

PipeNotes

American Guild of Organists – Milwaukee Chapter

P.O. Box 11731

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211

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Volume 70 – January 2024



FEBRUARY 4, 2024

1:30 PM LECTURE

3:00 PM MEMBERS' RECITAL

Church of the Gesu
1145 W. Wisconsin Ave
Milwaukee, WI

The lecture portion of this event will be in the lower church, an elevator is available. Parking is available in the lot behind the church.



Lecture by
Dr. Benjamin Taft
a specialist on
Bird Song

—
Dr. Thomas Carr
Associate Professor
of Biology at
Carthage College

American Guild of Organists
Milwaukee Chapter

www.agomilwaukee.org

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Class of 2025

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Kerri Kelly
Thomas Koester
J. Craig Sproat

Region VI Councilor

Dr. Mary Newton, CAGO
marynewton@yahoo.com

AGO Milwaukee Chapter Upcoming Events

Sunday, February 4, 2024 – 1:30
Lecture and Members' Recital
Church of the Gesu
1145 W. Wisconsin Ave
Milwaukee, WI

Saturday, March 9, 2024
Organ Crawl
Watch for upcoming details!

April 2024
Trip to St. Cecilia Catholic Church
Wisconsin Dells

Sunday, May 5, 2024 – 1:30
Annual Meeting followed by
Dr. Jan Kraybill Recital
Immanuel Presbyterian Church

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February 2024

2 (Fri) 7:00 Ben Culli Hymn Festival
St. Marcus Lutheran Church
2215 N. Palmer
Milwaukee, WI

4 (Sun) 1:30 Chapter Event
Lecture on Birdsong
Dr. Ben Taft & Dr. Thomas Carr
3:00 Members' Recital
Church of the Gesu
1145 W. Wisconsin Ave
Milwaukee, WI

4 (Sun) 2:30 Organ Prelude
3:00 Candlemas Evensong
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
914 E. Knapp St
Milwaukee, WI

7 (Wed) Just Bach
Selections from the Art of Fugue
Music at Historic Trinity
1046 N. 9th St
Milwaukee, WI

24 (Sat) 11:00 Dr. John Schwandt Masterclass
Concordia University Wisconsin
Chapel of Christ Triumphant
12800 N. Lake Shore Dr
Mequon, WI

25 (Sun) 3:30 Dr. John Schwandt Organ Recital
Concordia University Wisconsin
Chapel of Christ Triumphant
12800 N. Lake Shore Dr
Mequon, WI

March 2024

9 (Sat) Chapter Organ Crawl
Watch PipeNotes for Locations

17 (Sun) 3:00 Eternal Light
Bel Canto Chorus
St. Monica Parish
5681 N. Santa Monica Dr
Whitefish Bay, WI

17 (Sun) 3:30 Dr. Craig Sproat, Organ
Concordia University Wisconsin
Chapel of Christ Triumphant
12800 N. Lake Shore Dr
Mequon, WI

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January 2024

We have just completed another year and a busy advent and Christmas season with all of the extra music to help make all of the services special for one and for all. I hope you have found some time to rest, relax and renew your spirit after the holidays. We are now moving into church season of Epiphany.

Epiphany is the illumination of discovery, realization, a disclosure. What can you do during this year to learn expand discover? How can our Chapter help you do that? We work as a chapter to bring varied programming and educational experiences for our members. From reading sessions, recitals, lectures, and organ crawls. Please feel free to reach out to us what you would like to see us as a chapter offer for you, dean@agomilwaukee.org or subdean@agomilwaukee.org. We look forward to hearing from you about what we can help you learn and discover.

February 4th the chapter will have the opportunity to learn from two animal specialists, Dr. Ben Taft and Dr. Thomas Carr, about birdsong and communication, and the development of their communication. This will be followed by our Members' Recital at Church of the Gesu. Please look for more information here and on the website.

Another chance for discovery and learning is the national convention, held this year at the end of June in San Francisco. The early bird registration reduction ends on January 31.

John Schubring



June 30 – July 4, 2024

www.sfago2024.org

Early Registration Ends January 31, 2024

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FROM THE ARCHIVES
Liz Walloch, Historian/Archivist
archivist@agomilwaukee.org

Happy New Year and Happy Semi-Supercentenarian in 2024!! I know you are saying “what?” Our chapter qualifies for this distinctive title this year as we celebrate our 105th year. The added bonus of this title is we retain this title with honor through our 109th year. At our 110th year, there is yet another special title for our chapter to celebrate.

As I thought of what to share from the Archives this New Year, two words came into my thoughts “fresh” and “refresh.” Both words suggest a variety of meanings in different usages, however, in the context of our chapter here is my short list of meanings. “Fresh” and Refresh” describe a new energy, untapped possibilities, newness, a restorative point of view, beginning anew, being revived, and ready to engage. I myself heard these two words a lot in 2023 as I embarked on a master bathroom remodel. That’s what I called it, a remodel project. However, the designers and consultants referred to the project as a “refresh.” As the chapter continues to carry forward into our 105th year, I know programming chapter events have journeyed many different paths. Some ideas brought to the Executive Board were a sure fit at the right time, others were discussed and tabled for a few years down the road. Still others were discussed and tabled for a variety of reasons. What the Archives offers is a “treasure trove” of ideas for a “fresh” and “refresh” look for programming events small and large. Granted, I have been in the online Archives quite a bit and have circulated through the paper materials viewing the materials from a variety of different lenses. Sometimes I am searching for information to clarify, other times I am searching and learning unique facts about our chapter. When I read through the early years of the chapter, there is a determination, a commitment of members involvement in the many different subcommittees besides the Executive Board. Could I attract you members in 2024 to a “fresh” and a “refresh” exploration of the online Archives and learn the rich heritage that has brought us to this time, our 105th year? If you do not know where to start, here are two starting points to consider. Log into the Archives and start with viewing PipeNotes from the beginning in 1954. You don’t have to read them like a novel, but scan through them. Something will catch your interest; make you pause and call to you to read through. You will pick up a connection and it will draw you to view more. Also, the early Chapter Yearbooks are a wealth of information of the teamwork by the chapter. With all our advanced technology today, viewing the penned word on paper, the use of the manual typewriter for correspondence, meeting minutes and PipeNotes, the telephone chains to communicate news with members, snail mail, and the social gatherings for the pure enjoyment of sharing our interest in organ music, seems light years ago. The digitized paper materials make our history accessible, and this has made the heartbeat of our chapter stronger today. It’s our past that has carried the chapter forward using all the technologies possible. My trifecta wish for programming future events includes a “fresh” look at the “refreshed” MATC Skinner organ and a Giant Music Repurpose Event, aka Music Rummage Sale, and a few casual stop ins for coffee/tea events with members at one of the local coffee shops for sharing and networking. Could exploring the online Archives be one of your New Year’s resolutions to connect the chapter’s past with the present and its future? From the Archive corner, I would wholeheartedly agree it will be worth your effort and time.