

# THE WINDCHEST

OMAHA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

JUNE 2022



## FROM THE DEAN

As I leave this office, my sincere thanks goes out to the Board members who have worked so hard the past two years. We have had great times and difficult times, but always made decisions for the good of the group. When you see these people, say Thank You!

**Stephen Bartelt - David McCain - Laura Scow -  
Sr. Claudette Schiratti - Marie Meyers - Laura Rau**

The good news for the chapter is that they all stay on the Board with Stephen Bartelt becoming Dean and Laura Rau moving to Sub-Dean. And they welcome Colleen Jeffrey as an At-Large Member.

A Beginning Organ Student **Scholarship** has been awarded to Samuel Nothwehr who is studying with Zachary Zieschang. Congratulations!

**Thank You to Jeff Hoffman** for spending countless hours the past few years editing the Windchest, sending emails and keeping the Directory current.

Thank you to **Dirk Lindner** and First Presbyterian Church in Bellevue for hosting our year end dinner. The setting was beautiful. We enjoyed food catered by Matt Weber at Table Grace Cafe. Karen Black from Wartburg College, our Regional AGO Councilor, spoke to us. I played a piano piece and Dirk wowed us with some wonderful organ pieces. Maybe the best thing was visiting with friends in person.

At the Omaha Symphonic Chorus concert recently **Marie Meyers** played organ on "Missa Brevis" by Kodaly. She was fabulous!

**Kimberly Pearce** sang with Resonance on their concert and **Mark Kurtz** played continuo. Another wonderful concert.

**Rick Richards** directed the River City Ringers in their end of the year concert.

If you know of a concert we might enjoy, please let Steve Bartelt know so it can be publicized. It is hard to get the word out about some of these great concerts. Let's do what we can to support them.

### ***"The Sound of Music"***

June 3 - 19

At The Rose Theatre

With an 18 piece orchestra

Directed by **Jerry Brabec**

It has been my honor and privilege to serve the Omaha AGO as Dean the past two years. I am thrilled with the new Board members. We are in good hands.

***Jean Johnson***

*"Let every instrument be tuned for praise.  
Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise,  
And may God give us faith to sing always  
Alleluia!"*

Fred Pratt Green

## **Omaha Chapter AGO 2022-2023 Chapter Programs**

**Be sure these dates get on your calendar.**

**An exciting year awaits our attendance and participation!**

Saturday, September 10 -- 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Fall kick-off with refreshments. Program: "Organ lessons: What works and what doesn't." What is happening at the university level presented by Drs. Michael Bauer and Marie Rubis Bauer. What is happening at the congregational level working with young, beginning organists presented by Kantor Zachary Zieschang. Location: All Saints Retreat Center behind All Saints Episcopal, 9302 Blondo.

Sunday, October 9 -- Recital by Chapter member Timothy Schreiber, 3:00 p.m. St. Wenceslaus Catholic Church, 15353 Pacific Ave. Timothy is completing his undergraduate work in organ at the University of Kansas and is serving as Kantor at a church in suburban Kansas City.

Saturday, November 12 -- 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. -- "Choral techniques for organists working with small choirs, ensembles, children, etc." Presented by Alexander Hoefling, interim choral director, Trinity Cathedral. Location: Trinity Episcopal Cathedral., 113 N. 18<sup>th</sup> St.

Saturday, January 14 -- 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. -- How organists can adapt pianistic accompaniments and lead sheets for the organ led by Dr. Elizabeth Grimpo, music faculty, Concordia University, Seward. Location: Covenant Presbyterian Church, 15005 Blondo.

Saturday, February 11 -- 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. -- "Beyond the Console" Presentation on the inner workings of pipe organs. Ryan Luckey from Bedient Organ in Lincoln. Location: St. Cecilia Cathedral, 701 N. 40<sup>th</sup> St.

Saturday, March 11 -- 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. -- "Breaking and Entering" Challenges when beginning, ending, retiring, subbing. Panel discussion headed by Jean Johnson. Location Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church, 2650 Farnam St.

Sunday, April 23 -- Hymn Festival featuring chapter members, a "mass choir" and congregational singing. Location: Countryside Community Church, 13130 Faith Plz. Coordinator: Laura Rau assisted by Reggie Pifer. Choirmaster: Stephen Bartelt.

Monday, May 22 -- End of season dinner/fellowship, 6:00 p.m. catered dinner, installation of officers. Feature certification achievers. Installation of officers. Location: St. John Lutheran, 633 Willow Ave., Council Bluffs.

Approved by the Chapter Board, subject to revision, May 12, 2022.



### 2022-2023 Chapter Board

Colleen Jeffrey, Member-At-Large  
Stephen Bartelt, Dean  
Laura Scow, Secretary  
Marie Meyers, Member-At-Large  
Laura Rau, Sub-Dean  
David McCain, Treasurer  
Sister Claudette Schiratte,  
Member-At Large

Picture taken at installation ceremony on May 23 at First Presbyterian Church, Bellevue

Program at May 23 Chapter End-of-the Year provided by

Dirk Lindner, organ

Karen Black representing  
National AGO.

Jean Johnson, piano



### Chapter Trivia . . .

Chapter gavel dates from 1917!

Past Deans still a member of the chapter include Marilyn Theis, Diane Hill, Michael McCabe, Ann Spangler, Claire Bushong, Charles Cohen, Jeff Hoffmann, David Schack, J. Gordon Christensen, and Jean Johnson.

There are 51 Past Deans of the chapter.

There is a file of the record of historic organs in the Omaha/Council Bluffs area.

There are boxes of organ music that will be made available to members this summer. Watch for details.

Several Chapter members reside outside of Iowa/Nebraska and one is even out of the country.

Treasures from the crypt? Maybe!

Actually, antique organs from the basement of Chapter member Greg Johnson's business, Keyboard Kastle, as the business prepares to move to its new location.

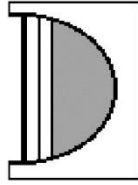


Greg says both are hand-carved works of art and both are playable. You never know what might be lurking in a dark corner of a basement. And yes, that is Greg's reflections in the mirrors.

Wonder how many of us have played a similar instrument in the past!

Incoming Dean Stephen Bartelt remembers playing a pump organ in his grandmother's living room and an electrified one (no pumping the foot pedals) in a church in Kansas in the 1970's.

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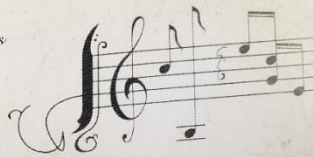
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