



American Guild of Organists

Chartered 1896

European Chapter

Chartered 1979

Newsletter October 2011

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The Dean's Corner

Dear European Chapter Members,

Your European Chapter Board met in October in Koblenz, Germany to discuss the business of the Chapter. Some of the topics we discussed you will encounter as you read through this newsletter. The **YORK, ENGLAND SPRING MEETING 2012 INVITATION** tops the list. Please read it carefully and **please** let us know already if you are planning, or even just hoping to attend. Our English members in charge of this meeting, Mike Irvine, John Falkingham and John Swindells have done an outstanding job to get the next Spring Meeting planned well in advance, especially for the benefit of our members. I do hope we will show them our appreciation by responding as soon as possible.

Membership in the European Chapter sits proudly and happily right now between 90 and 100 members. However, wouldn't it be fantastic to be able to greet member 100 during the next few months? In the meantime, it is a great pleasure to welcome our **eleven** new European Chapter members: Tatiana Baer from France, Ben Bloor from England, Jane Errera, Paul Finnerty, Christa Rakich and Daniel Razionale from the USA, Carmen Moschitta and Onnalee Roehrs from Germany, Nicole Ortega from France/Spain, Saska Stoutmeijer-de Vries from the Netherlands and Hayley Waddel from Belgium. What an international group! We look forward to getting acquainted with these new members in the "Introducing Our Members" column in

future newsletters, as well as hopefully meeting them in person in York during the week after Easter! Also, may I call your attention to the Membership Report in this newsletter for details about European Chapter membership.

Last, but not least, in the name of your European Chapter Board, I want to extend a big thank you TO YOU, our members and friends, for the many messages and letters of support and encouragement you've sent throughout the year. We appreciate the feedback and want you to know we are pleased to work for you!

With best greetings and heartfelt wishes for a truly happy 2012 AGO year, full of wonderful music and wonderfully inspired music-making,
Judy

The Secretary's Voice

Dear Members,

Our Chapter has so much diversity, maybe that's what our new members find so attractive. Of course in internet you can maybe find people with similar interests, but how much easier it is to connect with colleagues throughout Europe and the United States through an existing forum. This advantage gets coupled every year with the unique opportunity to meet these people in person in an environment especially tailored to the common interest. And much of the cost of participation is even footed by the institution! Read about this and much more in the following pages. Be sure to sign up for the Spring Meeting right away and feel free to submit information for the upcoming issues of this Newsletter. Wishing you all a good read !

Bernard

**Please submit your items for the next
Newsletter before Dec. 24th !**

Bernard
bernard.sanders@t-online.de

News from the Board

Dean and Membership Coordinator:

Judy Riefel-Lindel
judith.riefel-lindel@wanadoo.nl

Sub-Dean: Johan Hermans
j.h.o@skynet.be

Secretary and Newsletter Editor:
Bernard Sanders
Bernard.Sanders@t-online.de

Treasurer: Charles Baer
charlesbayer2000@yahoo.com

Members at large: Elmar Jahn
elmarjahn@web.de
Giorgio Parolini
info@giorgioparolini.com
Ann Elise Smoot
aes@aesmoot.com

Web-Master: Tanja Hermans
tatyana.hermans@telenet.be

Support your Board, be an active Member!

Membership Report + “grow the guild”

Membership in the European Chapter is at an all-time high. As of October 2011, we have a total of 96 members. This total includes all categories of membership: Regular, Special, Student, Partner, Dual, Chapter Friends and Honorary members who live in Germany, France, Spain, Italy, Vatican City State, Belgium, the Netherlands, Denmark, Lichtenstein, the Republic of Moldova, Switzerland, Norway, Scotland, England, Australia, Canada and the USA (Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Oklahoma, Arizona, Colorado, Montana, Washington and Oregon). The steady growth of the European Chapter can be seen in the membership figures:

2003	28 members
2005	54 members
2008	66 members
2010	87 members
2011	96 members

In order to continue this growth, I invite all of our members to be aware of the National AGO sponsored contest “**grow the guild,**” which began on June 1st, 2011, and will run through May 31st, 2012. The European Chapter has registered for this event and we can proudly announce that since we have already achieved a growth of 2% this year, we will be entered into the drawing for the three prizes at the end of the campaign. Terrific! However, is it not an idea to set ourselves a new goal of increasing that percentage to be able to reach a membership number of 100 for the first time in the history of the European Chapter? Your board invites you to personally go in search of potential new members and invite them to join the AGO. Future newsletters will keep everyone posted on the results!

European Chapter Spring Meeting 2012 in York, GB

If you're interested in combining a stay in one of England's prime tourist destinations with a chance to sample an eclectic mix of English organs, then the Spring Meeting 2012 is for you!

Plans are now well advanced for a rich and varied week based in the medieval walled city of York, in the north of England. We'll be staying in the heart of the city, within easy walking distance of the train station, which is directly linked to the major international airports of London and Manchester.

We plan to hear and play a wide range of instruments in terms of size and tonal design, located in cathedrals, churches, chapels, concert halls and private homes of modest to stately proportions. Members will gain an exciting and varied taste of the English organ scene past and present, whilst also sampling historic cities, countryside locations and even a visit to the coast! This will be

a real week of contrasts, including familiar and innovatory events - not to be missed!

Spring Meeting 2012 will convene on Monday April 9th for an evening dinner at our hotel, The Queen's Hotel, York, which overlooks the River Ouse right in the centre of the city.

On Tuesday April 10th our focus will be entirely on organs within the city centre. From the many fascinating instruments on offer we have selected the following:

Central Methodist Church

IIP 43 Wood Wordsworth 1967

St Olave's

IIP 43 Principal Pipe Organs 1986

All Saints Pavement

IIP 54 Wood Wordsworth 1964

All Saints North Street

IIP 15 Forster & Andrews 1867

with a grand finale for the day planned at the largest gothic cathedral in Northern Europe, York Minster, with its IVP 84 Hill/Harrison & Harrison/Walker/PPO organ dating originally from the nineteenth century. Here members will have a favoured opportunity to play a particularly fine example of an English cathedral organ whilst viewing one of the top tourist attractions in our country.

The following day, Wednesday, April 11th, we'll be using coach travel to explore a range of mainly larger instruments located to the east of York. Beginning with the landmark neo-baroque 1969 Grant, Degens & Bradbeer IIP 31 in the concert hall of York University, we will then travel to the historic market town of Beverley. Here we plan to visit Beverley Minster, a cathedral in all but name, with its impressive IVP 73 instrument begun by Snetzler in 1769, with later rebuilds and additions which have preserved his original pipework. After lunch we shall have a brief visit to hear the IVP 73 Forster & Andrews organ in St Mary's Church before taking our coach to the City of Hull.

Here we hope to introduce you to one of the most renowned concert hall organs in England. First built by Forster & Andrews in 1911 the City Hall organ has 141 stops disposed across four manuals and pedals.

Apart from all the predictable tonal colours, which are in abundance, here you will have the chance to try out a remarkable range of orchestral and percussion effects which caused great controversy at the time of its design.

On leaving the City Hall, we then have the option of visiting the IVP 104 Forster & Andrews instrument in Holy Trinity Church, which we may visit before driving to the home of Mr. & Mrs. Paul Derrett for a buffet meal and chance to play their five manual house organ. (No, that is not a misprint!)

On Thursday April 11th we'll be travelling to the west of York to visit instruments in the cities of Leeds and Ripon. No organists' itinerary for this part of England should be without a visit to St Bartholomew's Armley with its IVP 57 instrument begun by Schulze in 1866 and worked on most recently by Harrison & Harrison in 2003. After this we shall visit Mill Hill Unitarian Chapel (IIP 39 Norman & Beard 1910) before sampling the controversial Klais IVP 51 rebuilt in Leeds RC Cathedral in 2009. We shall end our day in style with a visit to Ripon where we will hear and play the cathedral's IVP 59 Lewis/Harrison before introducing you to a traditional Yorkshire supper of fish and chips (fries!)

The final day of our meeting takes us deep into the Yorkshire countryside to the north of York and to the coast, to visit three very special instruments. After a leisurely start, we will drive to Ampleforth Abbey to visit their IVP 104 Walker organ, built in 1961. Here the main transept organ is supplemented by an antiphonal organ at the west end of the Monk's Choir and also by a Trumpet Argentea in a recess above the High Altar. Although this might be a threat to the tranquil surroundings of the Abbey we're sure you will enjoy its rural location before travelling with us to the coastal town of Bridlington. Here, the Priory Church Anneessens has recently been rebuilt by Nicholson to provide a IVP 76 which cannot be missed.

Continuing the tradition of ending our week together in a memorable evening location, we have booked a visit with the English aristocracy! Sledmere House, between Bridlington and York, is the ancestral home of Sir Tatton & Lady Sykes as well as being home to a fine IIP 51 Binns organ of 1928 vintage. Our visit will begin with a short demonstration of the organ, after which members will be free to play or tour the house and gardens before our buffet supper. This will be followed by musical entertainment, after which we shall bid our farewells for another year.

We hope that the above details have secured your interest in joining us in April 2012 and know you will understand that they may be subject to last minute minor changes. We have reserved an option on accommodation for approximately 40 members at The Queen's Hotel, York. The sooner you book, the more likely it is that you will be able to secure a room in this hotel with the rest of the party, so we do encourage you to make your plans without delay. Please note that we lose the option on unbooked rooms early in 2012. Booking details are as follows:

Arrival 09 April 2012

Departure Saturday 14 April 2012

Room Selection of twin (8 maximum)/
king size double / single

Twin/king size double @ £104.00 per
room per night dinner, bed and breakfast
on the 9th April

Twin/king size double @ £77.50 per room
per night bed and breakfast 10th April
onwards

Singles @ £83.00 per room per night
dinner, bed and breakfast on the 9th April
Singles @ £69.00 per room per night bed
and breakfast 10th April onwards

All rooms are fully en suite and have direct dial telephones, flat screen digital TV, tea/coffee facilities and free wifi. A limited number of king size double superior river view rooms are available at an extra £10 per room per night.

Booking is made directly with the hotel as follows:

Contact: Mrs. Kim Green, Group Manager,
The Queen's Hotel, York
Email: Kim Green at sales@queenshotel-york.com
Telephone: Mon to Fri 8.30am to 3.30pm
GMT on +44 (0) 1904 650699

You need to quote the booking reference 295906 or 'Guild of Organists' so that the correct booking reservation option is accessed. On Monday, April 9th, your booking is for dinner, bed & breakfast, whilst from Tuesday 10th onwards it is for bed & breakfast only. Please provide your full contact address, contact telephone number, 16 digit credit/debit card number, expiration date and security number. Full pre payment will be taken from the card details provided approximately three working days prior to arrival with receipts issued on arrival.

Once your hotel reservation is confirmed please send an email to John Falkingham at john.falk24@tiscali.co.uk stating the names of those attending and the dates of your arrival and departure. Please also copy this email to Judy at judith.riefel-lindel@wanadoo.nl This will secure your place(s) as a member of the Spring Meeting 2012. Please feel free to use John's email address if you have any questions.

As usual, Chapter funds will subsidise much of our activity during the week. Never-the-less, registration for members will be free of charge. Non-members will be charged €20 but have the option of taking up Chapter Friend Membership for €15 or even becoming full-members. There will be an additional charge for all participants, payable in sterling currency in York, to cover transport and the several meals which we will all take together. We will be able to let you know nearer the time what this charge will be.

We look forward to hearing of your booking soon and to welcoming you to England next Spring!

John Falkingham

Mike Irvine

John Swindells

October 2011

Members' News

Jens Korndoerfer took second prize as well as the special prize for the best performance of Franz Liszt's "Weinen, Klagen, Sorgen, Zagen" in the final round of the Second Canadian International Organ Competition.

Concordia Publishing House commissioned **Bernard Sanders** to compose an organ work commemorating the 9/11 terror attacks ending in the destruction of the World Trade Center in New York. The ensuing composition is a Partita on the Hymn-Tune MENDELSSOHN. The melody is from Mendelssohn's choral setting of the text "Verleih' uns Frieden gnädiglich". The hymn text, "Grant Peace, We Pray, in Mercy, Lord", is a translation of this. The piece was premiered by Dr. Sharon L. Hettinger in St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Kansas City, Missouri, on September 11th, 2011 – exactly 10 years after the tragedy.

Carolyn Shuster Fournier wrote an article on the recently restored Cavallé-Coll/Mutin/Gutschenritter organ at Saint-Jean de Montmartre. It will be published in the American *Diapason*.

Giorgio Parolini not only has a website at www.giorgioparolini.com he is also on Facebook. In 2012 he will be playing concerts in Germany and France and is available for other concerts. For more information write to

info@giorgioparolini.com

Our Member **Otto M. Krämer** extends an invitation to all fans of organ music for the Organ Fall events in Straelen. See the following website for details.

<http://www.geistliche-musik-straelen.de/programm-Orgelherbst-2011.html#HenryFairs>

Christa Rakich of Boston performed a Benefit Concert on the new Jäger & Brommer organ in St. Petrus & Jakobus major in Nendingen, Germany. This follows her participation in the Hook Festival in Berlin where she also played the opening concert. The concert in Nendingen began at 8 PM on Wednesday, October 26th.

Introducing Our Members

In each issue we'd like to introduce another member. Send us your resumé for inclusion!

Recitals Past and Present

*You can advertise here for your concert engagements to come as well as report those past.
Please submit items for the next Newsletter !*

Sept. 18 th	6 PM	Otto M. Krämer, Organ (Impro.)	Catholic Church, Moers-Meerbeck (D)
Sept. 29 th		Bernard Sanders, Organ + Brass Ensemble Works by J. J. Mouret, F. Mendelssohn, J. S. Bach, B. Sanders	St. Trinitatis, Cologne (D)
Oct. 9 th	4 PM	Giorgio Parolini, Organ	St. Eufemia, Milan (I)
Oct. 16 th	5 PM	Otto M. Krämer, Organ (Improvisation)	St. Hubert, Kempen (D)
Oct. 30 th	5 PM	Carolyn Shuster Fournier, Organ	American Church, Paris (F)
Nov. 6 th	4 PM	Otto M. Krämer, Organ (Improvisation)	St. Aposteln, Köln (D)

Nov. 19th 7 PM Gianfranco and Margaret DeLuca, Organ
Sts. Valentino & Damiano, San Valentino (I)
Works by Frescobaldi, Merulo, Sweelinck and Haydn

Dec. 16th Bernard Sanders, Organ St. Petrus & Jakobus major, Nendingen (D)
Organ Music by Bernard Sanders for the Advent and Christmas Season
(all works taken from the CD-recording "Berceuse")

2012

Jan. 15th 4 PM Carolyn Shuster Fournier, Organ Saint-Roch, Paris (F)
Noëls by d'Aquin and Balbastre.

Feb. 18th 9 PM Giorgio Parolini, Organ St. Martino, Vergiate (Varese) (I)

Every Saturday (11:30)	Organ Music at Market Time	Marktkirche, Wiesbaden (D)
	Hans Uwe Hielscher and guest organists from around the world	

