

# THE COUPLER

## The Dean's Message



### Holiday Greetings!

For those of us who are church musicians, we are entering into one of our busiest seasons of the year. During this time, I encourage you to remember to take care of yourselves just as much as you take care of others. It can be easy to get lost in the midst of rehearsals, services, concerts, parties, and the like, but remember to slow down, breath, and live in the moment.

I think that living in the

moment is a tough action for organists. We are always concerned with what is ahead of us. Recital coming up - better get the organ tuned. Getting close to the end of the page - better figure out how to press general 2. This hymn has four stanzas - while I play the first stanza, I'll think about what I can do to make the fourth stanza more exciting. And so on and so forth. It is our nature to think ahead, but when you have some

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### SAVE THE DATE

## 12<sup>th</sup> Night Dinner

*Tri-Chapter AGO Event*

### Monday Evening January 9, 2017

6:30 Rehearsal

7:15 Service

7:45 Dinner

*See page 5 for details*



## 2016-2017 DC AGO Chapter Schedule of Events

*Sunday, September 25 at 7:00 pm*  
*Opening Convocation and Installation of Officers*  
*with Eileen Gunther officiating and*  
*recitalist Chris Betts*  
*Church of the Redeemer*  
*6201 Dunrobbin Dr.*  
*Bethesda, Maryland 20816*

*Sunday, October 2 at 4:00 pm*  
*Tri-Chapter Pipes Spectacular*  
*Johann Vexo, Organist*  
*National Presbyterian Church*  
*4101 Nebraska Ave NW*  
*Washington, DC 20016*

*Monday, January 9, 2017*  
**Twelfth Night Service and Catered Dinner**  
*With members of the Potomac and NOVA Chapters*  
*All Saints Episcopal Church*  
*3 Chevy Chase Circle*  
*Chevy Chase, Maryland 20815*

*Monday, February 20, 2017*  
**Presidents' Day Organ Festival**  
*Including a session with The American Boychoir*  
*and other workshops*  
*More information on page 7*

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### DC AGO Board of Directors

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### *The Coupler*

A monthly newsletter  
published by the District  
of Columbia Chapter,  
American Guild of  
Organists

David K. Houston,  
Editor

To contact the DC AGO  
or for newsletter  
submissions:  
[dcagochapter@gmail.com](mailto:dcagochapter@gmail.com)

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Tuesday, March 14, 2017  
 An evening with Past AGO President, Dr. John Walker  
 Sponsored by the NOVA AGO & the  
 DC/Arlington National Association of Pastoral Musicians chapter  
 The Cathedral of Saint Thomas More  
 3901 N Cathedral Lane  
 Arlington, VA 22203

May 2017  
 Potomac Organ Institute Student Recital



#### Beautiful Continuo Organ for Rent

The Bennet & Giutarri organ is an excellent instrument for accompanying your vocal or instrumental ensemble. The voicing and speech is exceptionally fine and regular from note to note. The tone is gentle and supportive. There is no strident, piercing sound. All the pipes are wood and stable in pitch. Tuning is normally performed with equal temperament however some unequal temperaments may be set. The transposing keyboard allows for several different pitches.

The organ can be delivered to your performance venue two days prior to use. It is tuned the day prior to use and then picked up not later than the day after use. Renter is responsible for the safe keeping of the organ while in possession and arranging ready and easy access for delivery, tuning and pick up. Mileage for delivery is extra when outside Baltimore City.

C-d" (51 notes) transposing keyboard  
 A - 392, 415, 440, 465 hz  
 8' Gedackt  
 4' Flute  
 2' Principal

- Organ is mounted on a stage dolly for easy moving
- Blower is self contained within the case
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*Dean's Message**Continued from page 1*

alone time, try to live in the moment.

I recently came across a quote from Yo-Yo Ma, whom I had the pleasure of once performing with. He says, "I've been thinking music is a service. Music was invented because it does something to create community. Yes, musicians need to live, they need to have food. The transactional part comes further down the chain. But if you make that your first priority, you're not a musician. You're just doing something as a trades person. The actual purpose of music is an offering. It's a service. If you have that attitude, you can't go wrong, because you're always in the right place. You're in the right state of mind to make that offering."

So folks, stop and listen to the music... even if you are playing!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to You and Yours!

-Russell

*In Recognition of their many years of  
service to the American Guild of Organists*

**DC Chapter****AGO Life Members**

Blanche Curfman

Nancy Dodge

Eileen Gunther

David Hearn

Kenneth Lowenberg

Albert Russell

Donald Sutherland



# Twelfth Night

*An annual Tri-Chapter event, hosted by Potomac Chapter AGO*

Monday, January 9

All Saints Episcopal Church, 3 Chevy Chase Circle, Chevy Chase, MD

6:30 pm Rehearsal – singers are attendees

7:15 pm Service

7:45 pm Dinner

## Twelfth Night Dinner

Cost per AGO member is \$20. Each AGO member may bring one guest at the subsidized rate of \$20. Each extra guest pays full price of \$35.

Please note: RSVP is for dinner, only. If you plan on coming to the service, but not stay for dinner, you need not make a reservation.

You may RSVP via mail by mailing your check to Gerald Piercey by Friday, December 16, 2016. You need to indicate chapter affiliation and guest (if included).

Gerald Piercey, 4008 Decatur Avenue, Kensington, MD 20895

### MENU

Hot Crab Dip with Crostini

Artisanal Cheese Platter with Nuts and Dried Fruit

Braised Short Ribs

Garlic Mashed Potatoes

Oven Roasted Salmon

Wild Mushroom Risotto

Mixed Greens Salad with Assorted Dressings

Warm Edamame Salad with Walnuts

Rustic Bread and Butter

Tiramisu Cake

Strawberry Romanoff Cake

Still and Sparkling Water

Decaf Coffee and Tea with Condiments

Wine



## Members' Events

### Friday, December 2, 12:15 pm

Music at Midday  
National City Christian Church  
Organist Van Knauss

### Sunday, December 4, 4 pm

Fort Washington Community Chorus  
Presents Excerpt from Handel's *Messiah*  
With soloist and chamber orchestra, Irvin  
Peterson, Conductor  
Forest Heights Baptist Church, 6371 Oxon  
Hill Road, Oxon Hill, MD

### Friday, December 9, 12:15 pm

Music at Midday  
National City Christian Church  
Organist Carol Feather Martin

### Sunday, December 11, 5:30 pm

Maryland Youth Symphony  
St. Ann's Catholic Church, DC  
With Organist Robert Bright

### Friday, December 16, 12:15 pm

Music at Midday  
National City Christian Church  
Organist Eric Bowman, Tenor Michael  
Forest

### Tuesday, December 20, 12:10 pm

Christmas Concert with the Choir of the  
Church of the Epiphany  
The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany, DC

### Saturday, December 31, 6 pm

New Year's Eve Concert  
St. Columba's Episcopal Church, DC  
Organists Rosa Lamoreaux, Ann Colgrove,  
Diane Heath, John Hurd. \$20  
donation/students free.

### Friday, January 6, 6 pm

Choral Evensong  
The Episcopal Church of the Epiphany, DC  
Sung by Schola Epiphaniensis

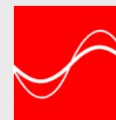
*Members are encouraged to submit recitals and  
concerts for public listing on the DC AGO  
website. Submit your event for web or newsletter  
listing to [dcagochapter@gmail.com](mailto:dcagochapter@gmail.com)*

### Acoustic Design Services

**Acoustical Design Collaborative, Ltd** specializes in ecclesiastical spaces where natural acoustics for music and unobtrusive amplified speech are essential for worship celebration. We have completed over 90 successful projects involving the following services:

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Monday, February 20, 2017 9 am to 4:30 pm

## Presidents' Day Organ Festival

In the Vicinity of Metro Center in Downtown DC

AGO Certification Workshop with Jeremy Filsell

Open Rehearsal Masterclass with The American Boychoir

Financial Workshop for Musicians with Patrick Summers

Sunday Morning Emergency Organ Maintenance with Irv Lawless

President's Day Recital performed by Jeremy Filsell

*Additional information regarding the day's schedule and registration will appear at [dcago.org](http://dcago.org) and in the January Coupler. \$20 / \$10 Students*

### AGO National Salary Guidelines

As the result of a Settlement Agreement that the AGO is entering into with the Federal Trade Commission, the AGO is no longer permitted to publish Salary Guidelines, Model Contracts, or Model Contract Provisions. Accordingly, these documents and guidelines have been removed from the AGO's website.

However, other resources are still available at the AGO's national website, such as documents for career development and support, among others.

### Did You Know?

A new addition to The Coupler, we would like to include various rare and little-known factoids about our local churches and organs. If you have some information, no matter how odd or quirky about instruments or church buildings in the DC Chapter area, please send us an email and let us know.

***Patrick J. Summers, M.S.***

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## Music @ the Monastery

Located on forty-four acres of beautifully landscaped gardens, the Franciscan Monastery (Mount St. Sepulchre Franciscan Monastery) is a beautiful architectural gem hidden in the northeast corner of Washington, D.C. Built in 1899 in the shape of a Jerusalem Cross in neo-Byzantine architectural style, the Monastery includes gardens, replicas of various shrines throughout Israel, a replica of the catacombs in Rome, an archive, a library, as well as bones of Saint Benignus of Armagh, brought from the Roman Catacombs and originally in the Cathedral of Narni, Italy. The Monastery's Lively-Fulcher pipe organ was built in 1998 and contains forty ranks of pipes over three manuals and pedal.

Together with the Franciscan Monastery, the DC AGO is proud to support a series of community outreach musical events titled, "Music @ the Monastery". These events are free of charge and take place on the second Sunday of each month at 4pm, followed by a reception. All are welcome!

### 2016-2017 Recitalists

October 9	<i>Russell Weismann (Saint Jane Frances de Chantal Parish - Bethesda, Maryland)</i>
November 13	<i>Carl Schwartz (All Hallows Parish - Davidsonville, Maryland)</i>
December 11	Iris Lan (New York, NY)
January 8	Clarice Snyder (Washington, DC)
February 12	Nathan Davy (National Shrine - Washington, DC)
March 12	Brass and Organ (Brass of Peace Ensemble with Lisa Galoci, Organist)
April 9	Ronald Butts-Boehmer (Messiah Lutheran Church - Germantown, Maryland)
May 14	Paul Skevington (Saint Luke Catholic Church - McLean, Virginia)

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District of Columbia Chapter  
The American Guild of Organists

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*Promote your event, product, or cause with an advertisement in The Coupler, the official publication of the District of Columbia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Rates are as follows: full page, \$25; half-page, \$20; quarter page, \$15. Please email advertising requests to [dcagochapter@gmail.com](mailto:dcagochapter@gmail.com) with "The Coupler" in the subject field.  
Make checks payable to DC Chapter, American Guild of Organists.*