



Chiff Chat

Newsletter of the Lincoln Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

June/July 2017

Vol. 87, No. 5

Dean's Letter

Happy Summer! I don't know about you, but I am looking forward to the different rhythm and feel of church work during the summer. For me, summer means working with soloists more often, no regular evening rehearsals, time to clean and file music that's been piling up, time to look through some new anthems, time for some professional reading, and seeing old friends at a conference or two. And of course, about August or so, I'll start missing the choir rehearsals, and the projects and work of the "regular season."

A big part of what makes the "regular season" successful is the planning that happens now over these summer months. Your AGO board is trying to use these summer months to do some planning as well. We are working on programs and concerts for next season, and we are also hoping to have a board retreat that helps to make some longer range plans. I am excited about that, as it will give us a chance to get away from the business that we take care of at regular meetings, allowing us to dream and focus on the future for our organization.

As we think about the future, I'd love to hear from you! I'd like to know:

1. What do you value about the local AGO chapter?
2. What do you wish we could/would do that we haven't done yet?
3. What keeps you from participating more often?
4. If you could change one thing about our chapter, what would it be?
5. What would you miss if our chapter ceased to exist? Would you notice?

If you would be willing to answer these questions, I would be grateful. You can email me your thoughts at sschott@neb.rr.com, and I will share them with the board (anonymously, if you wish) at our retreat. The input of our members will be invaluable as we try to move forward at this time.

We have a fun social event coming up later this month ... please see page 5 for the details on that. I hope many of you can make it to that event; good food, drink and conversation is guaranteed!

I hope summer is restful and productive for each of you, and that you find yourself ready and waiting for the next AGO and LOS seasons that will begin after Labor Day. Please send in any reviews from conference you might attend; we'd love to include them in the next Chiff Chat.

—Sara Schott, Chapter Dean

Lincoln Chapter Executive Committee

Sara Schott, Dean; Mark Miller, Sub-Dean; Ryan Luckey, Treasurer; Sinda Dux, Secretary
Dan Ahlin and Claire Eason, Class of 2017; Nancy Anderson and Priscilla Kliewer, Class of 2018
Darrell Fluehr and Colt Ballou, Class of 2019; Christopher Marks, LOS Chair

Friday Noon Concert and Art

Friday, June 16, 12:10 p.m.

St. Paul United Methodist Church

1144 M Street, Lincoln



The First Friday concert will be on the THIRD Friday this month! This is the final concert for this season; next season will begin in October.

The musical performance this month features the Nebraska Wesleyan Children's Choir Camp. The artistic director for the week long camp is Elaine Quilichini who is recognized internationally for her distinguished work with choral ensembles. More than 40 children (10 - 16 years of age) rehearse for one

week with Ms. Quilichini and the results have always been astounding.

An art exhibit in Paine Parlor will showcase the floral art by Joni Brown. The exhibit will remain in place for the entire month. The McKinley Bells, played by Nancy L. Schoen, will be heard from the church's tower and also broadcast into the Sanctuary prior to the concert. Lunch (\$5) is available in Paine Parlor beginning at 11:30 a.m. and following the concert. For more information, contact Dick Morris ([\(402\) 261-3104](tel:4022613104)) or crichardmo@gmail.com



Kansas City 2018

American Guild of Organists

The National AGO convention is coming to our backyard (almost) next summer! Go to the website and subscribe to the convention newsletter for updates. And plan ahead – there are great discounts on registration if you register and pay by December 31, 2017.

July 2-6, 2018

www.agokc2018.com

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Summer Sing

Gloria by Antonio Vivaldi



WED | July 19 | 7:00 PM ~ First-Plymouth, Lincoln
THUR | July 20 | 7:00 PM ~ Trinity Cathedral, Omaha

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Book Review by Sinda Dux:

Charles W. Ore: an American Original

A **Festschrift** (German) is a book honoring a respected person and presented during his or her lifetime. The Lincoln AGO Chapter was honored to be asked by the Center for Church Music to contribute money toward the publication of this book honoring our own long-time chapter member and former Dean, Charles Ore.

From the foreword by noted organist, John Behnke: "Some creative people are totally absorbed in themselves and their work and then there's Charles Ore, who is creative beyond belief, yet magnanimous with encouragement for others and care and concern for all. His life and his music should be known to all church musicians."

The book is edited by Irene Beethe, a graduate of Concordia University, Seward, who babysat for the Ore family and who wrote her master's thesis on Charles' music. The book begins with a biography starting around 1700, when the paternal ancestors of Charles came to the Colonies and fought against the British in the Revolutionary War. Charles' grandfather eventually moved to Kansas. Charles' father had been raised Baptist; thus Charles was familiar with Baptist hymnody. Charles was raised a Lutheran and his mother taught him Lutheran hymns. His musical talent manifested itself early on and his family encouraged his musical education. His first piano teacher fostered his improvisational talents.

At 17 years of age, Charles was introduced to the organ by his home church organist on a two-manual, tracker-action Kilgen with a straight pedal board and Charles was "hooked" on organ from then on. The Festschrift details Charles' educational and work history.

Further chapters of the book give detailed analyses and reproductions of pages of Charles' compositions, both organ and choral. The chapter on choral compositions is written by long-time Lincoln AGO Chapter member and former Dean, David Held.

Readers will find in this book many things -- a detailed biography of Charles' life, a listing of his compositions, a "how-to" for playing his works and for improvising, and chapters on hymnody.

One beautiful and moving chapter is a sampling of Connie Ore's blogs after she was diagnosed with an incurable condition. The chosen writings are called "Hymns and the Care of the Soul."

ISBN: 9781942304197

Publication Information: Minneapolis, Minnesota: Lutheran University Press, 2016

Physical Description: 201 pages, illustrated, paperback

Summary: A view of the life, work, and influence of Charles W. Ore. This volume analyzes the musical and theological rationale behind the compositions of this distinguished composer and churchman. This is the seventh in a series of monographs in the series "Shaping American Lutheran Church Music," published by the Center for Church Music, Concordia University Chicago, River Forest, IL, highlighting people, movements, and events that have helped shape the course of church music among Lutherans in North America.



Chapter Event – Please Join Us!!

June 25, 4 p.m. at Bedient Pipe Organ Company
(3300 S 6th St. Suite P , Lincoln)

Dutch Treat Dinner at 5:30 at Blue Blood Brewing Company
(925 Robbers Cave Rd)

We'll meet at Bedient's new shop and have a tour. The company is working on its Opus 90, a nine-rank, mechanical action organ being built for the chapel of Sewickley Presbyterian Church in Sewickley, PA. After that, we will adjourn to Blue Blood Brewing Company for dinner (Dutch treat). It should be an evening of wonderful food and fellowship – hope to see YOU there!

AGO Agrees to FTC Order

The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) has conducted an investigation concerning certain provisions in the American Guild of Organists (AGO) Code of Ethics and other documents. The investigation focused on:

- A Code of Ethics provision that prohibits members from applying for a position held by someone else unless there has been a public announcement of a vacancy for that position;
- A Code of Ethics provision that requires a member engaged for a wedding, funeral, or other service to (1) obtain the approval of the incumbent musician before accepting, and (2) tell the party requesting the service to pay the incumbent his/her customary fee; and
- The AGO's publication of (1) lists and schedules of compensation and fees for its members to use, (2) standard methods and formulas for Chapters to provide to members for calculating compensation and fees, and (3) other model contract provisions.

To end the investigation expeditiously and to avoid disruption to its core functions, the AGO has voluntarily agreed to a Consent Agreement and entry of a final Decision and Order by the FTC. In doing so, however, the AGO has not admitted any law violation.

In general, the FTC's Order prohibits the AGO from:

- maintaining bylaws, a code of ethics, operational policies, or membership requirements that restrict its members from competing with one another for positions or for engagements for weddings, funerals, or other services, or competing in any other way, including on price;
- interfering with members' efforts to provide services and to compete on price;
- publishing documents such as fee schedules and model contracts for members to use when determining or securing compensation for their services.

The Order also requires the AGO to establish an antitrust compliance program.

All AGO members should be aware of these developments and abide by the terms of the AGO's settlement with the FTC.

Lincoln Chapter AGO

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Wanted: Newsletter Editor

Our chapter needs a newsletter editor! We publish 10 issues a year. Please contact Sara Schott if you are interested or would like to learn more.

We also could really use someone who would mail the few paper copies (expenses would be reimbursed). Please contact Sara Schott if you are interested or would like to learn more.

sschott@neb.rr.com
