

The Newsletter of the American Guild of Organists — Southern Arizona Chapter

November in the Chapter

AGO Showcase Recital

Sunday, November 18, 3 p.m.

**Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church
2331 E. Adams Street**

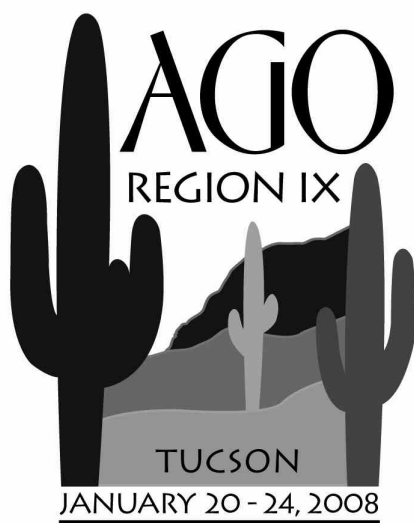
Don't miss this program featuring three members of the Southern Arizona Chapter—**Joan Bystol, Mary Frances Fest, and David Wachter**. The program will feature works by Buxtehude, Couperin, Franck (the Chorale in E Major), Widor (the opening Allegro from Symphony No. 6), Yon (the finale of the Concerto Gregoriano, for piano and organ), and others.

A reception will follow this concert. We need homemade goodies. Please call Mary Lou Barker at 299-5882 if you are willing to share your culinary or baking skills. Please state what you would like to bring and the amount you would like to bring if you leave a message. Many thanks!

January in the Chapter

Region IX Mid-Winter Conclave!

January 20-24, 2008



The AGO Region IX Mid-winter Conclave (convention) is almost here. The program is superb, with concerts, workshops, exhibits and worship services that you won't want to miss. **If you wish to register at the reduced rate (\$255), we need to have your registration postmarked by November 15. After November 15, the rate jumps up to \$275.** Also, anyone who plans to stay at the Sheraton Tucson Hotel and Suites during the Conclave should make reservations as soon as possible, because we have a limited number of rooms at the Convention rate.

Complete conclave information, including a registration form, is available at the conclave website: www.agoixaz.com. We have sent a conclave brochure to every AGO member in Region IX, including the Southern Arizona Chapter members. A registration form was included with the brochure.



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SOUTHERN ARIZONA CHAPTER
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A Few Thoughts From Your Dean

Dear AGO colleagues:

Our 70th Anniversary Banquet was a stellar success! Kudos to Maxine Fifer, Shirley Lockard, Bruce Anderson and others for their yeoman's work creating a "Just right" event. It was super. From the food to the decorations to the music to the PowerPoint memories. Whew. By the way, if you would like a CD of the memories presentation, they are available for a nominal fee. Contact Maxine Fifer.

We're in the countdown to **PIPES IN THE DESERT**. Kind of takes my breath away. So much planning, creativity, and effort has already gone into this very significant event. For a review of the programs and hotel information, visit our website (www.agoixaz.com). Now is the time to register for a reduced rate. **The cutoff date for the reduced rate registration is November 15.** We're hoping that every guild member will participate in some way—from registration to volunteering. Or both! There are still many jobs needing volunteers. When you read the "volunteers needed" list, if you're able, ponder what you might do to fill in one of the slots. It could be a lot or a little.

An enormous amount of effort is being expended on the conclave, but we still have great programs lined up for the 2007-2008 year. Indeed, the annual Showcase Recital, featuring Joan Bystol, Mary Frances Fest, and David Wachter will take place on November 18 at Grace St. Paul's. This is a fund-raiser, so do your best to support your colleagues by your attendance and in inviting others.

By the way, members are encouraged to submit their special programs for inclusion in the *Cypher*. There must be many special programs scheduled in your churches. Regarding the chapter's new website, I should have web address and other information to report in the next *Cypher*. It is being designed and should be up in the next few weeks.

Thanks to each one of you for your commitment to the guild. We couldn't do it without you.

With all good wishes,

Dusty Johnson, Dean

Be sure to mark your calendars for coming events and register for the Mid-winter Conclave!

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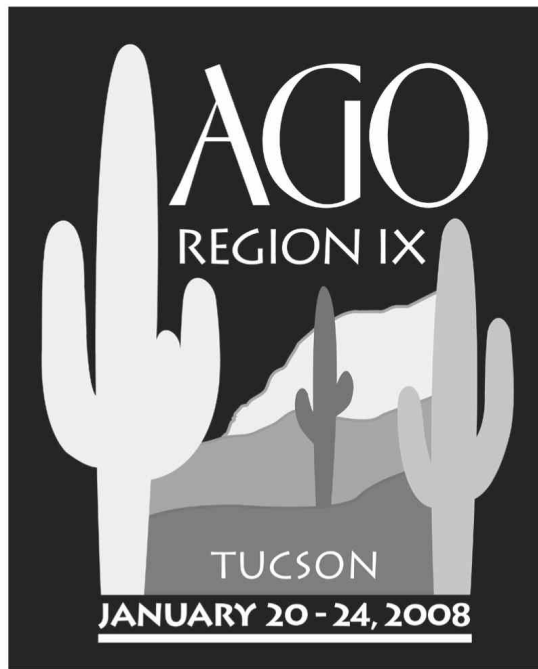
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PIPES IN THE DESERT



THE NEXT MID-WINTER CONCLAVE

EXPERIENCE ORGAN AND
CHORAL MUSIC IN THE
BEAUTIFUL SONORAN DESERT

EXPLORE WAYS TO
RE-ENERGIZE CHURCH MUSIC

ENJOY MUSIC AND HOSPITALITY
WITH A SOUTHWESTERN FLAIR

FOR ADDITIONAL INFO
VISIT: WWW.AGOIXAZ.COM

TUCSON, ARIZONA
JANUARY 20-24 2008

What's Happening at the Conclave?

Here's All the Latest News!

Michael Burkhardt to Lead Conclave Hymn Festival



An exciting, inspiring opportunity is available to you and the members of your church choir: **You are invited to participate in a HYMN FESTIVAL on the evening of January 20, 2008, the opening event of the AGO Conclave.** Planning and leading the festival will be **Dr. Michael Burkhardt**, renowned as one of this country's leading

organists, choral directors, and composers, with more than 300 church music compositions to his credit. Hymn festivals with Dr. Burkhardt are enormously popular both in this country and abroad.

If you have already received the Singer Registration Form, please return it promptly; if not, look for it in the mail box of your church. With the form will be additional details about the Festival. **THERE IS NO CHARGE FOR YOU AND YOUR CHOIR MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS EVENT. DON'T MISS IT!**

Great Performers

The line-up of performers for the conclave includes such names as Paul Jacobs, Pamela Decker, Richard Elliott, Millennia Too!, the Phoenix Bach Choir, the Arizona Choir, the Tucson Arizona Boys Chorus, theater organist Ron Rhode, and the AGO/Quimby RCYO winner, Keenan Boswell.



Paul Jacobs, Head of the Organ Department at the Juilliard School of Music, will be playing a recital of works by Robert Schumann, Leo Sowerby, Julius Reubke and John Weaver.

Pamela Decker's entire program features works by living composers, including Gerald Near and Naji Hakim. Three of the works on her program are world premieres.



Richard Elliott, Mormon Tabernacle organist, will be playing works by J. S. Bach (Prelude and Fugue in A Minor), James Biery (Three Gospel Scenes), Pamela Decker (Tango for Tucson), Robert Hebble, Franklin Ashdown, and Maurice Duruflé (Prelude, Adagio and Choral on *Veni Creator*).

Millennia Too! (organ and oboe duo) will be playing at least one world premiere, Stephen Sturk's California Mission Suite. In addition, the Millennia Too! program will include works by Calvin Hampton, Jon Naples, Josef Rheinberger, Felix Mendelssohn, and John Karl Hirten.



The world-famous **Phoenix Bach Choir** under the direction of **Charles Bruffy** will be presented in concert at St. Augustine Cathedral, with **Kimberly Marshall** playing the McDowell organ for the prelude and an Allen organ for the choral accompaniment.

The **Arizona Choir** from the University of Arizona, under the direction of **Dr. Bruce Chamberlain**, will be singing at Santa Cruz Catholic Church.



The final worship service, on Thursday morning, will feature the **Tucson Arizona Boys Chorus** under the direction of **Julian Ackerley**. They will lead the congregation in singing Joel Martinson's *Missa Guadalupe*.

Theater organist **Ron Rhode** will be playing organ accompaniment to clips from two silent movies (*The Pilgrim*, with Charlie Chaplin; and *Two-Gun Gussie*, with Harold Lloyd). The theater organ recitals will be played on an Allen theater organ in the Park Theater of the conclave hotel on Tuesday afternoon.



Workshops

In addition to a rich array of solo and choral concerts, a variety of workshops will be offered at the Conclave. There are workshops on hymn-singing and playing; Bach performance practice at the organ; choral conducting; handbells in worship; Mexican organ culture; organ and instruments; presentation of the work in progress on the historic organ at St. John the Divine in New York City; organ music of Brahms; organ master class; accompaniment styles for leading congregational singing; children's choir techniques; new service music for the organ; and others.

Two composers with anniversaries in 2008 will be featured in the workshops. Johannes Brahms (175th anniversary of his birth), will be presented in a workshop by Dr. John Brobeck, focusing on Brahms's organ music. Some of the organ music of Olivier Messiaen (100th anniversary of his birth), will be heard at the master class with Paul Jacobs.

For more information, and to see brief sketches of the workshop topics being presented, please check the conclave website, at www.agoixaz.com.

Featured Venues

The venues will feature organs by David McDowell/Pipe Organ Artisans of Arizona; Schoenstein; Quimby; Aeolian-Skinner/Pipe Organ Artisans of Arizona; Schlicker; and Schantz. The Phoenix Bach Choir will be heard at the historic St. Augustine Cathedral in downtown Tucson. Originally built in 1868, when Tucson had a population of 600 people, the cathedral was restored in 1968. The Arizona Choir will be heard at Santa Cruz Catholic Church, a national historic landmark since 1994.

Exhibits Galore!



Our exhibitors should entice you to shop, especially since the evening receptions will be held in close proximity to the exhibits! (And you can fill up your tote bag!)

- Allen Organs of Arizona
- Calvin Taylor Publishing
- Church Music on Demand

- Johannus Organs
- Malmark, Inc., Bellcraftsmen
- MorningStar Music Publishers
- Music Mart, Inc.
- OrganMuse—fully automatic page turning system for organs.
- RCI Music Library—software for managing church music programs
- Rodgers Organs, Inc.

Ambassadors Needed

The 2008 Southern Arizona Conclave is in need of volunteers desiring to be helpful in creating an atmosphere that ensures registrants a highly successful, enriching musical and educational experience in our fabulous city. Please consider volunteering for more than one event and more than one day. Contact Pat Kaltenberger at 744-4917 or e-mail her at pkalten@comcast.net. The following volunteers are needed for each day and event:

	Time	Event	# of Volunteers
Sunday	1-6:30 p.m.	Registration Desk	4
	3:45 p.m.	Bus to CCUM rehearsal	1
	5-6:45 p.m.	Dinner for choir	6
	6 p.m.	Bus to CCUM from hotel	1
	7-8 p.m.	Hymn Festival	3
Monday	7-8:15 a.m.	Registration Desk	3
	8 a.m.	Bus to St. Philip's	1
	8 a.m.	Set up chairs at St. Philip's	2
	8:45-10:45 a.m.	Service and speech at St. Philip's	4
	9:45-10 a.m.	Coffee	2
	10:45-11 a.m.	Coffee	2
	11 a.m.-Noon	Workshop M1	2
	11 a.m.- 1 p.m.	Serve lunch	8
	1-2 p.m.	Recital	2
	2-2:15 p.m.	Coffee	2
	2:15-3:15 p.m.	Workshop M2A	2
	2:15-3:15 p.m.	Workshop M2B	2
	2:15-3:15 p.m.	Workshop M2C	2
	3:15 p.m.	Bus to hotel	1
	4-5 p.m.	Workshop M3A	2
4-5 p.m.	Workshop M3B	2	

	7 p.m.	Bus to Northminster	1
	8 p.m.	Recital	3
	9 p.m.	Bus to hotel	1
Tuesday	7-8:30 a.m.	Registration	2
	8:15 a.m.	Bus to St. Michael's	1
	9-10 a.m.	Workshop T1	2
	10-10:15 a.m.	Serve refreshments	4
	10:15-11:15 a.m.	Recital	2
	11:15 a.m.	Bus to lunch area	1
	12:45 p.m.	Bus to Northminster	1
	1:15-2:15 p.m.	Workshop T2A	2
	1:15-2:15 p.m.	Workshop T1B	2
	2:15 p.m.	Bus to hotel	1
	3-3:30 p.m.	T3A Silent Movie	2
	5 p.m.	Bus to St. Augustine	1
	5-7 p.m.	Serve supper to choir	5
	7-8 p.m.	Concert	3
	8 p.m.	Bus to hotel	1
Wednesday	7-8:30 a.m.	Registration	1
	8:15 a.m.	Bus to UA/FUMC	1
	9-10 a.m.	Recital at UA	3
	10 a.m.	Coffee/snack at FUMC	3
	9-10 a.m.	Workshop W1B at FUMC	2
	9-10 a.m.	Workshop W1C at FUMC	2
	10 a.m.-1:15 p.m.	Bus to San Xavier	1
	10 a.m.	Box lunches for San Xavier	4
	10:30-11:30 a.m.	Recital at UA	3
	1:15-2:15 p.m.	Workshop W3 Master Class at UA	2
	2:15 p.m.	Bus to Santa Cruz	1
	3-4 p.m.	Concert	2
	4 p.m.	Bus to hotel	1
	7 p.m.	Bus to Grace St. Paul's	1
	8-9 p.m.	Recital	3
9 p.m.	Bus to hotel	1	
Thursday	7-8:30 a.m.	Registration	1
	8:15 a.m.	Bus to St. Mark's	1
	9-10 a.m.	Workshop Th1A	2
	9-10 a.m.	Workshop Th1B	2

10-10:30 a.m.	Serve refreshments	4
10:30 a.m.- Noon	Rehearsal and Service	3
Noon-1 p.m.	Lunch (including Boys' Chorus)	8
12:30-6 p.m.	Bus to Desert Museum	1
1 p.m.	Bus to hotel	1

We will need volunteers as well to provide snacks for coffee breaks. Consider donating brownies, cookies, cheese and crackers—anything that can be considered finger food. Also, we have to provide coffee at each of the venues and could use coffee donations as well.

Thank you for your spirit of volunteerism. As you know, nothing good happens without the service of great people.

Fire Sale at the Conclave

On the last day of the conclave, Maxine Fifer will be managing a “fire sale” of gently-used music and books during lunch on the patio at St. Mark’s Presbyterian Church. If you would like to donate music that you no longer use but which might be of interest to someone else, please contact Maxine at 743-7993 (home) or 325-7721 (office).

2007-2008 Calendar of Events

Southern Arizona Chapter, AGO

***This issue’s featured event
(details—page 1):***

Sunday, November 18, 2007, 3 p.m.—Annual Showcase Recital, featuring Joan Bystol, Mary Frances Fest, David Wachter.

**Where: Grace St. Paul’s Episcopal Church,
2331 E. Adams St.**

A reception will follow this recital! We need homemade goodies. Please call Mary Lou Barker at 299-5882 if you are willing to share your culinary or baking skills. Please state what you would like to bring and the amount you would like to bring if you leave a message. Many thanks!

December—No meeting

Sun.-Thurs., Jan. 20-24.—PIPES IN THE DESERT Region IX Mid-Winter Conclave!

Everyone will be busy and participating!

February—No Meeting. Recovery and Recuperation!

Sunday, March 2, 3 p.m.—Sacred Music in a Sacred Space: Schubert Mass in G (with organ and strings)

**Where: St. Margaret Mary Roman Catholic Church,
801 N. Grande Ave.**

Sunday, April 13, 3 p.m.—Community-wide Hymn Festival

Where: St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church

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**

Members’ Events

Choral Evensong with the Sanctuary Choir—Sunday, November 11, 5 p.m., Northminster Presbyterian Church, 2450 E. Fort Lowell Rd. This service will include “Locus Iste” (Bruckner), “O Taste and See” (Goss), the Sanctus from *Paukenmesse* (Haydn), and “A Clare Benediction” (Rutter).

David Wachter, organist—Sun., Nov. 11, 3 p.m., Trinity Presbyterian Church, 630 Park Ave., Prescott. David will play a program of music of the Baroque, Romantic, and Impressionistic eras in France. He will be playing the church’s new Allen Quantum organ. Carl Anderson, AAGO, is organist and choirmaster at Trinity Presbyterian.

Vivaldi Gloria, Sanctuary Choir and Instruments—Sunday, Dec. 9, 9:30 & 11 a.m., Northminster Presbyterian Church.

Also at Northminster Presbyterian: **Dr. John T. Brobeck, Christmas music for organ and instruments, Christmas Eve, December 24, 10:30 p.m., followed immediately by a traditional Candlelight Carols worship service, featuring the Sanctuary Choir.**

Noteworthy . . . ♪

70th Anniversary Celebration

The 70th anniversary of the Southern Arizona Chapter was celebrated on September 30 in the courtyard at Café Ramey. Following Dusty Johnson's welcoming remarks and Rev. John Cheek's invocation and blessing, 47 guests dined on New York strip or Hawaiian ahi tuna, serenaded by the Green Valley Chamber Trio. Guests received gift bags containing the evening's program, member directories and a brochure chronicling some of the Chapter's highlights over the past 70 years. Following a decadent dessert, they were ushered into the "theatre," where the deans present were recognized, followed by a screening of *Chapter Milestones*.

Anyone not able to attend who would like a CD of *Chapter Milestones* can order one by mailing \$5.00 to AGO, c/o Maxine Fifer, 4527 N. Camino Cardenal, Tucson 85718. Copies of the 70th Anniversary brochure will be available at guild events for those who would like one.

Getting to Know You . . .

New Members

DONNA LICHTY grew up in Akron, Ohio and began piano lessons at age seven. She began organ studies her last year in high school, continuing with organ studies at the University of Akron. She continued to study organ privately while pursuing her career as educator in the San Diego area for 27 years, 19 of which was working with handicapped elementary students. She served as organist in the San Diego area at the North Park Baptist Church, La Mesa Presbyterian, Palisades Presbyterian and Asbury Methodist Church. As mother of two children, she moved to Green Valley in order to be closer to her son. Amusing event: while practicing at the Episcopal church one Sunday afternoon, the church office was robbed without her awareness!

DHIRA MAHONEY, widow of James Mahoney who founded the Mildred Flood Mahoney Memorial Organ Scholarship at UA, was born in India. She did her undergraduate work at Oxford, England, and earned her doctorate at the University of California Santa Barbara. She has taught English Literature (her specialty is medieval literature) in India, as well as at UCASB and for 18 years at ASU. She is particularly proud that some former students and colleagues are putting together a *Festschrift* (festival writing) collection of essays to be published in her honor.

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 (January/February 2008) is December 1; the deadline for the March/April 2008 issue is February 1; and the deadline for the May 2008 issue is April 15. Thank you!**

Positions Available

The staff at St. Francis Episcopal Church in Green Valley are planning to hire section leaders for the adult choir. Applicants would need to be available for three Sunday services a month from October to May plus festival services and applicants would need to be experienced singers. For further details contact Gerald Near, Director of Music, at 625-1370.

We need you for Pipes in the Desert!
Register today!

Dear AGO Member:

Please let Pat Kaltenberger know if you will be available to help with the Conclave activities. As you'll see from the list inside this issue, we need LOTS of volunteers!! You can copy and paste the form below into an e-mail message to her at pkalten@comcast.net, or print it and mail it to her at 13715 N. Heritage Canyon Dr., Marana, AZ 85653, or give her a phone call at 744-4917 or 820-1572. THANK YOU FOR HELPING!

To: Pat Kaltenberger

Re: Conclave Volunteers

Dear Pat—YES, I want to help with the Region IX Mid-Winter Conclave in Tucson, January 20-24, 2008!

I'm available: ___mornings ___afternoons ___evenings

___Sun ___Mon ___Tues ___Wed ___Thurs

My name _____

My e-mail _____

My phone _____

My address _____

I'd enjoy helping with _____

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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