
THE COUPLER

The Dean's Message



As we anticipate the coming of spring and all the natural beauty the season promises to bring, we are reminded of the many opportunities for personal growth, development and rebirth. We see examples of this rebirth in many ways; warmer weather, budding plant life, cherry blossoms, bugs!!!!..... Ok, so there are some downsides to the much-lauded warmer weather.

But the point is that we are entering a season of awakening for all living creatures; humans not being the least of these. This is an excellent time for us individually to take on a new project, learn a new piece of music, read that great book or get more involved with our AGO chapter activities.

Back in January we began the year with another inspiring tri-chapter effort. We celebrated 12th Night at All Saints Episcopal Chevy Chase with participatory music and socializing. Our thanks to Tad Cavuoti, following some serious health challenges, for leading the music, Carl Schwartz for the wonderful menu and reception and to Peter Chrisafulli for hosting.

Chapter events continued on February 20th with our first ever Presidents' Day Organ Festival. This event was hosted by two Metro Center area churches, 1st Congregational at 10th and G Streets NW and The Church of The Epiphany at 13th and G Streets NW. Featured workshops included emergency organ repair with Irv Lawless, financial tips and tax advice for church musicians with Patrick Summers, an open rehearsal with The American Boychoir and a certification workshop and recital by Dr. Jeremy Filsell.

A survey taken after this event revealed that a good majority of the attendees were extremely satisfied with the events of the day. For those of you who attended any part of this event, thank you very much for your support. For those of you who were

2016-2017 DC AGO Chapter Schedule of Events

Sunday, September 25 at 7:00 pm
Opening Convocation and Installation of Officers
Church of the Redeemer
Bethesda, Maryland

Sunday, October 2 at 4:00 pm
Tri-Chapter Pipes Spectacular
Johann Vexo, Organist
National Presbyterian Church
Washington, DC

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

Monday, February 20, 2017
Presidents' Day Organ Festival
Including a session with The American Boychoir,
a concert by Dr. Jeremy Filsell
and other workshops

Tuesday, March 14, 2017 7:30 pm
An evening with Past AGO President
Dr. John Walker
Sponsored by the NOVA AGO & the
National Association of Pastoral Musicians
DC/Arlington chapter
The Cathedral of Saint Thomas More
3901 N Cathedral Lane
Arlington, VA 22203

May 2017
Potomac Organ Institute Student Recital

DC AGO Board of Directors

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The Coupler

A monthly newsletter
published by the District
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American Guild of
Organists

David K. Houston,
Editor

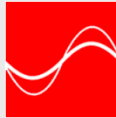
To contact the DC AGO
or for newsletter
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Call for Nominations for Office

The DC AGO Board of
Directors

If you are interested in serving or would like to nominate someone, with their consent, please contact the nominating committee at dcagochapter@gmail.com.

Elections will be held in June. Nominations may be submitted for all offices, as listed in the masthead on page 2 of The Coupler.

Thank you for your consideration.

Patrick J. Summers, M.S.

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504-940-8313

pjsumm@aol.com

summersllc.net

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unable to attend, we hope to schedule a similar event next year. Your thoughts and suggestions are always welcome.

As the executive board considered this season of Lent with the consequent run up to Easter we decided to curtail the number of chapter events during this period. But please do consult The Coupler and website for information on several related events happening during this period; most notably our evening with John Walker at St. Thomas More on March 14th and the continuing organ recitals happening at the Franciscan Monastery.

If you have not yet done so please take a moment to have a look at the March issue of TAO. There you will

find details about our upcoming regional convention in Richmond this summer. I highly encourage you to consider supporting our neighbors to the south in some capacity. If you register before April 1st you will be able to take advantage of a significant reduction in the registration fee! Also, some of our local members and friends will be performing.

In addition, the March issue of TAO includes a very interesting article submitted by our own DCAGO board communications director, David K. Houston.

All the best as you navigate this season of Lent and Easter. May you realize rebirth, rejuvenation and a reignited attitude.

Get Excited! Irvin

In honor of years of service to the American Guild of Organists

DC Chapter AGO Life Members

Blanche Curfman

Nancy Dodge

Eileen Gunther

David Hearn †

Irv Lawless

Kenneth Lowenberg

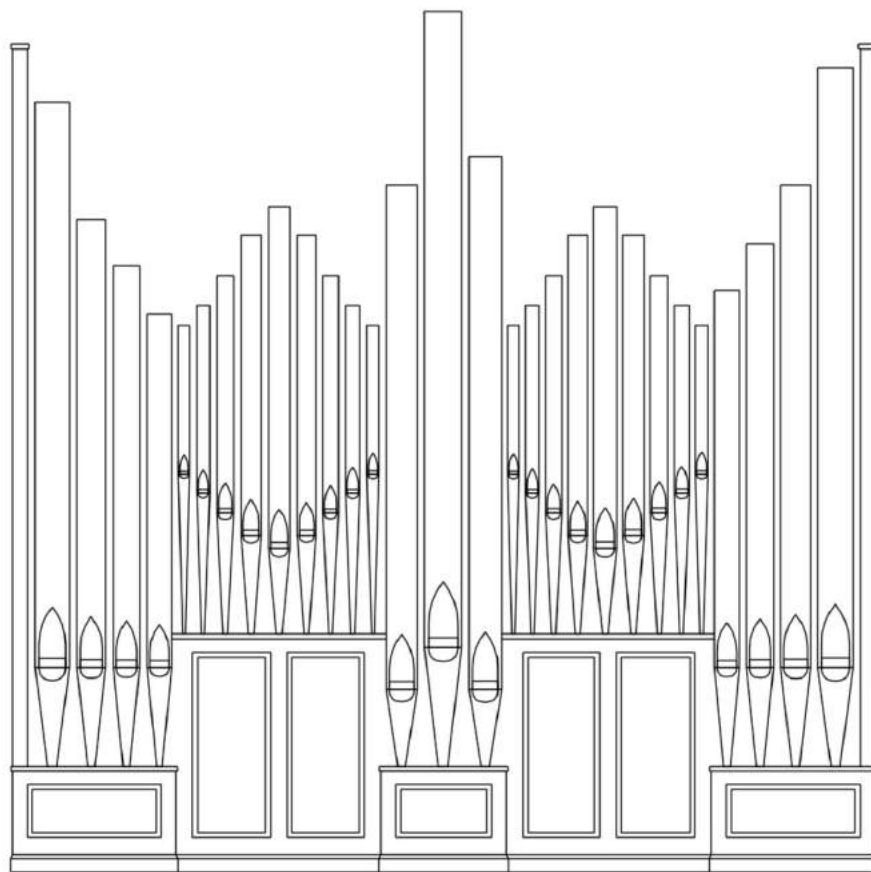
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RODGERS
Fratelli Ruffatti
JOHANNUS

Our First Annual Presidents' Day Organ Festival

February 20, 2017



Iro Lawless is recognized for his many years of service to the chapter with Lifetime Membership in the AGO



Masterclass with The American Boychoir and Conductor Fernando Malvar-Ruiz



Members with clinician Patrick Summers



Iro Lawless and Jeremy Filsell



Members' Events

Friday, March 3, 12:15 pm

Music @ Midday
Organist Joseph Russell
National City Christian Church

Friday, March 3, 7 pm

Thiel College Choir
St. Luke Lutheran Church, Silver Spring

Sunday, March 5, 5 pm

Choral Evensong with Organ Prelude at
4:40 pm by Joseph Russell
Christ Church Episcopal, Alexandria

Friday, March 10, 12:15 pm

Music @ Midday
Organist Colin MacKnight
National City Christian Church

Friday, March 17, 12:15 pm

Music @ Midday
Organist Michel Rychlinski
National City Christian Church

Saturday, March 18, 9 am - 4 pm

Music in the Parish Workshop
Saint Luke Lutheran Church, Silver Spring

Sunday, March 19, 5 pm

Choral Evensong
Guest Organist David Kelley
St. Andrew's Episcopal, College Park

Wednesday, March 22, 7:30 pm

University Choir from The University
of the South
Christ Church Episcopal, Alexandria

Friday, March 24, 12:15 pm

Music @ Midday
Organist Russell Weismann
National City Christian Church

Friday, March 24, 7:30 pm

Le Chemin de la Croix by Marcel Dupré
Grace Episcopal, Alexandria

Sunday, March 26, 2 pm

The Mighty Flentrop: St. Columba Organists
in Concert
St. Columba Episcopal, Washington DC

Friday, March 31, 12:15 pm

Music @ Midday
Organist Jackson Borges
National City Christian Church

Sunday, April 2, 5 pm

Choral Evensong with Organ Prelude at
4:40 pm by Dr. Patrick Scott
Christ Church Episcopal, Alexandria

Sunday, April 2, 5 pm

World Premier of John Ferguson's "Lord
Keep Us Steadfast" for Choir, Brass,
Percussion & Organ
St. Luke Lutheran, Silver Spring

*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*

Marcel Dupré

Le Chemin
de la Croix

Friday, March 24
7:30PM

Grace Episcopal
Alexandria



Join us on Friday, March 24 at 7:30 p.m. for Le Chemin de la Croix by French organist-composer Marcel Dupré. The Stations of the Cross has been a devotional tool for centuries, its beauty inspiring poets and musicians alike. Marcel Dupré's celebrated musical commentaries on the stations were first improvised in concert in alternation with stanzas of French poet Paul Claudel's "Le Chemin de la Croix," and later Dupré notated his improvisations, creating one of the masterpieces of music for the pipe organ. The entire cycle will be played by organists Josh Boyd, Aaron Tan, Richard Newman, and Jeremy David Tarrant, with Claudel's poems interspersed and read by Wendy Wilmer. Suggested donation at the door: \$10 (adults), \$5 (students and seniors)

Grace Episcopal Church, 3601 Russell Road, Alexandria, VA 22305. 703.549.1980

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	<i>Iris Lan (New York, NY)</i>
January 8	<i>Clarice Snyder (Washington, DC)</i>
February 12	<i>Nathan Davy (National Shrine - Washington, DC)</i>
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

*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 with "The Coupler" in the subject field.
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