TOLEDO CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

# The Prelude



March 2014



Dear friends,

February has been a glorious **FEAST** of organ music for me and for many of you. I am so grateful to you and to Heidelberg University and Trinity UCC for the joint sponsorship of **Tony Williams**. We had an excellent turn-out to all

three of those events. I may be off by one or two, but my count shows 16 at the master class, 15 at lunch, 18 at the lecture (Organ Music by Black Composers), and a goodly turn-out at the recital, not only of AGO members, but also Heidelberg faculty and students, Trinity members and friends, and others from the Tiffin community. I think we really made a positive impact with this recital and with this weekend.

It was fun to sit back and hear the organ that I play. You've all had this experience, I'm sure. Tony's registrations, combined with his excellent technique, gave the Bach D Major a lightness that seemed almost effortless. His Romantic pieces employed warm strings and clear-sounding flutes in contrast with one another. Unfortunately for the audience, Trinity's heating system chose the quietest pieces to come on with a bang and clatter of pipes. Tony told me later that he didn't hear it at all... now THAT'S concentration!

Tony played pieces by Black composers: Mark Fax, Ralph Simpson, and Florence Price. It was good to hear these pieces by folks who aren't yet "standard rep" but perhaps should be. I heard several of us saying how much we admired Price's Sonata in D Minor.

Just 6 days later I saw many of you again at the Peristyle for **Paul Jacobs'** wonderful recital. In a

curious coincidence he also began his program with the Bach D Major Prelude and Fugue, but played very differently, taking advantage of the vast tonal resources of the Skinner organ. Playing in a style appropriate to the instrument, he took liberties with tempo and registration that weren't quite "purist," but were absolutely delightful! He ended his concert with Guilmant's D-minor Sonata, which we had learned was the inspiration for Florence Price's work!

On Sunday my student **Melissa Flowers** played her senior recital at Trinity UCC in Tiffin. A healthy handful of you made the trip to hear and support her. I am so very appreciative of this! Thank you for the support that you, my colleagues, give to me, to my students, and to Organ and Church Music studies at Heidelberg. It's truly a blessing to be a member of this chapter.

And now, looking ahead, please make sure your March plans include our **AGO Student Recital** at Monroe Street Methodist on Sunday, March 16. This year we have five scholarship winners, including a winner of the Mary Anderson award. Since we broadened the competition to include adult learners, we have three adults studying on scholarship, including chapter members Dennis Johns and Sara Wade. Melissa Flowers and Stephen Smith will also play, as will Jean Metzger, who has been studying with me for over a year now.

And, speaking of FEASTS, don't forget: we have our second semi-annual **DEAN'S LUNCH** on Friday, March 14. Join us at noon at Granite City Food and Brewery, 2300 Village Dr. W #130, Maumee, 43537. This is located in the Fallen Timbers Mall. Please RSVP by March 12<sup>th</sup>; call me (419-455-4666) or email (imcconne@heidelberg.edu), so I can get us a big table!



## DETROIT ORGAN CRAWL - (AKA) THE GREAT MOTOR CITY ORGAN TOUR!

Building upon the success and enjoyment that we all experienced with last year's *Capital City Organ Tour* to Columbus, we have decided to do it again. This year on Friday, April 25, we will head in the opposite direction and visit our neighbor to the north, Detroit.

With the assistance of David Hufford of the Renaissance Organ Company, we will tour around the Detroit metro and see, hear, and play some organs of historic significance as well as some that are of more recent vintage. The itinerary is not completely planned at this point, but we will certainly keep you informed as we finalize the roster. The day will certainly include an interesting lunch venue along the way, too.

So, mark your calendars now for April 25. We will probably leave around 8:30 in the morning and plan to be back in the late afternoon, or very early evening. We'll give you specifics on costs and times in the next newsletter after we finalize the plans. Rev up your horsepower for the Motor City Organ Tour!

Neil Kraft
Sub Dean Toledo AGO



#### MUSIC MINISTER NEEDED

Augustana Lutheran Church of Hyde Park and Lutheran Campus Ministry announces it is searching for a new Organist/Cantor/Music Minister supervised by the Senior Pastor. This is a part-time position (20 hours per week). To apply, send a letter of interest, and a CV including references by email to: <a href="mailto:office@augustanahydepark.org">office@augustanahydepark.org</a> by March 31, 2014. Augustana Lutheran Church of Hyde Park is a congregation of the ELCA and a Reconciling in Christ Congregation located at 5500 S. Woodlawn, Chicago, IL 60637. For a full job description contact the church or visit <a href="http://www.augustanahydepark.org">http://www.augustanahydepark.org</a>.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Joan McConnell, Dean jmcconne@heidelberg.edu	419-455-4666
Neil Kraft, Sub Dean musicliturgy@stalbg.org	419-352-4195
Mark S. Mathias, Secretary msmathias@yahoo.com	419-708-6953
Marilynn Hazard, Treasurer marilynn3195@aol.com	419-885-5624
Anne Doerfler, Membership Chair ad7440@sbcglobal.net	419-474-9143

#### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership is open to all interested in the organ. To become a member of the Toledo Chapter, contact Anne Doerfler at <a href="mailto:ad7440@sbcglobal.net">ad7440@sbcglobal.net</a>

#### **NEWSLETTER & E-MAIL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

Email: Kathy Rupp <u>kathy.rupp744@gmail.com</u>
Newsletter: Jack Gerding <u>jackgerding@aol.com</u>

<u>WEBSITE</u> <u>www.toledoago.org</u>

The mission
of the
American Guild of Organists
is to enrich lives
through
organ
and
choral music.



TOLEDO CHAPTER
PROGRAM

2013-2014



#### MARCH: SECOND SEMI-ANNUAL "DEAN'S LUNCH"

Friday, March 14, Noon

Granite City Food and Brewery, 2300 Village Dr W #130, Maumee 43537 Host: Joan McConnell, Dean of the Chapter Join us for a casual lunch on the "almost-Ides" of March.

Cost: the price of your meal. RSVP by March 12 to Joan McConnell, 419-455-4666 or <a href="mailto:imcconne@heidelberg.edu">imcconne@heidelberg.edu</a>

#### ALSO in MARCH: TOLEDO CHAPTER STUDENT/ SCHOLARSHIP RECITAL

Sunday, March 16, 3:00 PM

Monroe St. United Methodist Church, 3613 Monroe St., Toledo 43606 Host: Denise Mathias, Director of Music and Organist; Education Chair: Pam Davis This is always a big day for our students and a great way for us to support our newest colleagues!

#### **APRIL: MOTOR CITY ORGAN TOUR**

Friday, April 25, all day

Save the date for a bus tour to Detroit to see, hear and play the marvelous pipe organs of the Motor City!

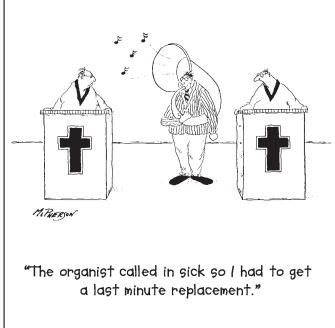
This event is being planned by Neil Kraft.

#### MAY: ANNUAL AGO/TOLEDO BANQUET

Friday, May 9, 6:00 PM

Highland Meadows Golf Club, 7455 Erie St., Sylvania 43560
Hosts: Joan McConnell, Dean and Neil Kraft, Sub Dean
Join us for food, fellowship, the installation of officers, and a program... yet to be named! Cost: \$18
RSVP to Treasurer Marilynn Hazard, 419-855-5624 or <a href="marilynn3195@aol.com">marilynn3195@aol.com</a>.







# **DAILY MASTER CLASSES** with OBF Artistic Director Matthew Halls and Institute Director Paul Jacobs

- TOUR great regional instruments in Portland and Eugene
- PERFORM on the class recital as part of OBF
- GAIN insights in the organ music of Bach

### **APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY APRIL 3, 2014**

Check the website for audition requirements and class information or email obforgan@uoregon.edu



#### YOUR SUPPORT NEEDED

Please come out to support our students on **Sunday, March 16, 3:00 PM, at Monroe Street United Methodist Church**. Performers include AGO scholarship winners Sara Wade, Jeremy Hill, Anson Tran, Seth Innis, and Dennis Johns plus organ students at Heidelberg University Melissa Flowers and Stephen Smith.

Anson Tran received the \$500 Mary Anderson Award, given to an outstanding high school student. Many of our newer members, and the students, did not have the pleasure of knowing Mary. She was an active member of the Toledo AGO and Dean in 1991-92. She was Organist and Choir Director at Monroe St. United Methodist for a number of years and at Ashland Avenue Baptist before that. She also was a well-known voice teacher in Toledo. She was a graduate of Westminster Choir College and taught for many of their summer programs.

When Mary passed away in 2003 many AGO members wanted to honor her memory with a scholarship. Past winners of this scholarship include Elizabeth Kent, Jacob Taylor, Grant Wohl, Sara Tobe and Melissa Flowers.

If you can bring baked treats for a reception for the students please contact Denise Mathias by March 10 at dsnivermathias@vahoo.com or 419-473-1167, ext. 230 church; 419-708-6953 home.

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