

AGO Toledo

bridging our musical past and future...



The Prelude

August 2015

DEAN'S MESSAGE

This summer got off to a rather slow start but revved up rather nicely once it got going! I hope all of our chapter members have found some relaxation and rejuvenation during these weeks! It slips by quickly!

Our Executive Committee and I have slaved over the planning of next year's program schedule, and we think we've come up with some pretty interesting offerings. You will find the programs for the year listed elsewhere in this newsletter. Please sit down immediately with your calendar or smart phone/electronic device and make a note of them! That's an order from your Dean!

We begin right away in September with another edition of the progressive dinner, which has been popular in past years. We skipped it last year and thought we'd give it another try this fall. In addition to your own involvement, we encourage you to invite friends and church members to join us for this program. It's is a great way to give folks an "up close and personal" look at the organ and how it operates. The plan includes some really great food along the way as well! Be sure to RSVP before the deadline. We want you there!

Several of our chapter members and I attended the Great Lakes Regional Convention – RACE TO INDY in mid-July at Indianapolis. It was a great convention, and I can say that because I have attended many over the years! The level of performance was staggering and the instruments played upon were truly inspiring! I wouldn't know where to begin to start naming names, but the convention planning committee deserves high praise for putting it all together! It is predicted that next year's national convention in Houston, Texas, will be off the charts "good"! You might want to give it a try!

I hope that everyone has paid their dues by now. We love you and need you in the chapter, and your dues help the chapter operate. Our chapter covers a large territory in NW Ohio, south past Findlay, east to Tiffin, Fremont, and along the lake, then west toward Indiana. We are NOT ONLY the Toledo metro area! It can be a real task gathering our folks together, but we do want to be as present as we can be to everyone. Let us know what we can do to be of service, short of chartering a bus!

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
Joan McConnell, Membership Chair	419-455-4666 jmconne@heidelberg.edu

PROGRESSIVE DINNER AND RECITAL

Friday, September 11, 2015

Perrysburg and Maumee churches

Join us for our opening event on Friday, September 11th! Once again we will have a Progressive Dinner and Progressive Recital, using three church venues and experiencing three organs in our area. Here are the details:

- 6:00- Gather at St Rose Church, 217 E. Front St., Perrysburg.
We'll meet in the basement for wine and cheese/appetizers, then head up to the nave at 6:30 for our first recital.
Organists: Charlotte Mariasy and George Blackney.
- 7:10- Carpool to First Presbyterian, 200 E. Broadway St., Maumee.
After a catered main course, we'll hear our second recital.
Organists: Wayne Whitten and Melissa Flowers.
- 8:20- Carpool to St. Paul's Lutheran, 112 E. Wayne St., Maumee.
After our third recital, we'll mingle over dessert and coffee.
Organist: Dennis Johns.

We plan to have a few minutes at each location for "open bench," so please bring your shoes if you would like to play!

Cost: \$15 per person; \$28 per couple (due at the event). This covers the main course and other incidental expenses.

RSVP to our Secretary, Susan Craig, by Sept. 1st at craigweg@aol.com (or 419-246-8674).

MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all who are interested in the organ. To become a member of the Toledo Chapter, contact Joan McConnell, Membership Chair.

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



TOLEDO CHAPTER AGO

~~~~~ Programming for 2015-2016



Friday, September 11, 2015 – PROGRESSIVE DINNER – Begins at 6 PM

St. Rose, Perrysburg (Garrett House organ) - Appetizers

First Presbyterian, Maumee (Moller/Bunn=Minnick organ) – Main Course

St. Paul Lutheran, Maumee (Rodgers digital) – Dessert

(Scholarship Auditions at Christ Presbyterian, Sylvania Ave. – *Sunday, September 27*)

Sunday, October 11, 2015 – Garrett Law, organist (Joint program with Sandusky Chapter)

4:00 PM at St. John Lutheran Church in Oak Harbor, Ohio (Schantz organ)

Coincides with Oak Harbor's Annual Apple Festival Weekend!

Sunday, November 22, 2015 – Marijim Thoene, organist – 3 PM

Joint program with Rosary Cathedral, Toledo Concert Series – (Skinner organ)

Collingwood Avenue

Monday, January 25, 2016 – MEMBERS SHARING RESOURCES – 7 PM

First United Methodist Church, Sylvania – (Schantz organ)

Saturday, February 20, 2016 – SILENT MOVIE NIGHT – Aaron David Miller, organ

7:00 PM – Community of Christ Lutheran Church, Whitehouse, Ohio

Finzel at Dutch Roads - Collaborating with Church Concert Series – (Reuter organ)

Sunday, March 6, 2016 – ANNUAL STUDENT RECITAL – Scholarship Awards – 3 PM

Christ Presbyterian Church, Sylvania Avenue, Toledo (Casavant organ)

Friday, April 15, 2016 – ORGAN EXCURSION led by Mark Muller – visiting Muller Organ

projects in Detroit suburbs and Southern Michigan – Lunch along the way -

Van transportation provided – Costs and details coming later!

Sunday, May 22, 2016 – SPRING CONCERT AND POTLUCK – Jacob Taylor, organist

4 PM – Organ recital at Trinity Episcopal Church, downtown Toledo

Chapter potluck dinner to follow in church social room – Chapter

will furnish entrée and beverages. – (Skinner/Casavant organ)

St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church, corner of E. Wooster and Mercer Streets, Bowling Green, Ohio, will present a service of **Evening Prayer** on *Sunday, September 20, 2015, at 4:00pm.*

Music for organ, violin and voice will be featured. The organ is a new Beckerath, built in Hamburg, Germany, which was installed in May 2015.

AGO TOLEDO MEMBERS' DIRECTORY FOR 2015-16

The new ONCARD system for paying dues gives us a way to update, correct, and collate member information. We (Joan McConnell and Pam Davis) are planning to use this system to generate our next Members' Directory, which we hope to have available at the September event. You can help us by going to your page in the ONCARD system (www.agohq.org/oncard) and making sure all of your information is correct. Alternatively, get in touch with one of us and tell us what you want to change. As chapter administrators, we have access.

Timeline: We plan to have the information updated by the end of August. Once that is done, we will post the new directory on the website. We will also print some copies to be distributed either at the September event or by mail. Anne Doerfler still has a list of people who prefer to receive AGO communications by mail; if you want to add your name to that list, please contact Anne.

Joan McConnell, Membership chair and Pamela Davis, Treasurer

AUGUST AT THE PERISTYLE...

TOLEDO AGO IN CONCERT

Saturday August 22nd will find a half-dozen chapter members on the bench of the Skinner organ in the Peristyle Theater of the Toledo Art Museum. (Not all at the same time, of course...)

Musical offerings will include everything from "Bring Him Home" (from *Les Mis*) to *Chant de Paix* (Langlais); and from Eugene Thayer's *Fugue on America* to the *Finale* from Vierne's Symphony #1. It promises to be a great concert, running just over 2 hours.

Please stop by if you can. The concert begins at 2pm and ends a bit after 4pm. Drop in for part, or stay for the whole!



Performers include George Blackney, Brian Bogdanowitz, Pamela Davis, Kevin McGill, John Roberts, and the Mathias duo. We thank them for their time and energy in preparing for this concert. Through their skill, I expect we will make a fine showing!

I actually had more volunteers than I could place in this program. But... GOOD NEWS! I have been assured that more Peristyle playing opportunities will be coming our way. So if you didn't get to play this time and you still want to, keep that repertoire fresh, and jump on the next train!

If you would like to share something yummy for either appetizer or dessert, please call or email me (Joan McConnell):
419-455-4666, jmcconne@heidelberg.edu.
I will also be making calls to you, so don't be surprised if you hear from me!

reinvest it to earn more significant interest. Thanks to recent memorial gifts and regular contributions from members, we have grown our fund to \$9150. Please consider a gift to our fund and help us to finally reach that goal. In preparation for that momentous event, Pam Davis is beginning to investigate better investment opportunities for that money. If you or someone you know has experience in this area and would like to help better grow our investment, please contact Pam at music@commofchrist.org or 419-346-0279. Thank you for your support of our scholarship program!



Pam Davis, Treasurer

Eugene Randall "Gene" Trombla, a long-time member of the AGO and, in recent years, a chapter friend of our Toledo Chapter, died on June 12 at age 92. A special write up in the Toledo Blade outlined Gene's many experiences in pursuing his passion for pipe organs. In talking with his wife, Claudia, I learned that Gene first studied organ as a teenager with Harold Harder, the first Dean of our Chapter. When Gene heard that his mother had signed him up for lessons with a man named "Harder", he wasn't sure he would want a teacher with that name! Eventually he found that Harold Harder, in spite of his name, was a very kind and good instructor. Harold Harder also encouraged Gene to join the AGO.



Gene's organ lessons were interrupted when he joined the Navy in 1943. On shipboard he obtained an organ, probably a portable reed organ, and played for chapel and special occasions. Upon his discharge in 1945, he studied music and organ at Oberlin Conservatory and later attended Bowling Green State University and the University of Toledo. Although his career path led him into teaching industrial arts, his heart was still with pipe organs. In the days before computers, he assembled our Chapter Yearbook/Directory meticulously, placing the ads he had procured and even making a template to put page numbers in just the right spot! I enjoyed working with him and learned a lot about wooing advertisers to support the book and increasing our operating budget.

It is an honor to recognize this very special, gentle man who provided a bridge to our first Dean so many years ago.

Anne Doerfler, Past Dean, Toledo Chapter AGO

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**1923 - 2015**

Eugene Randall "Gene" Trombla, age 92, of Holland passed away peacefully on Friday, June 12, 2015, at the Lutheran Village at Wolf Creek. He was born on May 30, 1923, to Thomas Eugene and Elfrieda (Hausdorfer) Trombla in Toledo. Gene's family was one of the earliest pioneers of the Maumee/Perrysburg area, settling along the shores of the Maumee River in 1819. He grew up in Maumee and graduated from Maumee High School in 1941. Gene was a veteran of the U.S. Navy serving in the Pacific Theatre in WWII. Gene's greatest passion was pipe organs; playing, installing, repairing, anything involving them. He attended The University of Toledo, The Oberlin Conservatory of Music and Bowling Green State College of Music. Gene was a sports car enthusiast, a member of SCCA and the Compass Club of Northwest Ohio. He was deeply interested in esoteric knowledge, loved nature and especially the "dappled" shade of an apple tree. Gene will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him.

Gene is survived by his loving wife of 57 years, Claudia (Mowery) Trombla; children, Mark Trombla and Alysia "Lisa" (Ali) Tromblay; grandchildren, Matt, Thomas, Chelsea, Gabriel and Raphael "Lungtok;" sisters-in-law, Mary (Richard) Kesling, Bonnie (Ronald) Simpson, Dorene Timiney and Bonnie Shrider, and many nieces, nephews and dear friends.

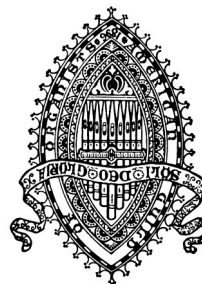
Those wishing to make memorial contributions are asked to consider the Toledo Harborlight Society or the Toledo Chapter of American Guild of Organists (AGO) scholarship fund.

## ***Job Postings...***

Hope Lutheran Church is seeking to fill its part time organist/accompanist position. The ideal candidate will be able to lead liturgical and congregational song at our traditional worship services on our Zimmer Pipe Organ (29 rank, 3 manuals, 4 divisions) as well as serve as the keyboardist for our praise worship and accompany the Senior Choir. Hope has 2 weekly worship services on Sunday Morning , weekly choir rehearsal during the program year and weekly praise team rehearsal. We are looking for a person of deep Christian faith who can work in a team setting. Position may be split into two for praise and traditional worship.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Toledo Chapter AGO  
Anne Doerfler  
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THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS