

PipeNotes

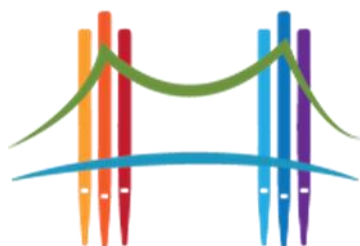
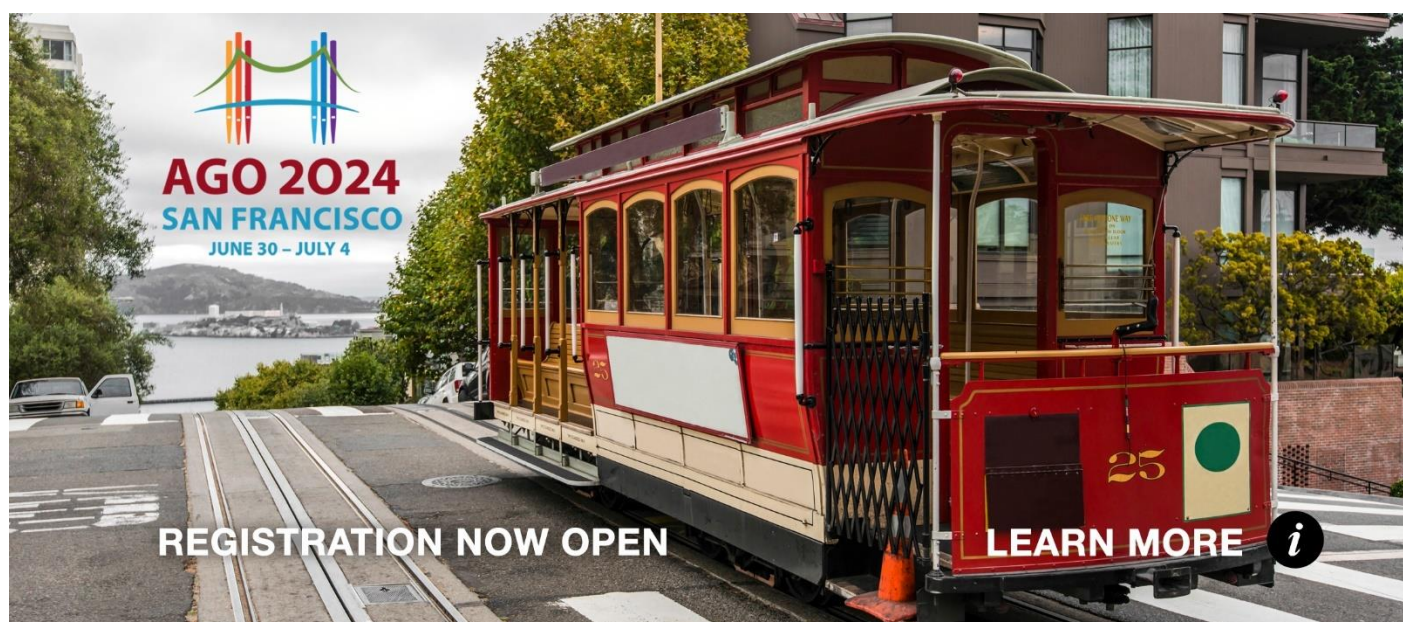
American Guild of Organists – Milwaukee Chapter

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Volume 70 – June 2024



AGO 2024
SAN FRANCISCO

www.sfago2024.org

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chapter@agomilwaukee.org

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treasurer@agomilwaukee.org

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Executive Board

Class of 2024

Heide Hongsermeier
Paul Kasten
William Lieven
Dean Rosko

Class of 2025

Mike Jacklin
Kerri Kelly
Thomas Koester
J. Craig Sproat

Region VI Councilor

Dr. Mary Newton, CAGO
marynewton@yahoo.com

June 2024

This month I would like to start out by thanking all of those who came out to our May annual meeting and to the Jan Kraybill Recital. It was truly a wonderful event and worth the time we spent waiting and wondering if this event was ever going to happen, as it was originally planned and then postponed during the COVID pandemic. Thank you to Steve Jensen and Immanuel Presbyterian for sticking it out and co-sponsoring and hosting the event with us. Jan's use of the instrument showed her mastery and artistry at the console. Her use of color and varying accompaniments during the hymns were mindful of the texts and helped the audience to be reminded of the words that they were singing. As we were singing together, breathing together, making music together and being inspired together during "The Breadth of our Breathe" let it serve as inspiration for what we can all do as we work together.

I would like to thank all of the outgoing board members: Karel Suchy, Heide Hongsermeier, Bill Lieven, and Dean Rosko. Thank you all for the work that you have done on behalf of the Milwaukee Chapter. I also would like to thank Larry Wheelock who is stepping down as webmaster after many years. The Chapter only keeps going through the work of those who volunteer their time and talents. Thank you all for volunteering your time and talents to the Milwaukee Chapter.

I now look forward to working with the newly elected board members: Sub-Dean: David Bahrke; Class of 2026 – Michael Batcho, Lee Erickson, Paul Kasten, and Christian Rich. Thank you to all of you for being willing to serve on the Milwaukee Chapter board.

One last item. For those who are trying to renew your membership. If you are trying to renew it online via OnCard and are not able, please call the national office at **(212) 870-2310** and they will be able to help you. They are having some difficulty with the OnCard system, but they will be able to help you if you call.

John Schubring

June 2024


5 (Wed) 12:15 Jared Stellmacher, Organ
All Saints Episcopal Church
100 N. Drew St.
Appleton, WI

9 (Sun) 3:00 Charlie Rasmussen, Cello &
Del Kahlstorf, Harpsichord
Gary McWithey Concert Series
Brookfield Congregational Church
16350 Gebhardt Rd
Brookfield, WI

12 (Wed) Dr. Andrew Schaeffer, Organ
Holy Cross Catholic Church
309 Desnoyer St
Kaukauna, WI

19 (Wed) 12:15 Jeff Verkuilen, Organ
First United Methodist Church
325 E. Franklin St
Appleton, WI

26 (Wed) 1:00 Dr. Stephen Ackert, Organ
St. Joseph Catholic Church
404 W. Lawrence St
Appleton, WI



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FROM THE ARCHIVES

Liz Walloch, Archivist and Historian archivist@agomilwaukee.org

This year's Chapter programs came to a close on May 5 with recitalist Jan Kraybill in concert at Immanuel Presbyterian Church. We had waited patiently through three COVID concerns that delayed her concert, but Jan's concert was worth the wait. She invited us through her selection of composers and poets to become part of this "inspirational" concert -- "The Breadth of Our Breath." This superb concert gave new meaning to the phrases "air in motion" and "breathe together" with music that has the ability to transform us and the world. For those in attendance at this concert, you witnessed Chapter history firsthand.

It would seem that the entire Chapter, Executive Board and Officers take a pause during summer and resume again when the fall programs start up. Well, I did some exploration in the Archives, and I was enlightened! There is a huge amount of behind-the-scenes work that is in motion during the summer months. The work cycle keeps looping with ideas shared for possible programs, discussions, a lot of planning with fine tuning, revisions, more discussions, more revisions, coordinating and finalizing programs. There are also those larger events that are broader in scope which need many years to discern the feasibility of hosting, like a Regional Convention, a Pipe Organ Encounter, and Pedals, Pipes and Pizza to name a few. So, in reality, our Executive Board and Officers is engaged in Chapter business 12 months of the year, no summer pauses.

The Archives has so much history waiting to be shared, so here is my small snapshot of some events that were significant to the Chapter in the month June.

The Multi-Faceted Shapes, Sights and Sounds of the Month of June

The Chapter celebrated their Silver Anniversary in May of 1944 with a dinner and the annual meeting on May 27. Member Mrs. Mary Ball played a recital featuring her on both flute and organ works at Calvary Presbyterian Church to bring the anniversary festivities to a close on May 28 at 4 pm. The Chapter was also encouraging members from our Wisconsin Chapter to *"keep in mind the Third Biennial Regional Convention which will be held in Chicago on June 19 and 20. Let our chapter be well represented."*
Binder 3 Correspondence, 1944

I read in the May 27, 1944, meeting minutes an interesting announcement. Mr. Christiansen, sub-dean, shared the upcoming regional convention in Chicago *"and urged all who could to attend. In this connection, Dr. Hutchinson, who will appear on the program in Chicago in a recital, would be willing to give his program in Milwaukee on June 11, without charge. The only expenses involved would be for programs and advertising. Mrs. Kirchner will arrange to have the concert in Immanuel Presbyterian Church if possible. Motion made, seconded, and carried that we accept this offer of Dr. Hutchinson, and that ads be placed in both The Journal and The Sentinel, and the expense to the programs."* This offer by Dr. Hutchinson was a major win-win for the Wisconsin Chapter members, bringing his recital to Milwaukee. Very minimal expenses were incurred to their budget. This recital showed a collaborative exchange between the Chicago and Wisconsin Chapters in 1944. I found this to be amazing teamwork!
Binder 3, Correspondence, 1944

In June of 1944, the discussion of the name change of the Chapter was up for a vote.

This topic of name change was part of the meeting minutes of May 27, 1944. *"The Dean,"* Mr. Arthur Griebing, *"brought up the subject of changing the name of the Wisconsin Chapter, as suggested by Warden S. Lewis Elmer. The Warden suggested this change because of the various chapters which are being formed in the State. The dean suggested that the members think this over during the summer and the matter will come before the chapter again in the fall."* Well, it came earlier than fall with a special meeting on June 11. Seems the Chapter wanted to maintain the name a little longer.

"At a special meeting of the Executive Committee and Officers of the Chapter, held [at] Immanuel Presbyterian Church, it was moved that the Wisconsin Chapter do not change its name."

As a follow up to the special meeting held on June 11, the following was included in the meeting minutes of September 18, 1944. *"The Dean presented a letter from Warden S. Lewis Elmer, stating that the Headquarters is willing to accept our decision not to change the name of the Wisconsin Chapter, as voted at the special meeting held June 11th.*

Binder 3, Correspondence, 1944

An event that was in the making for a number of years was the AGO Regional Convention that was held on June 24 and 25 in Milwaukee in 1946. In the report of the Finance and Programming Committees of May 3, 1946, this convention is *"the crowning achievement for [the] Wisconsin Chapter...In as much as this convention may not again be held here for many years it is hoped that our members will take advantage of the opportunity to attend and support this in every way possible."* A letter was mailed to members dated June 11, 1946, about the upcoming convention. *"Have you read in the 'Diapason' of the coming Regional Convention in Milwaukee? Are you planning to attend this gathering June 24 and 25?"* I included the Schedule of Events for these two days. Those two days were filled up with *"as much as possible in the way of recitals, lectures, and services... We know you will miss an extremely stimulating conference if you do not come. Too, the convention precedes M. Dupre's opening recital in Chicago. Milwaukee is only ninety miles from the Chicago Loop."*

Binder 3, Correspondence, 1946

Schedule of Events
Regional Convention
Milwaukee
June 24 and 25, 1946

MONDAY, JUNE 24

(All time shown is Central Standard Time. Add one hour for Daylight S.)
9:00 A.M. Registration at the First Methodist Church,
1010 West Wisconsin Avenue

- 10:00 A.M. Organization Meeting and report of the New York Festival by Dr. Emory L. Gallup, Dean of the Illinois Chapter. At the First Methodist Church.
- 11:15 A.M. Opening recital by Mr. August Maekelberghe of Detroit, Mich., at Kenwood Methodist Church, N. Farwell and E. Kenwood Blvd.
- 12:30 P.M. Luncheon at Kenwood Methodist Church.
- 2:00 P.M. Recital by D. Deane Hutchison, Dean of the new Peoria Chapter, at St. Robert's Roman Catholic Church, 2200 E. Capitol Drive.
- 3:15 P.M. Recital by Wilbur Held, Dean of the Minnesota Chapter, at Temple Emmanu-El, 2419 E. Kenwood Blvd.
- 4:30 P.M. Lecture on Choir work by Mr. Stanley Baughman, Dean of the Western Michigan Chapter, at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 1100 N. Astor St.
- 5:00 P.M. Recital by Miss Irene Robertson of Los Angeles, Calif., at Immanuel Presbyterian Church.
- 6:30 P.M. Dinner at Bethany Presbyterian Church, 2300 W. Mineral St.
- 8:00 P.M. Lutheran Vespers and choral program by the Ascension Senior A Cappella Choir at the church, 1236 S. Layton Blvd.

TUESDAY, JUNE 25

- 10:30 A.M. Recital by Mr. Parvin Titus of Cincinnati, Ohio, at Immanuel Lutheran Church, N. Teutonia and W. Meinecke Aves.
- 12:30 P.M. Luncheon at Kingsley Methodist Church, 1710 N. 33rd Street.
- 2:00 P.M. St. Joseph's Convent. Visit will include tours of the Chapel, Adoration Chapel, and Alverno College of Music; Gregorian Chant demonstration; programs by Sr. M. Theophane, organist, and choir of nuns directed by Sr. M. Clarissima; Solemn Vespers and Benediction.
- 7:00 P.M. Dinner at the Hotel Pfister. Speaker will be Mr. Jack Wilson, head physicist of the Allis-Chalmers Company, on the subject: "Some Physical Aspects of Formal Counterpoint." Program by students of local Conservatories.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26

- 8:30 P.M. (Central Daylight Saving Time) Opening recital by M. Dupre at the University of Chicago Chapel.

Two Chapter members, Sr. Mary Jane Wagner, and Sr. Mary Hueller, were instructors for a week-long organ workshop for high school students held the week of June 23-27 in 1975 at Alverno College. The week's focus was for youth who play the organ for worship and those who aspire to be able to play for worship. The flyer lists the daily activities of learning, exploring, performing, and sharing their organ skills among the support and encouragement of instructors and attendees.
Binder 4, Correspondence, 1975

1975

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- service-playing experiences
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Here is a social event that was being planned from the April 26, 1976, meeting minutes. *“Alice Leisman told us about a social event for this year on June 7, 1976, at the Schnitzelhaus. The management is allowing members to provide the music for the evening from 7 pm on; jazz piano for the first hour and organ after 8 pm.”* This event was programmed for 1976-77 year which was presented at the Chapter's Annual Banquet-Meeting of May 2, 1976.

“June 7, (Monday), FUN NIGHT AT THE SCHNITZELHAUS 7 P.M. –”

Binder 4, Correspondence, 1976

The Chapter has been very fortunate through the decades for the dedication of all the Executive Boards and Officers for their discernment in programming, planning, budgeting and hosting events. It's a testimony to the strength of the Milwaukee Chapter, 105 years strong!

For the next two months I am pausing from writing articles in PipeNotes. There are two Archive projects I would like to get started this summer. The first is a roster of members who compose and the second is gathering a few member's profile stories to share in upcoming PipeNotes. Both projects, for sure, will keep me connected to the Chapter this summer. Until September, enjoy the summer breezes!

POGORZELSKI–YANKEE WINNING COMPOSITION PREMIERED IN MAY

Janet Yieh premiered "Dissertatio De Magrepha" by Udi Perlman, the 2024 Ronald G. Pogorzelski and Lester D. Yankee Annual Competition winner, on May 20 at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AuOb0rbeS7I>

NATIONAL RENEWALS

PLEASE NOTE: In early May, AGO staff noticed performance issues with the ONCARD system. Out of an abundance of caution, we took ONCARD offline and engaged an independent tech company to examine the issues. Their examination is still ongoing. AGO staff have full access to ONCARD and can process new and renewing members, as well as chapter reports. For the time being, please continue to use the [forms](#) accessible from the member login page on the AGO website to conduct membership business. Thank you for your patience.

The Easiest way currently renew your membership is to call the national office at
(212) 870-2310.

2024 National Election Results

National Officers and Councillors

President: Eileen Hunt, DMA, AAGO
Vice President/Councillor for Competitions and New Music: Peggy Haas Howell
Secretary/Councillor for Communications: Leslie Wolf Robb, BA, CAGO
Treasurer/Councillor for Finance and Development: John S. Dixon, MA, MBA, CAGO
Councillor for Education: Russell Weismann, AAGO
Councillor for Membership: Michelle Kardos, CAGO
Councillor for Conventions: Collin Boothby
Councillor for Young Organists: Nicholas Stigall, AAGO

2024–2026 Board of Regional Councillors

Great Lakes Region: Larry B. Sharp, CAGO
Mid-Atlantic Region: David Schelat
North Central Region: Catherine Rodland
Northeast Region: Patricia Snyder
Southeast Region: Kristin Lensch
Southwest Region: Sheryl Sebo, DMA, AAGO
West Region: Nelson H. Dodge, MBA