Lord - The Paul Manz Hymnary," it is compiled and edited by Scott Hyslop and published by Morning Star. \$15.00

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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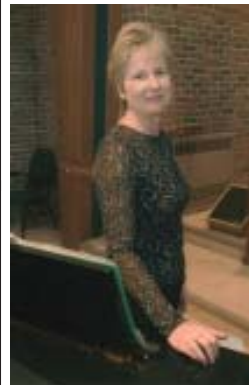
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**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION**

Membership is open to all interested in the organ. To become a member of the Toledo Chapter, contact Kathy Dennis at: [kldennis926@gmail.com](mailto:kldennis926@gmail.com)

**NEWSLETTER & E-MAIL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

If you have articles, news, concerts, or vacant positions please submit them to: Ed Duling at: [ed.duling@utoledo.edu](mailto:ed.duling@utoledo.edu) or [ebd2140@aol.com](mailto:ebd2140@aol.com) AND Jack Gerding at: [jack.gerding@toledostpats.org](mailto:jack.gerding@toledostpats.org).

**NEW BOARD MEMBER BIO**

**Sally Mossing** has been Organist and Director of Music at Sylvania United Church of Christ since 2000. She coordinates the music program along with Lucinda Garmenn - Choir Director, and Nathan Haase - Bell Choir Director. Sally has had a "church job" since she was 10 years old when Sr. Josetta asked her to play for the school masses at St. Elizabeth's in Richfield Center. She received her Bachelor of Music Degree in Organ Performance from BGSU studying with Dr. Wolcott. She is happy to announce that in the spring of '09 Augsburg Fortress published her collection of piano music under the title "Christ Be Our Light" (available at Musical Resources with sincere Thanks to Dennis and Jane).

# RANDOM PIPINGS

**Part-time Organist Needed: St. Lucas Lutheran(ELCA), 745 Walbridge Avenue, Toledo, OH, 43609.** St. Lucas is a multi-generational, historical church located in Toledo's Old South End, providing ministry to a diverse congregation committed to excellence in music. The church possesses a 45 rank pipe organ of 4 manual divisions and pedal, including an antiphonal division with solo trumpet. Responsibilities of the position include two Sunday services per week, mid-week Lenten and Advent services, additional seasonal services at Christmas time and during Holy Week, and weekly rehearsal with the adult choir. The present organist is relocating out of the area, and the position will be open January 2010. Inquiries may be mailed to the church office, attention Pastor Martin Billmeier, or by calling 419-243-8189.

**Musica Antigua de Toledo** will present a concert of "Sounds from the North Countries - Early Music of The Netherlands and Germany" on Sun. Nov. 22 at 3:30 p.m. at St. Andrew's Methodist Church, Heatherdowns at Colony Dr. Hear medieval and renaissance vocal and instrumental music which lead to the style that became universal throughout Europe. Tickets are available at the door.

The next **Carlene Neihart International Pipe Organ Competition** will be held on April 10, 2010, in Kansas City, Missouri at the Second Presbyterian Church. Contestants from various places in the United States and in other countries are expected to enter the competition. Quimby Pipe Organs, Inc, will underwrite the 1<sup>st</sup> place award (\$2500) and the second place award (\$1500) is sponsored by Casavant Freres and Caroll Hanson. The third place award is \$1000. The web site [organcompetitions.com](http://organcompetitions.com) has more information about the competition.

**Native Toledoan Todd Wilson** is head of the Organ Department at The Cleveland Institute of Music and Curator of the E.M. Skinner pipe organ at Severance Hall in Cleveland, OH; he is also Artist-in-Residence at Cleveland's Trinity Cathedral, House Organist for the newly-restored Aeolian organ at the Stan Hywet Home and Gardens, Akron, OH, and teaches at Capital University, Columbus.

**The Rosary Cathedral Choir** will present Advent Lessons and Carols Sunday, Dec 6 - 3:00 p.m. at Rosary Cathedral.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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