

# *PipeNotes*

**American Guild of Organists – Milwaukee Chapter**

**P.O. Box 11731**

**Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53211**

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**Volume 62 – May 2016**



## **The American Guild of Organists Milwaukee Chapter**

**May 15, 2016**

**2:00 Annual Meeting**

**3:00 Members Recital**

**Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
3022 W. Wisconsin Ave  
Milwaukee, WI**

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

### Chapter Officers

#### Dean

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### Executive Board

#### 2016

Martha Aslakson  
Fr. Tom Lijewski  
Audrey Rhinehart  
Dean Rosko

#### 2017

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Michelle LaPaglia  
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#### Wisconsin District Convener

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

# Dean's Column

*Larry Wheelock*

As I was outside on this remarkable spring day picking-up leaves leftover from fall I was struck at how quickly the whole area took-on the freshness of springtime. All it took was a very little bit of effort and my whole attitude was lifted. A little effort can do that. It works in many ways. A little effort at practice can give you a whole new attitude about your playing. A little effort at collegiality can brighten your whole outlook about the state of organ music in 2016. It is easy to moan and lament the state of church-music in general, but with a little effort and time you can make a small difference wherever you are.

Please consider take a little time to support your colleagues and help your chapter by attending the Members'-Recital and Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 15 at 2pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church 3022 West Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee. Take the time to meet and greet your colleagues and surround yourself with gifted musicians and uplifting music.

As my term as Dean draws to a close, I have but one regret; that I seem unable to turn-around our chapter's lackadaisical attitude towards paying membership dues. As I prepared to send-out ballots for this month's election, I discovered some 80 of you have not yet paid your 2015-2016 dues and we are already into the 2016-2017 dues cycle. (If you did not receive a ballot in the mail, check the status of your membership online at [agomilwaukee.org](http://agomilwaukee.org) Ballots will be available at the meeting for those who pay-up in the interim or at the meeting.) More than any challenge the chapter faces, I lose sleep over this. I have pointed-out how low the chapter dues are compared to other similar professional organizations. I have taken pains to point-out the benefits you receive from active membership and the fact that there are optional levels of membership if you feel the need to change. I have physically cornered some of you at meetings. What more can I do? Thank you to those of you who are current. To those who are not — please tell me, what will it take?

I hope that I will see many of you at the program on the 15th. Our Savior's has spent a good deal of money to make sure their instrument is recital-ready for us, and it is a magnificent instrument. Four of our members will display their considerable talent. Please support their effort and do yourself the favor of attending.

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

## May 2016

4 (Wed) 12:15 Jenny Bouton Schaub, Flute  
Emma Koi, Flute  
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist  
812 N. Jackson St.  
Milwaukee, WI

8 (Sun) 3:00 Aleksandra Kasman, Piano  
Mount Carmel Lutheran Church  
84<sup>th</sup> and Center Streets  
Milwaukee, WI

10 (Tues) 7:30 Jared Stellmacher, Organ  
Church of the Gesu  
1145 W. Wisconsin Ave.  
Milwaukee, WI

11 (Wed) 12:15 Ravel Piano Trio  
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist  
812 N. Jackson St.  
Milwaukee, WI

**15 (Sun) Chapter Event**  
**2:00 Annual Meeting**  
**3:00 Members Recital**  
**Our Savior's Lutheran Church**  
**3022 W. Wisconsin Ave**  
**Milwaukee, WI**

17 (Tues) 7:00 Organ Repertoire based  
On Hymns and Chants  
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist  
812 N. Jackson St  
Milwaukee, WI

18 (Wed) 12:15 Dr. Leon Couch, Organ  
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist  
812 N. Jackson St.  
Milwaukee, WI

20 (Fri) 7:00 ALMA Award Concert  
St. Joseph Center Chapel  
1501 S. Layton Blvd  
Milwaukee, WI

22 (Sun) 3:00 Trinity Sunday Concert  
And Hymn Sing  
Nicholas Liese, Organ  
Trinity Lutheran Church – Freistadt  
10729 W. Freistadt Rd  
Mequon, WI


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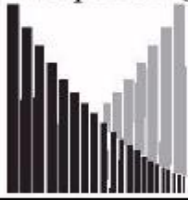
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February 6, 2016  
February 13, 2016  
February 20, 2016  
February 27, 2016

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**2016 Board Candidates (4 to be selected)**  
**American Guild of Organists — Milwaukee Chapter**



\* indicates an incumbent running for another term



**Martha Aslaksen\*** began her organ training in high school with Phyllis Stringham. Her formal schooling in music concluded with receiving her Master of Music degree in organ performance from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1990. Her teacher was Dr. John Chappell Stowe.

Martha is the organist and handbell choir director at Wauwatosa Avenue United Methodist Church since 1991. In addition, Martha is a registered nurse with a PhD in nursing. She is combining nursing and music by studying the effects of music therapy on agitation in people with dementia.

**Rhonda Kwiecien** is a highly successful professional musician in the greater Milwaukee area. In addition to her position as organist and accompanist with First Congregational of Wauwatosa, she is the staff accompanist and collaborative pianist for the music department of Carroll University and the accompanist for the Jubilate Chorale and the choral music department of Muskego High School. In addition to her extensive career in music, Rhonda also enjoys reading, biking, walking, and spending time with family and friends. She and her husband, Paul, live in Waukesha.



**Rev. Thomas Lijewski\***, the current chapter chaplain, was ordained in 1970 and is now retired from parish ministry, having most recently served parishes in Port Washington and Saukville. He



started piano lessons at age eight and organ lessons at age twelve. He completed his music studies at Alverno College with Sr. Mary Hueller OSF in 1983. Since then he was Chair of the Catholic Symphony board of directors and in now Co-Chair of the Wisconsin

Chapter of the Organ Historical Society with Dr. David Bohn. He did the final recital for the OHS in 1990 at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Kenosha on their Skinner Organ.

**Dean Rosko\*** began studies of piano at age six, and private organ and music theory instruction with Dr. Marilyn K. Stulken of Racine, WI at age ten. He got his professional start at age 13 at Rollaero Skate Center in Cudahy, WI, and played every Saturday evening for roller skating for eight years.



in 2003, he was named Official Organist of the Milwaukee Brewers beginning in the 2003 season, a position he currently holds. Since 2004, he has been a staff organist at Greenfield's landmark Organ Piper Music Palace,

He currently serves as Vice-President of the Dairyland Theatre Organ Society, and is a member of the American Guild of Organists, Milwaukee Chapter. In addition to Dr. Stulken, he has studied organ with Michael Batcho, and Tom Koester.

Dean is a noted organist in the world of roller dance skating, having played many local contests, as well as the Great Lakes Regional Championships. He currently has ten CD recordings to his credit, all arranged and recorded for roller skating. In February of 2013, Dean assumed the post of Principal Organist at Milwaukee's Church of the Gesu.

**Richard C. Ewert** is head organist at Elm Grove Evangelical Lutheran Church, Elm Grove, WI. He studied under Phyllis Stringham at Carroll College, Waukesha, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Applied Music - Organ

Performance. During his college years he was a finalist in the Bach-a-thon scholarship competition (receiving the Keyboard award) and played for a number of Master Classes at the University of Wisconsin and Regional

Conventions of the American Guild of Organists. He has been a member of the Milwaukee Chapter of the AGO since 1976 and served as Treasurer in the mid-1980's. He serves as guest organist on festival occasions in the Milwaukee area. In 1990 and 1992 he co-hosted hymn heritage



tours to Germany, Austria, and Scandinavia which included devotional services utilizing many of the historic organs of Europe. "If elected, I would work toward hosting events that would help the chapter fulfill the AGO's mission and purpose as described on the National AGO website"

## OFFICER CANDIDATES

### For Dean: (Unopposed)



**Sheri Masialkowski** is currently Sub-Dean of the Milwaukee Chapter, music director of the Permanent Diaconate Formation Program of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee and music director at Greenfield Presbyterian Church. Sheri chairs the Archdiocesan Liturgical Musicians Association (Roman Catholic) and serves on the Board of the MacDowell Club of Milwaukee. She holds a Master of

Music in organ from Westminster Choir College (Princeton, New Jersey) and a Master of Arts in Pastoral Studies (liturgical music specialization) from St. Francis Seminary (St. Francis, Wisconsin). Her teachers include Sr. Mary Jane Wagner, Dr. Donald McDonald and John Chappell Stowe. Sheri has served on the AGO Board in the past and looks forward to working with her respected colleagues in the Milwaukee AGO once again.

### For Sub-Dean:

**John Schubring** is former Dean and Sub-Dean of the Milwaukee Chapter and currently serves as PipeNotes Editor. He has served

several parishes in Wisconsin and Iowa as Director of Music and organist. John is currently Director of Music at Our Shepherd Lutheran Church in Greendale. At Our Shepherd Lutheran he directs two adult handbell choirs, a children's handbell choir and the senior choir.



He is also responsible for playing the organ for church services. John holds the Bachelor of Arts degree from Carthage College in Church Music and Organ Performance, studying with Susan Klotzbach and Gary Verkade, and a Master of Arts degree from the University of Iowa in Organ Performance, where he studied with Delbert Disselhorst.

**Audrey Rhinehart**, CAGO, is currently an AGO board member with a strong interest in continuing her service to bring continuity to the educational endeavors of the Milwaukee Chapter AGO including the successful Pedals, Pipes and Pizza Program which she chaired for the last 3 years. She also served as a faculty member for the AGO Pipe Organ Encounter at Carroll University in 2010. As Organist/Director of Music at St. Kilian Congregation in Hartford she leads a comprehensive music program involving a wide range of ages and musical gifts. Audrey holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa, and a Piano Pedagogy Certificate from Carroll University in Waukesha. Organ studies have been with Dr. Warren Schmidt, Dr. Vincent Benitez, Phyllis Stringham and Sr. Mary Jane Wagner. Audrey is passionate about her ministry as a music educator and looks forward to the opportunity to continue to serve and support the Chapter.



## Running Unopposed: (Write-ins are permissible)

### Treasurer



**Steven Jensen\***

### Registrar



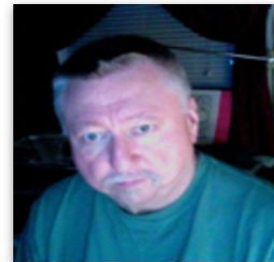
**David Beyer\***

### Secretary



**Nicole Moritz\***

## Special: Chapter Confirmation of proposed Chair for 2019 North Central Regional Convention



**Larry Wheelock**



# American Guild of Organists/Milwaukee Chapter

Membership 2016-17

Join our ranks by mailing this form and your check payable to  
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PO Box 11731, Milwaukee, WI 53211

To ensure delivery of *The American Organist*, chapter PipeNotes via e-mail,  
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## Membership Category *check appropriate boxes*

New (*note: all lapsed members--1 year or more--please check New*)

Renewing

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\$75  Special privileges as above; must be under 21, 65+, or disabled

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\$13  Student Dual non-voting, receive PipeNotes, sub & web access

\$40  Student regular privileges; limited to full-time w/ valid school ID—attach copy

\$59  Chapter Friend receive PipeNotes, limited web access, non-voting, no sub listing

\$15  PipeNotes hardcopy option (annual fee for printing & USPS 1st class delivery postage)

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## Signature, *whereby I agree to honor & uphold the Code of Ethics of The American Guild of Organists*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_