



Chiff Chat

July ~ August 2010

Volume 80 No. 6

Mission Statement: The purpose of the Lincoln Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is to promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles, to encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music, and to provide a forum for mutual support, inspiration, education, and certification of Guild members in the city of Lincoln and surrounding areas.

—adopted January 12, 2009

Executive Committee:

James J. Lytton, ChM - Dean

Jim Hejduk—Sub-Dean

Sinda Dux—Secretary

Bob Craig —Treasurer

Dan Ahlin

J. Gordon Christensen, SPC,
CAGO, AAGO

Darrell Fluehr

Chris Lyons

C. Richard Morris

Tom Trenney

Newsletter Editor:

Rosemary Paul

A Note From the Dean:

People sometimes wonder what it takes to be the dean of an AGO chapter. Well, first is the insanity to say yes, when asked! But once in it does not take all that much. A little organization helps. And the first year may take a little more time. We did write new Chapter Operating Procedures my first year (what used to be By-Laws).

But the best assistance that you can have is to have a good board. I have seen some that were not good. In one chapter, the dean (me) had to supervise the infighting of the board. Not a lot of fun.

But in Lincoln, we are blessed with a **great** board. There is no better Sub-Dean than Jim Hejduk, who keeps the programming running along smoothly. Sinda Dux is as good a secretary as I have seen anywhere. The board members are great. They generally tend to go along with my proposals but not without a lot of careful and thoughtful consideration. And after this consideration, most issues pass with a unanimous vote.

And you may notice that I

omitted the treasurer. This position probably requires more time than any other. The treasurer takes in the dues, sends to national their portion, and pays the bills to keep the chapter going (and we do have bills to pay: web site, printing and postage for Chiff Chat, printing of the membership directory, fees to churches, etc.) . And we have added the task of taking in all money for the chapter and for LOS. Not an insurmountable job, but it does require time, especially July to October, when dues roll in. And since the treasurer is unpaid, just like the rest of us, it makes it easier on the treasurer **if you pay your dues on time!** Pam Penner was treasurer when I started as dean. When she resigned, I asked Sinda Dux to be the Acting Treasurer, which she did very graciously. Then Paul Lytle became treasurer. He was great but felt pushed for time with all of the things that he has going on. And now we have yet another new treasurer, Bob Craig. And he is going to be quite good

because he has experience dealing with non-profits. He asks me questions to which I have no answer because I have never heard of what he is asking. He has already submitted some forms to the IRS, to the state and other places. And he is keeping an eye on our investments through the web. So I am quite pleased that Bob has accepted the position of treasurer. Another great member of our wonderful board.

We have a number of past deans with us here in Lincoln. I hope to have my name added to that list in the not too distant future.

I hope to see you at Roger Bailey's home on June 13. It is quite an amazing place.

Have a great summer!

Jim Lytton, ChM—Dean



“Who is the Recitalist for June? WE ARE!!”

Pot Luck Picnic ~ June 13, 2010

At the home of Roger Bailey
1819 Road 5
McCool, Junction, Ne.

Directions: Take I-80 west to Waco interchange, turn left (south) exactly 4 1/2 miles to county ROAD 5
Turn right (west) about 1/4 mile to Roger's at 1819 Road 5.

"Who is the recitalist for the June meeting? We are. Please come prepared to play a piece or two on Roger's organ which will happen around 3:00 pm. Then we will have our picnic afterwards. The organ is somewhat on the small size so no Liszt or Reger!"

Chiff Chat

A Note from the Editor:

Hi Everyone!

Had a wonderful time in Germany and Austria, but it's good to be home. Roger graciously invited me to come to the picnic on the 13th, so hope to meet many of you there.

In His Service,

Rosemary

Michael Emmerich has graduated from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln (with honors). As the winner of the Region VI Competition in Wichita last summer, he has been invited to play recitals for the chapters in Springfield, MO, and Des Moines, IA. And on June 10 he will be playing two recitals at Roger Bailey's home in McCool Junction for a windmill convention. And of course he will be playing a recital for the National AGO Convention in Washington on July 4.

Congratulations, Michael!



Lincoln AGO Dates/Programs 2010-2011

As of 5/11/10

LOS Dates confirmed in **bold print** below

Monday, September 13, 2010 Pot-Luck Mary Eileen Andreasen, "Spirituality for Church Musicians"
St. Mark's United Methodist Church

September 19, 2010—Not an AGO Event

Recital by Dana Robinson, Professor of Organ, University of Illinois
3:00 p.m. Kimball Recital Hall

10/3/10

Holy Trinity Episcopal ~ David Hurd

Monday, October 4, 2010 Pot-Luck

"Abracadabra" - The Magic of Musical Improvisation
Tom Trenney, First-Plymouth, UCC Chancel

11/7/10

St. Mark's On-the-Campus Episcopal ~ Hans Davidsson

Monday, November 8, 2010 Pot-Luck Members' Recital, Redeemer Lutheran

January 3, 2011

Christ Lutheran reserved-Organist-Clergy Dinner or choral workshop
at Grace Lutheran (Catered O-C dinner; Pot-luck if workshop)

To Be Announced

Grace Lutheran

February 7, 2011

Student Recital at Concordia University
Valentino's in Seward

March 7, 2011

Two Great Women of the Organ: Catharine Crozier and Marie-Claire Alain.
The AGO masterclass DVDs. Choose one/both.
Westminster Presbyterian Church

3/27/11

North American Martyrs ~ Carla Edwards

April 4, 2011

Christ Lutheran reserved— Organist-Clergy dinner or choral workshop
at Grace Lutheran (Catered O-C dinner; Pot-luck if workshop)

5/20/11

First Plymouth (Andy Kotylo & collaborators/Abendmusik)

May 22, 2011 Pot-Luck

"Partnership" Concert w/Lincoln Civic Choir @ St. Pau's UMC
Joint meeting with Omaha Chapter

(June 6, 2011?)

REMINDER!!

2010-2011 Membership Registration and Membership Dues

Please send your check, payable to Lincoln Chapter AGO by June 15, 2010, to:
Bob Craig • 441 W. Broadview Drive • Lincoln, NE 68505

In its meeting on May 17, the board of the Lincoln Chapter of the American Guild of Organists....

reviewed the financial situation which is good,
accepted the resignation of Paul Lytle as Treasurer,
approved the appointment of Bob Craig and the new Treasurer,
discussed the situation regarding scholarships with no action taken at this time,
heard that there will be w new Masters student in organ next fall at UN-L,
agreed to pay \$200 to KZUM to pay for the price increase in Pipedreams,
agreed to pay \$557 into the Slaughter account to help repay the loan.



The next meeting of the board will take place on Monday, August 30, at 7:00 pm. All members are welcome to attend any board meetings.

Abendmusik: Lincoln



July 21, 2010 ~ 7:30 p.m.

Community Summer Sing:

Haydn Creation

August 18, 2010 ~ 7:30 p.m.

Community Summer Sing:

**Ruth Watson Henderson's
From Darkness To Light**

June 23, 2010 ~ 7:30 p.m.

Community Summer Sing:

Mozart Requiem



First-Plymouth Church
20th & D Streets, Lincoln
Info: Jeremy Bankson
402-476-9933

Volume 80 No. 6



Chiff Chat - June ~ July 2010

National Convention July 4-8, 2010

www.agolincoln.org

24 May 2010

Dear friends of the Lincoln Chapter:

I write today to tell you about changes going on in the lives of Gene and Gwen. It began about a year ago when Gwen identified employment possibilities with the U.S. Department of State. To make a long story brief she applied, made it over various hurdles and was notified in January that she has been accepted for employment. This also came with the announcement that she was to report to D.C. to begin training on March 15th! As you can imagine this has led us to make a lot of quick and life-changing decisions. They continue as we learned that Gwen's first "post" will be in Algiers, capital city of Algeria on the south Mediterranean beginning later this summer! I was there Easter weekend for her official State Department swearing-in ceremony. She will be beginning a two-year term at the embassy in Algiers later this summer. The State Department minimum commitment is for a period four years. Mandatory retirement is at age 65, meaning Gwen plans to stay in for 10 years before she retires.

The Bedient Company. I had announced publicly some years ago, my forthcoming retirement in the fall of 2011. I will leave the Bedient Company in the capable hands of Paul Lytle and Mark Miller. You will continue to enjoy the continuity of reliable organbuilding and service that you have come to expect from the Bedient Company.

Personal plans: We are required to maintain a permanent residence in the US. Our plan is to sell the house in Lincoln and move to Sacramento, CA. That part of our transition will probably take place about the end of 2010 or in early 2011. As soon as I can finalize my arrangements to end my time at the Bedient Company, I plan to join Gwen in Algiers but will be making trips there to help her get settled and to visit before that date. If you wish to follow Gwen's progress, she has established and is maintaining a blog site:

<http://gwensadventuresintheforeignservice.wordpress.com/>

I wish to thank all of you for your past, present future of me, my family, and the Bedient Company. It has been a joy to live in Lincoln and spend a career working with a wonderful staff, a wonderful Lincoln Chapter/Lincoln Organ Showcase, and friends in the community.

Sincerely,
Gene Bedient

A Lincoln Organ Flying Under the Radar

Sitting on the northeast corner of D and 19th Streets in the shadow of First-Plymouth's bell tower, the First Church of Christ, Scientist was dedicated in 1983. Of a tastefully modern architectural design, it blends unobtrusively into the neighborhood of gracious and stately homes. While the edifice itself is relatively new, First Church's organ is another kettle of fish entirely.



The organ is an 1875 instrument built by George Kilgen of St. Louis, MO (Kilgens may also be found at St. Louis Cathedral in that same city as well as St. Patrick's in New York). The "Lincoln Kilgen" had literally fallen through the floor of its original church in DeSoto, MO and was located and rescued by the Organ Historical Society. The purchaser of the instrument was organ aficionado Rubin Frels of Victoria, TX who, along with Erik Johansson of Vermont, completely restored the instrument, including the hand-pumping mechanism which was electrified. The restoration took one full year and was installed in First Church in 1984 where it occupies a prominent place in the front right corner of the auditorium allowing excellent tonal egress and resonance.

This tracker organ consists of 10 ranks of pipes. The Great and Swell manuals span 58 notes while the flat pedalboard has 27 notes. There is a wooden expression pedal for the Swell division. Though modest in size, the complement of stops works well in an amazing variety of ways. Like any older instrument following a restoration of over 25 years ago, the organ has its recurring problems (a Great 8' Melodia which finds it hard to stay in tune in its upper octave and a Swell 4' flute which, on some days, one couples to the Great only after fervent prayer). However, one can manage an amazing variety of repertoire on this instrument owing to its reasonably clear voicing and mechanical reliability. It is robust enough for exuberant congregational singing (the Christian Science Hymnal of 1932 being of outstanding musical quality) as well as the accompaniment of vocal solos on Sunday mornings. The care of the Kilgen is entrusted to the artisans of the Bedient Organ Company, particularly Mark Miller.

-The Specification-

<u>Pedal</u>	<u>Great</u> (unenclosed)	<u>Swell</u> (enclosed)
Soubass 16'	Open Diapason 8'	Oboe 8'
	Melodia 8'	Stopped Diapason 8'
	Dulciana 8'	Viola 8'
	Octave 4'	Flute 4' 15 th 2'
	Stopped Diabass (for lowest 8va)	Unison Bass 8' (for lowest 8va)
	Vox Temolo (inoperable)	

Couplers include a Swell to Great 8' and Swell and Great to Pedal 8'

Like a test drive? Just contact Jim Hejduk @ (402) 742-9017 / hejduk1@windstream.net

Soli Deo Gloria



Page 4

James Lytton, ChM
AGO—Lincoln Chapter
6641 S. 57th Street
Lincoln, Ne. 68516