



Chiff Chat

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

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February, 2008

JIM'S JOTTINGS

by Dean – James J. Lytton, ChM

CRCCM

There are a large number of denominational church musician associations that often are identified by acronyms. Some of them are NPM, AAM, ALCM, PAM, etc. One that is not so well known is the Conference of Roman Catholic Cathedral Musicians. As its title shows, it is somewhat restricted for membership – you must be serving as a musician in a cathedral to gain membership. The annual meetings usually take place in the second week of January, not the best time to travel to some places in this country. In 2005, the annual conference was held in Omaha, and that was the week of a big snow storm. The buses could not get around Omaha and we were taken to places in stretch Hummers. Several sessions scheduled for St. Cecilia Cathedral were moved to the hotel.

This year CRCCM met in New York City and we met at not one, but four cathedrals: St. Patrick's in NYC; Sacred Heart in Newark, NJ; St. James in Brooklyn, NY; and, St. Agnes in Rockville Centre on Long Island. We traveled to St. Agnes on the train, as it is located only a short block from the train station! The format was a little different this year, as we were dealing with four cathedrals. At each cathedral we were treated to a brief tour and a demonstration of the organ. Then we had prayer services, business meetings of the conference, a reading session of compositions by members, and presentations by members of the USCCB Committee on Divine Worship. The Roman Catholic Church is getting ready to publish a new Missal and some new documents have already been published that pertain to music in worship, so hearing from these distinguished clergy was a real treat. We also managed to eat a lot, for some reason. We had two huge buffets in New York plus breakfast every day.

(Turn to JOTTINGS, Page 2)



Jim Lytton

FEBRUARY AGO MEETING

The Best of the Last . . .



Charles W. Ore, Presenter

Monday, February 18

Potluck 6:00 PM — Workshop 7:00 PM

First-Plymouth Congregational Church U.C.C.

2000 D Street, Lincoln

Were you so busy working at our convention last summer that you didn't have time to attend many of the sessions? Here's a chance to reclaim part of that loss or hear, once again, a brilliant presentation by our own Past Dean, Charles W. Ore – "The Best of the Last Fifty Years."

Charles will lead us through a treasure trove of organ music that's still in print and available for purchase. Having sent requests to 80 USA and international publishers and distributors of organ music, Charles had a good response and gathered a respectable quantity of music. He then e-mailed about 80 convention early registrants and, applying the same criteria, asked each of them to submit a listing their "best" pieces. This workshop brings together the data from publishers and organists and presents the results in chronological order from about 1950 to 2004. This is a timely and beneficial workshop you surely won't want to miss!



- ▶ The potluck dinner at 6:00 PM will be in Mayflower Hall. And we mean "potluck" – bring whatever you want; it worked brilliantly last October! Table service, coffee and water will be provided.
- ▶ "The Best of the Last Fifty Years" workshop at 7:00 PM with Dr. Charles W. Ore, in the church sanctuary.

The executive board has been working on completing a new set of Chapter Operating Procedures, which will replace the Chapter By-Laws. The Chapter Operating Procedures are posted on the chapter's Web site (www.agolincoln.org). They are rather lengthy and would be expensive to mail to all members. If you do not have access to the Internet, and would like a copy of the procedures for your review, please contact a member of the board. **We will be voting on the Chapter Operating Procedures at the February meeting. Attendance is very important at this meeting in order to have a 'quorum' vote! ***



(JOTTINGS, from Page 1)

We observed a rehearsal of the St. Thomas Choir Boys, observed a rehearsal of the New York Philharmonic and had lunch in Philharmonic Hall (now Avery Fisher Hall). On Thursday evening, we went to St. Thomas for Evensong before going to the 22nd floor of the Chancery of the Diocese of New York for the annual banquet. Our hotel was two blocks from Times Square!

But what is best about CRCCM which is also true for most conferences and conventions, is the communication that goes on. CRCCM traditionally has an open bar at 10:00 PM each day (and often an early appointment the next morning) and this is the opportunity to discuss ideas, find out what other people do on feast days, discuss organ projects, etc.

The Lincoln chapter officers are re-working some of the duties of various members and we often find that communication is probably the most important part of the job description. Often when people work in isolation, problems occur.

This was the XXV meeting of the CRCCM held in New York City, and it was a great time to see old friends, make new ones, and try to get up to date with the goings-on of colleagues and friends. I always come back re-energized and ready to make a big push toward Easter, which is early this year.

A similar thing occurs at AGO conventions and this summer the national convention will be held in Minneapolis. While the prices seem to be going up, it is a good opportunity for lots of good communication.

Hope to see you there. *

STATISTICS

Here are some statistics of which you are probably not aware . . .

- ▶ 18 people have signed up for receiving the *Chiff Chat* electronically. This affects 22 persons. Sending the newsletter electronically does not garner a lot of savings in the printing of the newsletter; rather the larger savings to the chapter is in the first class postage.
- ▶ Complimentary newsletters are sent to:
 - 8 Past Deans
 - 2 Omaha chapter officials
 - 1 regional officer
 - national president
 - national office
 - 2 comps *

LINCOLN FACULTY ORGAN RECITAL**CHRISTOPHER MARKS, ORGANIST****Kimball Recital Hall – 11th at R Street, Lincoln****Tuesday, February 5 – 7:30 p.m.**

With: Karen Becker, cello; Kate Butler, voice; Clark Potter, viola; Darryl White, trumpet

Music by: Leo Sowerby, Petr Eben, Seth Bingham, Camille Saint-Saëns, Louis Vierne, Maurice Duruflé, and Craig Phillips

General admission \$5; Student/senior \$3. *



Kimball Recital Hall



**MEMBERSHIP
DIRECTORY**

ADDITIONS

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WELCOME JEREMY

**First Friday
Concert Series**

Saint Paul United
Methodist Church, 1144
M Street, Lincoln, will
host the fifth concert of

the 2007-2008 *First Friday Concert series* Friday, February 1. The concert, featuring Dr. Wayne Kallstrom on the Bedient pipe organ, will begin at 12:10 PM.

Dr. Kallstrom teaches organ at the University of Nebraska at Omaha and the College of St. Mary, also in Omaha. In addition, he is the organist at Dundee Presbyterian Church, Omaha.

The February 1 program is designed to demonstrate the many individual stops and combinations on the Bedient organ. It begins with an early 18th-century suite of six short movements that would have been performed alternately with choir singing verses of the Magnificat text. The program continues with two works by American composers: the Canzonetta by the late 19th-century composer Arthur Foote, the first internationally known organist trained exclusively in the US; and Resurrection by the late Larry King, an important 20th-century composer and organist. This will be followed by the Adagio from the Sixth Symphony, composed by Charles Marie Widor. The program ends with a set of five variations on the tune "Austrian Hymn" composed by another 19th-century American composer, John Knowles Paine.

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 AM and 1:30 PM. Lunch will be served in Paine Parlor, adjacent to the Sanctuary. *



Wayne Kallstrom

ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER



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

DEADLINE ADJUSTMENT

The next *Chiff Chat* deadline is being moved forward a few days, as the editor is traveling to Switzerland on February 16. **The next deadline will be February 12.** Thanks for your cooperation.



Mary Murrell and Quentin Faulkner are proud grandparents. Emory Carroll was born January 8 and weighed in at 8 pounds 13 ounces. Quentin and Mary Murrell state that "According to our observations, he's got pink skin, 10 fingers and 10 toes, and howls lustily when his diaper is changed, so all indications are that he's a perfectly normal, healthy baby." *

LINCOLN ORGAN SHOWCASE





to Sara Schott and Mark Miller for many years of service as Co-Directors of the LINCOLN ORGAN SHOWCASE. The two of

them have decided to step aside from that position. THANKS is such a small word for all the work they have done, but the Lincoln Chapter sincerely appreciates their diligent work to foster such a successful series of concerts for our enjoyment each year.

Dick Morris has been appointed as Director of the LINCOLN ORGAN SHOWCASE. Many of you know that Dick has returned to Lincoln in his retirement. Many years ago he held various church positions in Lincoln, some of which were Wesley House (now Cornerstone), Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, and First-Plymouth Congregational Church U.C.C. Dick is also a Past Dean of the chapter.

The Lincoln Chapter is blessed with many dedicated workers. Thanks Sara, Mark and Dick. *

2007-2008

**Mormon Tabernacle Organist,
Richard Elliott**

Friday, February 8, 7 p.m.

Richard Elliott is organist at the Mormon Tabernacle in Salt Lake City, performing, touring and recording with the famous Choir. He previously served as organist at the world's largest pipe organ in Philadelphia's Macy's (formerly John Wanamaker) department store. Dr. Elliot performs for the weekly Music and the Spoken Word broadcasts and joins his fellow organists in presenting daily organ recitals in the Tabernacle. In his program at First-Plymouth, he will perform, in addition to selections from the classic organ literature, Jean Guillou's transcription of *Mussorgsky's Pictures at an Exhibition*. Please join us for this eclectic program on First-Plymouth's large, orchestral pipe organ.

TICKETS: Adult \$12; Senior \$8; Student \$8

All concerts will be held at First-Plymouth Congregational Church U.C.C., 20th & D Street. First-Plymouth is wheelchair accessible. Ask about our special rates for groups of ten or more.

www.abendmusik.org • 402-476-9933

MYRON J. ROBERTS RETROSPECTIVE

Sunday, May 18, 2008 – 3:00 PM

**Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
6001 A Street, Lincoln**

We are still looking for people (particularly Myron's students) willing to perform:

- solo organ
- choral director
- accompanist
- sing in the choir
- WE ALSO WOULD WELCOME ANY WRITTEN MEMORIES AND TESTIMONIALS ABOUT MYRON

Contact Dick Morris . . .

crichardmo@yahoo.com or 402.261.3104

5915 Billings Drive
Lincoln, NE 68516-5960

. . . to indicate your interest and send testimonials. Also tell Dick of any students you know who studied with Myron. *

— CALENDAR OF EVENTS —

JANUARY

26 2:30 PM **MASTER CLASS** – Herndon Spillman, Presenter – Recital Hall at Strauss Performing Arts Center on the UNO campus – 6001 Dodge Street, Omaha

FEBRUARY

- 1 12:10 PM **FIRST FRIDAY CONCERT SERIES** – Wayne Kallstrom, Organist – Saint Paul United Methodist Church – 1144 M Street, Lincoln
- 5 7:30 PM **UNL FACULTY ORGAN RECITAL** – Christopher Marks, Organist – Kimball Recital Hall – 11th at R Street, Lincoln
- 8 7:00 PM **LINCOLN ORGAN SHOWCASE AND ABENDMUSIK:LINCOLN** – Richard Elliott, Organist – First-Plymouth Congregational Church U.C.C. – 2000 D Street, Lincoln
- 12 **DEADLINE for March issue of *Chiff Chat*** – Mike Veak; 536 Pier 2; Lincoln, NE 68528-1461; Phone: 402.817.0830; E-mail: mveak@neb.rr.com – **NOTE: THIS DEADLINE IS EARLY THIS MONTH.**
- 14 **HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY** – ♡
- 17 5:00 PM **ORGAN RECITAL** – Lorenz Maycher, Organist – First Presbyterian Church – 621 North Lincoln Avenue, Hastings
- 18 6:00 PM **FEBRUARY AGO MEETING** – "The Best of the Last 50 Years" – Charles W. Ore, presenter – First-Plymouth Congregational Church U.C.C. – 2000 D Street, Lincoln – Potluck at 6:00 PM in Mayflower Hall – Program at 7:00 PM in church sanctuary – **IMPORTANT VOTE OF CHAPTER OPERATING PROCEDURES**

LOOKING AHEAD TO MARCH

3 7:00 PM **AGO BOARD MEETING** – First Lutheran Church – 1551 South 70th Street, Lincoln



A program of music for the king of instruments

Sundays at 8:30 PM – KZUM 89.3 FM

PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTER ADVANCED

by James J. Lytton, Chm

The committee working on the Pipe Organ Encounter Advanced will now be making great strides in preparation for the July event. A brochure has been prepared and will be sent to prospective attendees. Ordinarily, POEs are geared to a particular region, but the POE Advanced is geared to students from around the nation. During the next few months, churches will be secured, schedules will be prepared, field trips planned (one to the Bedient Organ factory and one to Omaha), and all of the details necessary to entertain 20 adolescents for a week will be finalized.

We will be looking for volunteers to assist, although not nearly as many as were needed for the regional convention last June. Details may be found on the chapter's Web site (www.agolincoln.org) or feel free to contact the Director, Christopher Marks, or the Assistant Director, Jim Lytton, ChM.

The new POE Advanced brochure is also available on the Web site. *



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