

# PipeNotes



**American Guild of Organists – Milwaukee Chapter**

**P.O. Box 11731**

**Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211**

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**Volume 60 – February 2014**

## **AGO Milwaukee Chapter Spring 2014 Programs**

**8:00 – 6:00 March 8, 2014**

**Madison Organ Crawl**

**Cost: \$20 AGO Member**

**\$25 Non-member**

**Includes Lamers Coach Bus**

**Lunch on your own**

**3:00 April 6, 2014**

**Organ Dedication Concert**

**David Baskeyfield, Organ**

**Mount Carmel Lutheran Church**

**8424 W. Center Street**

**Milwaukee, WI**

**May 4, 2014**

**Members' Recital**

**(Watch PipeNotes for More Information)**

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

## Dean's Column

Larry Wheelock

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TBA

#### Wisconsin District Convener

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It's that "ordinary" time of year; Christmas decorations are mostly put away. We are down to the dregs of the Epiphany Carols and the Christmas ones are mostly history. The snow can still be pretty but is mostly annoying and friends are starting to count-down the days until spring.

Here's an idea: Make a trip with your Chapter colleagues as part of your spring celebration. On Saturday, March 8 our chapter will sponsor an organ crawl to Madison. There are some fine organs in Madison which many of us have never seen. John "Chappie" Stowe will be commenting on each organ we visit and there will be 'open console' time.

We have arranged a comfortable bus so that you don't even have to drive. It is only \$20 for members (\$25 for non-members and guests). You can't even buy a tank of gas for that, so this is a really good deal! And, you'll have some time on Mad-town's famous State Street for lunch on your own.

Our organ crawls have been among our most popular programs so I hope you'll put this on your calendar and plan to join us. Registration is available online at [agomilwaukee.org](http://agomilwaukee.org).

This month's copy of *The American Organist* has full details and a registration form for the National Convention of the American Guild of Organists to be held this year in Boston, MA. There is a terrific line-up of stellar artists and some really interesting seminars and organs. I took advantage of the early-registration discount (expires on January 31,) but it is still very worthwhile to register, even at the full price. This will be the 3rd time I have attended an AGO National Convention in Boston, and that chapter really knows how to do it right. If you have never attended a national convention I can promise you a unique and very high-quality experience. If you have, then you know how fulfilling it can be. Why not make this the year that you decide to attend?

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.

## February 2014

5 (Wed) 12:15 Kristin Roble, Soprano  
Henry Hammond, Baritone, &  
Michel Stestak, Piano  
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist  
812 N. Jackson St  
Milwaukee, WI

9 (Sun) 3:00 Organ Plus  
MacDowell Club of Milwaukee  
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist  
812 N. Jackson St  
Milwaukee, WI

11 (Tues) 7:30 Don Verkuilen, Organ  
Church of the Gesu  
1145 W. Wisconsin Ave  
Milwaukee, WI

12 (Wed) 12:15 Von Call Guitar Trio  
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist  
812 N. Jackson St  
Milwaukee, WI

14 (Fri) 7:00 A "Lovely" Hymn Festival  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
824 Wisconsin Ave  
Sheboygan, WI

15 (Sat) 5:00 A 14<sup>th</sup> Century Musical Valentine  
Early Music Now  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
914 E. Knapp St  
Milwaukee, WI

16 (Sun) 4:00 An Organ Miscellany  
St. Casimir Church  
2600 N Bremen St  
Milwaukee, WI

19 (Wed) 12:15 Donna Schriener, mezzo  
Sr. Marion Verhaalen, Piano  
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist  
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26 (Wed) 12:15 Michael Thiele, Piano  
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist  
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Tim Hoeller, AGO Member/Musician, OMI Services,  
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Ordering Deadline for Christmas: December 12<sup>th</sup>. Shipping and Handling add \$4.75, \$1.25 additional for Priority Mail. For overnight service, check availability. Available for Substitute Organist duties.

Wisconsin Seller's Permit No. is 456-1024905852-03  
Price Quoted Does Not Include Sales Tax

**Positions Available** - to view more positions available and more complete job descriptions please login to the AGO Milwaukee Chapter website, [www.agomilwaukee.org](http://www.agomilwaukee.org), and look in the members only section.

**Organist --IMMEDIATE PART TIME OPENING** St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Kenosha, WI is seeking a part time organist. We currently have two Sunday services at 8am and 10:30am (one service in summer months), with an adult choir. An ideal candidate would be a faith-centered musician with a background in liturgical worship and strong organ & piano skills. Experience with more traditional church hymnody and familiarity with the Evangelical Lutheran Worship liturgy is a plus. Attending a weekly choir practice and monthly Worship & Music Committee planning meeting would be expected. Part time salaried position ¼ time (approximately 8-10hrs/wk). Salary negotiable depending on experience. Interested individuals please apply to [stplc.office@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stplc.office@sbcglobal.net). Any questions will be gladly answered promptly. Please phone 262-694-3101 or e-mail [stplc.office@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stplc.office@sbcglobal.net). St. Paul's office hours are 8:00am – noon (M-F). For more information about St. Paul's, please visit our website at [www.stpaulskenosha.org](http://www.stpaulskenosha.org).

**Organist - The First United Methodist Church - Green Bay**, the oldest, and one of the largest United Methodist congregations in Wisconsin, seeks an organist to lead our two Sunday traditional services in worship. The successful candidate will be proficient in organ, have experience leading music in worship, and be willing and able to work as part of a team. Our organ was built by the Schlicker Organ Company of Buffalo, New York in 1994. The organ is comprised of 29 ranks, with 2000 individual pipes. Applicants should submit a letter of interest and a resume to [cberken@fumcgb.org](mailto:cberken@fumcgb.org)



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## **\$2.5 MILLION GIFT ENABLES THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS TO ENRICH LIVES THROUGH ORGAN MUSIC**

The American Guild of Organists (AGO) is spearheading three major initiatives that have been made possible by the largest bequest in Guild history. Totalling more than \$2.5 million in cash and assets including a tracker pipe organ, the bequest from the estate of Ronald G. Pogorzelski and Lester D. Yankee was first announced at the 2010 AGO National Convention in Washington, D.C.

With the gradual distribution of the assets over the last three and a half years, the Guild has worked diligently and faithfully to honor the donors' intentions by establishing (1) an endowment to provide college scholarships to dedicated organ students with financial needs, (2) an endowment to provide for the relocation and ongoing maintenance of the donors' tracker organ, and (3) an endowment to support an annual organ composition competition for that instrument. Two of these endowments are now fully funded, with the third nearing completion.

"This extraordinary bequest helps us accomplish our mission—to enrich lives through organ and choral music—by providing the resources to implement two new programs and establish a lasting relationship with a new academic partner," said AGO President Eileen Guenther. "The AGO continues to be much more than the world's largest membership association for organists. At the national level and through our international network of more than 300 chapters, we conduct more educational and outreach programs supporting organ and choral music than any other professional organization."

The Ronald G. Pogorzelski and Lester D. Yankee Memorial Scholarship will be available to six students (four undergraduate, and two graduate) beginning with the 2014–2015 academic year. Four undergraduate scholarships in the amount \$7,500 each will be offered: one each to an incoming college freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior. Each scholarship will be renewable through completion of the student's undergraduate years of study. Two graduate scholarships in the amount of \$15,000 each will be offered and will be renewable for a total of two years of graduate study. Eligibility requirements and application details are available online at [Agohq.org](http://Agohq.org). The application deadline is March 1, 2014.

The Ronald G. Pogorzelski and Lester D. Yankee Pipe Organ Endowment was established to support the ongoing maintenance of the Pogorzelski and Yankee Memorial Organ. The 2-manual and pedal, 24-stop, 21-rank tracker organ, built by R.J. Brunner & Company in 1991 for Pogorzelski and Yankee's private residence in Bucks County, Pa., was inspired by the early Pennsylvania German organs of David Tannenberg (1728–1804). The casework is gilded in 22-karat gold leaf. It will be moved and installed at Indiana University of Pennsylvania in May 2014 where it will be used for teaching and performance. The AGO's lease of the organ to IUP will be renewable annually.

"The Guild selected IUP because of its thoroughly documented and passionate desire to have this instrument on campus and for its

commitment to use the organ regularly for teaching and performance purposes exactly as Messrs. Pogorzelski and Yankee desired," declared AGO Executive Director James Thomashower. The proposal, he said, "made it abundantly clear to us that IUP's organ students, faculty, and administration would treasure the opportunity to have this elegant organ at the school and that it would be of immediate and lasting benefit not only to the academic community, but to the larger community around Indiana, Pa."

The organ will be installed in the IUP Music Department's Large Instrumental Rehearsal Hall, a room with the size and acoustical properties to provide an ideal setting for teaching and performance on the organ, according to Michael Hood, dean of the College of Fine Arts at IUP. "We are thrilled with the great honor that the American Guild of Organists has bestowed upon the department and IUP, and I can guarantee you that its honor and trust will be fully matched by the care and the respect with which this marvelous instrument will be treated," Hood said.

Christine Clewell, IUP's assistant professor of organ added, "IUP will embrace a policy of hospitality with the instrument, using it as a tool for building community relations, where we will continue to encourage the study of organ to vanquish the ever-present problem of the 'vanishing organist'," addressing the shortage of organists in the rural, western Pennsylvania region and elsewhere throughout the U.S. She expects the new organ to result in more frequent, higher quality organ performances, which will increase interest in organ study. "The new acquisition will materially raise the profile and expand the reputation of the IUP organ program and will serve as a promotional vehicle for organ study not only for prospective students, but also for those presently enrolled."

The Ronald G. Pogorzelski and Lester D. Yankee Annual Competition, a composition competition to encourage the creation of new music specifically for the R.J. Brunner organ, is being established by the AGO. Each year, the winning composition will be given its world premier performance in a gala recital at IUP by an internationally recognized organist. The AGO National Council has approved a preliminary statement of the competition rules as drafted by the AGO New Music Committee. The rules will be finalized and published later this year. The winning piece is expected to be performed at IUP in 2015. Complete details including the application process for composers will be posted online at [Agohq.org](http://Agohq.org).

Speaking on behalf of Messrs. Pogorzelski and Yankee at the 2010 AGO National Convention in Washington, D.C., Dale J. Marsico noted, "According to my uncles, the heart is reached easier through the use of organ music than any other musical form. Their music collection, music room, pipe organ, and Ron's playing ability were testimony to their love of the instrument. This gift is a testament to their hopes that future generations might come to enjoy—to love and appreciate organ music as they did. They felt that their bequest to American Guild of Organists offered the best opportunity for that possibility."

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## Pipe Organ Encounters are announced

### POE for ages 13–18

June 8–13, Fort Collins, Colo.  
June 9–14, Indianapolis, Ind.  
June 29–July 4, Wilmington, Del.  
July 7–11, Manhattan, Kans.  
July 13–18, Easton, Mass.

### POE (Advanced) for ages 13–18

June 29–July 4, Ann Arbor, Mich.

### POE (Technical) for ages 16–23

June 8–13, Stowe, Pa.

### POE+ for Adults

June 8–13, Rockford, Ill.  
July 13–17, Seattle, Wash.

## AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS AWARDED \$15,000 GRANT FROM THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

The American Guild of Organists (AGO) has been awarded a grant by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) to support the 2014 AGO National Convention in Boston, Mass., June 23–27, 2014. The \$15,000 NEA “Art Works” grant is directed to support performances, educational workshops, publication of the Boston Organ Book, and new music premieres. The grant carries a mandate that it be matched dollar for dollar from other funding sources. The 2014 AGO National Convention is the fifth consecutive AGO National Convention that has garnered funding from the arts endowment.

AGO President Eileen Guenther stated, “The recognition by the NEA reaffirms the importance of new music commissions to increase organ and choral repertoire, and to increase the American public’s knowledge of and appreciation for contemporary classical music. The AGO is especially interested in supporting new music for the concert stage, as there are increasing numbers of American concert halls, including the Symphony Hall in Boston, with new or renewed concert organs.” AGO Executive Director James Thomashower added, “It is an honor to be recognized by the NEA. We are highly grateful for this grant that will enable us to continue our tradition of presenting outstanding musical performances to enrich lives through organ and choral music when we meet for our National Convention in Boston.”

Art Works grants support the creation of art that meets the highest standards of excellence: public engagement with diverse and excellent art, lifelong learning in the arts, and enhancing the livability of communities through the arts. The NEA received 1,528 eligible Art Works applications, requesting more than \$75 million in funding. Of those applications, 895 are recommended for grants for a total of \$ 23.4 million. Acting NEA Chairman Shigekawa said, “The National Endowment for the Arts is proud to support these exciting and diverse arts projects that will take place throughout the United States. Whether it is through a focus on education, engagement, or innovation, these projects all contribute to vibrant communities and memorable experiences for the public to engage with the arts.”

The 2014 AGO National Convention will augment and enrich cultural life in New England and beyond through performances by outstanding solo artists and choral and instrumental ensembles in the city’s concert halls and houses of worship, educational workshops, and presentations of scholarly papers. In addition, the Guild has commissioned 14 composers renowned for artistic excellence, totaling more than 100 minutes of new music.

Convention performers and performing ensembles include: James David Christie (organ) and the Boston Landmarks Orchestra, Christopher Wilkins (conductor); Joan Lippincott (organ) and the Boston Early Music Festival Chamber Ensemble; Handel and Haydn Society; Boston City Singers Youth Choir; Cantata Singers; Berklee Jazz Organ Group; Blue Heron Renaissance Choir; organists: Chelsea Chen, Heinrich Christensen, Craig Cramer, Scott Dettra, Thierry Escaich, Janette Fishell, Peter Krasinski, Christian Lane, Renée Anne Louprette, Kimberly Marshall, Rosalind Mohnsen, Bruce Neswick, Jonathan Ortloff, Kola Owolabi, Pamela Ruitter-Feenstra, Jonathan Ryan, John Scott, Stephen Tharp, and Catherine Todorovski; Peter Sykes, harpsichord; plus winners of the AGO National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance, the AGO National Competition in Organ Improvisation, and the AGO/Quimby Regional Competitions for Young Organists.

Premier performances will be presented of commissioned works from: Carol Barnett, Lisa Bielawa, Carson Cooman, Pamela Decker, Libby Larsen, David Lasky, Matthew Martin, Nico Muhly, Betty Olivero, Scott Perkins, Robert Sirota, Hilary Tann, Edward Thompson, and James Woodman. Serving to highlight Boston’s heritage of American musical composition, six historic compositions by Boston composers will be grouped with six new music commissions to form the Boston Organ Book, a publication to be distributed to all convention registrants to encourage performances for the benefit of the public.

For further information about the 2014 AGO National Convention, please visit [Agoboston2014.org](http://Agoboston2014.org). For further information about the National Endowment for the Arts, please visit [Arts.gov](http://Arts.gov).

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