



From the Dean

by Charles Ore

From the Console: The Lincoln AGO is Seventy-Five and still going strong! These words make a powerful affirmative statement concerning the relevant mission of our organization. It also says something positive about the many years of strong leadership and support from a small cadre of organists, choir directors and enthusiasts of both organ and choral music. That support has consistently reverberated with glorious tones and applause in sanctuaries and concert halls throughout the region. Bravo to all who are on this side of eternity and those who have gone ahead of us in the task of elevating the official purpose of the AGO: "The purpose 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." I suspect that many of you are recalling musical moments, experiences and personalities associated with the guidelines that were established by the Guild to serve as a beacon for service, planning and professional preparation.

When you examine the archives, you notice change. It might even be possible to look at the past as being a better place when there were more members and where organ and choral music had an elevated place in the eyes of the general public. An example of this can be seen in the attendance of the

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NOVEMBER AGO MEETING

Reading Session of Choral Anthems

Saturday, November 19

2:00-3:30 p.m.

Southwood Lutheran Church

5511 South 27th Street, Lincoln

John Helgen will present a reading session of church choral anthems for local directors and accompanists, with a focus on anthems which use creative and/or more challenging keyboard accompaniment parts, for piano as well as for organ. The reading session is free, and music packets will be available at a discounted price.

Helgen is a musician and composer from Minneapolis, Minnesota. He currently serves as the Director of Music Ministry at Roseville Lutheran Church. His performing credits include numerous appearances as the pianist/leader of the jazz and variety quartet First Inversion and as keyboardist/arranger with the Jay Beech Band.



John Helgen

Additionally, a worship festival will be held on Sunday, November 20 at all three worship services (8:30, 9:45 & 11:00) at Southwood Lutheran. John Helgen will lead the vocal choirs and congregation in jazz styled worship. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, contact Denise Witfoth Makinson, Director of Music at Southwood Lutheran Church, 5511 South 27th Street, Lincoln, NE (402) 423-5511 or dmakinson@southwoodlutheran.org



*A program of music for the
king of instruments*
Sundays at 8:30 p.m.
KZUM 89.3 FM

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first ever Hymn Festival in Lincoln. The archival documents state that over 1,600 persons attended this AGO sponsored event held at Saint Paul United Methodist Church in November of 1941. It seems that in today's world it would be difficult to replicate such an occurrence. The problem with archives and history is that from our human vantage point, we can be intimidated by the breadth and scope of what we see while looking in the rear view mirror. By contrast the uncertain future is directly in front of our face and it is coupled with only what we might imagine. Some musicians "add the stops" of optimism and run to meet destiny, others "add the stops" of pessimism waiting for doom and gloom. I would encourage all of you to live life as a challenge and to continue to do your best and to welcome the many signs of dismay that you encounter as yet another challenge that can be molded to your advantage. If you have been following the account of the Lewis and Clark Expedition that has been serialized in *The Lincoln Journal Star*, you know all about trials and tribulations. Where did those courageous adventurers find the get-up-and-go to press ahead on their perilous journey?

The future of the AGO will depend upon our get-up-and-go coupled with a strong local and national organization that remains relevant to musicians in a changing society and church. There is much to be done! There is also much to celebrate! Consider the following: Great new organs are being built — Great new organ and choral literature is being written — Wonderful new players and conductors are being trained. While reflecting on all of this: "Enjoy a brief libation and then start/continue to practice-practice-practice so that you might be ready for all that is to come!" Or in the words of one of my favorite poets: "Take Heart, the Best is yet to be!" ONWARD in PEACE.

[Stay tuned for more about that 26-minute procession that combined "The Rite of Spring" and "The Afternoon of a Faun."] ♪



Region VI AGO Festival Update

Your organ festival steering committee met its first major deadline on October 1. Both the proposed budget and program were submitted to AGO National Headquarters for review. Headquarters will respond by December 1 with questions, recommendations, etc. for the refinement of our plans. (National Headquarters is proving to be a valuable resource for us in not only our Festival plans but in many areas of support for our profession.)

Recent events have made us newly aware of the programming goals we set out to accomplish a few months ago. Samuel Gaskin, the 13-year-old organ prodigy came to Lincoln to escape Hurricane Rita a few weeks ago. His presence in the Lincoln community has given us new hope for the next generation of organists and lovers of organ music. He has played at First-Plymouth Congregational Church, on the First Friday Noon Concert at Saint Paul United Methodist Church and the postlude the following Sunday and twice at the College View Seventh-Day-Adventist Church. The education of young people in the appreciation of the organ and as potential players has been a focus of our programming. We are planning workshops to address materials needed to educate and entertain young people. The AGO/Quimby Regional Competitions for Young Organists (RCYO) is also very much a key part of every regional convention as is the solo recital, which the winner will perform for the Festival. We are considering, too, one or two young artists who have already distinguished themselves.

Other facets of the Festival will include workshops to aid professionals in our work as music ministers. Programs such as a hymn festival and possibly another chorale, organ, orchestra event, both involving volunteer singers, are designed to draw audiences from the Lincoln community. A day spent in Omaha hearing the organ at Saint Cecilia and a new Wicks pipe organ (pending) at Saint Bellarmine Church and the theatre organ at the Markworth residence are all experiences to emphasize new organs for the 21st century.

We often take for granted the riches of our own back yard but we are blessed! Samuel Gaskin reminded me of that fact. In Beaumont, Texas, where he lives, he says there are no notable organs. He doesn't want to leave Lincoln because of our

exceptional wealth of new and old instruments, but I'm sure he will be back. Blessings to each of you.

John Friesen, Festival Coordinator ♪

75 years and counting. Yes, the Lincoln Chapter AGO is "alive and well" in the 21st century, having just celebrated 75 years of meetings and serving the Lincoln music community. [Actually, if you want to know the truth . . . the chapter is really in it's 76th year. We were just so busy last year serving you, that we didn't have time to celebrate our anniversary.] Sinda Dux, chapter historian, unearthed this from the archives about the 60th anniversary celebration from the October 2 secretary's minutes . . .

We will celebrate the 60th Birthday of the Lincoln Chapter AGO with a catered dinner of home-cooked food. Professor Louis DeGrazia of Nebraska Wesleyan University and interim minister of Vine Congregational Church, will speak on "With Timbrel and Dance." Invite your clergy persons and spouses to help celebrate this event. \$7.00 per plate. ♪

Pipe Organs in Lincoln

My name is Jim Lytton, **ChM**, and I have just recently moved to Lincoln. I have decided to undertake a new project: I am going to create a catalogue of the pipe organs in Lincoln, with specifications. The board of the Lincoln AGO chapter has approved the project and the convention committee has expressed great interest, as well.



I could use your assistance in two ways:

- if you have the specifications of the organ in your church (or any other organ), I would appreciate it if you could

send it to me via e-mail, and

- if you know of some organ that might not be ordinarily encountered in a project of this sort (the Sixth Reformed Druid Temple on A Street has a five-manual Aeolian-Skinner organ that is used twice a year for the conclaves), I would appreciate knowing about that.

My e-mail address is jlytton@att.net and my telephone number is 402.421.0975.

Thanks for your assistance. ♪

Organ Recitals

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church is pleased to invite AGO members to an organ recital as part of the church's 80th anniversary celebration. At 3:00 p.m. on **October 30**, **Dr. Nancy Peterson** will perform works of Bach, Pachelbel, Mendelssohn, and Vierne, and will be assisted on trumpet by her husband, Joshua. The recital will also commemorate the 30th anniversary of the installation of St. Matthew's tracker action organ, built and installed by Jan van Daalen, formerly of Minneapolis, now Prescott, Arizona.

Peterson, who received her DMA in organ performance from UNL in 2001, is currently organist and co-director of music (with her husband) at First United Presbyterian Church in Belleville, Illinois.

The audience is invited to a reception in the parish hall following the recital.

Dr. Quentin Faulkner, AAGO, will present an organ recital on Sunday, **October 30**, at 7:00 p.m. at St. Mark's Pro-Cathedral, Hastings, on the organ newly-rebuilt and enlarged by Gene Bedient. He will perform works by Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel (completed by Claire Bushong), Böhm, Frescobaldi, Karg-Elert, Ethyl Smyth, and Dan Locklair. The audience will also have the opportunity to sing several hymn arrangements with the organ. The church is located at 422 North Burlington Avenue, Hastings.

Gerald Holbrook will perform a DMA organ recital at Cornerstone — UMHE Chapel on Sunday, **November 13** at 3:00 p.m. This will be a lecture/recital featuring the "Organ Mass of Guillaume Nivers" performed with chant alternatim. Nivers is an important and highly influential French composer of the late 17th century. The chapel is located at 640 North 16th Street, Lincoln.

Pamela Penner, CAGO, will be playing an organ recital Sunday, **November 13**, at 4:00 p.m. at Eastridge Presbyterian Church, 1135 Eastridge Drive, Lincoln. Pam will play works of Bach, Locklair, Vierre, Daquin, Weitz, Martinson, and Leatherman.

Dr. Mary Murrell Faulkner, CAGO, will present an organ recital at St. Mark's-on-the-Campus, 1309 R Street, Lincoln, on Sunday, **November 20**, at 3:30 p.m. She will perform works by Leyding, Scheidemann, Sweelinck, Muffat, Shearing, Brahms, Locklair, and Mendelssohn. The recital is open to the public; a free-will offering will be received to support St. Mark's participation in Lincoln Organ Showcase.

Vidas Pinkevicius' DMA organ recital will be performed Tuesday, **December 6**, at 5:00 p.m. at Saint Paul United Methodist Church, 1144 M Street, Lincoln. Vidas will perform works by Oliver Messiaen and Louis Vierne.

Austra Motuzaitė-Pinkeviciene will perform a DMA organ recital at Cornerstone — UMHE Chapel, Thursday, **December 8**, at 5:00 p.m. She will be performing works by J. S. Bach. The chapel is located at 640 North 16th Street, Lincoln.

Alain Truche will be playing a DMA organ recital in **January**, but the date and time have not been set. Information on this recital will be announced via e-mail and on the AGO Web site at www.agolincoln.org/

Membership Directory

The Lincoln Chapter AGO membership directory was available at the October AGO meeting at First-Plymouth Congregational Church, thus saving the cost of mailing. A copy will be mailed to those persons not having picked up a directory.

When you get your directory . . .

- Page 3: The two year board member should be Darrell Fluehr, not Dale Fluehr
- Page 5: At the time of the printing of the directory, the location of the March 25 AGO meeting was not known. The meeting will be held at First Presbyterian Church,

840 South 17th Street, Lincoln.

- Page 26: Add James Lytton, **ChM**, to the list of substitute organists ♪

First Friday Concerts — 12:10 p.m.

Dr. Charles Webb, retired Dean of the Indiana University School of Music, will play the pipe organ at Saint Paul United Methodist Church, 1144 M Street, at 12:10



Charles Webb

p.m. on *Friday, November 4*. His selections will include *Prelude in C Minor, BWV 546* by J. S. Bach, two movements from *Sonata in A Major, Op. 65* by Felix Mendelssohn, two movements from *Sonata in D Minor* by Alexandre Guilmant, and an improvisation on a hymn tune by Charles Webb.

Dr. Webb is currently organist at the First United Methodist Church in Bloomington, Indiana. He regularly appears as concert organist and performer in organ dedication recitals, and in May 1987, was a featured recitalist on the Riverside Church concert series in New York City.

Charles Webb is being brought to Lincoln by the Bedient Pipe Organ Company

Additional First Friday Concerts in December/January . . .



December 2
John C. Friesen



January 6
Burt Street Boys
Jazz Ensemble

All First Friday Concerts are free and open to the public. ♪

— ATTENTION —

Due to the fact there are no AGO meetings scheduled for December/January, there will be no *Chiff Chat* for those months. The next newsletter will be mailed in February, with a deadline of January 15. If there is something of note that needs to be disseminated, there will be an e-mail about the event(s). You may also check the AGO Web site, occasionally — www.agolincoln.org/

Olivier Latry, Organ

Tuesday, November 1, 2005 — 7:30 p.m.

Saint Paul United Methodist Church

1144 M Street, Lincoln

Olivier Latry, titular organist of the Cathedral of Notre-Dame in Paris, is one of the world's most distinguished organists. He began his study of the organ at age 12; he later attended the Academy of Music at St. Maur-des-Fossés, studying organ with Gaston Litaize.

From 1981-1985 Olivier Latry was titular organist of Meaux Cathedral and at age 23 he won a competition to become one of the three titular organists of the Cathedral of Notre-Dame in Paris. Since 1995 he has taught at the Paris Conservatory.

He has numerous CDs to his credit, which include music of Bach, the complete organ works of Maurice Duruflé, Louis Vierne's Symphonies 2 & 3, Widor's Symphonies 5 and 6, Boëllmann's *Suite Gothique*, a recording of works by Litaize, and most recently the complete organ works of Olivier Messiaen and a recording of transcriptions for the organ entitled "Midnight at Notre-Dame." Latry would like to be an ambassador of seventeenth to twenty-first century French organ music, and is counted among the most noted "improvisateurs" in the exceptional French tradition from Charles Tournemire to Pierre Cochereau. Latry has performed in more than forty countries on five continents, appearing most often in the United States. He makes annual tours to the U. S., playing recitals in major cities coast to coast, as well as in cities throughout Canada. Mr. Latry has a particular interest in contemporary music and has premiered works of Xavier Darasse, Claude Ballif, Thierry Pecout, Vincent Paulet, Thierry Escaich, and Jean-Louis Florentz.



**LINCOLN
ORGAN
SHOWCASE**



Olivier Latry

Concert made possible through a generous gift from the Bedient Organ Company

Peter Richard Conte, Organ

Sunday, January 15, 2006 — 7:30 p.m.

First-Plymouth Congregational Church

20th at D Street, Lincoln

Peter Richard Conte is an organist whose great skill and innovative style can be completely enjoyed by any general audience--not just by other organists and organ buffs. He programs

transcriptions (many of them works he has arranged himself) of recognizable audience favorite pieces, including many of the great opera arias and overtures. Conte is highly and widely regarded for his skill as a performer, arranger of organ transcriptions, and for his unique and varied programs — not many performers today offer a Bach Prelude and Fugue followed by Bizet's "Carmen" or a Strauss waltz. He has been featured several times on National Public Radio and on ABC national television's "Good Morning America" and performs many times each week on the legendary Wanamaker Organ in Philadelphia, of which he is the fourth Grand Court Organist. He was a featured artist at the 2002 national convention of the American Guild of Organists.



Peter Richard Conte

Concert co-sponsored by Abendmusik: Lincoln

— CALENDAR OF EVENTS —

October	30	3:00 p.m.	ORGAN RECITAL — Dr. Nancy Peterson, Organ — St. Matthew's Episcopal Church — 2325 South 24th Street, Lincoln
	30	7:00 p.m.	ORGAN RECITAL — Dr. Quentin Faulkner, AAGO , Organ — St. Mark's Pro-Cathedral — 422 North Burlington Avenue, Hastings
November	1	7:30 p.m.	LINCOLN ORGAN SHOWCASE — Oliver Latry, Organ — Saint Paul United Methodist Church — 1144 M Street, Lincoln
	4	12:10 p.m.	FIRST FRIDAY CONCERTS — Dr. Charles Webb, Organ — Saint Paul United Methodist Church — 1144 M Street, Lincoln
	13	3:00 p.m.	ORGAN RECITAL — Gerald Holbrook, Organ — Cornerstone — UMHE Chapel — 640 North 16th Street, Lincoln
	13	4:00 p.m.	ORGAN RECITAL — Pamela Penner, CAGO , Organ — Eastridge Presbyterian Church — 1135 Eastridge Drive, Lincoln
	19	2:00 p.m.	AGO MEETING — Reading Session of Choral Anthems, John Helgen — Southwood Lutheran Church — 5511 South 27th Street, Lincoln
December	20	3:30 p.m.	ORGAN RECITAL — Dr. Mary Murrell Faulkner, CAGO , Organ — St. Mark's on-the-Campus — 1309 R Street, Lincoln
	2	12:10 p.m.	FIRST FRIDAY CONCERTS — Dr. John C. Friesen, Organ — Saint Paul United Methodist Church — 1144 M Street, Lincoln
	6	5:00 p.m.	ORGAN RECITAL — Vidas Pinkevicius, Organ — Saint Paul United Methodist Church — 1144 M Street, Lincoln
	8	5:00 p.m.	ORGAN RECITAL — Austra Motuzaitė-Pinkeviciene, Organ — Cornerstone — UMHE Chapel — 640 North 16th Street, Lincoln
January	6	12:10 p.m.	FIRST FRIDAY CONCERTS — Burt Street Boys Jazz Ensemble — Saint Paul United Methodist Church — 1144 M Street, Lincoln
	15	7:30 p.m.	LINCOLN ORGAN SHOWCASE — Peter Richard Conte, Organ — First-Plymouth Congregational Church — 20th at D Street, Lincoln
	15		DEADLINE for February issue of <i>Chiff Chat</i> — Mike Veak; 536 Pier 2 Lincoln, NE 68528; Phone: 402.817.0830; E-mail: mveak@neb.rr.com
	TBD		ORGAN RECITAL — Alain Truche, Organ — Date and time to be announced via e-mail. Also check the AGO Web site: www.agolincoln.org/

Looking Ahead to February . . . Dr. George Ritchie will give two complete performances of J. S. Bach's Art of Fugue, both at Cornerstone — UMHE Chapel, 640 North. 16th Street, Lincoln: one on Sunday, February 19 at 3:00 p.m. and the other on Tuesday, February 21 at 7:30 p.m. The Art of Fugue is one of Bach's last great works and brings the art of polyphony to its highest point. ♪



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