



PALO ALTO/PENINSULA CHAPTER AGO

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NEWSLETTER—JULY/AUGUST 2010

FROM THE DEAN

Dear Chapter,

Hope you are well and enjoying a bit of peace and quiet this summer. As Alice Walker says, music is always bookended by silence. Summer is that time where can be most hopeful about sneaking in, or setting apart, some delicious quiet time. Despite the crickets or leaf-blowers, depending on where you happen to be, please enjoy the rests in music and in life.

I was remiss in my last letter by not mentioning several people who have joined our chapter in the last year in addition to Bruce Nickerson: Peter Bassford, Brad Croushorn, Rodney Gehrke, Lucas Johnson, Beatrice Martin-Spangler, and Mike Morganstern. My apologies. We are so happy that you have joined us, and we hope to see you at our special BBQ to celebrate our 20th anniversary.

Yes, our 20th anniversary! We were founded in 1990 right after the Loma Prieta earthquake by a handful of organists at Stanford. If you have any stories or mementos, please share them with us at this special anniversary barbeque. Afterwards we will hold a general assembly, and I'll try to keep it under an hour.

On the agenda, among other items, are an update on the SF regional convention, a trip Sebastopol to play the

Sahlin organ, a membership phone drive introduced by Catha, and a vote on an amendment to our operating procedures that, in Matthew's words, "anytime we would pay a chapter member, we would do so deliberately and transparently". I hope you be a part of the decision making.

This special anniversary barbeque and will take place on Sunday, September 5 (Labor Day Weekend) at 1 p.m. at Christ Church, Portola Valley. Thanks to Matthew and David for offering us their church. Don't feel obliged to bring anything to the barbeque, though your additions are always welcome. We will have enough food for everyone. Please bring your significant others and perhaps clothes for a leisurely stroll at Windy Hill.

Congratulations to Rachel Phillips for just earning the Service-Playing Certificate! If *you* are practicing accompanying an anthem for AGO certification, bring a few copies of the anthem, and we'll sing for you. This would be the perfect informal setting to play for a friendly choir, or get a little advice on any aspect of certification. Kudos to all those who are working on that!

Last time we met we enjoyed a luminous members' recital celebrating the birthdays of Mendelssohn, S.S. Wesley, and Schumann on the 2006 Letourneau at First Congregational in Palo Alto. As usual, our chapter gave an

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In Concert

Hector Olivera

Sunday, August 15, 2010
3:00 P.M.

Grace Episcopal Cathedral
San Francisco

Free

A collection will be taken for the youth education programs of The American Guild of Organists

FROM THE DEAN, *continued*

impressive show replete with cantabile and flourish. Many thanks to Ethan, Jay, Angela, Mary Frances, Matthew, and Keith who performed, and to Joe for the organ. It takes a great deal of commitment to learn a new piece, especially some of these pieces, and then perform it. Thanks for making this such a success.

And what is so rare as a day in June?
Then, if ever, come perfect days;
Then Heaven tried the earth if it be in tune,
And over it softly her warm ear lays.

James Russell Lowell

Thanks to everybody for a wonderful year, and see you in September, if not in D.C., at Grace Cathedral on August 15 to hear Hector Olivera, or around town.

RANI FISCHER

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 5: CHAPTER EVENT!

1:00 p.m. Anniversary Barbeque (*see Dean's letter for details*). Christ Church, 815 Portola Rd., Portola Valley.

FOR ADDITIONAL CALENDAR LISTINGS *please see the San Francisco Chapter's Bay Area Concert Calendar at the following site: <<http://tinyurl.com/yzcqfdf>>.*

CHRIST CHURCH

815 PORTOLA ROAD

PORTOLA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA 94028

REFLECTIONS OF A REGIONAL CONCILLOR



Can it actually be six years since the installation of the National Council, of which I was a part, at The Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels during the 2004 National Convention in Los Angeles? Have there really been Las Vegas and Tucson Midwinter Conclaves and a Phoenix Rising Festival for which I was a member of the Steering Committee? Is it possible that the 2011 convention in San Francisco is so far along in its planning? What about all the wonderful chapter events that occurred, including Pipe Organ Encounters? As the saying goes, "Time flies when you're having fun." Being on the AGO National Council and working with so many dedicated volunteers from the various chapters in the United States and overseas have been high points of my life. Thank you, dear colleagues, for your support, your creativity, your inspiration and the donation of your time and your talent. I may be riding into the sunset as Regional Councillor, but I shall look forward to the crossing of our paths at future Chapter, Regional and National events.

With gratitude and admiration,

FRANCES (FRANKIE) NOBERT, DMA

AGO Region IX Councillor 2004-2010