

American Guild of Organists

Chartered 1896

European Chapter

Chartered 1979

Newsletter July 2017

1. ***The Dean's Corner; The Secretary's Voice;***
2. ***News from the Board (including Spring Meeting News!)***
3. ***Members' News***
4. ***Introducing our Members; Humor***
5. ***Recitals Past & Present***

The Dean's Corner

Dear European Chapter Members,

Your July newsletter is here! I know you've been waiting for the announcement of our **Spring Meeting 2018** and you will find it in this newsletter. Details will be forthcoming in future newsletters, but if you have questions already, don't hesitate to write to Johan Hermans, the organizer, and I'm sure he'll do his best to answer them for you. Easter 2018 falls on April 1st, so the dates of the Spring Meeting 2018 will be 2-7 April. Mark your calendars now (!) and do your best to join your fellow European Chapter members for this SPECIAL time together. This will be the European Chapter's 19th Spring Meeting, so if you've never had the chance to attend before, let Spring Meeting 2018 be your first!

May I extend to you, our members, a heartfelt **THANK YOU** for renewing your membership in AGO and the European Chapter for the new AGO year 2017-2018. It is very exciting to report that only a tiny number have not yet been able to renew. Wonderful! And, of course, **THANK YOU**, John, for all the hours of work needed to properly record everyone's renewal information. This is very much appreciated by us all.

And now, let me WELCOME three new members: **Christopher Holman**, an American who will arrive in Europe in August to study at the Schola Cantorum in Basel; **Gerwin Hoekstra**, a Dutchman returning to Groningen from study at Oberlin in Ohio and **Oliver Tjabben**, a German from Ostfriesland who has just finished high

school and has been accepted to study music in three different cities in Germany, however has not yet decided which one to choose. To all three, we look forward to meeting you! And to our members: Watch for news of these three talented young organists in the "Introducing Our Members" column in our newsletters. Also, let me encourage our members who might live near any one of these three new members to make contact with them. I'll be happy to provide contact information.

Just a little refresher for us all: The American Guild of Organists currently has a membership of approximately 15,500 divided among 300 Chapters in America and abroad. The European Chapter was the first chapter to be chartered outside the USA and is still unique among AGO chapters in that our chapter members live not just in one city, as is usual for AGO chapter members, but our members are spread out all over Europe and the USA. What a network of organ friends and colleagues is available to our members! Have a lovely Summer!

Judy

The Secretary's Voice

Dear Members,

The Newspapers sometimes have a lull during the Summer when there's not quite so much going on. I noticed it a little bit, but the Board has been so active, it almost made up for it! This issue may have fewer pages than most, but lots of important and interesting news. Have a good read and a have a good Summer!

Bernard

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Please submit your items for the next
Newsletter before September 30th !

News from the Board

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Support your Board, be an active Member!
Please note that the e-mail addresses are formulated with (at) in place of @. This is to foil the efforts of electronic "phishing" for such information on-line. In order to use the addresses please insert the @ before adding them to your address book. Thank you !

Spring Meeting 2018

Your European Chapter Board members have made the unanimous decision to accept the offer of our Sub-Dean, Johan Hermans, to be the organizer of our Spring Meeting 2018 in **Belgium and the southern part of the Netherlands!** Johan says, "I'm happy to accept this responsibility!" Great organs and venues in the area of Hasselt - Maastricht - Helmond (Eindhoven), Liège and Antwerpen are awaiting you. You'll explore instruments of splendid builders such as Niehoff, Binvignat, Le Picard,

Robustelly, Schyven, Cavaillé-Coll, Metzler, Schumacher and Thomas. The historic, picturesque cities in this area will charm you as well.

Make your plans now to come to Belgium and southern Netherlands during the week after Easter, 2-7 April, for our Spring Meeting in 2018!

European Chapter AGO

Address corrections

The newest members will be posted on the Membership List 2017-2018 coming out soon!

Update from our Webmaster

Our Chapter now has a **Facebook page!** Not only that, but all the photos from our Spring Meeting have been put up there as an album. Follow this link:

<https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.1291359287568257.1073741830.912597592111097&type=1&l=5c5fd786b0>

It is public, so people who are not on FB can see it too. There are no pictures from the last stop on Friday or from the closing dinner – if anyone has some to share, please send them to me. Also, a group photo would make a great cover photo for this page . . .

Barry

The European Chapter Web Site

can be visited at:

www.agoeurope.eu

See Newsletters from 2000 until present and pictures from the Spring Meetings !

Membership Update from our Registrar

The period from early May to late June is an especially interesting time in the role of Chapter Registrar, for this is the time that I get into a flurry of close email correspondence with the large majority of our over 140 members! For most of these, their membership dues become payable before the end of June, so the challenge is to successfully encourage as many as possible to make their payments before their membership expires.

With friends and contacts from all over Europe, the USA and much further afield, this gives my email account a truly international flavour! And what a pleasure it is to correspond with so many super people!

This year the response has been tremendous! Never before have we had so many of our members respond with their payments before the deadline, so securing the benefits of their membership for a further year. My sincere thanks to all! You have made my job so much easier by replying and paying so readily and quickly!

This year we have had the added twist that TAO magazine is now available online as well as in the print version, so we have needed to know from each and every full member, which version they would prefer. And almost all of you have told me – thanks! You may be interested to know that your preferences are divided almost equally between the two options.

For those of you who live within the eurozone, we continue to prefer your payments in euros into the Chapter account in Germany, rather than in dollars through ONCARD. The income in euros is especially helpful in funding our European Spring Meetings. So please keep the euros flowing in!

Finally, may I remind the small number of you with membership renewal dates other than the end of June, to look out for your renewal reminders from Headquarters and to make your payments promptly when the time comes.

I hope to see many of you at our next Spring Meeting in April 2018, meanwhile, warmest wishes to all.

John Falkingham
Registrar

Mission Statement

The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to enrich lives through organ and choral music. To achieve this, we:

- Encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music;

- Inspire, educate, and offer certification for organists and choral conductors;
- Provide networking, fellowship, and mutual support;
- Nurture future generations of organists;
- Promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles; and
- Engage wider audiences with organ and choral music.

Members' News

John Bertalot will be going to St. Matthew's Northampton for the 30th of July when his two former choirs (Northampton and Princeton) will combine for the Sunday morning Parish Mass. There he shall be conducting his arrangement of *Soul of my Saviour* which was written for the Bournemouth Festival in April this year. (At its first performance during the Sunday morning Eucharist, the congregation burst into spontaneous applause! Please see below.)

Upon this occasion the honorary title of *Organist emeritus* will also be bestowed upon him. The parish priest, Fr. Nicholas Setterfield, wrote, "in recognition not only of your tenure as director of music here from 1958-1964, but also as a sign of our appreciation for your on-going support and interest in the musical life of the parish" and formally invited him to come for the occasion. Setterfield wrote further, "It promises to be a particularly exciting occasion sonically and, I'm sure, spiritually as well."

John attached a copy of the above mentioned motet to be shared with our members – free! [Attachment: Bertalot, John: Soul of my Saviour, Northampton. Be sure to notify him if you perform it!]



Three compositions by **Bernard Wayne Sanders** were recently accepted for publication by the Christoph Dohr Verlag in Cologne, Germany. “Pèlerinage” (2005) for Violoncello (or Trombone) and organ is a work in six movements which utilizes some contemporary effects. “Rhapsodie Nr. 3” for Trumpet (or Clarinet) and Organ bears the subtitle “Incline your Heart” (Proverbs, 2.2) and was written in 2013 to celebrate 20 years of concertizing with the Trumpet player Dr. Martin Weidner, a good friend from Wermelskirchen, Germany. “Epitaph” (2008) is a larger composition in one movement for Violoncello (or Bassoon) and Organ. They will be released in the coming months.

Introducing Our Members

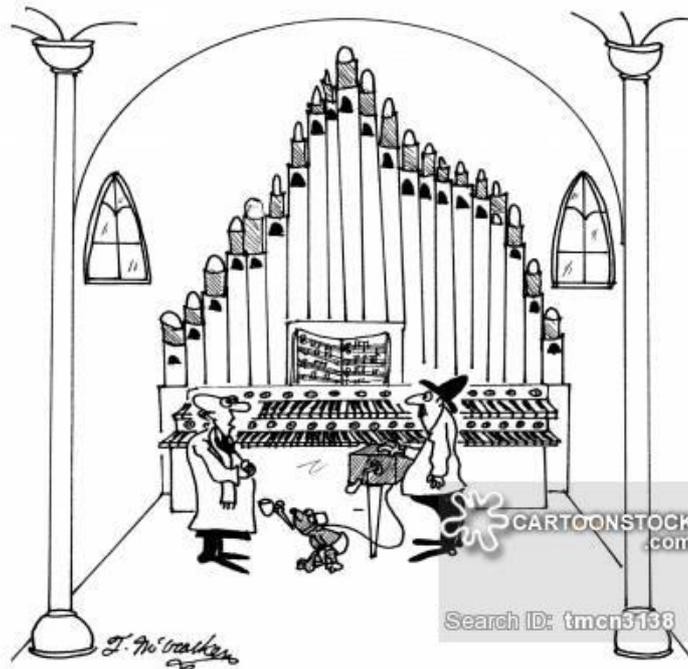
Christopher Holman, age 25, joins the European Chapter from Houston, Texas, where he was the Organist at Christ the King Lutheran Church, Principal Keyboardist for the Bach Society Houston, and a Staff Pianist at Houston Grand Opera. His move to Europe was made possible by winning a major grant from the

Frank Huntington Beebe Fund, which allows him to research and perform on historic organs throughout the Continent for at least a year. He and his wife Cynthia are based at the Schola Cantorum Basiliensis in Basel, Switzerland, and Chris is currently researching renaissance tablatures by Hans Kotter and Fridolin Sicher (whilst also brushing up on his German!). Prior to his most recent appointments in Houston, he received the Master of Music Degree in Organ Performance from the University of Houston, and Bachelor of Music Degrees in Organ and Vocal (countertenor) Performance from the University of Illinois, studying with Robert Bates and Dana Robinson (organ), Charlotte Mattax and Matthew Dirst (harpsichord), and Cynthia Haymon (voice).

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

Humor

(Many Thanks to Bram Stoutmeijer for this !)



“You're not what we had in mind when we advertised for a new organist.”

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 !***

July 1 st		Jennifer Chou, Organ	Marktkirche, Wiesbaden (D)
July 1 st		Jennifer Chou, Organ	Christuskirche, Schlangenbad (D)
July 4 th	11 AM	Rhonda Edgington, Organ	Youngstown, OH (USA)
		Collaborative Concert with Flute and French Horn, and solo organ works for the 2017 AGO Great Lakes Regional Convention Music by (North) American composers: Rachel Laurin, Libby Larsen, Henry Martin, William Bolcom, Margaret Sandresky, Emma Lou Diemer	
July 7 th		Jennifer Chou, Organ	St Peter & Paul Anglican Church, Godalming (UK)
July 9 th	3 PM	Giorgio Parolini, Organ	Klosterkirche, Stiepel-Bochum (D)
July 12 th		Jennifer Chou, Organ	Christiankirke, Copenhagen (DK)
July 14 th	6:15 PM	Giorgio Parolini, Organ	St. Leonhard, Basel (CH)
July 30 th	5 PM	Giorgio Parolini, Organ	Dreifaltigkeitskirche, Gräfenhein (D)
Aug. 1 st	12 noon	Giorgio Parolini, Organ	Schlosskirche, Wittenberg (D)
Aug. 3 rd	8 PM	Giorgio Parolini, Organ	Michaeliskirche, Hildesheim (D)
Aug. 5 th		Rhonda Edgington, Organ	First Baptist Church, Hudson, MN (USA)
		Concert on the 1864 Jardine Organ for the Organ Historical Society National Convention Music by (North) American composers: B. W. Sanders, Margaret Sandresky, Amy Beach, Norterto Guinaldo, William Dayas, Rachel Laurin, Daniel Pinkham, Carson Cooman, Arthur Foote	
Aug. 11 th	8:15 PM	Giorgio Parolini, Organ	Münster, Überlingen (D)
Aug. 13 th	4 PM	Giorgio Parolini, Organ	Basilika, Weingarten (D)
Aug. 16 th	8:30 PM	Martin Welzel, Organ	Konstantin-Basilika, Trier (D)
		Works by Percy Whitlock: 5 Short Pieces (1929), Organ Sonata in C minor (1936)	
Aug. 27 th	8 PM	Rhonda Edgington, Organ	Grace Episcopal Church, Holland, MI (USA)
		Concert on the (brand new!) Martin Pasi Organ (2017) with music by (North) American composers: Margaret Sandresky, Rachel Laurin, Daniel Pinkham, Carson Cooman	
Oct. 14 th	9 PM	Giorgio Parolini, Organ	Chiesa S. Maria, Cuneo (I)

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

