



PALO ALTO/PENINSULA CHAPTER AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

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NEWSLETTER—JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2012

FROM THE DEAN

Dear Chapter Colleagues:

"People look east, the time is near of the crowning of the year." So begins the familiar Advent carol written by Eleanor Farjeon (also the author of "Morning Has Broken") in 1928.

Her verse continues "Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table;" however, I suspect that for many of us choir directors and organists this time of year is one for programming repertoire, practicing voluntaries, and rehearsing singers—and that our hearth and table barely get noticed in the busy weeks before Christmas!

So is the peculiar seasonality of our work, and although I wish you all the very best in your holiday musical preparations, I also invite you to look forward to summer, a season when we are generally less busy. Specifically, I encourage you to consider being part of the 2012 AGO National Convention taking place July 1st-6th in Nashville, Tennessee. Registration is now open online at www.ago2012.org, and before February 15th is available at a discounted rate of \$350 (\$300 for seniors, \$200 for students)—plus \$130 for the bus package. I will be there, and hope you will join me.

I realize that when you include the expense of a hotel and air travel, attending a national convention comes at a sizeable cost; however, I do urge you to consider the benefits of a week of world-class organ and choral performances, workshops that teach practical skills, a unique set of exhibits by music publishers, and the opportunity to meet colleagues from around the world. Although most congregation's budgets are tight, I encourage you to ask for a modest professional development allowance to make your attendance more manageable; if that's not an option, remember that your expenses in attending will often be tax-deductible.

Since my last newsletter article we have enjoyed two marvelous chapter events: a spectacular recital by Adam Detzner (who will be performing



in Nashville) and a superb master class by Frederic Blanc. Attendance at both these events was very strong, due in no small part to the tremendous work of our Sub-Dean David Sheetz, to whom I am tremendously grateful. The first two programs of the new year promise to be equally spectacular: a master class on the Stanford organs with Robert Huw Morgan on January 9th, and a repertory-sharing afternoon on February 11th in the idyllic Woodside Village Church. Please join us!

The second verse of Farjeon's carol reads: "Furrows be glad, though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there; give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish." I trust that your strength will sustain you through this busy time, and that you and those you touch through your music-making will flourish in the new year. May it be a time for renewal, growth, delight, and discovery for us all.

Best wishes, Matthew

UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS

MASTER CLASS WITH ROBERT HUW MORGAN
Monday, January 9th, 7:00 p.m.

Stanford Memorial Church
450 Serra Mall, Stanford

REPERTORY SHARING SESSION
organ and choral
Saturday, February 11th, 4:00 p.m.

Woodside Village Church
3154 Woodside Road, Woodside

You are invited to an **Organists' Winter Party** at the home of Rani Fischer and David Rogers, 665 Endicott Dr., Sunnyvale, on Sunday, January 29th, 3:00-7:00 p.m. Drop by whenever you please. You may bring something or not. Feel free to invite your special friends. Those with allergies, be aware that we do have a cat and a dog. Please let Rani know that you are coming by emailing her at ranifisc@gmail.com or calling (650) 793-4849.

A FABULOUS FALL WITH PAPENAGO!

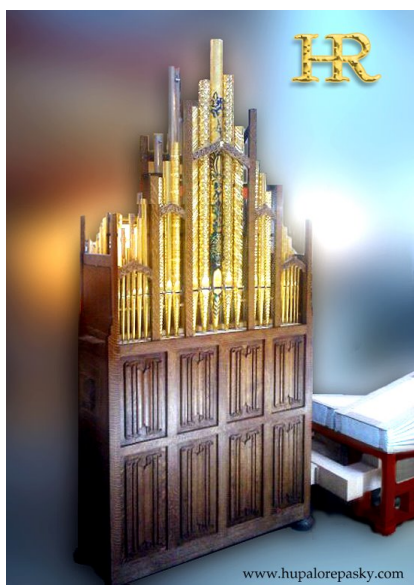


Adam Detzner, winner of the 2011 Quimby/AGO Regional Competition for Young Organists, plays the Flentrop organ at All Saints Episcopal Church in Palo Alto. Detzner is a sophomore at Stanford University, studying with Robert Huw Morgan. He will play a “Rising Star” recital at the AGO National Convention in Nashville next summer.

Frédéric Blanc, organist at Notre-Dame d’Auteuil in Paris, led a workshop on French improvisation at the First Congregational Church of Palo Alto in November. Executive board member and workshop participant Sarah Wannamaker sits at the Letourneau console, pondering the master’s wisdom.



... LEADS TO A WONDERFUL WINTER!



On Monday, January 9th, 7:00-9:00 p.m., at Stanford Memorial Church, Robert Huw Morgan will lead his annual master class for our chapter. The Murray Harris, the Fisk-Nanney, and the Hupalo & Repasky Tudor organs will be available. If you are interested in playing, please contact David Sheetz (dasheetz@comcast.net) to be added to the list.

Saturday, February 11th, at 4:00 p.m., Dorothy Straks will be our host for an organ and choral repertory sharing session at Woodside Village Church, 3154 Woodside Road, Woodside. A no-host dinner option follows.

Please join us and share your latest “treasures” or “finds” with your colleagues. Music for Lent and Easter are especially appropriate. If you are sharing a choral piece, please bring about twenty copies of the score and be prepared to conduct the assembled throngs. If you are presenting an extended work, please be prepared to excerpt it, if necessary, so that everyone who wants to can present. The instrument is a three manual Moeller. Please contact David Sheetz (dasheetz@comcast.net) if you are interested in presenting.



OFFICERS

Palo Alto/Peninsula Chapter AGO July 2011-June 2012

Matthew Burt, *Dean*
David Sheetz, *Subdean*
Douglas Franks, *Secretary*
Jill Mueller, *Treasurer and Registrar*
The Rev. P. Kempton Segerhammar, *Chaplain*

Members-at-Large:
Donald Mulliken & Sarah Wannamaker
(Class of 2012)
Jay Martin, Webmaster & Keith Wannamaker
(Class of 2013)
Tim Getz, Newsletter Editor
(Class of 2014)

CONCERT LISTINGS

Sunday, January 22, 2:30 p.m.

Hector Olivera

Los Gatos High School Theatre, Los Gatos

lgcca.org

Saturday, February 4th, 5:00 p.m.

Susan Jane Matthews and friends

Organ rededication concert celebrating the
restoration of St. Paul's 1929 Skinner organ

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Burlingame

Sunday, February 19th, 4:00 p.m.

Augustana College (Rock Island, IL) Symphonic Band
Grace Lutheran Church, Palo Alto

Saturday, March 3rd, 4:00 p.m.

Choir School Concert

Saint Paul's Episcopal Church, Burlingame

Sunday, March 4th, 4:00 p.m.

David Rothe

St. Bede's Episcopal Church, Menlo Park, \$10/8

Sunday, March 11th, 4:00 p.m.

Angela Kraft Cross

St. Bede's Episcopal Church, Menlo Park, \$10/8

Sunday, March 18th, 4:00 p.m.

Katya Kolesnikova

St. Bede's Episcopal Church, Menlo Park, \$10/8

Sunday, March 25th, 4:00 p.m.

Rodney Gehrke

St. Bede's Episcopal Church, Menlo Park, \$10/8

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

SUBSTITUTE ORGANISTS

Are you available on Sunday mornings to serve as a substitute organist? Can you recommend someone wonderful? We are currently compiling an updated (and hopefully, expanded!) substitute list. Please contact Don Mulliken (dammulliken@aol.com) with name, email address, and phone number. We all know that good subs are in short supply; please help us locate the gems of hidden talent lurking in or near our area!

SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO:

The Pear Avenue Theatre, 220 Pear Avenue, Unit K, in Mountain View is putting on a play about organists in April! This is a tiny, yet fabulous, little theatre across from the Shoreline movie complex. Contact Rani Fischer (ranifisc@gmail.com) if you are interested in going, and maybe we can make a group (though there is not group discount). Here is the description of the play from their website, www.thepear.org.

Bach at Leipzig by Itamar Moses, April 6th-22nd. Six men in wigs and knee breeches—all named either Johann or Georg—converge on Leipzig in 1722. Each Johann/Georg has his eyes on the prize position of organmeister of the Thomaskirche. Madness of a comically German variety ensues, as witty barbs and historical allusions zip around the stage like nobody's business. It's a *possenhaft lustspiel* (laff riot)!

POSITION AVAILABLE

Organist, First Presbyterian Church of Monterey. Thursday evening rehearsal with chancel choir and Sunday morning service at 10:30. First Presbyterian has a long history of excellent, classical music in worship. Contact Director of Music John Koza, 831-320-5085.
johnkoza@comcast.net

The PAPenAGO newsletter is published bimonthly in September, November, January, March, May, and July. Submissions (concert listings, job announcements, articles, etc.) are welcome and are due the 10th of the month preceding publication. They may be sent to editor Tim Getz at tim@gracepa.org.

**Palo Alto/Peninsula Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
remaining 2011 - 2012 Program**

Monday, January 9th, 7:00 p.m.

Stanford Memorial Church

Robert Huw Morgan, University Organist

Master Class

(Contact David Sheetz if you wish to play: dasheetz@comcast.net)

Saturday, February 11th, 4:00 p.m.

Woodside Village Church, Woodside

Repertory Sharing, organ & choral

no-host dinner option following

(Contact David Sheetz if you wish to present: dasheetz@comcast.net)

Tuesday, March 13th, 7:00 p.m.

Hope Lutheran Church, San Mateo

Christian Lane, Assistant University Organist and Choirmaster, Harvard University

Winner, 2011 Canadian International Organ Competition

Master Class for Young Organists

Saturday, April 28th, 3:00 p.m. (Note change in date!)

Los Altos United Methodist Church

Composer's Forum—Paul Rosas, coordinator

no-host dinner option following

Monday, May 7th, 6:00 p.m.

Transfiguration Episcopal Church, San Mateo

(joint event with San Francisco AGO)

Samuel Soria, Organist, the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels, Los Angeles

Master Class, demonstration in hymn improvisation and accompaniment

potluck dinner to begin

Saturday, June 2nd, 4:00 p.m.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Burlingame

Members' Recital

no-host dinner option following