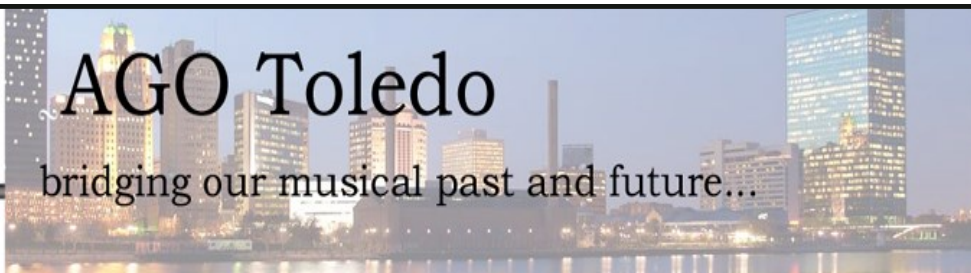


AGO Toledo

bridging our musical past and future...



The Prelude

May 2015

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN...

Spring is here and the winter weather is behind us! I hope you all had exciting Easter and Passover holidays and no sour notes intruded into your festive music-making! I know that some of us are planning for summer conferences and workshops in the next weeks and months. I am planning to attend the AGO Race to Indy Great Lakes Regional Convention in Indianapolis from July 12 -15. I will do my best to represent our chapter with great enthusiasm...not to mention great dignity!

Do plan on being a part of our May program on Saturday, May 30th. Because of a schedule conflict the date has been changed to accommodate our host. It should be a very entertaining and interesting day! The details of the program are noted elsewhere in this newsletter. Also, PLEASE attend to renewing your annual dues to the Guild and Chapter. Without these funds our chapter is limited in the programming that we can plan and produce for you. Notice also that the Guild has initiated a rotating dues collection system so that your dues come due in the month that you originally paid them in each subsequent year. We need you in our chapter.....don't go away!

I hope you were able to take in the amazing organ concert by Gail Archer on April 26th at Monroe Street United Methodist! She certainly played up a storm! Not literally, but you know what I mean! Her mastery of the music and the instrument was awesome! Don't forget the Helen Beach Jones Memorial Concert at the Toledo Museum Peristyle, which will feature Dr. Marilyn Keiser from Indiana University at the Skinner organ. That will be on Friday, May 8th at 7 PM.



Otherwise, have a great summer, pay your dues, practice, and we'll see you in the fall!

Neil Kraft, Dean

Toledo AGO Contact Info

Neil Kraft, Dean	419-352-4195 musicliturgy@stalbg.org
Mark S. Mathias, Sub Dean	419-708-6953 msmathias@yahoo.com
Susan Craig, Secretary	419-246-8674 craigweg@aol.com
Pam Davis, Treasurer	419-877-0607 music@commofchrist.org
Nancy Russell, Membership Chair	419-874-0379 navon@wcnet.org

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all interested in the organ. To become a member of the Toledo Chapter, contact Nancy Russell at navon@wcnet.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS

To submit articles, news, concerts, or vacant positions, contact:

Email: Kathy Rupp
kathy.rupp744@gmail.com

Newsletter: Melissa Flowers
mflowers@findlaystmichael.org

WEBSITE

www.toledoago.org

Our Executive Committee will be meeting soon to prepare the program calendar for 2015-2016.

Is there a topic, past program, or new idea that you would like to suggest?

Please contact Mark Mathias (msmathias@yahoo.com) or one of the other committee members/officers by May 12th with your suggestions. Financial considerations; variety in programming, location, and calendar (various days of the week); and availability of presenters/recitalists are some of the criteria used in planning the calendar.

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



END-OF-THE-SEASON PROGRAM AND DINNER

Saturday, May 30, 2015

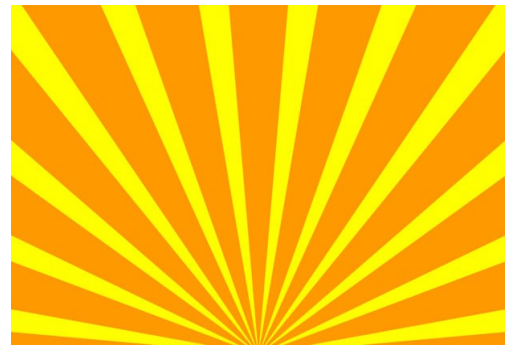
Gathering at 2:00 PM

There has been a change of date for our May program, so if you had previously marked it on your calendar please make a note of it. We will gather at 2 PM at Christ Presbyterian Church on Sylvania Avenue to carpool just across the state border from Toledo to Dundee, MI to tour a wondrous private collection of unique musical instruments. This extensive museum quality collection of instruments was begun by Mr. Bud Bronson and is now owned by his son, Art, who continues the collection as its curator. This collection is not open to the public but shown only by appointment to other collectors and "connoisseurs" (like us!).

The collection includes such varied instruments as band organs, grand and vertical reproducing pianos, single and double Mills violinos, hurdy-gurdys, street organs, wax cylinder Edison phonographs, and even a multi-rank Wurlitzer theatre organ! And that's only a small sampling! It must be seen to be believed! We will certainly be surprised and amazed!

Following the tour we will retreat to a local restaurant for dinner together. There is no charge for the tour but you will be responsible for the cost of your own dinner which you can select from the menu. We will return to our point of origin by early evening.

Please plan to join us! Please make your RSVP to Sub Dean Mark Mathias by Monday, May 18th at msmathias@yahoo.com or leave a message at 419-708-6953.

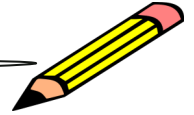


FREE Flashback and Flash Forward: The Helen Beach Jones Memorial Concert

Helen Beach Jones and her husband, former Toledo mayor Samuel "Golden Rule" Jones, lived in a house that stood in what is now the Toledo Museum of Art's Peristyle theater. The home's former location is fitting because Jones, an accomplished organist and singer, subsequently started the Museum's music program. This special organ concert pays tribute to Jones, her husband, and the many who sang with the Toledo Women's Chorus she founded. Performers include Marilyn Keiser, a renowned concert organist and professor emeritus at Indiana University, as well as Jessica Park, a 2014 graduate of the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and an American Guild of Organists award winner. The event will conclude with the audience participating in singing "Hymn to Truth," written by Samuel Jones and put to music by his wife, Helen. The next day, a lecture titled *Samuel "Golden Rule" Jones: Music and Reform in Early 20th Century Toledo* will be presented in the Little Theater at 2 p.m.



AGO Toledo: Election of Executive Committee



Once again it is time to hold our annual election. All of our officers are continuing in their two-year terms, but we have a new class of Executive Committee members to elect.

First, let me say a heartfelt THANK YOU to the outgoing class:

Pam Stover and Craig Whitaker.

We appreciate all your good ideas and efforts on behalf of our chapter and our programs.

The new “class” will serve a three-year term, expiring in the spring of 2018. Those who have agreed to serve are: Marilyn Blackney, Melissa Flowers, and Craig Whitaker.



Please vote by May 15. You may use the paper ballot included in this edition of the *Prelude*, or send your vote by email to our secretary, Sue Craig. If you wish to write in a name, please do. The individual you nominate might not gain a majority of votes this year, but I will keep track of those names as potential board members in future years! I appreciate all such suggestions!!

The current Executive Committee:

- ⇒ Neil Kraft, Dean; Mark Mathias, Sub Dean; Sue Craig, Secretary; Pam Davis, Treasurer
- ⇒ Dennis Johns, Denise Mathias, and Kathy Rupp, class of 2016
- ⇒ Ed Duling, Curtis King, and Joan McConnell, class of 2017



Please note: The board will be meeting soon to begin planning for next year's program. If you have suggestions of program ideas, we welcome your input! Talk to any officer or board member! And thank you!

Joan H. McConnell, Nominations chair

AUGUST AT THE PERISTYLE, 2015

Our chapter has been given an opportunity to showcase the Skinner organ in the Peristyle Theater of the Toledo Art Museum. We have been asked to provide performances of organ literature from 2:00-4:00 PM on Saturday, August 22. Our audience will be a “come and go” one, as folks are visiting the museum and may choose to come hear the music we are providing. Visitors to the museum will appreciate our offering, even within this casual setting.

After some discussion, the Executive Committee has decided to open this opportunity to all comers, with some cautionary provisos:

Performances will be in 15-25 minute increments

We want to bring our best recital literature (at whatever level we are performing)

We want to prepare well and play well!

Practice time on the instrument will be scheduled

Performers should practice setting pistons

quickly so that our performance time is not spent on this necessary (but not very interesting) activity

Sound like fun to you? Want to play the big Skinner?? I know I do!

Please get in touch with me and let me know of your interest. Send me your proposed program, including titles, composers, and approximate timings, and I will assemble our 2-hour program with as much variety and interest as you provide!

I would like to have your information by July 1. Send to Joan McConnell, 210 Coe St., Tiffin, OH 44883. Or email jmcconne@heidelberg.edu

Information about scheduling rehearsal times will be available closer to the event.

Joan McConnell, Member of Executive Committee

Job Postings....

Augsburg Lutheran Church

Toledo, OH

Organist: The skills needed include playing the piano and a 46 rank Aeolian pipe organ in a blended worship style. Must be able to read both music and chord charts. Current duties include playing on Sundays for the worship service at 9:30 am, lead rehearsals on the second and fourth Tuesdays each month, and playing for 7 special worship services throughout the year. Send resume and references to Lori Reid, lori.augsburg@sbcglobal.net or Augsburg Lutheran Church, 1342 W Sylvania Ave, Toledo, OH, 43612, Attn: Lori Reid.



St. John Lutheran Church

Dundee, MI

Minister of Music: The part-time Minister of Music will be responsible for providing organ and piano music for worship services and other church functions, including weddings and funerals. For a complete job description, contact St. John Lutheran's Organist search committee at officemanager@d-pcomm.net. Please include “ATTN: Organist search committee” in the subject line.

**CHERRY RHODES AND LADD THOMAS HONORED
BY THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
AT GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA GALA**

Celebration of the Lifetime Achievements of Internationally Acclaimed Organists and University Professors Raised \$60,000 Benefitting the AGO Endowment Fund

NEW YORK CITY — The American Guild of Organists (AGO) presented its twelfth annual Endowment Fund Distinguished Artist Award Recital and Gala Benefit Reception honoring Cherry Rhodes and Ladd Thomas on Friday, April 17, at the First United Methodist Church of Glendale, Calif., where Dr. Thomas has served as organist for 55 years. An audience of more than 500 colleagues, students, friends, and loved ones came together to celebrate the lifetime achievements of this dynamic musical couple.

The Gala was sponsored by the AGO National Council and its Development Committee in cooperation with the First United Methodist Church of Glendale. The event raised approximately \$60,000 to be invested in the AGO Endowment Fund in the couple's honor. Annual earnings from the Endowment support the educational activities of the Guild.

The honorees performed a recital that included Mendelssohn's Sonata No. 1 in F Minor (Thomas), Moussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition, transcribed by Jean Guillou (Rhodes), and combined their talents on the organ bench in a rare organ duet performance of The Sorcerer's Apprentice by Dukas, as arranged by Rayner Brown for their exclusive use. The Gala Benefit Reception followed at the Hilton Los Angeles North/Glendale Hotel with 200 guests in attendance.

AGO President John Walker, FAGO, presented the honorees with the AGO Endowment Fund Distinguished Artist Award "for their exemplary careers as stellar performers and passionate teachers, and their lifelong service to the AGO and the sacred music profession."

Established in 1994, the AGO Endowment Fund provides income to educate new organists and to cultivate new audiences for organ and choral music. Tax-deductible contributions to the Endowment Fund are invested in perpetuity to produce continuing income for essential Guild programs and educational projects. The AGO's annual Gala travels around the country to celebrate distinguished members of the organ world. Past AGO Gala honorees have included Marie-Claire Alain (New York City), Charles Callahan (St. Louis), David Craighead (Philadelphia), Gerre and Judith Hancock (New York City), Joyce Jones (Fort Worth), Marilyn Keiser (New York City), Marilyn Mason (Ann Arbor), Thomas Murray (New Haven), John Obetz (Kansas City), Frederick Swann (Los Angeles), and John and Marianne Weaver (Philadelphia).

Those unable to attend the 2015 AGO Gala will receive a copy of the commemorative program book with their contribution of \$50 or more to the AGO Endowment Fund. Contributions in honor of Cherry Rhodes and Ladd Thomas can be made online at Agohq.org or by mailing a check to: AGO Endowment Fund, 475 Riverside Drive, Suite 1260, New York, NY 10115. All gifts will be acknowledged in The American Organist. For information, please call 212-870-2311, ext. 4308, or e-mail gala@agohq.org.

AGO Toledo Chapter

Official Ballot for the Executive Committee
Spring 2015

Executive Committee, class of 2017-18 (3-year term)
Vote for two candidates

Marilyn Blackney _____

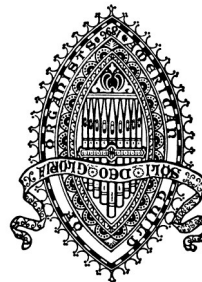
Melissa Flowers _____

Craig Whitaker _____

Other (write-in): _____

*Return ballot by May 20th to
Susan Craig, chapter secretary
2265 Scottwood Ave, Toledo, OH 43620*

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Toledo Chapter AGO
Anne Doerfler
4112 Talwood Lane
Toledo OH 43606

THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS