



EN CHAMADE



Winchester Chapter American Guild of Organists October 2020 Newsletter

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dean
Sub Dean for Programs
Sub Dean for Membership
Secretary
Treasurer
At Large
At Large

Immediate Past Dean

Ms. Linda Beville
Dr. Steven Cooksey
Dr. Alan Moser
Ms. Wendy Oesterling
Mr. Ricky Gearhart
Ms. Marcia Merry-Baker
Ms. Marilyn Shenenberger
Ms. Carol Westervelt
Dr. Heather Ankerbrand

Newsletter Editor

Mr. Daniel Hannemann
misterdan51@gmail.com

Webmaster

Ms. Emily Bentgen
ebentgen@mac.com

Our website:

winchesterago.com

Program Committee: Steven Cooksey, chair

Linda Beville, Beverly Clark, Marilyn Shenenberger

Membership Committee: Alan Moser, chair

Heather Ankerbrand, Daniel Hannemann

THE DEAN'S MUSINGS

WOW! I NEVER KNEW THAT ABOUT YOU!!

Interviews, Leadership experiences, and a Church Director's best practices

I write this message to our WAGO membership shortly after we concluded a stellar program honoring five of our members who have recently retired. There were testimonials from colleagues and tidbits about where their retirements will take them. But the core of the program was a 10-minute video interview for each. It was a member-to-member chat that could have been over a cup of coffee. Our pairings were: **Tom Mitts with Heather Ankerbrand; Karen Keating with Daniel Miller; Marcia Merry Baker with Steven Cooksey; Terry Sisk with Marcia Merry Baker; and Richard McPherson with me, Linda Beville.** And, we were delighted to have [Elizabeth George](#), the National AGO Director of Member Engagement and Chapter Development as our guest. I don't mind telling you that she positively glowed about what we were doing!

I am sad that I hadn't time to develop rich collegial friendships with each. And, I am humbled by the achievements and reputations of each one honored. I was so much impressed that I think we should do this periodically with any member who would like to share his or her unique career. We have been asked about making the video clips available; please check your (2) recent e mails from Heather Ankerbrand, who sent these to all members this past week. We encourage your viewing/reviewing!

(continued)

Sunday, October 18 at 3:00 p.m. will be “**Spending Time with Wayne Wold**”.

Wayne is Professor Emeritus, College Organist and Chair of the Music Department from Hood College, Frederick, MD. He holds a Doctorate in Musical Arts from Shenandoah University and is a National AGO officer, as he is our Mid-Atlantic Region Councillor. AND he is newly a dual member of the Winchester Chapter of the AGO. The program will be in two parts: **A.** Dr. Wold’s life experiences, background, writings, compositions, editions, teaching and professional experiences, and **B.** Trends and happenings in the National AGO and the Mid-Atlantic Region, plus time for questions. **Beverly Clark** will play selections from his book of Advent pieces called “Light One Candle”.

From spending time with **Terry Sisk**, one of our recent retirees, came an offer of a series of articles for the newsletter about the challenges in adjusting to a dramatic change in job description. Terry had to reorient the goals, techniques and practical considerations that came from working with a huge music program, then suddenly finding himself in a medium sized church with a small choir with limited time for rehearsal. Terry draws on his broad professional experiences to offer time-saving suggestions that will still allow for excellence in choral literature. There is much to digest in studying his articles which are scheduled for inclusion in October and November’s newsletter. It will be time well spent as we wait to get back to working with our choirs.

Music is a highly competitive idiom. Sometimes it seems the dichotomies are self-defeating: educator vs. performer; senior artist vs. young, fresh talent; highly accomplished vs. basic skills. Yet, from reading the many positive reactions I have received about our WAGO programs, I came to an epiphany about what our task is as members of the AGO. It is more about relationship and individual value. Maturity in artistry and academic excellence will be the connection but I am convinced that we are on a better path when we invest in knowing people as well as being fixated on the musical art form and advanced technique.

I encourage you again to call a colleague just to check in. Considering that zooming would probably not be anyone’s first choice for a meeting format, it has given us a way to stay in our easy chair and see all our friends virtually face to face.

Blessings!

Linda



Linda Beville



October ZOOM Meeting

featuring

Dr. Wayne Wold



**Our nationally known organist, clinician, author,
and amiable Regional Councillor joins us
for a discussion of current events in the AGO
and his many published compositions
and other works, plus Q & A time.**



Sunday, October 18



3:00 p.m.

**Watch your e mail for connecting information
using the phone number 389-754-2370**

Practical Matters

Time-saving rehearsal tips & ways to overcome budget shortfalls

By chapter member **Terry Sisk**

I resigned from my most recent church job in April, about six weeks after our last corporate worship service on March 8 – *thanks, Covid-19*. I was 71 years old, and with no choir there was practically nothing to do, so I decided to wrap things up and transition to a future of subbing. Since early 2014 I had been working as a part-time organist/choirmaster at a 300-member Presbyterian Church in Leesburg – two Sunday morning services with a sanctuary choir of 18 and a 2-manual pipe organ. Fairly typical.

Prior to that, however, for 23 years I had been a full-time Music Associate at a 2,500-member Presbyterian church in the Tysons Corner area. Their sanctuary choir numbered more than 100 voices (27 altos! – paid section leaders!), and there was an in-house orchestra (half of them Fairfax Symphony players) that accompanied major choral works three times a year. I was blessed with a brand new 3-manual pipe organ of 42 ranks. 11 musical ensembles, a music staff of 15 – three of us full time. Sometimes I get tired just thinking about it.

So I had a major adjustment when I moved to my job in Leesburg. My relocation was the result of stepping up to oversee the care of an aging parent with multiple health issues from which there would be no recovery. Long story short – I took this job having no experience choosing repertoire for a small volunteer choir while playing a temperamental 9-rank organ with one independent pedal stop.

Prior to my arrival the choir had been singing contemporary anthems – not praise music, but newly-published anthems of the disposable sort – performed only once, because the quality did not warrant repeat performances (sacred music publishers *love* those churches). In browsing bulletins from the previous few years, I was astonished that I had never heard of most of the composers. However, by mid-December our choir was able to perform an hour-long musical service that included a German Baroque Christmas cantata accompanied by a 9-piece chamber orchestra. When I was planning my first September-December music schedule, I was too naive to think such an ambitious concert might not be possible.

But we succeeded, and I think some of the measures it took to get us there might be of use to some of you, because I don't think our situation was unique. I observed that the music program at our church had pretty much gone to sleep, and I decided to shake things up a bit. So here goes.

Budget issues

I had inherited a \$1,200 annual music budget. I knew immediately that I didn't want to spend that meager amount on choral scores – I wanted to spend it on instrumentalists and vocal soloists. I

decided to solicit individual donors for new anthems, placing a credit line in the Sunday bulletin acknowledging the donor each time a sponsored anthem was performed. It began with a few choir members donating the cost of new anthems, but it soon caught on with the general congregation. I was careful to program these works when the donors would be present, so they could bask in glory time and again for a paltry 70 bucks.

When I needed to hire a vocal soloist, I again solicited the congregation to sponsor him/her. “Miss Jones appears under the generous sponsorship of Mr. & Mrs. Smith.”

For the four or five of you who don’t know about St. James Music Press, this anthem resource is the bargain of all time. For \$139 a year, you get access to a library of 2,000+ sacred anthems of varying styles and levels of difficulty, searchable by liturgical occasion (A, B, & C years) and voicing (SATB, SAB, SSA, Children’s choir, 2-part, etc. – you get the picture). An important plus is that nearly all of its offerings are offered with an amateur live recording in MP3 format. Regardless of the size of a choir, SJMP gives blanket permission to print as many copies as desired, *without limit*. Permission is granted to print all texts in church bulletins, to post video performances to YouTube or church web sites, etc. Really. There is a lesser amount of handbell music, organ solos, instrumental pieces (usually keyboard plus instrument), festival hymn arrangements spiced up with parts for brass, even entire musical services crafted for your use. There is no law that says you have to give SJMP credit for your canned service of Tenebrae or Lessons and Carols; let them think you spent all that time designing the service yourself. Each piece is delivered by e-mail as a PDF file – all you have to do is photocopy until you have enough for your needs. You and your pastor can powwow to make these services fit your denomination and worship format.

Go to sjmp.com to check it out.

Here are but three examples. Browsing the SJMP resources, I came upon a centering hymn anthem composed by Thomas Pavlechko. At the time his name was new to me, but he soon became an old friend, even after he left the Lutherans in Austin for the Catholics in Dallas (go figure). Use a browser to locate:

<https://www.sjmp.com/catalog/voicings/congregation>

...and scroll down about 20 listings until you find SEEK FIRST GOD’S KINGDOM (no subscription required to browse). Click on the green preview icon at the right and listen to the recording as you scroll through the score. There are multiple ways to perform this anthem, with or without congregational participation. Our first try was as a choral introit. I had the choir singing the hymn melody in unison while sopranos took the descant on repeat sections; the organ accompaniment filled in the rest. Programming it about three times a year, it became a favorite call to worship/choral introit, a snap to learn, practically easy enough to sight read. Subsequent performances were done in 4-part harmony with a single voice on the descant.

A meatier option is a Baroque Advent/Christmas cantata (17 minutes) by Johann Kuhnau, Bach’s immediate predecessor at Leipzig. “Uns ist ein Kind geboren” (*To Us a Child Is Born*) is offered in a

fine new English translation arranged with a reduced accompaniment of just 2 violins and organ (string parts included); there's an opening sinfonia (instrumental), three short choruses and one solo apiece for alto, tenor and bass. The text for the second chorus comes from the Psalms – *With Joyful Songs I'll Praise the Name of the Lord* – allowing it to be used as an out-take, a general anthem useful any time of the year. The third chorus is an easy-to-learn chorale (*Alleluia! Give praise to our God! For unto us a child is born, Emmanuel*) that can be used on a subsequent year for the Sunday on or closest to Christmas Day. For more than a hundred years this cantata had been attributed to J. S. Bach as BWV 142, so keyboard-only accompaniments are readily available from cost-free sources such as IMSLP (go to imslp.org, search BWV 142, then under SHEET MUSIC, click on VOCAL SCORES for the 1890 Beikopf und Härtel edition, now in public domain; the text is in German); download for free. As performance time drew near, I used this keyboard-only accompaniment during rehearsals so that the choir could grow accustomed to the instrumental ensemble sound.

An important time-saving advantage to using SJMP is that it's OK to photocopy to your heart's content. I would print out a single copy, then mark all breaths, placement of final consonants, rests – any and all useful indicators – and only then make photocopies for the choir. That way every choir member had the same markings as my copy, and anyone missing a rehearsal would not be at a disadvantage. Ponder how much rehearsal time this can save.

At first I spent many hours searching the SJMP site, establishing a library of new music that our choir enjoyed singing and our pastor and congregation loved hearing. After 6+ years of using this resource, I'm convinced that SJMP is the best repository of sophisticated 2-part anthems for those dreaded "lean" Sundays, like the first Sunday after a public-school break when only 8 choir members show up. None of them sounds like a children's choir anthem, and few of them are gimmies. Check out Carlton Russell's 2-part "*SERVING IN PURENESS AND TRUTH*":

<https://www.sjmp.com/catalog/music/serving-pureness-and-truth>

Best of all, I had spent only \$139, leaving \$1,061 of my budget for other things. I scoured our existing choral library for old reliables ("With a Voice of Singing", Mozart's "Ave Verum", Wesley's "Lead Me, Lord", etc.), purchased a few new anthems with donated money, exploited my subscription to SJMP, and we were all set.

Next time – how we launched an ambitious choral program on an hour and fifteen minutes of rehearsal per week.

Please send any suggestions/comments to terrysisk@aol.com



No Calendar items were contributed. Covid, it is. -Editor

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY CHANGES

Hopefully, you are enjoying your directory, the first in many years. This newsletter will attempt to assist you in keeping your copy up to date. Please make the following initial corrections and additions, and send any more to Daniel Hannemann (address below).

Ricky Gearhart, BME (Cheryl)

1286 Cedar Hill Rd
Clear Brook VA 22624

forgears@earthlink.net

c. 540-247-9342

h. 540-662-2641

Please correct name spellings

James (Jim) Arthur Kriewald, BS, MM, DMA (The Rev. Dr. Diedra)

400 Clocktower Ridge Dr Apt 207
Winchester VA 22603

jkriewal@gmail.com

c. 540-539-0000

h. 540-667-0572

Please add information in red

David B. Lang

1353 Monroe St NW

davbrilang@gmail.com

dlang@dafferorgans.com

Please change information in red

Washington DC 20010-3922

c. 202-667-8345

Dual member, DC chapter

Richard McPherson, BM, MM, DMA

631 Pritchards Hill Ct
Winchester VA 22602

mcpherre@comcast.net

c. 540-539-0245

*Please add Delaware address
and additional degrees*

36238 Farm Lane
Rehoboth Beach DE 19971

Wayne L. Wold, BM, MSM, DMA, AAGO

2377 Bear Den Road
Frederick MD 21701

woldw@hood.edu

c. 240-446-4030

AGO Regional Councillor

Please correct e mail address

We welcome Mark Pichowicz as our newest member! Mark is Director of Music, Organist, and Educator at Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Winchester. *Please note the information in red* for his directory entry:

Mark J. Pichowicz, BM, MM, CAGO

164 Hanging Tree Rd
Winchester VA 22603

tromba16@gmail.com

o. 540-808-2736



HISTORY OF WAGO DEANS

We are still searching for more details regarding the early history of deans of the WAGO. After consulting the list in your new directory, if you can shed light on further names and dates, please contact one of the following:

Daniel Hannemann misterdan51@gmail.com

Linda Beville bevill@verizon.net

.....**THANKS!**



A December Lessons and Carols

*Featuring 15 Local Churches**

In lieu of our after-Christmas Progressive concert to raise money for WATTS and the Winchester Rescue Mission, WAGO will be offering a **Virtual Lessons and Carols program on our website** from **Dec. 1 through January 6**.

Since we aren't limited by travelling from one church to another, we will be able to highlight 15 local churches in our **Advent-Epiphany Lessons and Carols**. The Scripture Lesson will be read by one of the Clergy, the music performed by the organist, pianist, or virtual choir, and the background pictures will show the church in a variety of Seasons, including Christmas, as we remember it from last year and before.

Following is a list of the 15 churches which will be featured. **We need pictures** of these churches from outside, inside, special events. If you have any to contribute, **please send them as JPEG files**, if possible, to **Marilyn Shenenberger** at handbelle@comcast.net

***Churches featured in our December Lessons and Carols**

8 Winchester Churches:

First Baptist
Sacred Heart Catholic
Christ Episcopal
Bethel Lutheran
Grace Evangelical Lutheran
Our Savior Lutheran
Braddock Street United Methodist
First Presbyterian

Near Winchester:

Emmanuel Episcopal, Delaplane
Front Royal Presbyterian, Front Royal
Leesburg Presbyterian, Leesburg
St. James Episcopal, Leesburg
Emmanuel Episcopal, Middleburg
Trinity Lutheran, Stephens City
Trinity Episcopal, Upperville



Virtual Concerts at St. Thomas Church, New York City

CONCERTS AT SAINT THOMAS FALL 2020 DIGITAL SEASON In order to purchase a discounted ticket, one can simply visit our [ticketing page](#) and enter the **promo code: AGO**. Details of our season are below. We hope you and your members will be able to join us for any or all.

IMPORTANT NOTE: The events below are video presentations. Instructions for viewing each concert will be included in your ticket purchase confirmation email. Events are “premiered” at a specified time and available on-demand for a limited time after the premiere. All concerts are pre-recorded in Saint Thomas Church in compliance with recommendations from the CDC and Episcopal Diocese of New York at the time of the recording.

Les Compositrices Françaises: 20th Century French Organ Music by Female Composers

Saturday, October 3, 2020 @ 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Digital Presentation

Rescheduled from last March, American Fulbright Scholar, Joy-Leilani Garbutt presents the music of Jeanne Demessieux and *les compositrices françaises* on the Miller-Scott Organ. A culmination of her own research in France, Garbutt plays a program of rediscovered French organ music composed by Jeanne Demessieux, Elsa Barraine, Nadia Boulanger, and other women of the early 20th century.

AGO DISCOUNT: \$2.50

The German Chorale: Masterworks of Bach, Distler, and Reger

Saturday, October 17, 2020 @ 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Digital Presentation

Featuring both the Loening-Hancock and Miller-Scott organs, Assistant Organist, Nicholas Quardokus, performs music from the German tradition. Quardokus pays homage to the centuries-old organ chorale heritage from Bach to Distler and Buxtehude to Reger, juxtaposing masterworks from the Baroque, late-Romantic, and Neoclassical eras. The program, framed by Bach's monumental partita on *Sei gegrüßet, Jesu gütig* and Reger's thunderous fantasia on *Straf mich nicht in deinem Zorn*, promises to be a kaleidoscopic exploration of both world-class organs at Saint Thomas Church.

AGO DISCOUNT: \$2.50

The Complete Beethoven Sonatas I: Early Gems and the Waldstein

Saturday, October 24, 2020 @ 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm, Digital Presentation

32@32, created by pianist Adam Golka on the occasion of Ludwig van Beethoven's 250th birthday celebration, is a free 8-concert series surveying the master's complete Piano Sonatas. Program I features Sonatas 1, 7, 19, and 21.

FREE

The Complete Beethoven Sonatas II: Humor and Passion

Saturday, October 31, 2020 @ 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm, Digital Presentation

32@32, created by pianist Adam Golka on the occasion of Ludwig van Beethoven's 250th birthday celebration, is a free 8-concert series surveying the master's complete Piano Sonatas. Program II features Sonatas 10, 4, 20, and 23.

FREE

Heroic Music of Handel and Purcell

Thursday, November 12, 2020 @ 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm, Digital Presentation

The centerpiece of our Fall 2020 Digital Season welcomes back New York Baroque Incorporated (Wen Yang, Artistic Director) to Concerts at Saint Thomas. In this special chamber performance, directed by Jeremy Filsell, rising star mezzo-

soprano Sarah Rose Taylor joins NYBI in a program comprising the heroic music of G.F. Handel and Henry Purcell. Following the restoration of King Charles II to the English throne in 1660, Handel and Purcell emerged as important figures in English music history. Handel's great Arias, his Organ Concerto in B flat and Trumpet Suite in D reflect the heritage of Henry Purcell, upon whose music Handel so consistently drew for inspiration.

AGO DISCOUNT: \$5

The Complete Beethoven Sonatas III: Fantasies and the Moonlight

Saturday, November 21, 2020 @ 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm, Digital Presentation

32@32, created by pianist Adam Golka on the occasion of Ludwig van Beethoven's 250th birthday celebration, is a free 8-concert series surveying the master's complete Piano Sonatas. Program III features Sonatas 16, 27, 13, and 14)

FREE

Messiaen: La Nativité du Seigneur

Saturday, December 5, 2020 @ 3:00 pm - 4:30 pm, Digital Presentation

Associate Organist, Nicolas Haigh, plays Messiaen's masterful cycle on the Miller-Scott Organ. Arguably the most distinctive and progressive voice in twentieth-century French music, and certainly the most significant organist-composer of any nationality since Bach, Olivier Messiaen is best known for his cycle of nine pieces entitled La Nativité du Seigneur. Written in 1935, the music speaks directly of the joy, peace and wonder of Christmas. Join us for this digital presentation and slip into this synesthetic world of color and sound, showcasing some of the most hidden and delicate sounds of the Miller-Scott Organ.

AGO DISCOUNT: \$2.50

Patrick Fennig
Concert Series Manager and Music Librarian
Saint Thomas Church Fifth Avenue
One West Fifty-third Street
New York, NY 10019
Phone: 212-757-7013 x.430
pfennig@SaintThomasChurch.org>

Follow the Choir on Social Media

[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#)

Buy concert tickets [HERE](#)



ORGAN FOR SALE

St. Paul's on-the-Hill Episcopal Church is in the process of relocating, and would like to sell its **Allen Digital Organ**. Model ADC-1130 (as per the original invoice) but the manual cites the organ as a MADC-2 model.

It uses a T series A.G.O. roll-top console with two 61 note keyboards and 32 note A.G.O. pedalboard. Has a self-contained audio system with one Dual ADC ap. It includes a 12- step transposer. The organ was purchased in the late 1980s.

The organ can be viewed by appointment (the building is closed to the public). Please note that we must have a firm sale by October 25, 2020, or will need to include in the upcoming auction.

For more information, please call the rector, Susan MacDonald @ 301-667-1165.



He loves nature in spite of what it did to him. ~ *Forrest Tucker*

Why do you sit there looking like an envelope without any address on it? ~ *Mark Twain*

His mother should have thrown him away and kept the stork. ~ *Mae West*

The fact that jellyfish have survived for 650 million years despite not having brains gives hope to many people.

She had such a fine voice she could sing seals out of the sea.

I see the problem here ... I'm talking in English, and you're listening in DumbAss.

I was threatened by a gang of mimes. They threatened to do unspeakable things!

There are times when my greatest accomplishment is just keeping my mouth shut.

A recent study has found that women who carry a little extra weight live longer than men who mention it.

Senility has been a smooth transition for me.

