



AGO NEWSLETTER

American Guild of Organists

Salt Lake City Chapter – December 2018

Janet Folster editor, jfolster@slcago.org or jbfolster@gmail.com

DEAN'S MESSAGE

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!

What fun it is to meet the music director's challenge each Christmas Sabbath to play the last verse of "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" with chimes. And make it sound good? Hmmmmm.

I am confident that you enjoy as much as I enjoy playing for services during the Christmas season. We pull out the old stand by Christmas music, examine the new Christmas pieces, polish off the rough edges with diligent practice, find and create new harmonies, interludes and finales, and prepare to give a gift, your gift, of Christmas Spirit. Your Christmas music and Christmas music in general is, I believe, a principal catalyst of the Christmas spirit.

The issue of adding chimes to "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" arose when our piano player organist came up in a panic as I was finishing the postlude Sunday. She is a fabulous pianist who has never had an organ lesson. She relies solely on the bass coupler. She said: "The music director wants chimes on "I heard the Bells on Christmas Day" and I have no idea how to do that. Can you help?" You bet.

The bass coupler and the chimes are programmed to operate exclusively on the Great. That doesn't work. The result is a

complete muddle of sound. We could use the Swell to trio out the bass tenor and alto and play the melody with the chimes on the Great. But then she'd have to play using the pedal board or with no pedals at all. That won't sound good. Our solution, we are going to play "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day" with four hands. This is exciting! Anybody have any suggestions, suggested reharmonizations, other ideas on how we can really make this hymn come alive with four hands and chimes?

We in the Guild constitute a community of musicians that foster friendship, interaction, exchange of ideas, hard work, and inspiration. Experiences, like mine above, enrich my music experience and associations. My wish for you this Christmas Season is for new opportunities to arise whereby you can give your gift of music through playing, singing, helping or performing other acts of service. My challenge to you is to find a new and unique way in which you can enrich the life of someone else with your musical gift.

Merry Christmas All!

EVENTS

2019 AGO/Quimby Regional Competitions for Young Organists

Tuesday, February 26, 2019, at St. Mark's Episcopal Church here in Salt Lake City.
Applications are due December 15, 2018.
Contact **Heidi Alley**
alleyheidi@hotmail.com of the Salt Lake Chapter.

December Chapter Event

Christmas potluck
Tuesday, December 18, 6:30 pm
Jan Bigler's apartment building: 556 E. 300 South, Downtown SLC
RSVP to Jan Bigler and to settle on pot luck item
All members and significant others are invited.
It's potluck but I would like everybody to RSVP and tell me what they're bringing or take an assignment so that we don't end up with just deserts and appetizers!
Phone number is 702-274-9495.
Charitable Donation Suggested:
We would also like give the party a charitable purpose so we will be collecting old (but clean) blankets for the homeless.
Coats and socks are also good items.

OPEN DOORS AT FUMC

Scott Mills: Every Wednesday at 12 noon – bring brown bag – 20 minutes organ recital – First United Methodist Church – 203 S. 200 East. SLC

JANUARY 19, 2019 McClellan Event

Activity on January 19th at 2 PM. Sammie Tollestrup will be hosting a wonderful presentation on John J. McClellan, her direct ancestor. She has many family heirlooms to show, including his piano. We will be singing a couple of movements from his “Ode to Irrigation” and learning the history of this unique composition. Sammie has

some wonderful family stories to share that you might not otherwise read about. Sammie has many of his personal effects, many pictures, his musical sketch book, etc. The event will be held at Sammie's home, 1881 South 2100 East in Salt Lake City. Please RSVP to Teresa by email: teresa.clawson@utah.edu. See also <http://slcago.org/events>.

FEBRUARY EVENT

Friday, February 22 2019
Clay Christiansen Tribute
Co-sponsored with Temple Square Events
Please reserve the date!

MARCH 9, 2019 MASTER CLASS

In conjunction with Katelynn Emerson's performance Sunday March 10th, 2019 the Eccles Organ Festival will be sponsoring a Master Class with Katelynn the previous day, March 9th, at Libby Gardner. The Master Class will be free for anyone wanting to attend. However, the number of performing participants will be limited to 5 or 6. Gabriel Terrone advises me that preference for the performing participants will be young organ students or artists. Any of our young organ students or artists can apply on the Eccles Organ Festival website. It would be wonderful to see young members of the Salt Lake Chapter among the performing participants.

Bach Birthday Recital Utah Valley AGO event

in honor of Carol Dean

March 22, 2019 7-9 pm
Provo Central Stake Center
450 North 1220 West, Provo, UT

THE TWENTY-FIFTH SEASON

All Eccles Organ Festival Recitals are given on Sundays at 8:00 PM at the Cathedral of the Madeleine

All events are offered free of charge and open to the public. Donations are welcome

**Friday December 7, 2018 and Sunday
December 9, 2018 – 730PM**

Open Gallery Nights

*Cathedral of the Madeleine, Salt Lake City,
UT (USA)*

January 13, 2019 – 8:00 PM

Organ and Brass Festival Recital

Gabriele Terrone and the Madeleine Brass Ensemble

*Cathedral of the Madeleine, Salt Lake City,
UT (USA)*

Music by Litaize, Dupré, Franck and Callai

February 10, 2019 – 8:00 PM

Organ Festival Recital

James O'Donnell

*Westminster Abbey, London, England
Music Bach, Stanford, de Grigny, Franck*

March 9, 2019 – 10:00 AM

Master Class with Katelyn Emerson

*At Libby Gardner Concert Hall, University
of Utah*

March 10, 2019 – 8:00 PM

Organ Festival Recital

Katelyn Emerson

*Master Orgel Candidate, Stuttgart
Staatliche Hochschule für Musik, Germany
Music by Rheinberger, Tournemire and
Laurin*

**March 17, 24, 31 and April 7, 2019 – 5:30
PM**

Sunday Evening Organ Recitals – Lent 2019

*Cathedral of the Madeleine, Salt Lake City,
UT (USA)*



Participants at our fun Pedals Pipes and Pizza Event – October 27 2018 – held at First United Methodist Church (site of the picture) and Cathedral Church of St. Mark. Thanks again to all to assisted and participated in any way.

HYMN SING

The Bingham High School A Capella Choir and Madrigals under the direction of Ryan North, gave a wonderful concert with hymn singing in between their selections on Friday November 9th. These hymns were accompanied on the organ in the Assembly Hall on Temple Square by: Ryan W. North, Scott Rowley, Becky Azera, Scott Mills, Teresa Clawson, Chad Staten, Julie Hales, Tyler Ballou.

PLANNED GIVING is a means of making a charitable gift part of a donor's overall financial, estate, tax and philanthropic planning, maximizing the benefits to both the donor and the charity, and often achieving significant tax savings. Please consider including the Salt Lake Chapter of the American Guild of Organists in your will or trust. To learn more you are welcome to contact:

John K. Rice at 801 568-1500 or jricelaw@gmail.com for more information about including the Salt Lake Chapter of the American Guild of Organists in your will or trust.

DONATIONS: Our Chapter does not live on membership dues alone. And we need your help to fund the many events and programs sponsored by the Chapter. Please consider making a donation today. See contact information for John K. Rice (above paragraph.)

Next deadline for the Newsletter is Jan. 2, 2019. Members may contribute items of general interest to the membership to: jbfolster@gmail.com

I am happy to add a new item to our newsletter. I think we would enjoy getting to know our officers.

OFFICER FEATURE

Dr. Kenneth Udy, treasurer

Kenneth Udy, a native of Salt Lake City, earned his DMA in organ performance from Claremont Graduate University and also studied at the University of Southern California and Utah State University. His organ teachers include Clay Christiansen, James Drake, Cherry Rhodes, and Robert Noehren. A practicing church musician since age 15, he has served since 1991 as Director of Music and Organist at Wasatch Presbyterian Church. He is also organist at Congregation Kol Ami and frequently appears as a guest organist at the Salt Lake Tabernacle and with the Utah Symphony. He previously held posts at multiple churches in southern California.

In 2002 Dr. Udy joined the faculty of the

University of Utah where he designed curriculum and helped implement the undergraduate and graduate degrees in organ performance. As University Organist he teaches organ majors and all organ coursework. Recently he assisted with the University's acquisition of a new Flentrop practice organ to be delivered in 2019. In addition, he maintains a studio of private organ students.

He is active in the Salt Lake City Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and has served as Chapter Dean, District Convener, Co-Chairman of the Bi-Regional AGO Convention in June 2003, and an ex-officio board member.

Dr. Udy is the author of *Alexander Schreiner: The California Years*, a biography on the early career of Mormon Tabernacle organist Alexander Schreiner, published by Harmonie Park Press of Detroit. He is currently developing an online reference database for organists, choir directors, and church musicians to be released next year.



OFFICER FEATURE

Jan Bigler, Secretary

I was born in Provo but grew up in California and New Jersey. Both of my parents were musicians so I started recorder lessons when I was seven, piano lessons when I was eight, cello in junior high, and organ lessons at BYU. I started playing for church when I was 12 years old and that has been a mountain full of years!

After graduating from BYU, I got married and had 3 daughters who have given me 8 grandchildren.

We moved to Las Vegas in 1996. Soon after moving there we went to a concert given by Doug Bush and a cellist he brought with him. Afterwards, I turned to my husband and said "I'm going to take organ lessons again!" I had about another 10 years of lessons from Paul Hesselink, Dorothy Riess, and traveled to Salt Lake City for lessons with Ken Udy.

I taught piano and cello, and occasionally the organ, in Las Vegas for 20 years. I was also put to work in the AGO immediately.

After a few life-altering events and some difficult decision making, I decided to move to downtown Salt Lake City. I love living within walking distance of so many wonderful churches and organs. And I have resumed the audition process to be a guest organist for Tabernacle recitals. I am happy to be here!

