

# PipeNotes

American Guild of Organists – Milwaukee Chapter

P.O. Box 11731

Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211

[www.agomilwaukee.org](http://www.agomilwaukee.org) • [chapter@agomilwaukee.org](mailto:chapter@agomilwaukee.org)

Volume 65 – April 2019



May 5, 2019

100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Milwaukee Chapter

1:30 Annual Meeting

3:00 Member's Recital

Carroll University

Shattuck Music Center

218 N. East Ave

Waukesha, WI

## NORTH CENTRAL REGION

JUNE 16-19

2019



**GREAT MUSIC ON A GREAT LAKE**

Chapter Directory  
[www.agomilwaukee.org](http://www.agomilwaukee.org)  
[chapter@agomilwaukee.org](mailto:chapter@agomilwaukee.org)

**Chapter Officers**  
**Dean**

Sheri Masiakowski  
414.403.1046  
[chapter@agomilwaukee.org](mailto:chapter@agomilwaukee.org)

**Co Sub-Dean**

Audrey Rhinehart, CAGO  
262.670.9566  
John Schubring  
414.727.6103  
[subdean@agomilwaukee.org](mailto:subdean@agomilwaukee.org)

**Secretary**

Nicole Moritz  
414.625.0318  
[Nicole.r.moritz@gmail.com](mailto:Nicole.r.moritz@gmail.com)

**Treasurer**

Steven Jensen  
414.688.7838  
[SJJ0923@aol.com](mailto:SJJ0923@aol.com)

**Registrar**

David Beyer  
414.871.6307  
[registrar@agomilwaukee.org](mailto:registrar@agomilwaukee.org)

**Executive Board**

**Class of 2019**

David Bohn  
Tim Handle  
David Porth  
Gary Wood

**Class of 2020**

Dean Rosko  
William Lieven  
Fr. Tom Lijewski  
Joel Schwartz

**Region VI Councilor**

Dr. Karen Black  
Waverly, IA  
[Karen.black@wartburg.edu](mailto:Karen.black@wartburg.edu)

**Education**

Mary Newton, CAGO  
[mayanewton@yahoo.com](mailto:mayanewton@yahoo.com)

**Professional Development**

J. Gordon Christensen, AAGO  
[mrc@chase3000.com](mailto:mrc@chase3000.com)

**Wisconsin District Convener**

Jeffrey Verkuilen, FAGO  
[jeffverkuilen@new.rr.com](mailto:jeffverkuilen@new.rr.com)

# Upcoming 2018 – 2019 Programs For The AGO Milwaukee Chapter

May 5, 2019

100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Milwaukee Chapter

1:30 Annual Meeting  
3:00 Member's Recital  
Carroll University  
Shattuck Music Center  
218 N. East Ave  
Waukesha, WI

June 16 – 19, 2019

North Central Regional Convention  
Milwaukee, WI

See the website for more information!

PipeNotes is Published Monthly submit information to the editor via email at,  
[pneditor@agomilwaukee.org](mailto:pneditor@agomilwaukee.org).

The Deadline is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the preceding month

## Johannus Organs Wisconsin

Johannus - Monarke - Makin -  
Copeman-Hart organs

Gary Wood  
414-241-3051  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin  
[Johannusorganswisconsin.com](http://Johannusorganswisconsin.com)

**JOHANNUS**



Congratulations to our Sub-Dean Audrey Rhinehart on her 25th anniversary at St. Kilian's Parish in Hartford. I give thanks to God for Audrey's presence as one of our Sub-Deans. We are so blessed with her and with John Schubring (co-Sub-Dean) — talented, patient, responsible and personable. I am graced with Board Members and Officers who respond quickly and implement their duties with care!

Many thanks to David Bohn for his continued work on the organ crawls. 20-30 folks filtered in and out during the day (March 9th) with bench time available at all churches: Luther Memorial Chapel, Plymouth UCC, Whitefish Bay United Methodist, Christ Church Episcopal and Our Savior Lutheran (on Santa Monica Boulevard). I was pleased to chat with out-of-town folks — Barry Hay (from out west) and Brian Heinlein (from up north). See our photo at Plymouth UCC. We are a jolly good group and we hope that your visage will be in next year's photo.



Two items that deserve your attention:

1. Ballots will arrive in your physical mailbox very shortly. Please vote on four Board Members. As usual an envelope is provided for mail-in votes OR bring that ballot/envelope to the Annual Meeting on May 5th. **Your vote is not valid unless the envelope is signed.** Thanks to Nicole Moritz and Gloria Konkel who contacted all of you about willingness to serve on the Board.
2. The Chapter Operating Procedures have been revised and require your approval. Reading the old and new is a tedious task so I suggest an early start and small doses every day. An email with link to the comparison may already have arrived in your mailbox. Please give this document your attention and be prepared to vote on it (yay or nay) at the Annual Meeting — Carroll College / Shattuck Hall (Room B29) 2pm on May 5th. The meeting precedes our Members' Recital which begins at 3pm.

From May 20 to June 10 ONCARD database change-over to the new software system will occur. This is the system that keeps track of your membership registration and renewals. As this approaches our most common renewal date (July 1st) there may be glitches in the transition. Please be patient. It may be wise to renew before or after those dates.

**Spam emails** have become more common, asking for personal banking ID or other personal identity information. If you receive an email from any AGO officer that doesn't seem quite right please don't volunteer your password, provide personal information or act on any request. Contact us directly for confirmation. Also **CHECK THE ORIGINATING EMAIL ADDRESS.** Most often the sender name/staff position will NOT match our names/role. I heard that the latest spam asks you to purchase gift cards for the sender. We will NEVER ask you to do that.

Phone calls were made to every member one or more times during that last two months — for Convention Program Book Advertising and for potential Board Candidates. Staying in touch with each other is so important. This Chapter is as strong as its ties to each other!

**Live in the moment.**

As church and synagogue musicians, don't we tend to live with one foot in the present and one foot in the future? In liturgy, we are acting on what the moment calls for right now, yet we constantly anticipate what comes next.  
*"Unease, anxiety, tension, stress and worry - all forms of fear - are caused by too much future, and not enough presence."*

- Eckhart Tolle, spiritual teacher and author

Lent is our present and yes, likely filled with some anxiety. I do wish you a very Happy and Blessed Easter in our near future! Put your feet up after Easter and have a cuppa...

*Sheri*

## April 2019

3 (Wed) 12:15 Dr. Solon Pierce, Piano  
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist  
812 N. Jackson St  
Milwaukee, WI

7 (Sun) 2:30 Milwaukee Chamber Choir  
All Saints Cathedral  
818 E. Juneau Ave  
Milwaukee WI

7 (Sun) 3:30 Milwaukee Handbell  
Ensemble  
St. John's Lutheran Church  
809 S. Sixth Ave  
West Bend, WI

9 (Tues) 7:30 Agnieszka Kosmecka, Organ  
Church of the Gesu  
1145 W. Wisconsin Ave  
Milwaukee, WI

17 (Wed) 12:15 Manuel Almeida, Guitar  
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist  
812 N. Jackson St  
Milwaukee, WI

24 (Wed) 12:15 Agnieszka Kosmecka,  
Organ  
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist  
812 N. Jackson St  
Milwaukee, WI

26 (Fri) OHS Wisconsin Chapter  
Organ Crawl in Madison

## May 2019

1:30 Annual Meeting  
3:00 Member's Recital  
AGO Milwaukee Chapter  
Shattuck Music Center  
Carroll University  
218 N. East Ave  
Waukesha, WI

5 (Sun) 3:00 Milwaukee Handbell  
Ensemble  
Christ the King Campus  
Of Unity Lutheran Church  
4600 Pilgrim Rd  
Brookfield, WI

## DAVID BAHRKE

Substitute Organist & Choir Director

414-232-6717

[dbahrke@mac.com](mailto:dbahrke@mac.com)

Available especially for Christmas and Holiday Services.



*Excellence*  
A HIGHER LEVEL of EXCELLENCE

*Great musicians need extraordinary instruments  
to deliver magnificent performances*

Paul W. Lohman - Toll free: 800-326-7426  
E-mail: [lohman004@umn.edu](mailto:lohman004@umn.edu) • [www.schantzorgan.com](http://www.schantzorgan.com)

## sound INSPIRATION

Acoustical Design & Testing • Organ Consultation &  
Inspection • Organ Maintenance & Tuning • Sound & Video  
System Design, Evaluation & Training

[www.riedelassociates.com](http://www.riedelassociates.com) • (414) 771-8766  
email: [consult@riedelassociates.com](mailto:consult@riedelassociates.com)  
819 NORTH CASS STREET • MILWAUKEE, WI 53202

**RIEDEL**  
hear the difference.

Superior Quality - Excellent Service - Competitive Prices - 24 Hour Assistance



Keith B. Williams, Service Department Director

217 390 4000 \* [buzardservice@gmail.com](mailto:buzardservice@gmail.com)

John-Paul Buzard Pipe Organ Builders  
[www.Buzardorgans.com](http://www.Buzardorgans.com)

112 West Hill Street • Champaign, IL 61820  
800-397-3103

+++Karen Beaumont+++  
 ++experienced++  
 Organ Recitalist  
 Church Musician  
 Organ Teacher  
 ++available for++  
 Recitals, Service Playing,  
 Organ Lessons

<http://karenbeaumontorganist.mysite.com>

[kmbeaumont@hotmail.com](mailto:kmbeaumont@hotmail.com)

414-276-0499 (land line)



## ORGAN STUDIES at Carthage College

Study with Professor Christopher Berry, Director of Music at the Basilica of St. Josaphat in Milwaukee, as an organ student at Carthage.

### SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

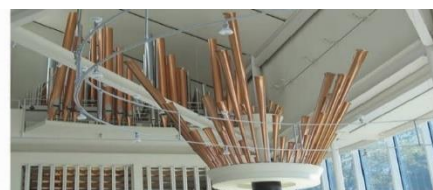
The Carthage Music Department awards one \$13,000 organ scholarship (renewable annually) to a qualified, exceptional student who is committed to organ studies.

Learn more at:

[CARTHAGE.EDU/MUSIC](http://CARTHAGE.EDU/MUSIC)



## NOLTE ORGAN BUILDING & SUPPLY, INC.



(414) 671-5646

[WWW.NOLTEORGANS.COM](http://WWW.NOLTEORGANS.COM)

[NOLTEORGANS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:NOLTEORGANS@GMAIL.COM)

### 🌿 All Things Pipe Organ 🌿

- TUNING & SERVICE
- REBUILDING
- PIPE ADDITIONS
- NEW INSTALLATIONS
- RESTORATION
- CONSOLE UPGRADES

EST. 1986 ♦ MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

## Berghaus

Pipe Organ Builders

*Manufacturing and Maintaining World Class Pipe Organs for 45 years*

Contact us for a comprehensive evaluation of your needs.

- New Instruments
- Tuning
- Restorations
- Emergency Service
- Rebuilds
- Releathering
- Relocations
- Console Upgrades
- Tonal Additions
- Solid State Conversions
- Revoicing
- Consultations
- Fire Restorations
- Water Damage Repair



708-544-4052 • [info@berghausorgan.com](mailto:info@berghausorgan.com) • 2151 Madison St., Bellwood, IL 60104 • [www.berghausorgan.com](http://www.berghausorgan.com)

# From the Archives

Liz Walloch, Archivist/Historian

## Church Organ Speaks Peace in Midst of Noonday's Noise

The front doors of St. James Episcopal Church on 8<sup>th</sup> and Wisconsin Avenue are open and people are entering the church. It is just after 12 pm. It's a Monday, November 19, 1945. Hmm, what or who is drawing a crowd of people here on this Monday? Today, the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is presenting another of its weekly Monday noonday recitals. Entering the dimly lighted church, there is a crowd of about 100 present, spanning all ages. Let us join in, get comfortable, the concert is about to start. The program lists Dr. O. M. J. Wehrley, organist of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Redeemer as today's recitalist. At precisely 12:20 pm Dr. Wehrley leads into his music program. The program lists a total of six (6) organ pieces. Included are Purcell's *Voluntary on the 100<sup>th</sup> Psalm Tune*; Stanley's *Voluntary on a Trumpet Tune*; Richard T. Gore's *Chorale and Variation: "Nun Sich Der Tag Geendet Hat"*; Richard Keys Biggs' *Toccata (Thanks be to God)*; Arthur B. Jennings' *Sarabande*; and Homer Whitford's *Choral Paraphrase on "Nun Danket Alle Gott."* From these composers and titles, the theme of "thanksgiving" is center stage. At this harvest time of year thoughts turn to the holiday of Thanksgiving, three days after this concert on November 22. For musicians November 22 is a special date; it is the feast day of St. Cecilia, the patron saint of musicians. Earlier this year, on September 2, 1945, the world saw the end of tragedies caused by war, the Second World War ended. A very thankful world for prayers answered now could pause to heal and live in peace.

As Dr. Wehrley's first Voluntary organ piece begins, the cacophony of Wisconsin Avenue is shut out as listeners let the organ music speak without words. It is a short time on this Monday for reveries, to daydream. The notes played were tiny "stairs" upon which one climbed above the clouds and challenges of the day to find comfort. The organ instrument itself was the preacher telling the flock of the goodness of life, like a mother singing a lullaby to their child. In looking up at the beamed arches of the church, the noonday sun pierces beautifully through the stained glass windows. Today's concert concludes, those assembled start to leave, many going back to work. The refreshed expression on their faces says it all. Yes, it is good to give thanks.

From archive materials, I found an undated, non-reporter named music review from one of the local newspapers on today's concert. This is the only review I found on this concert series and it is a treasure for the archives. These Monday noonday recitals were held at St. James Episcopal Church during 1945-1946. There was no mention in the programs of the instrument at St. James Episcopal. From the OHS database the church had a Lancashire-Marshall Organ (1892) –OHS database ID23925 at the time of these noonday concerts. The church of St. James Episcopal regrettably closed its doors forever holding their "last worship service" on October 1, 2017 and held a "closing service" the evening of November 1, 2017.

# 2019 Nominees for the Milwaukee Chapter Board



Barry Hay

**Barry Hay** is the owner of Integrity OrganWerks, offering a full range of pipe and digital organ services throughout Wisconsin and Minnesota. He received his formal organ training while studying at Immanuel Lutheran College and Seminary in Eau Claire, Wisconsin.

Over the years, he has served as organist for congregations in Washington, Florida, South Dakota and Wisconsin. He is currently the head organist at Faith Lutheran Church in Markesan, Wisconsin, where he also recently completed a rebuild of the congregation's aging instrument. Having been intrigued by the organ since childhood, Barry's true joy is to use the full tonal range of the instrument to lead congregations in the nuances of liturgical worship. He is also excited about the opportunity to become more actively involved with the AGO.

**Michael Batcho** is the Director of Music for the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist, where he directs the Cathedral Choir, Women's Choir and Schola. In addition he manages the arts program, is the principal organist and supervises directors of the Handbell Ensemble and Voces Mundi world music choir.

Michael earned a Bachelor of Music degree, Magna Cum Laude, from West Virginia University and a Master of Music degree with a choral conducting emphasis from Virginia Commonwealth University. He was an adjunct faculty member in the religious studies and music departments at Cardinal Stritch University, Milwaukee.



Michael Batcho

**Roger Meyer** has served as an organist and music director at a number of churches in the Milwaukee area. During all of this time, he has been an active member of the Milwaukee chapter and currently holds the Colleague certification. Last year he attended the National Convention in Kansas City and is looking forward to participating in the North Central Region Convention here in Milwaukee this summer. He

received his musical training at St. Paul's High School and College in Concordia, Mo. He currently works as an organist at Church of Peace UCC in Fond du Lac and St. John Lutheran Church in Plymouth.



Roger Meyer

**Joe Dominic** I'm honored that I was requested to seek election to the Executive Board of the Milwaukee AGO Chapter! The chapter is instrumental in keeping me in contact with my fellow organists, helping me learn to be a better musician, and making me aware of concert opportunities. I previously served on the board from 2002 through 2005.



Joe Dominic

I worked for several years as the full time chapel musician at Mercyhurst College, in Erie, PA, during which I oversaw the installation of a new organ. Since returning to Milwaukee in the late 90's, I have served as church musician in several congregations of varying denominations, both full time and part time. Currently, I serve as music director at Grace Lutheran Church, ELCA, in Kenosha.

I hold a bachelor's degree in music theory and composition from Illinois State University. In addition, I studied organ at the graduate level at St. Joseph College in Indiana and also with local instructors. When I moved from working full time to part time as a church music, I resumed my schooling and earned special education certification from the Milwaukee Teacher Education Center and a master's degree in education from Mount Mary University. I currently teach 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders in a Milwaukee Public School.

I am active in our community. Since the year 2000, I have volunteered as an HIV counselor at the Brady East Sexually Transmitted Disease Clinic. I served as a member of the events committee, and before that the political action committee, at the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center. I work closely with my union. Since beginning teaching in 2005, I have been a member of building committees at the schools in which I have worked. Currently, I serve as building representative. I keep active as a musician, in addition to my work in church music. Previously, I sang with the City of Festivals Men's Chorus. Currently, I play percussion with the UWM University-Community Band.

I live with my partner of three and a half years, Reece Howell, in the Bayview neighborhood of Milwaukee. Reece is a classically trained painter, who specializes in portraits and murals. Music-wise, Reece was not very familiar with classical music when we met, so living with me has lead him on many new sonic adventures. However, since Reece is a fan of metal and electronic dance music, the same could be said for me!



*Tim Handle*

**Tim Handle** is an organist, pianist, and music director with over 20 years of experience in various churches and over a decade of experience teaching in elementary and secondary education.

Tim started his musical career playing piano for his home church, Grace Lutheran in Oak Creek, WI when he was

13 years old. At 17 he started playing for the Saturday evening Folk Mass at St. John Catholic Parish (now Divine Mercy Parish) in South Milwaukee while studying at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. In 2002 Tim started playing also piano and organ for Faith Presbyterian Church in Franklin, WI. In 2005 he received his Bachelor of Fine Arts in K-12 general music and instrumental music education from UWM where he studied organ with Jeffrey Peterson and Martha Stiehl, and piano with Elena Abend.

In 2014 he completed his Masters of Music in organ performance under Dr. Larry Schou at the University of South Dakota. In September of 2014 through June of 2015, Tim worked for St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Big Bend as the Director of Music Ministry.

In July of 2016, Tim was hired as Director of Liturgy for recently merged St. John XXIII Parish of Port Washington and Saukville (formerly St. Mary, Immaculate Conception, and St. Peter of Alcantara). In addition to the four weekend Masses and two weekly school Masses, he has an adult choir, a children's choir, and a funeral choir. In 2017 Tim started a summer concert series "Music on the Hill," which has been very well received throughout the community.

I have enjoyed my time serving on the Board these last two years, focusing on publicity and advertising for our many wonderful events. I would be honored to continue serving on the board for the Milwaukee chapter of the AGO.



*Gary Wood*

**Gary Wood** was awarded a Bachelor degree in Organ Performance, along with independent study in Physics. I learned electronics technology in the U.S. Navy; was Quality Control Manager for Gulbransen Organs, then worked at Lawrence Phelps, Associates, and later with Ron Wahl,

building pipe organs. The opportunity arose to become a military contractor in Europe working on NATO and other projects. During this time, I had significant exposure to organs across Europe, and served several churches as organist.

For 50 years I have played the organ for church services, and have continued to serve local churches as organist. I managed a concert series at St. Casimir Church in Riverwest for 9 years. I am currently a dealer for Johannus Organs, designing, installing and voicing modern digital organs in a variety of tonal styles. One of my designs for a Cavaillé-Coll inspired French organ in Wisconsin Dells was featured on the cover of TAO magazine.

The Milwaukee chapter of the AGO does a good job of fostering a community of like-minded musicians. Members have benefited from excellent chapter leadership. With the approach of the AGO Regional event to be held here, the chapter will need leadership adept at planning, organizing, communicating and being creative. It would be an honor to participate as a Board member during this period.