

April in the Chapter

Community-Wide Hymn Festival

Postponed until 2008-2009

May in the Chapter

Potluck Dinner and Service of Installation of Officers

Sunday, May 4, 5 p.m.
Valley Presbyterian Church
2800 S. Camino del Sol, Green Valley

The chapter has been invited to Valley Presbyterian Church for what will be a great time of fellowship and a service of installation of new officers.

The potluck dinner will be a true potluck. Bring what you wish, but please RSVP to Mary Lou Barker (marloucb@q.com) so she can plan appropriately.

Following the potluck dinner in the church's Fellowship Hall, we will go into the Sanctuary for the installation of officers and a musical program featuring Raymond Ryder and friends on the church's Rodgers T967 Trillium Organ (with seven ranks of pipes) and two-year old 9' Steinway grand piano.

Raymond, a long-time guild member, has a private teaching studio in Tucson and serves as an adjunct faculty member at Pima Community College. He has also been the organist and handbell director at Valley Presbyterian Church in Green Valley for the past eight years.

This final program of the season will cap a truly eventful year. Plan now to attend!



**AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
SOUTHERN ARIZONA CHAPTER
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**AGO Chapter Web Site:
www.agohq.org/chapters/southernarizona**

A Few Reflections on the Conclave From Your Dean

“Superb!” “Splendid.” “Fabulous!” “The best regional I’ve ever attended. You’ve raised the bar!” “Tucson 2008 Pipes in the Desert was fabulous in every way!”

The conclave was a huge success! We’ve had one superlative comment after another—both verbally and in the evaluations—about the exceptionally good programming, including artists, worship, workshops, optional trips, flow of the programs, program book, on-time buses, super volunteers, great receptions, exhibits, etc. Registrants felt that their expectations were met at an A+ level.

So many people worked tirelessly to make this enormously successful regional convention happen. Its success is directly related to the time, thought and efforts the Coordinating and the Steering Committees put into its overall planning and management. They were simply outstanding in their leadership. All members of the various committees took their tasks very seriously and did superlative work. Special mention and recognition must go to the Coordinating Committee: Charlotte Cordes, Fern Hieb, and Larry Grove. These three spent untold numbers of hours on endless details including the whirlwind of the final weeks and the conclave itself. They kept the rest of us focused and responsible! Our chapter owes them, the members of the Steering Committee and the numerous volunteers a tremendous debt of gratitude.

Paul Hesselink, our district convener, wrote the following:

Please convey my thanks to all those of your chapter who worked so hard and diligently to produce a truly FIVE STAR EVENT! The Conclave was spectacularly successful! A vacation to Hawaii is deserved by all!*

An absolutely wonderful outcome of the success of the conclave is that income exceeded expense. After all the bills are paid, the conclave account will be closed and a tidy “net” will be transferred to the chapter account. It will be our happy task to determine how best to use the funds for the “nurture” of the organ and the benefit of the chapter.

Sincere thanks to each of you who volunteered both your time and your resources to make PIPES IN THE DESERT the enormous and lasting success that it was! Bravo and Kudos all around!

Because of the heavy toll in planning and executing the Conclave, it unfortunately became necessary to postpone the March and April programs. These will be rescheduled for next season. Our final meeting of the season is the Potluck and Installation of Officers in Green Valley. This will also include a musical program. Plan to attend and to support our new officers. And be sure to return your ballots by April 21!

*P.S. I haven’t heard that anyone is going to Hawaii!

Dusty Johnson, Dean

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Fred Swann 760-318-8244

REGION IX COUNCILLOR

Dr. Frances Nobert 562-699-2526

Coming Events in the Chapter

Sunday, May 4, 5 p.m.—Potluck Dinner, followed by Service of Installation of New Officers

Where: Valley Presbyterian Church,
2800 S. Camino del Sol, Green Valley
DETAILS ON PAGE 1!

Members' Events

Michael Koss, organist—Sunday, April 6, 3 p.m., at St. Margaret Mary Roman Catholic Church, 801 N. Grande Ave. This program will feature Bach, Handel, and other wonderful organ works for the Easter season, played on the church's Allen AP-9 three-manual organ.

National Guild Events

Recital and Gala Benefit Reception Honoring Frederick Swann—Sunday, April 13, 2008, First Congregational Church of Los Angeles, 540 S. Commonwealth Ave., Los Angeles, California 90020

Recital at 4 p.m. by Frederick Swann on the World's Largest Church Organ; AGO Endowment Fund Gala Benefit Reception following.

Tickets: \$100 per person (\$75 tax deductible; includes Recital and Gala Benefit Reception). Space is limited. Gala tickets are on sale now until April 10, 2008, or until sold out. No Gala tickets will be available for purchase at the door. Gala tickets purchased in advance will be available at the recital.

To attend the recital, only, please call 213-385-1345 or e-mail musicadministrator@fccla.org.

Chapter Elections

This is an election year for the Southern Arizona Chapter and the following slate of excellent candidates is presented to the Chapter membership:

Dean:	Jeffrey Campbell
Sub-Dean:	Ken Kelley
Secretary:	Kathryn Conner
Treasurer:	Maxine Fifer
Membership Chair:	Larry Grove
Program Co-Chairs:	Pat Kaltenberger Stan Kartchner
Professional Concerns:	Garmon Ashby

We are fortunate to have such an excellent slate of nominees, some of whom are currently serving as officers and who are willing to serve for another term.

Kudos and sincere thanks to each of the persons who has served in an elected or appointed capacity during the past two years: Dusty Johnson, Jeffrey Campbell, Fern Hieb, Pat

Kaltenberger, Maxine Fifer, Shirley Lockard, Larry Grove, Fenita King, Stan Kartchner, Mary Lou Barker, Jane Tisdale, David Wachter.

Chapter Volunteers

In addition to our elected officers, we always need volunteers to help with a variety of activities.

Hospitality. Mary Lou Barker, who has done a wonderful job as hospitality chair for many years—and who has been ably assisted by Jane Tisdale for several years, is willing to continue but needs additional volunteers. Please contact Mary Lou (299-5882 or marloucb@q.com) if you like food and beverages at our meetings and can assist in this much-appreciated area!

The Cypher, editor. David Wachter has been an exceptional editor of *The Cypher*. Unfortunately for the chapter, he is not able to continue in that capacity. If you might be interested in taking on this very important task, or if you know someone who might be interested, please let Dusty Johnson know (323-7856 or dustyskj@cs.com).

Thank you Mary Lou, Jane, and David. And, thanks, too, to every chapter member who has volunteered to perform, to bring food, to make phone calls, to assist in one capacity or another for the good of the chapter.

AGO National Elections

Please exercise your right and privilege to vote!

1. By mail: Fill out and mail the ballot between pages 56 and 57 of the April issue of *The American Organist*.

2. Online: Go to <http://www.intelliscaninc.net/organists> (Tip: If you enter https, you will probably be routed to the incorrect site.)

Your membership number is on the left, above your name on the address label of the magazine.

2007-2008 Membership Directory Corrections & Updates

Page 2: Change

BARKER, MARY LOU

Change e-mail address to: marloucb@q.com

Page 3: Add new member

DAHLGREN, JAMES M.

C: 971-2495

jmdkimo@yahoo.com

110 W. Rillito St., Apt 16, Tucson, AZ 85705-5558

Page 4: Change

FOLTZ, ROBERT D.

Change mailing address to PO Box 31315, Tucson, AZ 85751-1315

Page 6: Add new member

JOHNSON, BUNNY

797-0037

bunjohn@sbcglobal.net

10978 N. Mountain Breeze Dr., Tucson, AZ 85737-7061

Page 10: Change

ORR, THOMAS (Died 12/23/07)

Page 12: Change

SMITH, PATRICIA P.

Change e-mail address to: **PatriciaSmith896@cox.net**

Page 14: Add new member

+ WILLIAMS, REBECCA **459-5079; C: 234-0888**
BA **Rbwilliams_tbtg@msn.com**

4919 E. DeMedici Dr., Sierra Vista, AZ 85635-2319

Dir. of Music, St. Andrew the Apostle Church

P800 N. Taylor Dr., Sierra Vista, AZ 85635-1050

458-2925

Page 15 Substitute List—Add

DAHLGREN, JAMES M. – Organ & harpischord

NOTE: With these changes, you should have 103 members in your Directory. **Because of the number of changes since the 2007-2008 Membership Directory was printed, an updated directory has been sent to chapter members via e-mail. It can be printed on 8 ½" x 11" paper.**

Please report other changes to Larry Grove, Membership Chairperson at LGroveAZ@Cox.net or (520) 625-3053.

Regional Conclave a Resounding Success!

By all measures, the Region IX Mid-Winter Conclave held in Tucson January 20-24 was terrific!

We enjoyed record-setting registration, rave reviews on the convention evaluation forms, outstanding concerts and workshops, and a financial profit that will support years of enhanced programming for the Southern Arizona Chapter.

Considerable thanks go to the hard-working Steering Committee which has been working on this event for three YEARS. Coordinators Fern Hieb, Larry Grove, and Charlotte Cordes led the team which included Ken Saunders, *Registrar*; Carol Schurr, *Program Book*; Rosella Duerksen and Jean Mentzer, *Program co-chairs*; Anne Keyl, *Publicity*; Lynn Moser, *Workshops*; Dusty Johnson, *Hotel and Exhibits*; Derek Redmore, *Transportation*; Pat Kaltenberger, *Volunteers and Hospitality*; Jeffrey Campbell, *New Music Competition*; and Fenita and Charles King, *Logistics*. Dr. Frances (Frankie) Nobert, Regional Councillor, also served on the committee.

Many volunteers helped with so many tasks. Particular thanks to Mary Lou Barker and Warren and Jane Tisdale for managing the refreshment breaks. THANK YOU to all our valiant chapter members who attended events, ushered, served as bus captains, presented or accompanied choral reading sessions, hosted at their churches, played the organ for worship, helped with registration and hospitality, worked on set-up and break-down, shopped at the exhibits, and performed a myriad of other tasks. We could not have presented such a successful conclave without the help of our willing and able volunteers. Thanks to photographers John Carleton (Sacramento), Ken Saunders, Shirley Lockard, David Wachter, and Charlotte Cordes for these conclave photos.

The music is still singing in our hearts. What an inspiring, wonderful five days.

Some evaluation excerpts:

*You are to be congratulated on an outstanding conclave!
The organizing committee must be commended for putting together such a wonderful, efficiently-run conclave.*

My first AGO conclave—excellent experience. Bravo organizers!

Wow! Terrific conclave. Thank you SO much for your great work and hospitality!

An extremely well-put-together conference; one of the best arranged meetings I have ever attended.

Very well planned! Everyone friendly. Wonderful time!

A real upper and regenerator.

Super excellent—almost too much good stuff. Kudos to the local chapter.

Loved the friendliness of the Tucson chapter members and their friends. Made it fun and encouraging for all to become acquainted.

Very well-organized—concerts and venues were excellent. Nice assortment of workshops. Truly enjoyed the whole experience, one of the best I've attended. Thanks!

This was a FANTASTIC convention! Concerts and recitals all were great—even when there was modern brashy-loud music. Even that was a wonder to behold!

This was a memorable Conclave from beginning to end! Kudos to the Planning Committee for their time, effort and energy and dedication to excellence.



About The Cypher

Chapter members will receive the newsletter via email, but may receive it via regular postal service if they prefer—just let Larry Grove (LGroveAZ@cox.net) know. Otherwise, we will continue to send it in electronic format as an attachment to email.

The electronic format is that of Adobe Acrobat Reader (PDF format). If you do not currently have Acrobat Reader installed on your computer, or if you need a current version, versions for many operating systems are available from www.adobe.com—Acrobat Reader is listed on their front page. **IMPORTANT—Deadline for the next issue (May 2008) is April 15. Thank you!**



Some AGO Mid-Winter Conclave highlights (clockwise from top left): **Dr. Paul Jacobs** and an appreciative audience at Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church; the **Phoenix Bach Choir**, **Charles Bruffy**, conductor, **Dr. Kimberly Marshall**, organist, at St. Augustine Cathedral; the **Arizona Choir**, **Dr. Bruce Chamberlain**, conductor, at Santa Cruz Church; the **Rev. Dr. Thomas Troeger** at St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church; the **opening service** at St. Philip's in the Hills. (Photos: Charlotte Cordes, David Wachter)





Top left: **Keenan Boswell**, winner of the 2007 AGO/Quimby Region IX Competition for Young Organists, playing at St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church. Top right: **Dr. Richard Elliott**, Mormon Tabernacle organist, chats with Dean Dusty at the evening's reception. Above: **Dr. Frances Nobert**, Region IX Councillor, sounding the bell. Middle right: **Northminster Presbyterian Church**, recital by Dr. Elliott. Bottom right: **Dr. Michael Burkhardt** leading the rehearsal for the rousing opening Hymn Festival. (Photos: Charlotte Cordes, David Wachter)



Lots of food for body and soul!

Clockwise from top left: Lunch at St. Philip's in the Hills; Closing Service at St. Mark's Presbyterian with the Tucson Boys' Chorus, Dr. Julian Ackerly, conductor; feeding the hungry flock at St. Mark's; reception at the hotel; Closing Banquet at the hotel; Dr. Frederick Swann at the St. Philip's organ. (Photos: Charlotte Cordes, David Wachter)



Inside: A Conclave Retrospective and **Info about 2008-2010 Elections!**

Publication Information: ***The Cypher*** is a bimonthly newsletter published by the **Southern Arizona Chapter of the American Guild of Organists**. It is distributed to chapter members, organists of churches in Tucson and surrounding communities, and deans of all chapters in Region IX (Arizona, California, Hawaii, and Utah). **Southern Arizona Chapter members who do not request the printed version will receive *The Cypher* via email.** Send information for publication to David Wachter, 2585 N. Avenida San Valle, Tucson, AZ 85715-3404, or to email address cypher_editor@comcast.net. Please type "Cypher" in the subject line. Views expressed in any of the pieces herein are those of the writers and not necessarily those of the Southern Arizona Chapter—AGO, its officers or members.

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