



The CYPHER

Newsletter of the Southern Arizona Chapter
American Guild of Organists

Volume 41, Number 1
September 2021

Chapter Website: www.saago.org

Programs at a glance through February

Opening Service and Catered Dinner

Cost: \$10.
Sunday, Sept. 12, 4 p.m..
St. Andrew's Presbyterian
Church

The Fascinating Art of Pipe Making

Ken Yuki, Pipe Maker
Saturday, Oct. 9, 10 a.m.
St. Mark's Presbyterian
Church

SAAGO Showcase Concert Organ Music of the German Romantics

Sunday, Nov. 14, 4 p.m.
Northminster Presbyterian
Church
Open to all members

Bradley Welch, Organ

Friday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m.
Catalina United Methodist
Church

Celebrate the Holidays

Saturday, Dec. 4, 6 p.m.
Dean Janet's home

Pedals, Pipes and Pizza

Sat., Jan 22, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
St. Mark's Presbyterian
Church

Alcée Chriss, Organ Roy Johnson Series

Friday, Feb 4, 7 p.m.
Master Class, Sat., Feb. 5, 10 a.m.
Holsclaw Hall, U of A

Making All Things New Jeffrey Campbell

Sunday, Feb. 13, 3 p.m.
St. Philip's In the Hills
Episcopal Church

September 2021 Meeting Opening Service and Dinner

Sunday, September 12, 4:00 p.m.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
7650 N. Paseo Del Norte
Dinner costs \$10

Join us for the first program of our 2021-2022 season: an opening worship service led by our chaplain, Rev. Beth Rambikur. The service will be followed by a short general chapter meeting and a catered dinner.

This will be a great time to reconnect with colleagues, be brought up to date and to enjoy very good food prepared by Chef Andy Bruno.

Reservations are required for dinner and may be made by contacting either Dee Schultz at (520) 343-5343 or Carolyn Smith (organist at St. Andrew's) at (520) 891-7052. Cost is \$10 and beverages and dessert are included. The reservation deadline is **Sunday, September 5th**. If you haven't made your reservation, please do so *without delay*.



We hope you've made your reservation!!

The wearing of masks is kindly requested, except when eating ... 🍷



New privacy and security information regarding members' phone numbers and email addresses can be found on page 7.

Free membership information for the "Year of the Young Organist" can be found on page 8.

**AMERICAN GUILD
OF ORGANISTS**

**SOUTHERN ARIZONA
CHAPTER**

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The CYPHER

Stardust (Dusty) Johnson, *Editor*

NOTE: Chapter members are invited to submit information about their special programs to be included in THE CYPHER. If you have programs you would like included, we would like to hear from you! Please send program descriptions, along with pertinent information—title, date, location, time, brief description, cost, and photos—to Dusty Johnson, *CYPHER* editor. The information will appear in the print edition as well as in the online edition. Material may be edited as needed.

Deadlines for the 2021-2022 season are

September 15
October 15
November 15
December 15
January 15
February 15
March 15
April 15

Please email information to

Dusty Johnson, editor, at skj5@cox.net by the published deadlines. You may also send it via U.S. mail.

Advertising space available

Full page, \$150; Half page (horizontal), \$100
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Contact Maxine Fifer, Advertising Chair (wetypefast@gmail.com)

To play only what is written is the domain of science. To realize what is not written is the domain of art.
—Jean Langlais.

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message from the dean...

Dear Southern Arizona Chapter Members,

My late husband told me his father made two predictions back in the 1940s: 1) plastics will one day rule the world, and 2) one day we will be willing to pay for silence. Arnold Schoenberg said, "Rests always sound well." Someone else said, "It's the silence between the notes that makes the music." If you know to whom that quote is attributed, drop me an email and let me know. In Halberstadt, Germany, a piece by John Cage, "ORGAN/ASLSP," or As Slow As Possible, began to be played in September 2001, 20 years ago, at the St. Burchardi Church.

If all goes well, the piece will end in 2640. A change of chords occurs only once every few years, the last time being September 5, 2020, and October 5, 2013, before then. It was not originally a piece for organ, but Cage adapted it into an organ version in 1987. Although a typical performance of the piece lasts 20-70 minutes, "as slow as possible" defines no limitations, so why not have it last 639 years? Will that special organ last that long? How many players will it take to see the piece through to the end?

It seems like this pandemic is moving along as slowly as possible. Just when we think all is well and the end has been reached, something changes and we're still dealing with the virus and its variants. The Program Committee has been hard at work planning the upcoming season, but we know we have to be flexible and willing to make changes, if they are indicated. We hope to meet face-to-face in September, but we will keep you apprised of any changes.

Meanwhile, we all experience changes in our lives, some big, some small. A little pure silence in our lives can bolster us on our journeys. We can set aside time for quiet in our daily lives. Afterward, maybe we will know better how often to change chords.

Dear Janet Tolman



Programs

Opening Service and Dinner

Sunday, September 12, 4 p.m.
See cover for complete information.

The Fascinating Art of Pipe Making

Ken Yuki, pipe maker

Saturday, October 9, 10 a.m.
St. Mark's Presbyterian Church
3809 E 3rd St.

Join your colleagues for an interesting program on the art of pipe making—the history, the principles guiding the creation of a particular pipe and sound, the techniques, and how all is integrated to create the ultimate outcome—a beautiful pipe that requires little voicing by the pipe voicers. Ken will discuss and share images of the various stages of pipe making, illustrating the options for arriving at that end result.



SAAGO Showcase Concert featuring Organ Music of the German Romantics Open to all members this year

Sunday, Nov. 14, 4 p.m.
Northminster Presbyterian Church
2450 E. Fort Lowell Rd.

Organ Music of the German Romantics is the theme of this year's Showcase and participation is open to all members. If you are interested in performing, send your choice (or choices)—10 minutes or less in length total—to program committee member David Gay at dgay@math.arizona.edu. Pieces should be by



Roy Johnson Memorial Organ, Quimby Pipe Organs, Opus 51
46 ranks. 4 divisions. 3 manuals. 33 stops. 47 registers

composers of the German romantics, such as Mendelssohn, Schumann, Rheinberger, Brahms, Karg-Elert, or Reger. The committee will use all choices submitted to put together a “balanced” program (i.e., avoiding a program entirely of Mendelssohn! ... or entirely of Reger!) of about 1 hour 20 minutes in length. (In fact, it would be useful, if you would like to participate, to submit a couple of possibilities to help the committee make their selections. It would also be helpful if you indicated the length of each possibility submitted.) The Showcase will take place 4 p.m., Sunday November 21, at Northminster Presbyterian Church. **Please submit your choices to David Gay by October 1.**

Bradley Welch, Organ

Friday, November 19, 7 p.m.
Catalina United Methodist Church
2700 E. Speedway Blvd.
\$25 online, \$20 seniors,
SAAGO members, free

Hailed as “A world-class virtuoso” (*The American Organist*) and “an expert at defining darks, lights, shadows and colors,” (*Birmingham News*, Alabama), Bradley Hunter Welch is increasingly in demand as a recitalist, concerto soloist, and collaborative artist. He is Resident Organist for the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, is also Artist-in-Residence at Preston Hollow Presbyterian Church in Dallas. In addition, he has taught at Southern Methodist University and Baylor University and he was Director of Music & Arts at Highland Park United Methodist Church in Dallas, Texas, from 2009–2014.



Celebrate the Holidays

Saturday, December 4, 6 p.m.
Dean Janet Tolman's home

Dean Janet has very graciously invited us to her home to celebrate the holidays. Take a break from the stresses of the holiday season to relax and unwind with your colleagues. Festive food and drinks will be provided for you to enjoy with your friends and colleagues!

Programs continued

Pedals, Pipes and Pizza

Saturday, January 26, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
St. Mark's Presbyterian Church
3809 E. 3rd St.

SAAGO's annual event is designed to give children and youth a brief introduction to the pipe organ and its music. Attendees get to explore the inner workings of the instrument and will also receive individual instruction on the organ. Additional information and a registration form will follow in a later edition of THE CYPHER.



*St. Mark's Schantz organ, Opus 2006, 1992,
33 ranks. 4 divisions. 3 manuals.*

Alcée Chriss, Organ Roy Johnson Memorial Organ Series Concert and Master Class

Concert: Friday, February 4, 7 p.m.
Master Class, Saturday, February 5, 10 a.m.
Holsclaw Hall, Fred Fox School of Music, U of A
Park Avenue and Speedway Boulevard
Admission: \$10, seniors \$7, students \$5

A featured star in the PBS documentary *Pipe Dreams* (2019), and winner of the 2017 Canadian International Organ Competition and the Firmin Swinnen Silver Medal at the 2016 Longwood Gardens International Organ Competition. Dr. Alcee Chriss, III has performed at distinguished venues and festivals throughout North America and Europe. He is University Organist and Artist-in-Residence at Wesleyan University, and serves as the Minister of Music at Saint Stephen's Episcopal Church in Ridgefield, CT. Originally from Fort Worth, TX, Alcee earned his Doctor of Music degree from McGill University and his master's and bachelor's degrees from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. In addition to classical repertoire, Dr. Chriss remains engaged with his lifelong love of gospel and jazz music.



Making All Things New Jeffrey Campbell

Sunday, February 13, 3 p.m.
St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church
4440 N. Campbell Ave.

Jeffrey Campbell, Dmus., ARCCO, will lead this workshop that focuses on newly composed Hymn-Tune Preludes suitable for the entire church year. Examples from the recently published seven volume "Oxford Hymn Settings for Organists" will focus on the work of prominent American & British composers, who bring a great variety of invention to their interpretations of classic and universally-loved hymn tunes. Our own Dr. Pamela Decker is one of the composers featured in this series!

Celebrating Women Composers

Sunday, March 13, 3 p.m.
St. Michael and All Angels
602 N. Wilmot Rd.

Andrew Carnegie and The Organ: A Unique Philanthropy

William Kuhlman, Emeritus Professor of Music
Luther College, Decorah, Iowa,
Saturday, April 23, 10 a.m.
Location: TBA

A program presented by Bill Kuhlman which explores what may be a little known fact: over a forty year period, Andrew Carnegie donated over 7000 pipe organs. In today's dollars it amounted to \$300,000,000 benefiting churches and other institutions in America and the Commonwealth. Was this "curious" form of philanthropy an extension of his "Gospel of Wealth" philosophy, and reacting to the enormous wealth he had acquired in business? This should be a fascinating presentation.



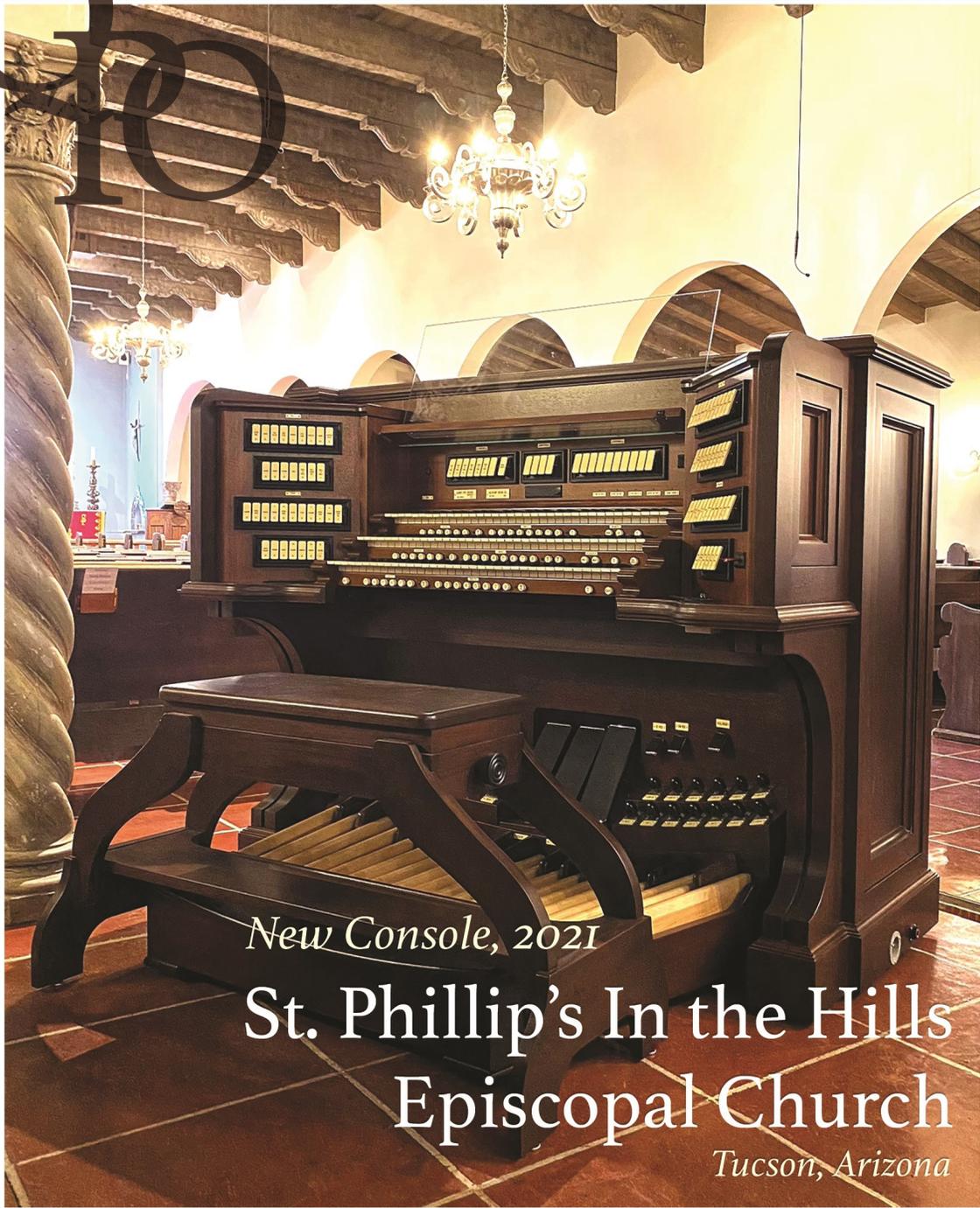
Home Organ Crawl

May 14, 10 a.m.
More information to come.

End of Year Social and Business Meeting

Sunday, June 15
Location: TBA

QPO



New Console, 2021

St. Phillip's In the Hills Episcopal Church

Tucson, Arizona

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www.quimbypipeorgans.com

Pastor Beth Rambikur, Chaplain



Changing Horizons

I moved to Tucson from Phoenix, Az, which is not so much a city as it is an all-consuming leviathan of cement and steel that spreads for a hundred miles in every direction, declaring nothing natural shall survive! And having lived in a city constructed not so much to tame nature as to

suppress it, I had forgotten what it is like to live with the wild living land in our midst. Until our skies echoed with the booming energy of lightning and the clouds became oceans sending wave upon wave of water down our streets, alleys, into our washes and rivers, reminding us for too brief a time of the human creature's place in creation.

The rains have changed our landscapes again this year. The banks of the Pantano, Tanque Verde, and Santa Cruz are different as are the braided gravel beds that have been dormant far too long. Our deserts and mountains are blooming with green, bursting with life, as our gardens have become jungles. And yet amidst this abundance of life, comes the warning and specter of destruction, we must change our lives and ways of being in this world to preserve the fragile balance still remaining between humans and the nature that sustains us. But habits are hard to change, and human beings are stubborn. It takes practice, patience, and faith that things can be different to make a change in our lives. It requires us to change where on the horizon we are fixing our gaze, so that we can see further, look deeper, and know differently how to be in this world as caretakers and garden tenders.

So as we celebrate the changing seasons, experiencing the beauty of the rain bringing us new life, and pondering the news of our changing world and how we can be part of change for the healing of our world I want to leave you with these words from the poem by John O'Donohue *A Morning Offering* from *To Bless the Space Between Us*: "May my mind come alive today to the invisible geography that invites me to new frontiers to break the dead shell of yesterdays, to risk being disturbed and changed. May I have the courage today to live the life that I would love, to postpone my dream no longer but do at last what I came here for and waste my heart on fear no more."

pastor@ccumtucson.org.

Roy Johnson Memorial Scholarship

Established by the Southern Arizona Chapter of the AGO in memory of Professor Roy Andrew Johnson, the scholarship is available to assist in funding organ study as follows:



- ◆ lessons at any level through collegiate;
- ◆ introductory organ lessons for pianists;
- ◆ Registration fees for an educational event, including a Pipe Organ Encounter (POE);
- ◆ for collegiate level students, registration fees for regional and national conventions of the AGO.
- ◆ for collegiate level students, full membership in the American Guild of Organists, Southern Arizona Chapter.

Scholarship awards for organ study will range from \$350 to \$500. For educational events, the scholarship will cover the cost of registration.

An application form may be found online at www.saago.org. **Completed forms may be submitted to the Scholarship Committee Chair at any time.**

Members' Privacy and Security

Concerned with privacy and security issues, the SAAGO Executive Committee decided to remove personal email addresses and phone numbers of all Executive Committee members from all public communications, such as our letterhead, website and public flyers and/or events.

To contact an Executive Committee member by email or phone, please use your membership directory.

Our chapter has a new generic email address: southernarizonaago@gmail.com. This email will be checked by an Executive Committee member at least twice daily. Of course, you can continue to use members various emails and phone numbers contained in the directory, which is not a public document.

PRIVACY AND SECURITY

Kudos and Thanks to Joyce!

Kudos and thanks to Joyce Swinehart, Hospitality Hostess Extraordinaire. Joyce has given up that responsibility and passed the torch to Dee Schultz. We can't thank Joyce enough for her service to SAAGO for the past 13 years(!) as hospitality chair. She far exceeded all the parameters of the position description! We will miss you, Joyce, but look forward to continuing to see you at SAAGO programs.



Welcome Dee Schultz, Hospitality

Welcome to SAAGO member and friend, Dee Schultz, who has graciously agreed to assume the position of Hospitality Chair. She will be your contact for future dinner reservations, etc. As a reminder, Dee has a degree in music education (piano and organ) from the U of A as well as a degree in Nursing, a profession which she practiced for 40 years. She is also the widow of long-time member, organist and composer, Alan Schultz. Thanks so much for taking on this position, Dee!



Welcome Mark Stockwell

Welcome to returning member, Mark Stockwell. Mark is a long-time Tucson resident and former organ student of Roy Johnson at the U of A.

It's a pleasure to have him rejoin our 'ranks.' Welcome back!



Kudos to Doug Leightenheimer

Kudos to Doug Leightenheimer who performed in an outstanding festival of German organ literature this summer as part of a fundraising campaign for the preservation of the 1935 Kilgan organ at the Second Presbyterian Church of Portsmouth, OH. He was one of several organists who participated in the impressive program. You can still view the program by going to the church YouTube link at:

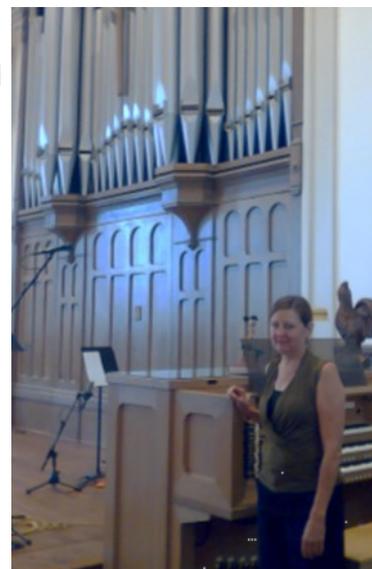
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sWKxIV7RIFY>



Greetings from Norene Walters!

Doug also spent two days in the Holland, Michigan, area visiting former long-time member Norene Walters. His visit coincided with her recital on the noonday series at the Pillar Reformed Church in Holland. He also was the guest page turner! It is a great summer series that is planned by Norene and draws an audience of at least 100 people for each concert. Impressive!

Norene, who is a Michigan native, earned music degrees from Hope College, Yale University, and the University of Arizona. She is currently the organist at All Saints' Episcopal Church in Saugatuck. In addition, she rehearses singers and records the weekly liturgy and hymns for a church in Grand Rapids. She continues to keep busy with AGO, rotating between the Holland and Grand Rapids chapters.



50th Anniversary Hendrickson Organ, Luther College, with Michael Barone, Bill Kuhlman, and Hendrickson descendants. September 11.

September 11 will mark the 50th anniversary of the installation of the first modern tracker action organ in the Midwest, United States. The celebration will include displays, performances by current and past organ instructors and students and a panel discussion recalling the instrument and its journey through five decades. Panel members will include Michael Barone, William Kuhlman, David Engen, Greg Peterson, and descendants of the late Charles Hendrickson, builder of the instrument.

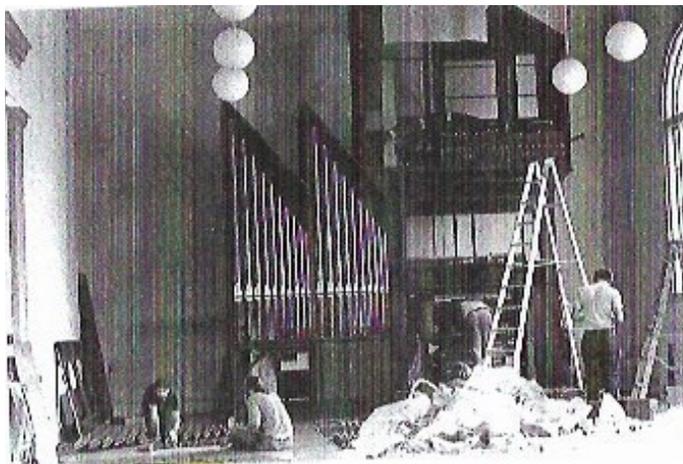
Funds were granted in late 1969 by the Aid Association for Lutherans insurance Company of Appleton, Wisconsin (renamed "Thrivent"). Charles Hendrickson, founder of Hendrickson Organ Company, designed the 24 stop 36 rank 2-manual organ in collaboration with College Organist Kuhlman. Dr. Robert Noehren, famed organ historian, organ builder and internationally acclaimed organist from the University of Michigan dedicated it in two concerts on October 29, 1971. Gerald Near was commissioned to write his "Second Fantasy for Organ" to commemorate the occasion.

The Hendrickson could be described as a real "workhorse", having been used many hours a day for lessons, practice and numerous workshops and recitals. It was moved from Koren recital hall when it was converted to lecture and office space. It is now in its own discreet organ studio in the Jenson/Weston Noble Music complex, with acoustics designed by Lawrence Kierkegaard. The "sister" to this organ was installed in the 1600 seat Faith and Life Center on campus and was built by Robert Sipe in 1977. It is a 42 stop 3 manual tracker.

These two venues have been the sites for recitals and workshops by Karel Paukert, Arthur Poister, Russell Saunders, Cherry Rhodes, Charles Krigbaum, Martin Haselböck, David Briggs, Christopher Houlihan, Bradley Welch, Douglas Cleveland and many other notables in the world of the pipe organ.

Luther College is a four-year liberal arts college founded in 1861 and located in Decorah, Iowa. The 50-member music department offers bachelor's degrees in all performance areas and music education.

For more details about the specs, go to the following website (copy and paste if necessary).



Hendrickson organ

<http://www.pipeorganlist.com/OrganList/dataia/IA-DecorahLutherColl-HENDRICKSON.html>

Submitted by Bill Kuhlman, Professor Emeritus of Organ and Church Music, Luther College, Decorah, Iowa

Year of the Young Organist



celebrating young talent and musicianship in the pipe organ field

During the Year of the Young Organist, July 1, 2021–June 30, 2022, any individual under the age of 30 can become a member or renew her/his membership for free as part of this program.

This is an extraordinary opportunity to join SAAGO absolutely free for one year with all the benefits available to full membership, including

- Subscription to the monthly magazine, *The American Organist*.
- Opportunity to attend master classes and webinars on a wide variety of topics.
- Participation, with your colleagues, in local chapter programs and activities.
- Receipt of the Chapter's newsletter, *The Cypher*, eight times a year.

To accept this amazing offer, go to www.agohq.org/free-membership, fill in the online form "Complimentary Young Organist Membership," select "Southern Arizona Chapter" as your primary chapter, and click on "submit."

- **Questions? Please feel free to contact:**
- Janet Tolman, Dean, 520-883-3173, or tolman@wvcnet.com
- Lars Andersen, Membership Chair, 520-909-9038, or L.andersen@q.com
- David Horr, Secretary & Treasurer, 520-822-7808, or dahorr@comcast.net

"Fostering a thriving community of musicians who share their knowledge and inspire passion for the organ"

— AGO Mission Statement

Ago Mission Statement

In case you have a barking dog . . .

Bach Reduces The Barking

In 1697, the British playwright William Congreve penned the following line: "Music has charms to soothe a savage breast." Fortunately, says Peter Gott—the manager of SSI Kennels, near Nottingham, England—he recalled that line from his school days when neighbors began complaining to him about the loud barking of his dogs.

Substituting "beast" for "breast" in Congreve's quotation, Gott decided to try music to lower the volume of the barking being generated by his canine guests. "The result, when we began playing music for them," Gott reports, "was amazing. They seem much happier and more relaxed. We play the music through speakers. Some dogs even have their own headsets."

More than 100 dogs of every type stay at SSI Kennels, and, according to Gott, the majority find the music of Bach most relaxing and tranquilizing.



Listening to a favorite fugue at SSI Kennels

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Renew Your Membership

- We want you to be included in our 2020-2021 Membership Directory. If it's time for you to renew, use one of the following renewal methods.
- Online using your credit/debit card. Go to the ONCARD website and follow the instructions: <https://www.agohq.org/oncard/>
- Online sending a check through the mail. Go to the website <https://www.agohq.org/oncard/> and then print the AGO application form, include your check, and mail it directly to the address indicated at the bottom of the form.
- Also, please take a few minutes to update your information on AGO ONCARD. The email address, home address, and phone numbers listed on that database are used for the membership directory.
- Chapter Friends and those without computer access. Please contact Lars Andersen for information on renewal or joining as a new Chapter Friend (L.andersen@q.com) or at 520-909-9038.

Membership Directories are being prepared and will be mailed to the membership when they are completed.

TANQUE VERDE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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CATALINA ORGAN FESTIVAL

Bradley H. Welch

Concert - 7 pm

Friday, Nov. 19, 2021



Resident Organist
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Preston Hollow
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Tickets
\$25 online
\$20 Seniors

Roy A. Johnson Memorial Organ Series



Alcée Chriss

Organist and Composer

Recital

Friday, February 4
7:00 p.m. – \$10, 7, 5

Masterclass

Saturday, February 5
10:00 a.m. – \$Free

The University of Arizona
Fred Fox School of Music
Isabelle B. Harris Organ
Holsclaw Hall

The Roy A. Johnson Memorial Organ Series, established in memory of Professor Johnson following his tragic death in 1995, showcases outstanding contemporary organists. Professor Johnson made enormous contributions to the organ studies program, the keyboard area, and to graduate studies during his 29 years at the University of Arizona. The installation of the beautiful Schoenstein organ given by Isabelle Harris, in a hall designed for the organ, was the fulfillment of his vision for a flourishing organ program.

Co-sponsored by the Southern Arizona Chapter of the American Guild of Organists



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A look back—
Organist-Clergy Dinner 50 years ago, Our Savior's Lutheran Church

AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
SOUTHERN ARIZONA CHAPTER

May 10, 1971

Dear Member,

Our next regularly scheduled meeting is the ORGANIST-CLERGY DINNER to be held at OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH on TUESDAY, MAY 18, at 6:45 P.M. The cost is \$2.00 per person. If you plan to attend, please phone your reservation (BY FRIDAY) to Mrs. Robert E. (Dorothy) Burke, 325-1710, or to Mr. Russell Baughman, 624-8688. The dinner will be held in the church's Activity Building, Norris and Helen Streets. Sub-Dean Ronald Kuykendall will present an illustrated lecture on English cathedrals and parish churches. I hope all of you will plan to attend (even if you are not able to bring a clergyman friend).

If you have not received information from the University about the Lovelace workshop, please note the dates and times: Monday through Friday, June 7-11, 7:00-10:00 P.M., and Saturday, June 12, 9:00-12:00 A.M. If elected for university credit, the cost is \$18.00 per unit. Otherwise there is no charge.

Sincerely,

Roy Johnson, Dean

P.S. To facilitate payment for the dinner, please try to bring the correct amount on the 18th, unless you pay by check.

Sorry, about the 'bleed through.' Roy had penned notes on the reverse side. Clearly, he considered this a piece of scrap paper. I found it in an old, yellowed edition of the Riemenschneider edition of Bach's Eighteen Large Chorales.

Dusty Johnson



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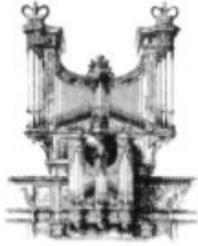


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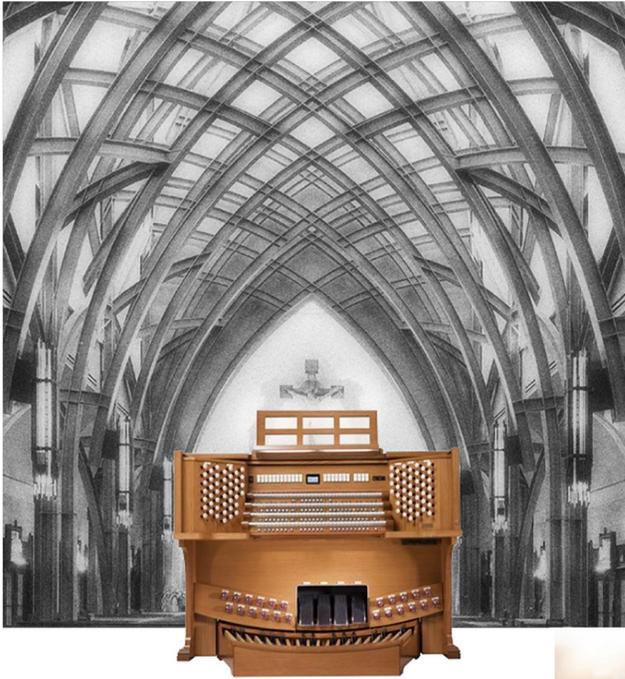
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Publication Information: ***The Cypher*** is a bimonthly newsletter published by the **Southern Arizona Chapter of the American Guild of Organists**. It is distributed to chapter members, organists of churches in Tucson and surrounding communities, and deans of all chapters in the West Region (Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Alaska, Oregon, and Washington as well as Korea, Shanghai, Singapore, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Sydney, Australia). **Southern Arizona Chapter members who do not request the printed version will receive *The Cypher* via email.** Send information for publication to Stardust (Dusty) Johnson at email skj5@cox.net, or to 2215 E 2nd St., Tucson, AZ 85719-4930. 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 of the American Guild of Organists, its officers or members.



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