

# The Prelude



MARCH 2013

*From the Dean*



Dear friends,

Will this winter ever end? The snow is whirling outside my window as I write, but my thoughts are moving toward spring: blossoming trees, blooming daffodils, longer days, and a glorious Easter!

Thoughts of spring bring me to thoughts of our April event:

our Capital City Organ Excursion. Neil Kraft, Sub Dean of our chapter, has done the leg work to plan this, calling churches and getting permission for us to visit and to play on these exciting organs. Terry Brasell, a member of the Executive Committee, has been on the phone with Childers Bus Company and made some preliminary arrangements with them. Things are shaping up!

Please read Neil's description of the day, and contact him RIGHT AWAY if you would like to participate. We need an approximate count **by March 18** so that we can sign a contract with the bus people. After that date we can still accept reservations, until all seats are sold. But please respond soon. Your early reservations will help us decide on the most economical way to travel. And invite your friends, your spouse, your students, whoever loves organs (and German food)!!



As our plans stand now, the cost of the trip will be \$25 (\$15 for students). That pays for the bus and driver. Lunch at Schmidt's German Village Restaurant is \$10 for the buffet, or you can order from the menu. Either way, the food is great!

Also note, for those of us who don't live in Toledo: The bus will make a pick-up (and drop-off) in Upper Sandusky, which is right on the way. Once we know who plans to go with us, we can finalize all of those details!

I wish you all a blessed Lent, a spirit-filled Easter, and the joys of new life that comes in spring.

See you on the bus!

*Joan McConnell*  
Dean of Toledo AGO

## STUDENT RECITAL INFORMATION

For those of you who plan to perform, or who have students planning to perform, on the April 14 recital at 3:00 p.m., I will need program information, including a short bio by March 20. Please keep piece length to 10-12 minutes. Rehearsal times are currently available for Saturday, April 13. Please contact Pam Davis with any questions and program information:

[music@commofchrist.org](mailto:music@commofchrist.org) or 419-346-0279.

If you are able to help with the reception (bring cookies, punch, etc.) or would like to help usher, you may also contact Pam by March 20. Many Thanks!!



## CAPITAL CITY ORGAN EXCURSION

**Friday, April 19, 2013**

Departing Levis Commons at 8:00 a.m.

Our April program will consist of a pipe organ tour of Columbus. We will visit three pipe organs installed within the past decade. And, if time permits we may also visit an infamous church containing two landmark instruments under the same roof! We will break for lunch at the notorious Schmidt's Restaurant in German Village.

Organs include:

2007 Bedient at St. Agatha's Church  
Upper Arlington

2010 Buzard at King Avenue  
United Methodist Church

2008 Fritts at St. Joseph Cathedral

1930's Kimball and 1972 von Beckerath  
at 1st Congregational\*  
(\* optional, time permitting)

A bus will be the mode of transportation for the day. For planning purposes we DO need to know how many folks might be interested in participating. Then, we will be able to determine the cost. If you could make a tentative reservation with me by mid-March we can get back to you with more information. Join us for this road trip!

*Neil Kraft*

Sub Dean

[cipher241@hotmail.com](mailto:cipher241@hotmail.com)

## TOLEDO CHAPTER PROGRAM

A YEAR IN THE MAKING

**MARCH/APRIL:**

**TOLEDO CHAPTER STUDENT AND SCHOLARSHIP RECITAL**  
Sunday, April 14, 3:00 p.m.

**APRIL: CAPITAL CITY ORGAN EXCURSION**

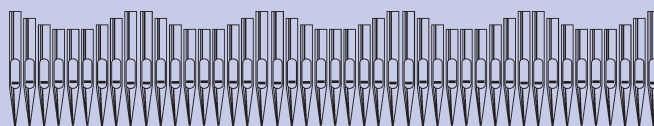
**Friday, April 19**

An all-day bus tour to Columbus, Ohio, to see, hear and play three magnificent organs. Lunch together in German Village. Complete information in this edition!

**MAY: ANNUAL AGO/TOLEDO BANQUET**

**Date and Place: TBA**

Join us for food, fellowship, the installation of officers, and a program... yet to be named!



The Ann Arbor AGO and the University of Michigan  
present the second annual

**Michigan**  
*Improvisation  
Competition*

**Prizes \$3,000, \$2,000, \$1,000**

Final Round Oct. 1, 2013 in Ann Arbor  
during the annual Conference on Organ Music  
Applications and recorded entries due July 1  
for more info: [www.music.umich.edu/departments/organ/index.php](http://www.music.umich.edu/departments/organ/index.php)

## ORGAN STUDY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Each October the Toledo Chapter of the American Guild of Organists holds scholarship auditions for Adults and 7th-12th grade students wanting to study the organ.

Participants play two prepared pieces of contrasting styles, one prepared hymn, and one hymn to sight read. Those auditioning for the first time may play their audition on the piano.

Participating Organ Instructors are members of the Toledo Chapter AGO.

If you are interested in the auditions please contact Pam Davis at Community of Christ Lutheran Church.

[music@commofchrist.org](mailto:music@commofchrist.org) or 419-877-0607

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Joan McConnell, Dean 419-455-4666  
[jmcconne@heidelberg.edu](mailto:jmcconne@heidelberg.edu)

Neil Kraft, Sub Dean 419-352-4195  
[musicliturgy@stalbg.org](mailto:musicliturgy@stalbg.org)

Mark S. Mathias, Secretary 419-708-6953  
[msmathias@yahoo.com](mailto:msmathias@yahoo.com)

Marilynn Hazard, Treasurer 419-885-5624  
[marilynn3195@aol.com](mailto:marilynn3195@aol.com)

Rev. Ronald J. Diener, Chaplain 734-847-2416  
[rjdiener@buckeye-express.com](mailto:rjdiener@buckeye-express.com)

Anne Doerfler, Membership Chair 419-474-9143  
[ad7440@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ad7440@sbcglobal.net)

### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership is open to all interested in the organ. To become a member of the Toledo Chapter, contact Anne Doerfler at [ad7440@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ad7440@sbcglobal.net)

### NEWSLETTER & E-MAIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have articles, news, concerts, or vacant positions, please submit them to:

Email: Kathy Rupp [kathy.rupp744@gmail.com](mailto:kathy.rupp744@gmail.com)  
Newsletter: Jack Gerding [jackgerding@aol.com](mailto:jackgerding@aol.com)

### WEBSITE

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

## Student Organ Recital

Featuring Past Scholarship Winners  
Melissa Flowers, Sara Tobe, Garrett Law  
and Area University Organ Students

Sunday, April 14, 2013  
3:00 p.m.

Trinity Episcopal Church  
One Trinity Plaza, downtown Toledo  
(free parking on the street)

A Freewill Offering will be collected to benefit the  
Organ Study Scholarship Program

*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.*



# Office of Worship ~ Diocese of Toledo

*"O Beauty Ever ancient, O Beauty ever new"*

*St. Augustine of Hippo, Confessions*

## *Three Weekend Days of Beautiful Liturgical Chant*

For

**The Parish Choirmaster, the Parish Singer  
The Parishioner Singer**

**Come and experience Chant as a**

**"Full, conscious, and active participation" in the Sacred Liturgy.**

Join us in

### **The Parish Chant Project**

Learning, singing, and teaching your congregation to celebrate the Sacred Liturgy in beautiful, new English Chant compositions, and priceless and timeless Latin classics.

Presented by

M. Jackson Osborn - Lowell A. Davis

Directors

St Basil's School of Gregorian Chant  
University of St. Thomas, Houston, Texas

Where: Cathedral of Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, Toledo Ohio

When: Fri Afternoon & Sat Morning, April 12-13: 19-20: 26-27, 2013

For Program, Schedule, Tuition and Lodging, visit us at

[www.toledochant.com](http://www.toledochant.com) ~ [toledochant@gmail.com](mailto:toledochant@gmail.com)

Ph: 419-255-5556

OUR LADY, QUEEN OF THE MOST HOLY ROSARY CATHEDRAL  
TOLEDO, OHIO



HEALTHCARE  REIT

MOZART & MORE SERIES  
SPECIAL EVENT

# BRUCKNER

## SYMPHONY NO.2

Sunday, March 10  
Rosary Cathedral - 4PM

Stefan Sanderling, *conductor*

Witness the breathtaking  
majesty of Bruckner's Second  
Symphony in the splendor of  
Rosary Cathedral.

*Memorial concert in honor of Lene Bauer.*



TOLEDO SYMPHONY

STEFAN SANDERLING, PRINCIPAL CONDUCTOR

[www.toledosymphony.com](http://www.toledosymphony.com)  
419-246-8000

## Sessions (continued)

### Choral Reading Session

This choral Reading Session, led by Shawn Thomas and Laura Ellis, will offer a variety of choral octavos from some of today's finest publishers.

### How Shall we Sing the Lord's Song in a Strange Land?

For some organists and church musicians, the use of contemporary worship in the church service seems "foreign" and out of place. Yet, as staff members, we must learn to work together for the greater mission of the church. Moderator Laura Ellis will be joined by UF School of Music faculty member Ken Broadway. A classically trained musician, Broadway has been active in praise teams and contemporary music. How can we respect differing styles of worship? How can we find common ground? Perhaps the first step for effective dialogue is understanding.

### From the Library: Clues to Accessible Service Music

It was Professor Ellis and Shawn Thomas, in the library, with the magnifying glass! Join us as we dig through our personal libraries in search of pieces, that, while simple, would make a nice addition to your repertoire list...it's elementary!

### Organ Masterclass (optional)

Laura Ellis will lead an organ masterclass on the Andrew Anderson Memorial Pipe Organ in the University Auditorium.

## Clinicians and Presenters

**Michael Bedford** currently serves as organist/choirmaster of St. John's Episcopal Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Dr. Bedford has published choral music for children's, youth and adult choirs, as well as organ collections and handbell pieces. He also serves as workshop leader and clinician for children's and youth festivals, handbell choir festivals and organ workshops throughout the United States.

**Inspiring Worship 2013** is coordinated by **Laura Ellis** and **Shawn Thomas**. Dr. Ellis serves as associate professor of organ, harpsichord, and carillon in the UF School of Music. Shawn is the graduate assistant for Organ and Sacred Music at UF.

# *Inspiring Worship*

*The 6th Annual University of Florida  
Sacred Music Workshop  
May 5-7, 2013*



**Michael Bedford, Guest Clinician**

University of Florida ♦ School of Music  
Gainesville, FL

## Workshop Schedule

### Sunday, May 5, 2013

- 5:00 Registration Opens  
5:00 Carillon Recital, Mitchell Stecker  
6:00 Opening Reception/Clinician Meet-and-Greet  
7:30 Organ Recital, Shawn Thomas

### Monday, May 6, 2013

- 9:00 Choral Gesturing: Getting the Best Sound from your Volunteer Choir  
10:30 Simple Organ Improvisation: A Tried and True Bag of Tricks  
12:00 Lunch (delivered, or on your own)  
1:00 Choral Reading Session  
2:30 Singing with One Voice  
4:00 From the Library: Clues to Accessible Service Music  
5:00 Dinner (on your own)  
7:30 Rejoice, O Earth: Singing God's Praise in Many Lands

### Tuesday, May 7, 2013

- 9:00 Jack-of-all-trades: What they don't tell you in your Job Description  
10:30 How Shall we Sing the Lord's Song in a Strange Land?  
12:00 Lunch (delivered, or on your own)  
1:30 Organ Masterclass (optional)

Registration Fee (if registered <i>by</i> April 15):	\$75
Registration Fee (if registered <i>after</i> April 15):	\$95
Masterclass attendance/performance (optional):	\$15

Lunch delivered (optional)                      \$8 for one day, \$15 for both

Group rate hotel rooms are available for \$62/night at:

Paramount Plaza Hotel  
2900 SW 13th Street  
877.992.9229

**Group Code: Sacred Music Workshop**

***\*\*Free shuttle to/from UF when staying at official hotel\*\*  
(Please request on registration form)***

Questions about this workshop?

E-mail: shawn.thomas@ufl.edu; Phone: 352.273.3181

More information at: arts.ufl.edu/organ/SMW.shtml

www.facebook.com/UFsacredmusicworkshop

## Evening Performances

### Organ Recital

Join Shawn Thomas as he presents an organ recital at First Presbyterian Church on the Fisk organ. Features music from all periods, including a piece by our guest clinician, Michael Bedford.

### Hymn Festival

#### *Rejoice, O Earth: Singing God's Praise in Many Lands*

Michael Bedford leads a hymn festival based in the University Auditorium on the liturgical year and featuring tunes from around the world.

## Sessions

### Choral Gesturing: Getting the Best Sound from your Volunteer Choir

Most volunteer choirs are made up of non-professional musicians who not only want to be fed and nurtured but also want to do their best. Michael Bedford's workshop will focus on delivering simple gestures in your conducting that will convey certain musical messages to volunteer singers. We will discuss how to illustrate the music while keeping the beat, and how to help your singers sound better than ever. Attention will also be given to the value of humor and patience in conveying musical info to your choir.

### Simple Organ Improvisation: A Tried and True Bag of Tricks

We will explore some basic approaches to improvisation that will yield immediate results. Michael Bedford will look at ways to use pedal point, running thirds, melodic and rhythmic patterns, ornamentation and registration to create lovely short pieces. You will learn how to select a type of improvisation based on text and/or tune. Our discussion will not only enlighten first-time improvisers, but also remind seasoned pros of what is important in the process.

### Jack-of-all-trades: What they don't tell you in your Job Description

When we interview for positions, we learn up front about several things that will be required of us. But what happens once we begin a new job and find out that there is more to it than we were told? And why weren't we told? In this tongue-in-cheek workshop with Michael Bedford, we will examine a number of responsibilities that were not clear from the outset, and how to deal effectively with them. We will also look at the value of flexibility, humor, and being a team player when coming into a new position.

### Singing with One Voice

Back by popular demand, join Brenda Smith and Ron Burrichter for a follow-up session from last year's workshop. We will talk about how to preserve one's own voice while giving verbal and sung instructions from the bench or the podium, as well as providing strategies for helping amateur singers maintain good vocal tone and stamina.



## Inspiring Worship 2013 Registration Form

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address 1

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address 2

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Congregation Name / City

(Please check appropriate boxes)

- ☐ I would like lunch to be delivered from Subway.  
Lunch includes a 6-inch sandwich, a bag of chips, and a cookie. Please indicate below what type of sandwich you would like each day from the following options: Veggie, Ham, BLT, Cold Cut, Italian BMT, Spicy Italian, Tuna, Turkey & Ham, Turkey Breast, Roast Beef. Water and iced tea will be available.

Monday\_\_\_\_\_ Tuesday\_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ I would like to attend / perform (circle one) in the Organ Masterclass.  
(Tuesday, 1:30)
- ☐ I am staying at the Paramount Plaza Hotel, and would like complimentary transportation to and from the University of Florida on Monday and Tuesday.
- ☐ Please include my e-mail address in a list of attendees that will be distributed at the conclusion of the workshop.

Registration Fee (if postmarked <i>by</i> April 15):	\$75
Registration Fee (if postmarked <i>after</i> April 15):	\$95
Masterclass Attendance/Performance:	\$15
Lunch delivered (\$8 for one day, \$15 for both):	\$_____

Total: \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this registration form to the  
University of Florida:  
UF School of Music, P.O. Box 117900,  
Attn: Sacred Music Workshop, Gainesville, FL 32611

Please make check payable to: The University of Florida  
(place Sacred Music Workshop in memo line)



Registration

Name\_\_\_\_\_ Sex M F  
Preferred roommate *(assigned by directors if left blank)*

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. #/PO Box \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

I am a student, age \_\_\_\_, and would like a scholarship.  
I am a teacher and will be bringing \_\_\_\_ students.  
I will contribute \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to the Scholarship Fund.

Costs/*Discounts/ Increases	Opt 1 BOMS	Opt 2 Alps	Opt 3 Paris	Opt 4 **All
Paid by 2/1	\$900	\$1150	\$1150	\$3400
3/15	\$950	\$1200	\$1200	\$3550
After 3/15	\$1000	\$1250	\$1250	\$3700
Student/Friend by 3/15	\$850	\$950	\$950	\$2950
Student/Friend after 3/15	\$900	\$1000	\$1000	\$3100

\* Teacher Discounts: \$100 per student!  
\*\*Opt 4 includes Airfare between London and Lyon

Payment Schedule

February 1 \$300 (Early Deposit)  
March 1 \$300 (Deposit)  
March 15 \$350 (Double for Option 4)  
April 15 \$350 (Double for Option 4)  
May15 \$350 (Double for Option 4)  
June 15 Balance

Prices are subject to increase in the event of foreign currency increases. The directors of FOMS and BOMS assume no responsibility or liability in conjunction with any seminar functions. Participants will be responsible for all uncontrollable factors. Directors reserve the right to alter the itinerary, cancel the seminars, or raise prices based on exchange rates and seminar enrollment of less than 30 people. I certify that I have no handicap that would impair my ability to walk moderate distances and to climb stairs.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Please mail this form, along with a non-refundable deposit of \*\$300 to the following address:  
French Organ Music Seminar, c/o Masako Gaskin  
5265 Stardust Drive  
Beaumont, Texas 77706

\*\$300 deposit will be refunded in case of seminar cancellation. Checks are payable to FOMS.

For the most up-to-date information, please visit our website,  
www.bfoms.com, or email masakog@sbcglobal.net.

French Organ Music Seminar  
"The Experience of a Lifetime!"  
c/o Masako Gaskin  
5265 Stardust Drive  
Beaumont, TX 77706

International Organ Music  
Seminars

presents

British Organ Music Seminar  
July 25 - 28

French Organ Music Seminar in  
Lyon, the French Alps, and Burgundy  
July 29 - August 2  
and

French Organ Music Seminar in  
Paris and Reims  
August 3 – August 7  
with

Olivier Latry, Daniel Roth, Thibaut Duret,  
François Espinasse,  
John Hosking, Loïc Mallié, Didier Matry,  
Yannick Merlin, Béatrice Piertot, Louis  
Robilliard,  
Jean-Baptiste Robin, Benjamin Steens, Colin  
Walsh, and others!

“The Experience of a Lifetime!”



## England

July 25 - 28

This year's four-day seminar will include a day of study with Colin Walsh at the organ of Trinity College, Cambridge. Classes will include British Romantic repertoire, registration in British organ literature, chant accompaniment, and liturgical improvisation. Day trips are also planned to play and study at the organs of Peterborough and Ely Cathedrals. In London there will be playing time at Westminster Abbey and Westminster Cathedral.

Included in the price are hotel with double occupancy, breakfast, transportation by train, entry to all churches, and seminar booklet.

Instructors include John Hosking, Colin Walsh, Gillian Weir, and others.

Since 1986, the French Organ Music Seminar has featured study tours to Paris and other locations where participants hear and play the magnificent instruments and receive instruction in the form of master classes, lectures, and recitals from world famous organists. These exciting seminars are planned for organists and organ lovers of all proficiency levels who wish to study the great French, British, and German organ-playing traditions: the instruments themselves, the written music, service playing, and improvisation. All classes are held in English. Participants are grouped together and assisted at all times by group leaders.

### Scholarship Donations

*Contribute for the sake of the organ and future generations of organists!*

There are talented young organists who need your help. FOMS and BOMS offer the most wonderful opportunities for young people to learn about the organ and be inspired, and they depend on contributions to fund scholarships! Many of our former students are now professional and concert organists, and they have expressed their gratitude for the way their lives and careers have been shaped by playing and studying these historic instruments. For more information, visit our website, [www.bfoms.com](http://www.bfoms.com), or email, [masakog@sbcglobal.net](mailto:masakog@sbcglobal.net)

## Lyon, the French Alps, and Burgundy

July 29 - August 2

Participants will leave from London on Monday, July 29 and travel to Lyon in southeast France by air. During the afternoon there will be instruction by Louis Robilliard at the famous Cavaillé-Coll organ of the church of St-François de Sales, as well as playing time at the Grenzing organ at the Lyon Conservatory. The group will then travel through the breathtaking French Alps by comfortable motor coach to the beautiful city of Chambéry, located in the heart of the Alps. With François Espinasse, professor of organ at Lyon Conservatory and organist of St-Séverin, Paris, and Thibaut Duret, organist at Chambéry Cathedral, we will spend time at the Chambéry Cathedral, the Thomas organ in St-Pierre d'Albigny, and drive high in the mountains to visit the small organs of Grand Bornand, Manigod, and Thônes as well as other sites, including a cheese factory. We will also spend time in the spectacular city of Annecy, with playing time at Annecy Cathedral as well as optional shopping and boating excursions, and a visit to the Paccard Bell Factory. After the Alps, our motor coach will take us to Dijon, the heart of Burgundy, where we will play the organs in Dijon, Dole, and surrounding towns. On Saturday, those not participating in Option 3 can take a train from Dijon to Paris for their return flight. Those continuing on will go by motor coach to Reims (included in the price).

Included in the price are hotel with double occupancy, breakfast, transportation by motor coach, and seminar booklet.

Instructors include François Espinasse, Louis Robilliard, and Thibaut Duret, and others.

## Paris and Reims

August 3 – August 7

On August 3 we will visit Reims, the coronation city, and spend time at the organs of the Cathedral of Reims and the Basilica of St-Rémi with organist Benjamin Steens. There will be an optional visit to the famous Champagne Cave and the restaurant/hotel "Les Crayères". After dinner, our motor coach will take us from Reims to the Holiday Inn Express, Canal de la Villette, in Paris. On Sunday, following breakfast we will have our choice of organ lofts at several churches, including Notre Dame Cathedral.

While in Paris and Reims, we will have organ playing and instruction seminars at St-Augustin, St-Sulpice, Notre-Dame des Champs (Cavaillé-Coll's home church), La Trinité (the church of Messiaen), Versailles Conservatory and more. At the Versailles Castle we will not only be able to play the organs there, but Jean-Baptiste Robin will take us on a private after-hours tour of the mirror gallery and the King's apartments.,

Included in the price are hotel with double occupancy, breakfast, travel from Reims to Paris, métro and RER passes, entry to Versailles and all churches, and seminar booklet.

Instructors include Olivier Latry, Loïc Mallié, Didier Matry, Yannick Merlin, Béatrice Piertot, Benjamin Steens, Jean-Baptiste Robin, Daniel Roth, and others.

### Seminar Directors

Christina Harmon, Cliff Varnon, Masako Gaskin,  
Françoise Webb



World Renowned Composer and Artist,

# Joseph M. Martin

Coming to

**First Baptist Church of Greater Toledo**

6520 Pilliod Road

Holland, Ohio 43528

419/865-9171

[www.fbcogt.com](http://www.fbcogt.com)



Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup>

## Master's Class

1:00 - 4:00 pm

All interested vocal musicians and  
choirs are invited to participate.

\$10.00 per person

## Community Concert

7:00 pm

Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>

## Worship Service

10:30 am

**A selection of  
outstanding  
students perform  
works by North  
and South  
American  
composers,  
including  
Gershwin, Barber  
and Villa Lobos**

# **St. Olaf College Piano Tour**



**Tuesday  
March 26  
7:30pm**

**Community of Christ  
Lutheran Church**

**6517 Finzel Road  
Whitehouse, Ohio 43571**

**419.877.0607**

**Matthew S. Lash, Pastor**

**[www.commofchrist.org](http://www.commofchrist.org)**

**Pam Davis, Music Director**

**[Music@commofchrist.org](mailto:Music@commofchrist.org)**

**A free-will offering  
will be collected**



## KALAMAZOO AGO

Dear AGO Colleagues and Friends:

Earlier this week I had some free time, so I decided to take Amtrak to Kalamazoo to check out some of the sites for this coming summer's Regional AGO Convention. I WAS IMPRESSED with what I saw. First, the train ride from Chicago was very smooth. One of the "selling points" for the convention for us Chicago area folks is that we can use Amtrak. The train ride was a relaxing and quiet two hours. The convention hotel, the Radisson, is about two short blocks south of the train station; a nice walk even for January.

The reason for this note is to strongly encourage you to attend this, OUR Regional convention. As with all AGO conventions, the registration cost is not very high considering what you will get. It is \$325 (with generous discounts for Seniors/students) if you register by February 28. Please note that this cost includes all local transportation, the banquet, two other meals, and refreshments at two receptions. Some of us were involved with the 2006 Chicago/North Shore/Fox Valley National Convention and remember all the details. Well, the Kalamazoo Chapter has EVERYTHING figured out.

The cost of the hotel, as usual, is a consideration (\$129/night not including taxes), but with one or two (or three) roommates the cost is very reasonable, especially considering how lovely this four-star hotel is. The convention starts on Sunday and ends on Wednesday night, so I figure I will stay in the hotel for four nights. After adding tax and local fees, I think that will be about \$560. With one roommate, however, the cost drops to \$280. The hotel is fantastic with four restaurants plus lovely shops right in the hotel. The downtown restaurants within two blocks are also quite amazing.

I HIGHLY recommend that you check out the well organized web site at [www.agokalamazoo.org](http://www.agokalamazoo.org) and register soon; before February 28 to get the best rates.

*Karl Bruhn, Illinois State Convener*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Toledo Chapter AGO  
Anne Doerfler  
4112 Talwood Lane  
Toledo OH 43606



THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS