



# Chiff Chat

The Newsletter of the Lincoln, Nebraska Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

Volume 78, Number 8

1

April, 2008

## JIM'S JOTTINGS

by Dean – James J. Lytton, ChM

### What's Going On?



have been a member of the American Guild of Organists since **Jim Lytton** the late 60s when I was a member of the student chapter at Westminster. I have since served on several boards, on several convention committees and have served as dean of three different chapters. I have attended lots of chapter programs. This is not meant as bragging rights, but in all of that time, I do not believe that I have ever heard a better program than the one which Charles Ore presented in February. It was a great program, well presented of course, but with a great deal of interest in something at which some of us turn up our noses, namely "contemporary organ music." I wanted to run out and buy several of those pieces and start working on them. Thank you Charles!

And then this past Monday night, we had our "annual" student recital. I have a lot more interest in the student recital these days, because I realize that one of them may be replacing me! It was a fine program with very fine playing and a nice evening. Both the February and March programs were preceded by a potluck dinner which is a great way to get to know your colleagues. Thanks, students, for putting on a great show!

And lets not forget "Laura Trotta Week." On Saturday, Laura played the first movement of the Jongen concerto with the UNL Orchestra. On Sunday, Laura presented her junior recital. On Monday, Laura participated in the annual student recital. She did a great job on all of these events. Way to go, Laura!

We have two more programs to finish off the year: the Omaha program in April and the Myron Roberts Retrospective in May. Both programs should be good and we hope to see many of you at the programs.

(Turn to DEAN, Page 2)

## APRIL AGO MEETING

Joint Omaha/Lincoln Meeting – Sunday, April 20 – 3:00 PM  
St. Michael Lutheran Church – 13232 Blondo Street, Omaha

**GET ON THE BUS!** Worried about escalating gasoline prices? Wish you could go to the joint meeting with the Omaha chapter on April 20th? Then ride on our AGO bus! The Lincoln Chapter will charter a bus to go to the joint meeting at St. Michael's Lutheran Church at 4:00 p.m. **But we must assess interest in this before signing on any dotted lines.** Estimated cost will be \$10 with a mid-afternoon departure from a convenient location to be determined. As soon as you get this edition of the *Chiff Chat*, call Jim Hejduk at 402.742.9017 or e-mail him at [hejduk1@windstream.net](mailto:hejduk1@windstream.net) to assure your place. **Deadline is April 1st - no foolin'!**



**SIGN UP NOW – APRIL 1 DEADLINE**  
402.724.9017 – [hejduk1@windstream.net](mailto:hejduk1@windstream.net)

**Would you like to play one piece at St. Michael's?** St. Michael's has a 21-rank Visser-Rowland tracker action organ complemented by fine acoustics. Join Jeremy Bankson, John Ross, and members of the Omaha Chapter in playing one selection for our joint memberships. Contact Jim Hejduk (see above) as soon as possible for details.

## Bach's Organ World

October 6 - 17, 2008  
Dresden, Leipzig, Berlin  
Brandenburg, Freiberg, Rotha and more

World-renowned Bach organ scholars  
**Quentin & Mary Murrell Faulkner**  
will lead this tour highlighting  
unique instruments from Bach's time and today.  
You'll also see the magnificent attractions of the  
"new" East Germany.

For information call or visit:  
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(DEAN, from Page 1)

Then comes the Pipe Organ Encounter Advanced (the first one EVER). Applications are coming in (the deadline is March 15) and we will begin listening to the candidates during Holy Week. One of the differences between a regular Pipe Organ Encounter and the Advanced is that the students are required to audition. Then we will be working on the actual event and will be looking for some volunteers, but not as many as we needed for the convention. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Sinda Dux or Dick Morris.

And next, we will have the International Year of the Organ. I can now tell you some of the people that will be coming in to do a recital: Todd Wilson, John Scott, the Faulkners, Jean Guillou and Robert Hobby, plus our own Chris Marks, Jeff Blersch and Masako Bacon who will be presenting a great recital at Saint Paul United Methodist Church in October. And the Lincoln Symphony will be presenting a program of music for organ and orchestra as part of their regular series. The symphony program will be presented at First-Plymouth Church on two nights in April, 2009. The International Year of the Organ promises to be an exciting year. Stay tuned for further details.

Exciting things are happening here in the Lincoln AGO. Hope to see you at these events.

# INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE ORGAN

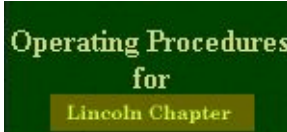
Pam Penner, CAGO, and Director of the Task Force on the International Year of the Organ, is requesting that anyone with an event in your church, or community, to send it to be included in a compilation of concerts over the entire year – **July 2008 through June 2009.**

You can help in two ways:

- spread the word to churches and friends about the Lincoln Chapter’s project, and
- send in events anytime that span the dates listed above.

In addition to the Guild publishing a list of all concerts, we will have a compilation on our chapter Web site, which will be the most current listing.

Send the name of the concert, performers, location, date and time of the concert to Mike Veak; 536 Pier 2; Lincoln, NE 68528-1461; 402.817.0830; [mveak@neb.rr.com](mailto:mveak@neb.rr.com).



At last month’s AGO program, the chapter operating procedures for the Lincoln Chapter AGO were approved by a vote of the membership. The procedures are now listed on the chapter Web site . . . [www.agolincoln.org/](http://www.agolincoln.org/)

## SLATE OF OFFICERS



The Lincoln Chapter Executive Board presents the following slate of officers for your consideration as a **MAIL-IN BALLOT.**

- Dean . . . . . Jim, Lytton, ChM
- Sub-Dean . . . . . Jim Hejdkuk
- Pam Penner . . . . . Treasurer
- Sinda Dux . . . . . Secretary
- Board Members, Class of 2011 . . . . . Dan Ahlin, Laura Trotta
- \*\*Dale Underwood and Bill Long will be retiring from the board
- Continuing Board Members
- Class of 2009 . . . . . John Cummins, C. Richard Morris
- Class of 2010 . . . . . Darrell Fluehr, John Ross, AAGO

THANK YOU to Bonita Johnsen, Burns Davis, and Masako Nakaumura Bacon for serving on the nominating committee.

## MYRON J. ROBERTS RETROSPECTIVE

Sunday, May 18 – 3:00 PM  
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church  
6001 A Street, Lincoln

THANK YOU to those of you who have volunteered to perform in the May program. We are still looking for friends and members of the AGO to:

- sing in the choir, and
- send in any written “remembrances” about Myron.
- **Also encourage your choirs and church members to attend the Retrospective.**

Contact Dick Morris . . .  
[crichardmo@yahoo.com](mailto:crichardmo@yahoo.com) or 402.261.3104; 5915 Billings Drive; Lincoln, NE 68516-5960.

. . . to indicate your interest and send remembrances.

**The choir will rehearse on Saturday, May 17 from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM and Sunday, May 18, from 2:00 PM to 2:30 PM.**

## ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

You can still sign up to receive your *Chiff Chat* electronically. Just e-mail Mike Veak ([mveak@neb.rr.com](mailto:mveak@neb.rr.com)) to be placed on the list.



## MARK'S ORGAN RECITAL - MARCH 29

Christopher Marks' UNL faculty recital has been rescheduled and will not be a collaborative recital, as was scheduled in February 5 when the snow storm hit Lincoln. This will be an all Seth Bingham solo organ recital, in connection with Christopher's CD that was advertised in the last issue of *Chiff Chat*.

The recital will be March 29 at 7:30 PM in Kimball Recital Hall, 11th at R Street, Lincoln.



Change of e-mail for Priscilla Kliever . . .  
priskliever@windstream.net

## YOUR VOTE COUNTS

Included with this newsletter is a mail-in ballot for you to vote on this year's slate of officers. Since the meeting in April is a joint meeting with Omaha, it makes voting a little more difficult, so we have provided you with a mail-in ballot. Please take time to vote by mailing the ballot to Pam Penner (address on the ballot) by **MAY 1**.



THANK YOU, in advance, for voting.

## SCHOLARSHIPS



Loretta Love has been appointed to do research on offering scholarships to organ students.

## BACH'S ORGAN WORLD

Any questions about the Faulkners' trip to Germany? Get in touch with Quentin & Mary Murrell: 18 Wildwood Lane, Amherst, MA 01002 – [gfaulkner1@unl.edu](mailto:gfaulkner1@unl.edu) – 413.230.3759.



AGO members only – mail-in your ballot by May 1.

## REGION VI BLOG

by Jan Kraybill, Region VI Councillor



Jan Kraybill

It has been a goal of mine for some time to develop a regional calendar that would be accessible to all of our chapter members and to the public. I receive newsletters from many of our 50+ chapters in Region VI, but most of our members are only aware of what's happening in their chapter. And the public sometimes has no idea of the incredible programs we offer. An on-line regional calendar, updated frequently, has been one of my resolutions for about a year. I'm happy to say that this resolution has now been completed – and then some!

With the magic of technology, I have set up a Region VI blog. For those that are new to this term (like I was only a week ago!), a blog is a Web site with postings (short articles) containing text, images, videos, or links to other Web sites. The postings are customarily displayed in reverse order (i.e., newest at the top). I think that one of the most useful features of this blog will be the regional calendar. Check it out at [www.agor6.blogspot.com](http://www.agor6.blogspot.com), and bookmark it so you can check it often!

I've made every attempt to enter the information about each chapter's events from newsletters that have been sent to me. Please check that your chapter's events are there and the details are listed properly. If your events don't appear, please send me information on all **chapter-sponsored programs** that are **open to the public** that you would like added to the calendar.

## ABENDMUSIK: LINCOLN

*Twentieth Century Masterworks!*

The Abendmusik Chorus and UNL Choir

Sunday, April 27, 4:00 PM

(Sponsored by John Casey)

The Abendmusik Chorus will be joined by the choirs of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for three masterworks of the 20th Century Choral Repertoire: Britten's *Rejoice in the Lamb*, Stravinsky's *Symphony of Psalms* and Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*. Conductors Pete Eklund and Therees Hibbard will join John Cummins with soloists Donna Harler-Smith and Charles (Chip) Smith.



abendmusik lincoln

## First Friday Concert Series

Saint Paul United Methodist Church, 1144 M Street, Lincoln, will host the seventh concert of the 2007-2008 *First Friday Concert* series Friday, April 4.

The concert, features K. Joyce Mynster, organist and music coordinator for Saint John Lutheran Church in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Her recital, entitled *Fascinating Rhythm*, features 20th century composers.

The concert is free and open to the public. Donations are welcomed.

A light lunch consisting of soup, sandwich, dessert and beverage will be available for \$5 between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Lunch will be served in Paine Parlor, adjacent to the Sanctuary.

## — CALENDAR OF EVENTS —

## MARCH

29 7:30 PM **FACULTY ORGAN RECITAL** – Christopher Marks, Organist – Kimball Recital Hall – 11th at R Street, Lincoln

## APRIL

3 7:30 PM **UNL ORGAN STUDIO RECITAL** – Kimball Recital Hall – 11th at R Street, Lincoln

4 12:10 PM **FIRST FRIDAY CONCERT SERIES** – Joyce Mynster, Organist – Saint Paul United Methodist Church – 1144 M Street, Lincoln

6 3:00 PM\* **ORGAN RECITAL** – Kurt Knecht, Organist – Zion Lutheran Church – 1305 Broadway, Imperial

13 3:00 PM **LINCOLN ORGAN SHOWCASE** – Mary Preston, Organist – Saint Paul United Methodist Church – 1144 M Street, Lincoln

5:00 PM **ORGAN RECITAL** – Masako Makamuro Bacon, AAGO, Organist – First Presbyterian Church – 621 North Lincoln Avenue, Hastings

17 7:00 PM\* **PIKES PEAK RINGERS** – Kevin McChesney, Director – Zion Lutheran Church – 1305 Broadway, Imperial

20 3:00 PM **APRIL AGO MEETING** – Joint Lincoln/Omaha AGO Meeting – St. Michael Lutheran Church – 13232 Blondo Street, Omaha

20 **DEADLINE for May issue of *Chiff Chat*** – Mike Veak; 536 Pier 2; Lincoln, NE 68528-1461; Phone: 402.817.0830; E-mail: [mveak@neb.rr.com](mailto:mveak@neb.rr.com)

27 4:00 PM **ABENDMUSIK:LINCOLN** – Twentieth Century Masterworks – First-Plymouth Congregational Church U.C.C. – 2000 D Street, Lincoln

3:00 PM\* **ORGAN RECITAL** – Joel Grosbach, Organist – Zion Lutheran Church – 1305 Broadway, Imperial

## LOOKING AHEAD TO MAY

5 7:00 PM **AGO BOARD MEETING** – First Lutheran Church – 1551 South 70th Street, Lincoln

\* The three Imperial, Nebraska concerts are Mountain Daylight Time.

*A program of music for the king of instruments*



Sundays at 8:30 PM – KZUM 89.3 FM

## LINCOLN ORGAN SHOWCASE

Sunday, April 13 – 3:00 p.m. – MARY PRESTON, Organist  
Saint Paul United Methodist Church; 1144 M Street, Lincoln



Mary Preston

MARY PRESTON has performed widely throughout North America, including performances in San Francisco, Chicago, Dallas, Salt Lake City, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, New York, Ottawa, and Los Angeles. She appeared at Notre-Dame de Paris by special invitation of the late Pierre Cochereau and has performed at New York's Riverside Church. In the summer of 1994 Mary Preston's European recital tour included recitals at the Merseburg Cathedral in Berlin, St. Nikolai Church in Leipzig and Oliwa Cathedral in Poland and the Lichtenstein Palace in Prague.

Ms. Preston graduated with honors and received her Master of Music degree from the University of North Texas as a student of Charles Brown and continued post-graduate study with Russell Saunders at the Eastman School of Music. Her early training was with Kathryn McCain and Harold Mueller in San Francisco and followed by study with Garth Peacock at Oberlin Conservatory, John Walker at San Jose State University and Robert Anderson at Southern Methodist University. She has also coached and played in master classes with Jean Guillou, Marie-Claire Alain, Pierre Cochereau, and Michael Radulescu.

She is resident organist of the Dallas Symphony and curator of the celebrated Lay Family Concert Organ, Op. 100, built by C.B. Fisk, Inc. in the Meyerson Symphony Hall, Dallas. She has performed numerous recitals and engagements with the Dallas Symphony upon this new instrument along with solo recitals and concerts with organ and brass.



Lincoln Chapter AGO  
536 Pier 2  
Lincoln NE 68528-1461



# Ballot for Officers for 2008-2009

Vote for each candidate or write-in your choice.

Write-in

Dean — James J. Lytton, ChM

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Sub-Dean — Jim Hejduk

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Secretary — Sinda Dux

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Treasurer — Pamela Penner

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3-year board member — Dan Ahlin

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3-year board member — Laura Trotta

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Mail to: Pam Penner, CAGO; 5001 West Old Cheney Road; Lincoln NE 68523 - **DEADLINE MAY 1.**

# MYRON J. ROBERTS RETROSPECTIVE

Sunday, May 18 – 3:00 PM  
Holy Trinity Episcopal Church  
6001 A Street, Lincoln



The Lincoln Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is presenting a concert of the works of Myron J. Roberts, long-time University of Nebraska-Lincoln faculty member.

Mr. Roberts taught at the University from 1940 until his retirement in 1974. In addition to his teaching, he held organist positions in three churches while in Lincoln: First-Plymouth Congregational U.C.C.; Church of the Holy Trinity, Episcopal; and Cathedral of the Risen Christ, R. C.

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*The concert on May 18 will include three choral works and eight organ compositions by Myron. Mr. Roberts' choral and organ compositions number over 30, published and unpublished works.*

*The organ pieces will be performed by former students of Myron Roberts. The choir will consist of choir members from the three churches he served in Lincoln, as well as friends and members of the American Guild of Organists.*

*Myron Roberts was conferred a life member of the Lincoln Chapter AGO on October 7, 1985.*

**Myron J. Roberts – 1912–2004**

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A reception will follow the concert.

