



## From the Dean

by Gerald Holbrook

**H**ow knowledgeable is your pastor about the American Guild of Organists? By this I mean not just the AGO organization, but all that goes with it. For example: schools that teach organ, organ builders, new instruments, POE, certification, competitions, concert artists, conventions, workshops . . . etc.

I would be willing to guess that the majority of pastors, who have organists on their staff, have minimal, if any, knowledge of the world of "organ." Just imagine how much better your communication with your pastor would be if he or she had a healthy lay person's knowledge of the world of AGO. Too often the organist position is just one of those jobs that has to be filled (and in some cases, even that is questionable). Imagine how that attitude would change with some education!

One frustration is the attitude that many pastors have regarding appropriate salary for their musicians. Another is a lack of understanding about our training, our need to rehearse, and just what all is involved in being well-prepared to play a church service. You can add to this list, I'm certain.

How can we change this and upgrade the knowledge and understanding of pastors? One step is to introduce them to AGO through a membership. Some of you can approach your pastor and convince him or her of the importance in becoming a member. Others of you may find this difficult, or nearly impossible. Well, what about giving your pastor a gift? Ask everyone in your choir to contribute a couple of dollars, send in the registration and present it as a gift (done deal!). Your pastor will then begin receiving *TAO* and the *Chiff Chat*, which immediately provides much new information.

(Turn to DEAN, Page 2)

## March AGO Meeting

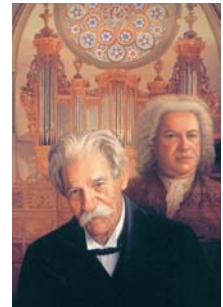
Words of Albert Schweitzer/Music of Bach  
Sunday, March 16 – 7:00 p.m.

(Time change from original listing in membership booklet.)

College View Seventh-Day Adventist Church  
4015 South 49<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln

**W**ords of Albert Schweitzer and the Music of Bach, by Thurston Moore. Sunday, March 16, 7:00 p.m. at College View Seventh Day Adventist Church, 4015 South 49<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln. Admission free.

This multi-media musical dramatization will feature organ music of Bach, performed by seven members of the Lincoln chapter, slides of Schweitzer and his work, and narration by three drama students from Lincoln High School.



A unique program quite different from our usual fare. Certain to be interesting, entertaining and informative. Spread the word, put announcements in your church bulletins and bring your choirs and organ students.

## Friesen Organ Recital

**J**ohn Friesen will be playing the music of 19<sup>th</sup> century Parisian organist Lefebure-Wely on Friday, March 7 at 12:10 p.m. The concert will last until 12:50 p.m. John will be playing the newly-finished Bedient pipe organ in the sanctuary of St. Paul United Methodist Church, 1144 M Street, Lincoln. The concert is free and open to the public. A light luncheon will also be available for \$4.

## AGO Chapter Archives

**L**incoln Chapter AGO Historians, Marcia Worcester and Sinda Dux, keep working hard to collect and preserve chapter materials. If you have any of the following and are willing to donate them to chapter records, please contact Marcia or Sinda (Marcia: 402.486.0428 – Sinda: 402.742.5032):

- Lincoln Chapter AGO Yearbooks from 1996-2001
- If you know or suspect that any past chapter materials were ever stored at your church, please inquire at the church or contact Marcia or Sinda and they will do so.

## ■ DEAN

### Continued from Page 1

However, this is not a passive means of education. You will have to put forth some effort to help move this education journey along. Little ways. When the new *TAO* comes out, for example, make a comment such as "Did you see the list of new organs that were installed recently?" or "Have you noticed how many pipe organ builders are listed in *TAO*?" or discuss an article, especially one that could provide some new insight for your pastor. If your pastor hasn't read the material, yet . . . mention it again. If the article has some really helpful information that your pastor needs to know, make an appointment to discuss it. There are also local events that will be good for your pastor to attend . . . and perhaps participate in!

These are ideas off the top of my head. I should think you could come up with even better ones. The important thing is that there are ways of educating our pastors if we will put forth the effort and keep an open mind about it. By beginning an education program such as this, not only will our immediate work benefit, but also this will be a big help in furthering the development of our field in the future.

I challenge you! I dare you . . . to get your pastor to become a member of AGO! When you do, write to me and let me know. We will welcome every new pastor member with notice in *Chiff Chat*! You have support from me, your AGO Board of Directors as well as other members of the Lincoln chapter. Go for it!

## January AGO Meeting

by Gerald Holbrook

The January meeting on Gregorian Chant at Our Lady of Guadalupe Seminary was a great success with a large number in attendance. We began with a 30-minute tour of the Seminary, followed by a lecture on Chant with different types being sung by some of the students. Then we went to the chapel for Solemn Vespers, followed by a light supper with the seminarians in the refectory where we had the opportunity to socialize with them. I have been asked if people can come out to attend services, and the answer is "Yes." Vespers is at 5:30 p.m. every day and Sunday

Mass is at 8:30 a.m. (although I realize that everyone is busy at that time). For major Feast Day Masses which occur during the week, it is best to call to find out the time. Usually they are at 8:30 a.m., but sometimes they are at 6:45 a.m. I was also requested to give a list of the books I spoke of at the end of my lecture. So here follows the list. If you want more information about them, contact me.

- Cardine, Dom Eugène. Beginning Studies in Gregorian Chant, trans. William Tortolano. Chicago: GIA Publications, 1988.
- \_\_\_\_\_. Gregorian Semiology, trans. Robert M. Fowels. Sablé-sur-Sarthe, France: Solesmes, 1982.
- \_\_\_\_\_. An Overview of Gregorian Chant, vol.XVI of Études Grégoriennes, trans. Dom Gregory Casprini. Orleans, MA: Paraclete Press, 1992
- Ford, Paul F. By Flowing Waters. Colledgeville, MN: The Liturgical Press, 1999.
- Graduale Triplex. Sablé-sur-Sarthe, France: Solesmes, 1979.
- Hiley, David. Western Plainchant: A Handbook. New York: Oxford University Press, 1995.
- Hourlier, Dom Jacques. Reflections on the Spirituality of Gregorian Chant, trans. Dom Gregory Casprini and Robert Edmonson. Orleans, MA: Paraclete Press, 1995.
- Liber Usualis. Tournai: Desclée & Cie., 1957 or 1962.
- Mocquereau, Dom André. "Le Nombre Musical Grégorien" A Study of Gregorian Musical Rhythm, vol. I, trans. Aileen Tone. Sablé-sur-Sarthe, France: Solesmes, 1989.
- Offertoriale Triplex. Sablé-sur-Sarthe, France: Solesmes, 1985.
- Rastall, Richard. The Notation of Western Music. New York: St. Martin's Press, 1982.
- Ward, Justine Bayard. Gregorian Chant Practicum. Washington, D.C.: The Catholic University of America Press, 1990.ˆ

## Pipedreams Update

by Gerald Holbrook

The decision to drop "Pipedreams" from NPRN programming was initially based on state funding cuts. The primary criteria used was their semi-annual audience research and listener statistics which showed them that "listenership" dropped 50% from "Classics by Request" to "Pipedreams" on Sunday evenings. Also through analysis of what listeners ask for during "Classics by Request," with organ music not getting many votes. "Pipedreams" is considered to be in a "limited audience" category. They want to provide programming that will create a larger audience, which will generate more income from private sources. The impact of underwriting does not hold as much weight as "listenership." So they are concerned with what sells and brings in funding. Is there anything we can do? We can continue to let them know we are unhappy about the dropping of "Pipedreams." (If you have not written a letter, it would be a good idea to do so.) We can request organ music during the "Classics by Request" which now is

from 7:00-9:00 p.m. on Sundays and 1:00-4:00 p.m. on Fridays, and, if you decide to pledge, state that it is for classical programming, including organ music . . . or if you decide not to pledge, tell them why. Public radio is going through changes and in my humble opinion, it sounds as if they will become more watered down in time and classical programming will become more "light classics." This is already happening on "Classics by Request." As far as "Pipedreams" is concerned there are alternatives to consider such as Omaha's stations KVNO and KIOS. KIOS already airs "Pipedreams" but it is not easy to get here in Lincoln. Possibly we could assist in funding a stronger signal in order to receive it in our homes. These and other ideas are being discussed by a core "ad hoc" committee and we shall keep you posted with development. ^

## Music for Lent

Sacred Arts Council Lincoln presents *Music for Lent*, a concert of contemplative vocal music. The concert will feature Dulces Voces, Nebraska's own early music vocal ensemble, performing ancient Christian chant, sacred motets and responsories from Renaissance composers Tallis, Byrd, and Gesualdo, as well as a newly-commissioned vocal work, *De Profundis*, by Tyler White, professor of composition at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Concert times are Friday, March 14, 8:00 p.m. at St. Cecilia's Cathedral, Omaha, and Saturday, March 15, 7:30 p.m. at First Christian Church, Lincoln, and Sunday, April 13, 7:00 p.m. at St. John Lutheran Church, Beatrice. Freewill offering, suggested donation, \$12. For more information, call SACL at 402.438.7475. ^



Lent 2003

## Concordia University Concert

Sunday, March 23, 7:00 p.m., Anne Middendorf will present her senior project at Concordia University in Seward, a reconstruction of a Lutheran Vespers for the Annunciation of Our Lord from the year 1561. The service is taken from the *Psalmodia* of Lucas Lossius, a musician in the city of Lüneburg.

The project will be presented in Heine Hall in the music building at Concordia. The public is invited.

Directions from Lincoln: Follow route 34 west to Seward, turn right on Columbia Avenue, the first major street inside the city. Proceed to the stop sign (Hillcrest Drive) and turn right. The music building is two blocks away on the right side of the street. ^

## UNL Organ Recitals

**STUDENTS AND FACULTY** of the UNL organ area will perform Marcel Dupré's *Fifteen Pieces* ("Antiphons"), Opus 18, on Monday, March 10, 3:30 p.m., on the new Bedient organ at St. Paul United Methodist Church, 1144 M Street, in downtown Lincoln. The concert is without charge, and everyone is invited to attend.

**HEATHER HERNANDEZ** will give a DMA lecture-recital on Friday, March 14, at 5:15 p.m., in Kimball Recital Hall, 11<sup>th</sup> at R Street on the UNL campus. Heather will discuss and perform two works by the contemporary Lebanese/French organist and composer Naji Hakim: "Mariales" and "Vexilla Regis." Both pieces are colorful and accessible, and during her two years of study in Paris, Heather has had the opportunity to coach both of them with the composer. The recital is free of charge and the public is cordially invited to attend. ^

## ABENDMUSIK: LINCOLN

### Hymn Festival with Richard Webster

Composer, conductor and hymn-lover Richard Webster said it best, "Hymns lift us out of ourselves and into a place where the presence of God is truly felt, a transcendence that leads to transformation." You, too, will be transformed by our anniversary hymn festival, led by the world famous Webster in his greatly anticipated return to First-Plymouth. Joined by the Abendmusik Chorus, the Doane Choir, the Plymouth Brass and an audience full of guest singers, Webster will bring his inspirational and animated leadership to this celebration of great and beloved hymns.

March 9 – 7:30 p.m. – First-Plymouth Church – 20<sup>th</sup> at D Street, Lincoln.

Adults - \$18; senior citizens - \$15; students - \$9. Special rates for groups of 10 or more. Call Abendmusik: Lincoln at 402.476.9933 for additional information and tickets. ^

## — CALENDAR OF EVENTS —

March	7	12:10 p.m.	Organ Recital – John Friesen, Organist – St. Paul United Methodist Church – 1144 M Street, Lincoln
	9	7:30 p.m.	ABENDMUSIK: LINCOLN – Hymn Festival with Richard Webster – First-Plymouth Church – 20 <sup>th</sup> at D Street, Lincoln
	9	3:00 p.m.	Organ Recital – Michael Olson, Organist – UNO Strauss Performing Arts Center – 60 <sup>th</sup> at Dodge Street, Omaha
	10	3:30 p.m.	UNL Organ Students & Faculty – Marcel Dupré's <i>Fifteen Pieces</i> , Opus 18 – St. Paul United Methodist Church – 1144 M Street, Lincoln
	14	5:15 p.m.	Organ Recital – Heather Hernandez, Organist – DMA Lecture-Recital – Kimball Recital Hall – 11 <sup>th</sup> at R Street, Lincoln
	14	8:00 p.m.	Music for Lent – St. Cecilia Cathedral – 40 <sup>th</sup> at Burt Street, Omaha
	15	7:30 p.m.	Music for Lent – First Christian Church – 430 South 16 <sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln
	15		<b>DEADLINE for April issue of <i>Chiff Chat</i></b> — Editor: 910 University Towers; 128 North 13 <sup>th</sup> Street; Lincoln, NE 68508-1501; Fax: 402.474.3250; Phone: 402.435.6913; E-mail: mveak@lps.org
	16	7:00 p.m.	AGO Meeting – Albert Schweitzer/J. S. Bach Multi-Media Presentation – College View Seventh-Day Adventist Church – 4015 South 49 <sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln [ <b>Note: This is a change in time from the listing in the AGO membership directory.</b> ]
	23	7:00 p.m.	Anne Middendorf Concordia University Senior Project – Heine Hall – Concordia University, Seward
	29	1:00 p.m.	Regional Young Organists Competition, Chapter Phase – First Presbyterian Church – 840 South 17 <sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln [open to the public]

**Support Group** – Susan Cook has had such great response from AGO members with regard to “carpal tunnel syndrome” that she thought, perhaps, AGO members might like to form a “support group.” Topics could even include: “funnies” that happen as we deal with weddings, pastors, recitals, etc. This could be looked at as “building community” within the AGO. Susan would organize this. Contact her, if interested: 402.489.3150 (cooks@lps.org).<sup>^</sup>



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[This address box is upside down to satisfy mailing requirements.]