

# *The Prelude*

FEBRUARY 2012

## NOTES FROM THE OVAL OPHICLEIDE

In my conversations with clergy of various denominations, two questions that I often hear are: "Where are the new organists coming from?" or "How can we help to continue the legacy of organ playing in our churches?" One answer may surprise you; the church may actually have a few candidates seated in their congregation and not even know it. The following is a short list of simple things that we all can do to help shine a bright and positive light on the organ.

Leave the organ up and running for a few minutes after your Sunday postlude, just in case you get some visitors. Post a notice in the bulletin inviting people to come visit the organ. Then welcome them and encourage them to come back sometime with friends and young people. We were all once that curious youngster yearning to see the musical magic that was coming from the organ.

Unlock the console and throw away the key. YES!-Leave the roll top unlocked. Refuse to invoke the "don't touch" rule. Consoles are too beautiful to be locked up in choir lofts. And their seduction potential is too great not to explore with as many people as we can. If you're concerned about damage, post some house rules on the music rack and expect people to be as respectful as you would be with their instruments.

Take pride in the organ you play. Even if you hate it, it is your congregation's instrument, and they have entrusted you with the task of taking care of it. You may find that a clean console may engender increased pride and focus for you and therefore enhanced worship for all.

Have a time of console cleaning following church or after children's choir rehearsal. Invite kids to come and assist with dusting, vacuuming under the pedalboard, removing clutter, etc. Offer a small gift or snack as an incentive to help. They may even want a chance to sit down and play some keys.

Place announcements of the AGO events and concerts in your church's newsletter or bulletin. Invite the congregation to our chapter's open events. Particularly the Family Concert on Sunday-February 26th at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Bowling Green.

Invent your own, additional ways beyond these to keep the organ a viable part of your congregation's life. Playing it well, taking care of it, and providing opportunities for everyone to enjoy it will be a wonderful recruiting tool for our next generation of organists.

Soli deo Gloria!

**Terry Brassell**

*Toledo AGO Chapter Dean*

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## FROM THE SUB-DEAN

Greetings! It was good to see so many of you at our "Instant Anthem" workshop Monday evening in Sylvania. Doug enjoyed meeting and working with you; what a great choral sound we made together! The fellowship afterward was great too. Thanks, Sally, for the yummy treats! You helped us all to feel welcome.

What's ahead for our chapter? **Kevin McGill** has been working on the arrangements for the **Family 'Pops' Concert at St. Mark's, Bowling Green**. Melissa Flowers (my student) and I get to play with Pam Davis and him; we can hardly wait! Please read his article in this newsletter, and mark your calendars: **Sunday, Feb. 26 at 4:00 PM**. This is an event you can publicize to your congregation, your students, your family, friends, and neighbors. Let's fill the house!!

**[N.B. For those of you who mark your calendars early and expect them to be correct, please read this! I've been giving the wrong time for this event all year... SO SORRY!! Our editor, Jack Gerding, just called my attention to it, and Kevin confirmed the correct time. It's 4:00 on the 26<sup>th</sup>!]**

Our March event needs your help, as well. If you are teaching organ and would like to have your students play on the **March 18<sup>th</sup> recital (3:00 PM, St. Joseph Catholic Church)**, please contact Pam Davis. Even though we had no scholarship applicants this year, we still have organ students (of all ages!) affiliated with our chapter, and we want to give them this opportunity to show us what they're learning. I hope you will put this recital on your calendar and make it a priority to attend.

We **NEED** to support and celebrate the work of *our next generation!*

There is also work to be done behind the scenes. Randy Currie has agreed to chair the nominating committee for our **spring election**. We will need a full slate of officers, as well as a new "class" of Executive Committee members. May I ask you to consider serving in one of these important ways:

1. Randy would like to have 2-3 people help him with the nominating process. Contact me or Randy to let us know your interest!
2. If you would like to suggest one of your colleagues as a candidate for an office or the Executive Committee, please contact Randy with your suggestion.
3. If the nominating committee calls you to invite you to serve, please say YES!!

Keep warm, and keep practicing!

-Joan McConnell, Sub-Dean

## A Family Organ Pops Concert Sunday, February 26, 2012 4:00 p.m.

### St. Mark's Lutheran Church

A family-friendly concert featuring  
three organs and four organists!  
You won't want to miss this rare opportunity to  
hear three organs all played at the same time.  
Bring your family, friends, children,  
grandchildren, students, EVERYONE!

The program will include:

*The Entertainer*

The Theme to *The Pink Panther*  
*Bohemian Rhapsody*

A Medley of Themes by John Williams  
Variations on "America"  
and more!

Featuring organists:

Pam Davis

Joan McConnell

Kevin McGill

past AGO scholarship winner, Melissa Flowers

After the concert, all are invited to play the  
organs and take a tour of the  
St. Mark's pipe organ.



# Random Pippings

The First Presbyterian Church, Napoleon, Ohio, a church family of about 127 members with an average attendance of 75, is seeking an organist to lead the musical portion of our traditional 10:00 a.m. Sunday morning worship service and at additional seasonal services throughout the church year. The organist rehearses with and accompanies our choir and other musicians and vocalists on the organ/piano. Choir practices are held three Sundays per month at 8:45 a.m., from fall through early spring.

Interested persons may submit resumes and cover letter to the church at [officenap@embarqmail.com](mailto:officenap@embarqmail.com).

Part time organist position available at Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Pemberville, Ohio. Two services on Sunday, one choir rehearsal per week. Job description available at [BethlehemPemberville.org](http://BethlehemPemberville.org). Send resume by January 24, 2012 to Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Attn: Organist Search, P. O. Box 344, Pemberville, OH 43450. Salary commensurate on experience.

All organ teachers – If you would like your student to participate in our March 18 student recital, please contact Pam Davis with your program information and rehearsal needs by February 27. She can be reached at [music@commofchrist.org](mailto:music@commofchrist.org) or 419-472-1003.

**Martha Esbin** will play the Wendell Castle piano in Gallery One of The Toledo Museum of Art on "It's Friday" from 7:15-7:45 p.m. on: January 20, February 3, March 2, March 30, April 27, May 18.

Gallery One is on the upper level just off the lobby. For those who want to go to the 8 p.m. Friday Classics Concert of the Toledo Symphony Orchestra, just walk a few steps from Gallery One through the Classic Court and directly into the Peristyle. For information on concerts, or to order individual event tickets, call 419-246-8000. You can arrange to have tickets waiting for pick-up. You may also order tickets online at <http://www.toledosymphony.com/ticketinfo/ticket-information/>

**From Anne Doerfler:** A hard copy print out of our Toledo Chapter AGO Directory has been sent to all our non-email members. If anyone else wants a hard copy of this Directory contact Anne Doerfler by phone, 419-474-9143 or email, [ad7440@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ad7440@sbcglobal.net). More copies will be available in February. I am printing them at my church at a cost of \$.70 each and will take orders for a second printing until mid-February. Mailing this directory costs \$.64 each. The complete revised Directory is now available on line at [www.toledoago.org](http://www.toledoago.org). Lets stay connected!

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership is open to all interested in the organ. To become a member of the Toledo Chapter, contact Anne Doerfler.

### NEWSLETTER & E-MAIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have articles, news, concerts, or vacant positions, please submit them to: Kathy Rupp at [krupp@wcnnet.org](mailto:krupp@wcnnet.org) AND Jack Gerding at: [jackgerding@aol.com](mailto:jackgerding@aol.com)

### WEBSITE

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

*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 certificating  
of Guild members.*

**MEMBER REVIEW OF BLIZZARD ANTHEMS:***by Martha Esbin*

Doug McConnell, director Joan McConnell, accompanist  
 January 23, Sylvania United Church of Christ, Sally Mosing, host

Over two dozen enthusiastic people sang “instant anthems” from The New Century Hymnal, Pilgrim Press, 1995. The hymnal has 617 hymns, some with call and response or interrupting refrains that actually are already anthems: for instance, TNCH 616, I Want to Be Ready. In addition to hymns, TNCH has psalms, service music, canticles and ancient songs.

You need instant anthems; bad weather or a small choir are two reasons. It is an educational and challenging way to introduce new hymns or present familiar hymns with a new twist to choir and congregation. The music is good and shorter rehearsals allows more time to be devoted to other pieces on the schedule that need more significant rehearsal time. The contrast in musical styles helps to keep singers engaged as they learn. Budgets aren’t growing, and you already have hymnals at your fingertips. A few general ideas: rubato, fermatas, a cappella, four parts, three parts, two parts, unison, coda, change tempo of a verse, interludes, descants, non-melody voices hum or sing “loo” or “low” on their vocal lines.

**EXAMPLES:****TNCH 344:** *The Time was Early Evening*

St. 1: All, unison                      All REFRAINS: Parts  
 St. 2: Women (SA)                      St. 3: One phrase per gender                      St. 4: All, unison

**TNCH 403:** *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less*

St. 1: Women for 4 measures; Men for 4 measures  
 2: SA for 4; SAT for 4  
 3: Soprano section or solo, SATB hum  
 4: All voices, unison                      ALL REFRAINS: SATB with text. Slow down on final refrain

**TNCH 101:** *Comfort, Comfort, O My People*

St. 1 and 3:     First phrase: unison                      Second phrase; parts  
                                Third phrase: unison for two measures, parts for 2 measures  
                                Fourth phrase: unison for two measures; parts for 2 measures  
 St. 2:             Parts all the way through; slower, more legato.  
 St. 3:             Same as Stanza 1

**TNCH 313:** *Like a Tree Beside the Water*

St. 1.              First phrase: women, four measures.  
                                Second: men four measures NO ACCOMPANIMENT  
                                Third phrase: add the keyboard instrument. Unison all voices. Add an interlude.  
 St. 2:              Solo voice. All other parts sing on a neutral syllable (“loo”, “low”, hmm, etc)  
 St. 3:              Unison, all voices, first two phrases                      Third phrase: women  
                                Fourth phrase: men for two, women join for last two  
                                CODA: Last phrase with choir AND organ.

**TNCH 108:** *Isaiah the Prophet*

Sing unison, vary the voice appointments, and add additional melody instruments.  
 Use/DON’T use the accompaniment

**TNCH: 322:** *Take me to the Water*

11 measures, about 12 seconds per stanza - Use Stanza 1 as a Refrain, not just as Stanza one . . . . .

Doug McConnell is a composer. For #108, we used his duet arrangements (one part demonstrated on recorder by Joan). For #322, we sang his expanded vocal arrangement.

# Pipedreams® Celebrates 30th Anniversary

## Anniversary Concert

January 29th, 2012 at 4pm

St. Andrew's Lutheran Church  
900 Stillwater Road  
Mahtomedi, MN



Michael Barone - Pipedreams Host/Producer

### Performances by:

Dr. Charles Echols (St. Cloud State University)  
Kathrine Handford (Lawrence University)  
Robert Vickery (Holy Childhood Church, Saint Paul)  
Bill Chouinard (St. Andrew's Lutheran)  
Norah Long - Vocalist  
St. Andrew's Choir led by Jan Gilbertson

PIPEDREAMS host/producer Michael Barone  
will also perform and provide commentary.

### Concert Details:

JOHN COOK: Fanfare  
JOHN GARDNER: Anthem, *Fight the good fight*  
SETH BINGHAM: *Roulette*, fr Six Pieces, Opus 9  
FLORENCE PRICE: Allegro (1<sup>st</sup> movement), fr Organ Sonata  
CATHERINE KENNICOTT DAVIS: *Pastorale*  
JAMES H. ROGERS: Concerto Overture in b  
J. S. BACH (arr. Hohman): Air (Suite No. 3 in D), BWV 1069  
J. S. BACH/ANTHONY NEWMAN: *How sweet the moonlight*  
MARTIN LUTHER (arr. Long & Chouinard): *A Mighty Fortress*  
LEROY ANDERSON: *Sleigh Ride*  
FREDERICK DELIUS: *Sleigh Ride (Winter Night)*  
CLAUDE DEBUSSY: *Clair de lune*  
EUGENE GIGOUT: *Toccata in b*  
CHARLES GOUNOD: *Sanctus*, fr Saint Cecilia Mass  
CHARLES-MARIE WIDOR:  
*Adagio*, fr Symphony No. 2, Op. 13, no. 2  
RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS: Hymn-Anthem *The Old 100<sup>th</sup>*

### PIPEDREAMS...

a weekly program that highlights the art of the pipe organ, turns 30 this year. From tentative beginnings as a 14-week 'exploratory pilot series', PIPEDREAMS has evolved into an ongoing, internationally acknowledged resource enjoyed by an audience of several hundred thousand avid radio listeners and website visitors to [pipedreams.org](http://pipedreams.org). Now beginning its fourth decade, PIPEDREAMS persists as the only, and longest-lived nationally syndicated radio program devoted to organ music.

A wide variety of listener-friendly music will exploit the sonic possibilities of the magnificent 108-rank Casavant-Schantz pipe organ, which many consider to be among the finest concert organs in the Midwest.

### Some PIPEDREAMS background...

When the American Guild of Organists held a national convention in the Twin Cities in 1980, Michael Barone, at that time classical music director of Minnesota Public Radio, made arrangements to record virtually all of the convention concerts. The MPR schedule already included a weekly broadcast, The Organ Program, a show for which Barone had been host/producer since 1970, and this could have been the obvious outlet for the AGO materials. But Barone felt that the convention concerts were worthy of national distribution. With a canny suggestion in naming the show from then-MPR Program Director Nicholas D. Nash, the idea for PIPEDREAMS was born, and it debuted as a discrete 14-show 'special offering' beginning January 3, 1982, temporarily replacing The Organ Program in the MPR schedule. PIPEDREAMS aired nationally on 64 stations. Following this initial 'pilot' offering, an ongoing strategy was formulated, and PIPEDREAMS returned in October 1983 as a regular, weekly program, continuing in that mode every since and at present broadcast by 132 stations around the country, including in six of the top-ten markets. At 30 years, American Public Media's PIPEDREAMS has outlasted any previous national 'organ program'...including The Auditorium Organ with John Obetz (28 years in syndication) and the famed live CBS broadcasts by E. Power Biggs from the Germanic Museum at Harvard University (16 years).

### For more information, contact:

Michael Barone (651-290-1539)  
[mbarone@mpr.org](mailto:mbarone@mpr.org)

# WHAT'S HAPPENING IN 2012

**FAMILY 'POPS' CONCERT** - February 26, 2012, 4:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Bowling Green. Kevin McGill, Pam Davis, and Joan McConnell are cooking up a concert for 3 organs! This is an outreach to youth and families, with hands-on fun to follow. All in attendance will be encouraged to tour the St. Mark's organ and to play the instruments.

**SCHOLARSHIP RECITAL** - March 18, 2012, 3:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Catholic Church  
Even though we had no scholarship applicants this year, we still have a number of organ students affiliated with our chapter. This recital is intended to support and celebrate their work. All student organists are invited to perform: college and high school students, those youngsters who are just getting started, and even adult students! Help us spread the word, and, if YOU are teaching a student who would benefit from playing in this recital, PLEASE get in touch with Pam Davis for more information!  
Pam Davis and Marilee Jaskulski will host.

**NOTES ON PIPES** - We have a date for our April event: Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. This will be a workshop by James Leek, organ builder. The venue is yet to be announced, so stay tuned for more information!!

**ANNUAL BANQUET** - May 11, 2012, 6:00 p.m. at the Historic Commercial Building, 301 River Rd., Maumee. We plan to hold our annual banquet at the Degage Jazz Café! We will meet and eat in Levi's Room, and enjoy the wonderful piano music from Degage by way of closed-circuit TV. Or, for a cover charge, we may adjourn to the café to hear the music 'live.' A big thanks to Martha Esbin for working on this event; we'll have more information as we get closer!

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS