

The Prelude

OCTOBER 2011



NOTES FROM THE "OVAL OPHICLEIDE"



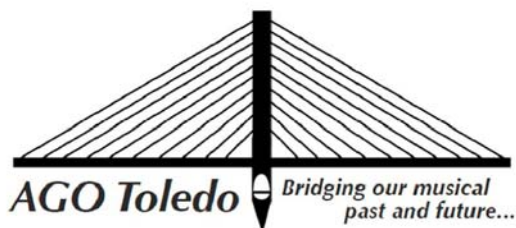
Our annual AGO Chapter Picnic was again held at the palatial estate of Bill & Beth Gill. Thanks to all who participated in this wonderful event. Nice weather, spectacular food and great fellowship were all the order of the day. October brings two special events to our chapter calendar. The first is the AGO Scholarship Auditions, on Sunday October 9th at 2:00 p.m. at St. Joseph Church in Sylvania. If you have not already done so, please notify any students, teachers, music chairs, etc. of this very important musical opportunity. Continuing the legacy of fine organists is one of our chapter's primary goals. The AGO scholarship is a wonderful program that affords current and new organ students the educational knowledge critical for musical success. Friday, October 14th is our *Progressive Dinner/Organs in the Hills* program which will include an entire evening of great music, fun, food, and some of the area's most scenic fall views. Churches scheduled for visit include: St. Michael's in the Hills, Epworth United

Methodist, and Hope Lutheran. All this for only \$10!!

Our new chapter website is up and running with some important additions scheduled for later this month. The membership list will be accessible to our members only via a password protected page. Our website and e-mail will be the primary tools for notifying our members of news and events. Please be sure that we have your correct e-mail address. I had previously requested that you e-mail me photographs of your church's organ for use as a rotator on our website. I received a number of pictures, but most were featuring the "organist" more than the "organ." I am again requesting photos of your church's organ. This time: a clean console (no stacks of music, candy jars, water bottles, Subway wrappers, etc.), digital format: JPEG, no organist, appropriate lighting, and a very brief description of the organ. (*III-35 Reuter installed in 1973*) Visitors to our website will enjoy seeing the tremendous variety of quality organs in our region. Our video project: *The Organs of Northwest Ohio* is still being planned, but funding sources are quite difficult at the present time. The total production cost will be \$6,500 and the grants that we have applied for have all been rejected. Any funding ideas would be most welcome.

The cool nights and changing leaves remind us all that autumn is upon us. Fall is certainly my favorite time of year, but it also reminds me that the special (and hectic) church seasons of Advent and Christmas are just around the corner. Now is the perfect time to begin planning and practicing.

Soli Deo gloria!



Terry Brassell
 Toledo AGO Chapter Dean
 TSGCOC@aol.com ♦ 419-877-6070

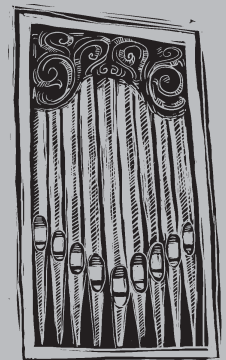
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Check-out our
 webpage at
www.toledoago.org

PROGRESSIVE DINNER IN THE HILLS

October 14th: Progressive Dinner in the Hills

Our October event is something truly to be enjoyed! We have planned a progressive dinner, featuring great food, fellowship, and a little bit of music, played on the organs of three beautiful churches in Ottawa Hills.

Dinner is being catered by KC caterers, with appetizers and dessert supplied by our own members. The cost of attending this event is \$10 per person, which will help to offset the expense of the meal and the transport.

Playing the organs will be: Cecil Baughman, Paul Haebig, Neil Kraft, Gayle McClellan, and Joan McConnell. In addition to the planned performances, we will have some time for "open bench." If you are interested in playing these instruments, please bring your shoes and a short piece that you think we'd like to hear!

To promote fellowship and give everyone a chance to relax and enjoy the evening, transportation for the event will be by trolley! We'll meet at Hope Lutheran to park our cars and board the trolley for a brief ride to St. Michael in the Hills Episcopal Church. The trolley will depart as close to 6 p.m. as possible, so try to arrive early. Here's the schedule:



- 6:00 p.m. Trolley departs Hope Lutheran, 2201 Secor Rd., Ottawa Hills
Arrival at St. Michael in the Hills for wine and appetizers
Brief recital: Paul Haebig, Joan McConnell; open bench
- 6:50 p.m. Trolley departs St. Michael for Epworth Methodist
Catered dinner
Brief recital: Cecil Baughman, Neil Kraft; open bench
- 8:10 p.m. Trolley departs Epworth for Hope Lutheran
Dessert and coffee
Brief recital: Gayle McClellan and a guest soloist
Departure to our homes from Hope Lutheran parking lot

Please RSVP to Marilynn Hazard (419-885-5624; marilynn3195@aol.com), by October 10 at the latest. Several of you signed up at the picnic, so we should have your names already. But if you're not sure that we have you, please contact Marilynn! The caterer wants an exact figure!

Hope to see you at HOPE!!

REMINDERS OF FALL EVENTS



SCHOLARSHIP AUDITIONS: October 9, 2011, 2:00 p.m.
at St. Joseph (Sylvania) Catholic Church
Applications were due at the end of September. But please contact Pam Davis if you know of any interested prospective students.

PROGRESSIVE DINNER AND RECITAL: October 14, 2011, 6:00 p.m.
at St. Michael Episcopal, Epworth United Methodist, and Hope Lutheran

"OF THEE I SING": November 6, 2011, 3:00 p.m.
at Historic St. Patrick Church
A patriotic concert to raise funds in support of Honor Flight.
Please save the date, and tell ALL your friends and neighbors!

THOMAS MURRAY HONORED BY AGO NATIONAL COUNCIL



*Celebration of
Brilliant Performer,
Teacher, and Friend
Raised \$30,000
to benefit
AGO Endowment Fund*

NEW YORK CITY – The American Guild of Organists (AGO) presented its eighth annual Recital and Gala Benefit Reception on Sunday, May 15, at Yale University in New Haven, Conn. An estimated audience of 500 colleagues, students, and friends came together to celebrate the lifetime achievements of Thomas Murray on the occasion of his thirtieth anniversary at Yale.

The gala was sponsored by the AGO National Council and its Development Committee. Major funding was provided by the Yale Institute of Sacred Music and Pemcor Inc. of Lancaster, Pa., printer of *The American Organist*. The event raised \$30,000 to be invested in the AGO Endowment Fund in Thomas Murray's honor.

The recital, which was played by Thomas Murray on the world renowned Newberry Memorial Organ in Woolsey Hall, was introduced by Craig Whitney, New York Times assistant managing editor (retired) and author of *All the Stops: The Glorious Pipe Organ and Its American Masters*. Professor Murray's program included Bach's Toccata in F Major (BWV 540), Sonata II (1937) by Hindemith, selections from Symphony I on Gregorian Themes (1932) by Guy Weitz, and the Symphony in D Minor by Franck, transcribed by Calvin Hampton. A reception, which was attended by 125 individuals, followed in the Yale President's Room.

Established in 1994, the AGO Endowment Fund provides income to expand programs for leadership development among AGO members; educate new organists; and cultivate new audiences for organ and choral music. Tax-deductible contributions to the Endowment Fund are invested in perpetuity to produce continuing income support for essential Guild programs and educational projects.

Those unable to attend the gala will receive a copy of the souvenir program book with their contribution of \$25 or more to the Endowment Fund. Contributions in honor of Thomas Murray can be made online at www.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 NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ORGAN PEDAGOGY

NEW YORK CITY – The American Guild of Organists (AGO) and the Eastman School of Music are partnering to produce the 16th biennial AGO National Conference on Organ Pedagogy, November 10–13, 2011, in Rochester, N.Y. The conference, designed in cooperation between the AGO Committee on Continuing Professional Education and the 10th annual Eastman Rochester Organ Initiative (EROI) Festival, will present the topic of organ improvisation through a variety of compositional techniques and styles. Complete information, including online registration, is available on the AGO website. Early registration discounts are available through August 15.

“The goal of the AGO's pedagogy conferences is to address various topics and issues pertaining to organ instruction in North America,” declared David Heller, director of the AGO Committee on Continuing Professional Education. “The City of Rochester and the Eastman School of Music, with its multiplicity of instruments and performing venues, will provide a superb setting in which to address the topic of improvisation from many different angles, providing information and resources that will be useful to all instructors of the organ at all levels of instruction.”

The four-day conference will present master classes featuring students at a variety of levels, panel discussions addressing the teaching of improvisation, and sessions that will provide attendees with resource material in the pedagogy of improvisation. The keynote address, *Why Is Improvisation So Difficult?*, will be given by Eastman faculty member William Porter.

A distinguished faculty of internationally renowned organists and teachers working in the discipline of organ improvisation will include Jeffrey Brillhart (Yale University), Tony Caramia (Eastman), Sophie-Veronique Cauchefeur-Choplin (Royal College of Music, London), Hans Davidsson (Eastman), Michael Dodds (University of North Carolina School of the Arts), Gerre Hancock (Butler School of Music, University of Texas), David Higgs (Eastman), Denise Lanning (Denver Chapter, AGO), Rudolf Lutz (Schola Cantorum Basiliensis), William Marvin (Eastman), Bruce Neswick (Indiana University), David Peckham (Horseheads United Methodist Church, Horseheads, N.Y.), McNeil Robinson (Manhattan School of Music), Pamela Ruiter-Feenstra (author of *Bach and the Art of Improvisation*), John R. Shannon (Sweet Briar College), and Daniel Zager (Eastman).

For further information, please contact please contact EROI Festival Coordinator Annie Laver at 585-274-1564 or e-mail anne.laver@rochester.edu.



Dear Colleagues:

I love the metropolis of Chicagoland and the treasure trove of Pipe Organs that it contains! Nothing gives me more pleasure than hearing them and singing with them surrounded by my colleague friends. I am writing today to ask of you a favor. I am chair of the Organ Historical Society National Convention which

will be held here in Chicago in July of 2012. First, I sincerely hope you will join us at the convention! Second, might I ask you to each invite one friend to join us from July 8 to 13 here in Chicago? What will be offered? Let me entice you!

We will hear two magnificently restored E. M. Skinners; one at First Methodist in Oak Park, played by the amazing Ken Cowan, and the second at the Music Institute in Chicago in Evanston. We will hear area native Nathan Laube play at the heroic Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, and also hear the Fisk at St. Chrysostom's in Chicago. We will see stunning venues like North Shore Congregation Israel, Emmanuel Episcopal in La Grange and Divine Word Chapel in Techny with its unique, literally, Wiener organ. Chicago treasure David Schrader will perform a pops concert at Orchestra Hall, and we will have an opportunity to hear the Estey Organ with its "cash register" console in the opulent environs of the American College of Surgeons. We will end the week traveling to Jasper Sanfilippo's stunning home for a concert on the world's largest Theater Organ!

We will also hear a magnum opus of Richard O. Whitelegg, the Tonal Director of the Möller Organ Company, the 1935 four-manual instrument in Carl Schurz High School. If you do not know this instrument, it is in an award-winning Prairie-Style building on the National Register of Historic Places, has an auditorium that seats 1,800, with three seconds of reverberation time, and the organ boasts a four-rank Furniture, a five-rank Cornet and a four-rank Harmonics stop (complete with Septième!) on the Great alone! Speaking of very special organs, we will see the beautifully restored Hook & Hastings at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Valparaiso and a very rare and late three-manual Hinners (yes, an Illinois builder!) as well.

We will hear the oldest organ in the city of Chicago; as well as an organ that was played each Sunday by Paul Manz. A remarkably pristine Kimball organ, built right here in Chicago, will be heard as well in the First Church of Christ, Scientist in Winnetka. We will also hear new organs by Pasi, Buzard, Berghaus and others.

For our guests from around the country, we will feature some of our finest local players including Wolfgang Rüksam, John Sherer, Cathryn Wilkinson, Stephen Schnurr, Derek Nickels, Elizabeth Naegele among many others. We will also have the opportunity to hear young players like the up-and-coming Nicholas Bideler, Adam Gruber and Madeleine Woodworth. Each organist will demonstrate the unique colors and potential of each instrument.

You will not want to miss this golden opportunity! I hope you will agree, you will also want to share it with your friends! For further information, please go to the convention website at <http://www.organsociety.org/2012/>.

I hope you will join us! All we need is YOU!

Dennis Northway, 2012 OHS Convention Chair

YPSILANTI PIPE ORGAN FESTIVAL PRESENTS

✧ Dr. James Hammann ✧
Sunday October 23, 2011 3:00 p.m.
First Presbyterian Church Ypsilanti
300 N. Washington St.
ypsipipes.org
FREE ADMISSION

Ypsilanti Pipe Organ Festival proudly presents organist and conductor James Hammann. Dr. Hammann will perform music by American Romantic composers Dudley Buck, James H. Rogers, James Houston Spencer, Felix Borowski and Horatio Parker who were active during the second half of the nineteenth and first part of the twentieth centuries writing in the Romantic idiom. With the exception of Parker these composers were residents of cities around the Great Lakes and all were active at the time the Jardine Organ at First Presbyterian Church Ypsilanti was built.

After 20 years with the University of New Orleans Hammann has recently retired from his position as Co-Chairman of the Music Department. He now resides in Iowa Falls, Iowa, where he is the proud owner of an historic Lustron home. Dr. Hammann holds degrees in organ performance and church music from Ohio Wesleyan University and The University of Michigan. His teachers include Rexford Keller, Robert Clark and Marilyn Mason. Hammann has performed throughout the United States. He has given over one hundred performances of his one man show "Old Bach." His conducting credits include stints with Chapel of the Holy Comforter, New Orleans, The New Orleans Civic Symphony, The Allen Park Symphony and the Southeastern Michigan Choral Society. His five CD's of organ music recorded on historic instruments in Germany and the United States have won rave reviews. His recently released CD "Dudley Buck Organ Music" was performed on the 1866 E. & G. G. Hook organ at St. John's Episcopal Church, Quincy, Illinois.

Random Pippings

SATURDAY EVENING OCTOBER 15 HANDS FOR HAITI BENEFIT CONCERT.

Sally Mossing will perform original piano selections, with Rini Ng - cello and Carolyn Loebig - flute joining Sally for the second half of the program. The Sylvania Franciscan Chorus will sing, and three members of the "Haitian Folkloric Dancers" will also perform.

Desserts will be served from 7:00-7:30 p.m., with the **concert beginning at 7:30 p.m.** in the Franciscan Theatre and Conference Center (the gathering area outside of the auditorium) at Lourdes University in Sylvania. Funds raised through a free will offering taken that evening will assist the Sisters of St. Francis Mission in Haiti in providing cisterns, advanced agricultural help, continued mobile medical clinics, and a new sewing center. There are future plans to build a guest house that will provide for visiting medical teams. Questions, call the Conference Center 419-824-3975, or e-mail Sally at sjmossing@embarqmail.com.

Two collections are now available with Sally Mossing's piano arrangements. Both are published through Augsburg Fortress. The first titled *Christ Be Our Light* has 9 hymn tune-based arrangements, and 3 original compositions. The second collection just came out this summer and is shared with many other composers titled *In Heaven Above*. Sally has three arrangements in this overall collection of 75 piano selections - *Be Not Afraid*, *Prayer of St. Francis*, and an original piece written for Alice Smallman, *Resting In His Arms*. Some of the published music will be performed at the Benefit Concert in October. The music will be available for purchase at the concert with half of the proceeds going to the Haitian ministry.

Need a Sub? A new member, Dr. Pamela Stover, is interested in doing some substitute organ work until she finds a position in the Toledo area. She comes to us from southern Illinois and is Assistant Professor of Music Education in the Department of Music at the University of Toledo. She is Research Chair of the Illinois Music Educators Association. Pam is also Region 5 Coordinator of Professional Development for the AGO. She can be reached by email at Pamela.Stover@utoledo.edu or by phone at 618-525-9709.

Congratulations
Sister Mary Ellen Nagle
on your 60th Jubilee
as an Ursuline Sister!

CONTACT INFORMATION

Terry Brassell, Dean 419-877-6070
TSGCOOC@aol.com

Joan McConnell, Sub-Dean 419-455-4666
jmconnne@heidelberg.edu

Martha Esbin, Secretary 419-535-6257
marthaesbin@buckeye-express.com

Marilynn Hazard, Treasurer 419-885-5624
marilynn3195@aol.com

Rev. Ronald J. Diener, Chaplain 734-847-2416
rjdiener@buckeye-express.com

Anne Doerfler, Membership Chair 419-474-9143
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.

NEWSLETTER & E-MAIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

WEBSITE

www.toledoago.org

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!!!

David Banas, M.D. who is interested in substitute opportunities and also in finding a position in Toledo. His cell phone is 440-382-8407 and email is dabanas2003@yahoo.com.

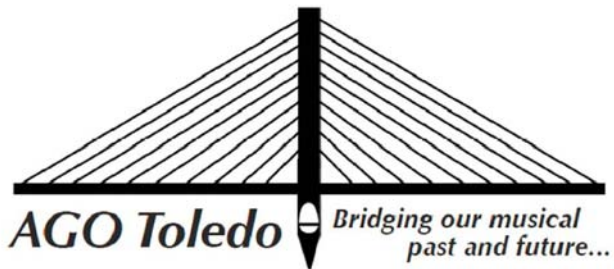
Mark and Denise Mathias, 419-708-6953. Mark is Director of Music Ministries/Organist at Christ Presbyterian Church. Denise is Director of Music at Monroe Street U. Methodist Church.



James P. Leek, 440-775-4111, President and Organ Builder, Leek Pipe Organ Company.

Welcome!

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.



**NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER ARTICLES
ARE DUE ON OCTOBER 21.
SEND TO JACKGERDING@AOL.COM**



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Toledo Chapter AGO
Anne Doerfler
4112 Talwood Lane
Toledo OH 43606



THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

HANDS FOR HAITI MUSICAL BENEFIT

Sisters of St. Francis
Mission in Haiti



**Saturday,
October 15, 2011**

7:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Desserts & Beverages

7:30—9:00 p.m.

Franciscan Theatre &
Conference Center

Questions, call
Franciscan Theatre
& Conference Center
at 419-824-3975

Featuring:

Sally Mossing

Original Piano Music

Joined by flutist,

Carolyn Loebig

and cellist, **Rini Ng**

Haitian Folkloric Dancers

Kerlyne & Kawine Clermont

Ashley Pierre-Louis

**Sylvania Franciscan
Chorus**

Free Will Offering

Concerts at First Presbyterian

Present

Sunday

October 16, 2011

3:00pm

Diane Bish
First Lady of the Organ

also joining Diane
her former Student and
Assistant at Coral Ridge
Presbyterian

Kevin Calloway

"The Organist"

Selections include:

Festival Te Deum

by Diane Bish

And

Symphony No. 1

by Alexander Guilmant

Plus other solo
arrangements



Advance Tickets

\$20.00

Available in the church office

Phone (248) 644-2040 or

www.everybodyschurch.org

or \$25.00 at the door

Group discounts available

All ticket requests subject to availability

First Presbyterian Church of Birmingham

1669 West Maple Road • Birmingham, MI 48009 • (248) 644-2040 • www.everybodyschurch.org

Diane Bish



"Diane Bish is a worldwide ambassador for the organ and its music. We can be thankful to Diane for the many friends she has won for the organ."

The American Organist

"Her playing is virtuosic and solidly musical...she blasted the crowd out of its pews in a whooping standing ovation."

The Boston Globe, Massachusetts

"An organist of extraordinary technical skills..."

San Francisco Examiner, California

"A dazzling display of flying fingers and feet."

Grand Rapids Press, Michigan

"Her playing is sure-fingered and secure, her ornaments were impeccable and her tempi very bright."

The Evening Star, Washington, DC

"the organist's virtuosity was most striking in the scorched earth complexities of Vieme, Widor and Pietro Yon."

The Chicago Tribune, Illinois

"She presented a stunning concert which displayed her virtuoso technique and showmanship...it is not for nothing that Bish is called 'The First Lady of the Organ.'"

The Post and Courier, Charleston, South Carolina

"Diane Bish is one of the few organists in today's world to enjoy star status."

The Ottawa Citizen, Canada

"Organist Diane Bish's performance was as much a happening as a concert...She brought sparkling playing (as well as dress) that completely captured the crowd."

The Winston-Salem Journal, North Carolina

"...Bish proved to be an audience charmer from beginning to end with her playful introductions and anecdotes. She is formidable virtuoso, and the program provided her with many opportunities to display her impressive technique..."

Green Bay Press-Gazette, Green Bay, Wisconsin

"Organist extraordinaire."

Milwaukee Sentinel, Wisconsin

"Diane Bish demonstrated why the organ is the king of instruments and why she is the queen of organists."

Topeka Capital-Journal, Kansas

"Diane Bish is a solid musician who knows her business."

Richmond Times-Dispatch, Virginia

Diane Bish is the most visible and influential classical organist performing today. Concert and recording artist, composer, conductor, and international television personality, Diane Bish displays her dazzling virtuosity and unique showmanship the world over to international acclaim. Her organ performances are hailed as "stunning, virtuoso, fiery, and astonishing."

Miss Bish's unparalleled achievements as a young performer gave her the credibility and determination to launch The Joy of Music international television series in 1982 as a platform for awareness and appreciation of "the king of instruments." Broadcast to over 300 million people around the world each week, The Joy of Music combines exhilarating organ and ensemble performances with an informative, inspirational narrative and exciting world travel. The Joy of Music boasts over 500 episodes featuring famous cathedrals, concert halls, churches and organs. This tremendous outreach to the general public on behalf of the organ and Diane Bish's longevity as a leading recitalist distinguishes her in the world of music.

In 1989, Miss Bish was awarded the National Citation by the National Federation of Music Clubs of America. Considered to be the Federation's highest honor, Diane Bish shares this rare distinction with such legends as Leonard Bernstein, Eugene Ormandy, Van Cliburn, Robert Shaw, Irving Berlin and Fred Waring in receiving this award "for distinguished service to the musical, artistic, and cultural life of the nation."

A consummate church musician, Diane Bish served as senior organist and artist-in-residence at the Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, for over 20 years. While at Coral Ridge Church, she led the design of the 117-rank Ruffatti organ, distinguished as one of the great organs in America. She was instrumental in developing one of the country's first church concert series and creating an annual church music workshop for musicians around the world. In her book Church Music Explosion, Miss Bish shares her philosophy of excellence in church music.

Miss Bish has recorded on the foremost organs of the world and was the first American woman to record on the four organs of Freiburg Cathedral, Germany. Featured on over 30 of her recordings are music for organ and orchestra, brass and organ, great organ masterpieces, organ and harp, original works, and hymn arrangements.

The sparkling creativity and artistry of Diane Bish is equally evident in her compositions. She has composed numerous solo pieces, arrangements, and full symphonic works that have received much acclaim and are performed regularly due to her ability to combine musical quality with accessibility.

Her list of creative projects also includes the Diane Bish Signature Series by Allen line of digital organs. Working closely with the technicians and designers at Allen Organ Company, Miss Bish beautifully combined her musical vision and expertise with the superior technical design of the Allen Organ. Many Diane Bish Signature Series Organs have been installed around the country and are available through the Allen Organ Company.

Diane Bish began her study with Dorothy Addy in Wichita, Kansas, and continued as a student of Mildred Andrews. She was a recipient of Fulbright and French government grants for study in Amsterdam and Paris with Nadia Boulanger, Gustav Leonhardt and Marie Claire Alain. Diane Bish: First Lady of the Organ by Warren Woodruff was published in 1993. Diane Bish is represented worldwide by JEJ Artists.

JEJ ARTISTS

Janet Jarriel
Personal Representative

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