

# The CYPHER

Newsletter of the Southern Arizona Chapter American Guild of Organists

Chapter Website: www.saago.org

Volume 43, Number 9 May 2024

### Programs at a glance through June 2

Wurlitzer "Hands On" Monday, May 6, 6:30 p.m. Fox Theatre, Tucson

All the Bells and Whistles: Mother's Day Concert Sunday, May 12, 4 p.m. Christ Church United Methodist

Evensong Organ Prelude Sunday, May 19, 4:15 p.m. St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church

Summer Social and Membership Meeting Sunday, June 2, 4 p.m. Colonia Verde Club House

#### **NOTE**

See the article and photos about The Mighty Wurlitzer from the Arizona Daily Star, April 12, 2012, at the link below. You may need to copy and paste.



https://tucson.com/ entertainment/photos-themighty-wurlitzer-organ-returns -to-the-fox-theatre/ collection f917f5ac-5d72-11e9-8ac4-830812c54946.html#1

#### Focus on May programs. . .

### "Hands On" the Mighty Wurlitzer—a unique opportunity

Monday, May 6, 6:30 p.m. 17 W. Congress St.

Plan to join your fellow SAAGO members for this unique opportunity to play the Mighty Wurlitzer at the Fox Theatre and to hear member Grahame Davis, Pipe Organ Artisans of Arizona, share information about the instrument and his long-term commitment to bringing a Wurlitzer to life in the Fox. Grahame will present a brief introduction with several minutes for a question and answer period. Then those who wish to play will have about 10 minutes at the keyboard with Grahame available to assist with registration. Bring whatever music you might wish to play.

We'll start promptly at 6:30. Enter at the main entrance on Congress Street



where a Fox official will let you in. There is free street parking in front of the Fox and also parallel parking along Church St, the next street to the west. There is a pay parking garage about half a block east where you must pay with a credit card using a QR code. We'll have the theatre to ourselves for about an hour and one-half.

When the Fox Theatre opened on April 11, 1930, the organ was an integral element of this and nearly every 'Movie Palace' built in that era. Unfortunately, in the 1950s, the Fox Theatre's original 'Mighty Wurlitzer' was sold for parts. However, in 2002, midway through the Fox restoration, Dr. Malin Dollinger generously donated his meticulously cared for 1922 four-manual, 27-rank Wurlitzer organ to the theatre. The organ was restored by member

Grahame Davis, (Pipe Organ Artisans of Arizona) with some assistance by SAAGO members.



**Grahame Davis working at the Fox** 

See you at the Fox!!

## AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

#### SOUTHERN ARIZONA CHAPTER

P.O. Box 31315 Tucson, AZ 85751-1315

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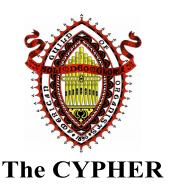
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To contact an Executive Committee member by email or phone, please use your membership directory.

Our chapter has a generic email address:

#### southernarizonaago@gmail.com.

This email will be checked by an Executive Committee member at least twice daily. You may continue to contact members using their email and phone numbers printed in the membership directory, which is not a public document.



Stardust (Dusty) Johnson, Editor (skj5@cox.net)

### Submission Deadlines for the 2023-2024 season are the 15th of each month.

The information contained in the newsletter is accurate as of the date of publication. Dusty Johnson, Editor

NOTE: Chapter members are invited to submit program information for inclusion in THE CYPHER. We want to include your programs!

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.

Please email information to

Dusty Johnson, editor, at <a href="mailto:skj5@cox.net">skj5@cox.net</a> by the 15th of the month. You may also send it via U.S. mail.

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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...

My dear colleagues and friends, this will be my 37<sup>th</sup> and final message to you as dean. It has been a supreme privilege to have served you for the past four years, and I'm excited to hand the gavel (there is one, and I have never used it at a meeting) over to the incoming dean this July 1. These past four years, two terms, have passed all too quickly in many respects. I put on the dean's mantle July 1, 2020, and you will very well remember that we all were in the throes of the COVID-19 pandemic. Your Executive Committee, not to be deterred by that event, planned and pulled off meetings, including a Showcase, through Zoom and other technologies. I could be labeled the Dean of the Bug, I guess.

There are simply not enough or the right words to thank the loyal, committed members of the Executive Committee, the Program Committee, the Investment Committee, and all the other volunteer minds and hands that have helped this chapter grow in ways unknown before and assure that SAAGO is very much alive and well!

I like to think that harmony is the song of life. It is an integral part of music, adding layer upon layer of intricacy, interest, and depth. What would a musical composition be without harmony and rhythm?

Harmony extends beyond music, of course, and has been nurtured and exhibited in the relationships within this chapter. We have experienced harmony at board meetings, social gatherings, concerts, and our monthly programs. I honestly can say there has not been anything except harmony in our midst.

The Program Committee is finalizing wonderful offerings for our next season. Several of the current Executive Committee members are continuing in their roles next year, and for that we are all grateful.

I feel confident you will support the incoming dean and other Executive Committee members, as you have me over the past four years.

I thank you all for living out the harmony in both our music and our lives and wish you all the very best in the future.

With much gratitude,

Dean Janet Tolman



#### **Chapter and Member Programs**

### All the Bells and Whistles: Mother's Day Concert

Sunday, May 12, 4 p.m. Christ Church United Methodist 655 N. Craycroft Rd.



A musical celebration with Organ, handbells, choir, instrumentalists, and piano; with Janet Tolman, organist and Dean, SAAGO and John Neve, handbell director and member of SAAGO. This event benefits

the Christ Church Food Bank.

Attendees are requested to bring nonperishable food items.

#### Organ Prelude and Choral Evensong

Sunday, May 19, 4:15 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church 4440 N. Campbell Ave. Free-will Offering



Catalina United Methodist Church 2700 E. Speedway Blvd.

N FROM THIE HIEAT!

Summer Siesta Concerts

Emma Whitten Saturday, June 29 Ilona Kubiaczyk-Adler Saturday, July 27





Lunch served at noon in the Fellowship Hall with the organ recital following in the sanctuary.

Lunch is \$20 per person; \$30 for two persons Cash/credit at the door

Exciting performances by two highly regarded performers. **Emma Whitten**, who is Associate Organist at Christ Cathedral (formerly Crystal Cathedral), Director of Music at Community Church Congregational in Corona del Mar, CA, and who is Associate Adjunct Professor of Organ and Church Music at Concordia University, Irvine. AND **Ilona Kubiaczyk-Adler**, who is Director of Ministries in Music and Arts/Organist at Pinnacle Presbyterian Church, Scottsdale. A native of Poland, she has concertized and lectured throughout the United States and Europe in addition to holding significant church music appointments.

#### **Summer Social and General Membership Meeting**

# **Summer Social and General Membership Meeting at Colonia Verde**

Sunday, June 2, 4 p.m. Colonia Verde Club House 2700 N. Camino Valle Verde

The annual members' meeting will take place at 4 p.m. followed by the potluck dinner and fellowship time, starting 5 p.m. Reservation deadline to Dee Schultz is Thursday, May 29.

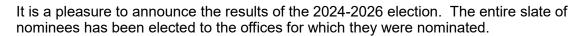
See pages 8 and 9 for details and driving instructions.



#### 2024 Election Results

# Southern Arizona Chapter, American Guild of Organists (SAAGO) CHAPTER OFFICERS 20242-2026





Thanks to the Nominating Committee and to Lars Andersen and David Horr who counted and certified the ballots. And congratulations to the new—and re-elected officers. They are:



Dean - Raymond Ryder

Sub-dean — Laura Silva

Secretary/Treasurer — David Horr+

Membership/Placement—Lars Anderson+

Advertising—Fern Hieb+

Hospitality—Delores (Dee) Schultz+

Newsletter—Stardust (Dusty) Johnson+

Publicity—Richard Hockett

Education/University Liaison—Pamela Decker+

Member-at-large Class of 2026—Mark Stockwell+

Member-at-large Class of 2028—Kathryn Snodgrass

(+) Incumbent

New members to the SAAGO Executive Committee are warmly welcomed!

Sincere and hearty thanks are extended to those Executive Committee Members who have completed their terms of service:

Janet Tolman—Dean

David Gay—Sub dean

Stephen Keyl—Publicity

The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to foster a thriving community of musicians who share their knowledge and inspire passion for the organ.

The vision of the American Guild of Organists is to engage, support, and uplift every organist



### facebook

Be sure to take a look at our chapter's Facebook page: american guild of organists - southern arizona chapter (<a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/497988863981903/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/497988863981903/</a>

#### **April Organ Crawl Recap**

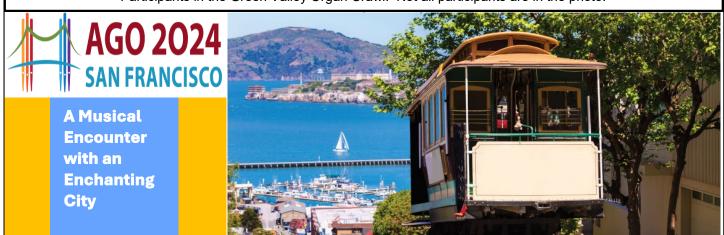
Saturday, April 13, 2024, a beautiful spring day, seventeen Southern Arizonans took part in an Organ Crawl in Green Valley, a community 25 miles south of Tucson and 27 miles north of Mexico. Participants visited the United Methodist Church of Green Valley, the Lutheran Church of the Risen Savior, St Francis in the Valley Episcopal Church, and Valley Presbyterian Church. They played a 1980 3-manual Reuter, a 2016 3-manual Holtkamp, a 2001 3-manual Rogers, and a 2023 4-manual Rogers,

respectively. Hosts from the churches --- Linda Truesdell, Patricia Leege, Michael Case, and Craig Lindsey --- demonstrated the instruments (with assistance from David Wang and Haruhito Miyagi of Organs AZ at Valley Presbyterian). Dee Schultz, Hospitality Chair of the Southern Arizona Chapter of the AGO, provided a delicious lunch. A great time was had by all!

Submitted by David Gay



Participants in the Green Valley Organ Crawl. Not all participants are in the photo.



#### **April Programs Recaps** continued

April was an especially busy program month, including concerts in SAAGO member series. Carolyn Smith performed in the St. Alban's Series on April 13 and Doug Leightenheimer performed at St. Andrew the Apostle Catholic Church in Sierra Vista on April 21. Both programs were very well received!!

It was a pleasure to welcome Past Dean Doug back to Arizona!

Carolyn Smith taking bows after her performance, which included singing of some of the chorales which she performed. Carolyn is also a past dean of SAAGO.



Photos by Mark Stockwell



# YOU'RE INVITED!

To the Southern Arizona Chapter of the AGO's

### ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CHAPTER

SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2024, 4:00 P.M. 'TIL ....



# At the beautiful club house at Colonia Verde

(David Wachter's and David Horr's community)

2700 N. Camino Valle Verde, off Sabino Canyon Road, north of Tanque Verde (driving directions are on the following page).

- Come and enjoy visiting with your friends in the Chapter for a fun get-together to conclude the 2023-2024 season.
- Annual meeting of the Chapter Members is at 4 p.m., followed by a potluck supper at 5:00.
- Bring your favorite dish for the potluck supper. If you can't bring a dish or beverage, come anyway! There will be enough for everyone.
- Bring any organ music you no longer wish to keep.
- Get to know your colleagues better.
- If you need a ride, don't be shy to ask.

Contact Dee Schultz, 520-343-5343, or E-mail her at: **adschul@yahoo.com**, **by Thursday, May 29**, to let her know what dish you'll be bringing. Utensils and soft drinks will be provided.



#### Colonia Verde Club House with Catalina Mountains in the background.



#### **Annual Meeting Directions:** There are several ways to get to the Colonia Verde club house:

- 1. From the Foothills, drive south on Sabino Canyon Road, through the light at Cloud Road. After crossing Tanque Verde Wash, you will pass three HOA's and then Sabino Baptist Church on the left. Immediately beyond the church, take the next left turn (E. Portal Airosa) into Colonia Verde. Drive one block, cross Camino Valle Verde into the clubhouse parking lot, straight ahead.
- 2. Tanque Verde to Sabino Canyon Road. Turn north onto Sabino Canyon Road. Turn RIGHT at the second street on the right (E. Portal Airosa) into Colonia Verde. Drive one block, cross Camino Valle Verde into the clubhouse parking lot, straight ahead.
- 3. North on Kolb Road (north of Speedway Blvd.), turn right onto new Sabino Canyon Road, cross Pantano Wash, proceed through Tanque Verde, then turn right at the second street on the right (E. Portal Airosa) into Colonia Verde. Drive one block, cross Camino Valle Verde into the clubhouse parking lot, straight ahead.

Please join your colleagues and friends on Sunday, June 2 at 4:00 p.m. for this delightful end-of-season event.

#### In praise of church musicians article from April 2024 issue of The Christian Century

Below is a link to a very interesting article, along with a brief excerpt, sent to me by Jeffrey Campbell for inclusion in THE CYPHER. Jeffrey says that it is "a superb summing up of what we do." The complete article was written by Peter Marty, editor/publisher of the *Century* and senior pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Davenport, Iowa.

Gifted church musicians know how to help people sing together. They're genius at helping a congregation get "lost in wonder, love, and praise," to borrow Charles Wesley's words, without simply getting lost. Week in and week out, these practitioners enlarge individual worlds, send chills up spines, and remind worshipers that singing is not an external option for our lives; it's an internal component of being fully human.

<u>In praise of church musicians, a column by Peter Marty |</u>
<u>The Christian Century</u>

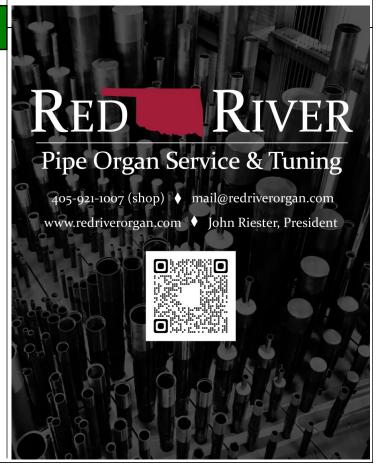


Marcel Dupré at his organ

#### **May Composers' Birthdays**

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck (1562—1621)
Claudio Monteverdi (1567—1643)
Johann Jakob Froberger (1616—1667)
Alessandro Scarlatti (1660—1725)
Richard Wagner (1813—1883)
Johannes Brahms (1833—1897)
Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840–1893)
Jules Massenet (1842—1912)
Arthur Sullivan (1842—1900)
Gabriel Fauré (1845—1924)
Erik Satie (1866—1925)

Marcel Dupré (1886—1971)



#### **2024 National Convention**

# AGO 2O24 SAN FRANCISCO

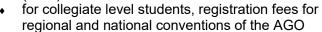
- A rich menu of concerts, worship, and workshops.
- 25 concert venues, plus three additional pre- and post-convention options.
- Internationally known performers from Canada, France, Korea, and the United States.
- Outstanding performances showcasing a variety of musical styles.
- Nine new compositions commissioned especially for the convention, as well as three additional commissions from the national AGO.
- The St. Cecilia recital performed by a woman for the first time in its history.
- A masterclass by David Higgs.
- 63 workshops covering a wide range of topics.
- Walking tours of Chinatown and The Castro, as well as opportunity to visit the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art (SFMOMA) and Mission Dolores
- Nine sessions presented by national AGO staff
- Five publisher reading sessions
- Opportunity to enjoy old and new friends in unique and interesting venues.

#### **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, full membership in the American Guild of Organists, Southern Arizona Chapter

Scholarship awards for organ study will range from \$350 to \$1500. For educational events, the scholarship will cover the cost of registration.

An application form may be found online at <a href="https://www.saago.org">www.saago.org</a>. Completed forms may be submitted to the Scholarship Committee Chair at any time.



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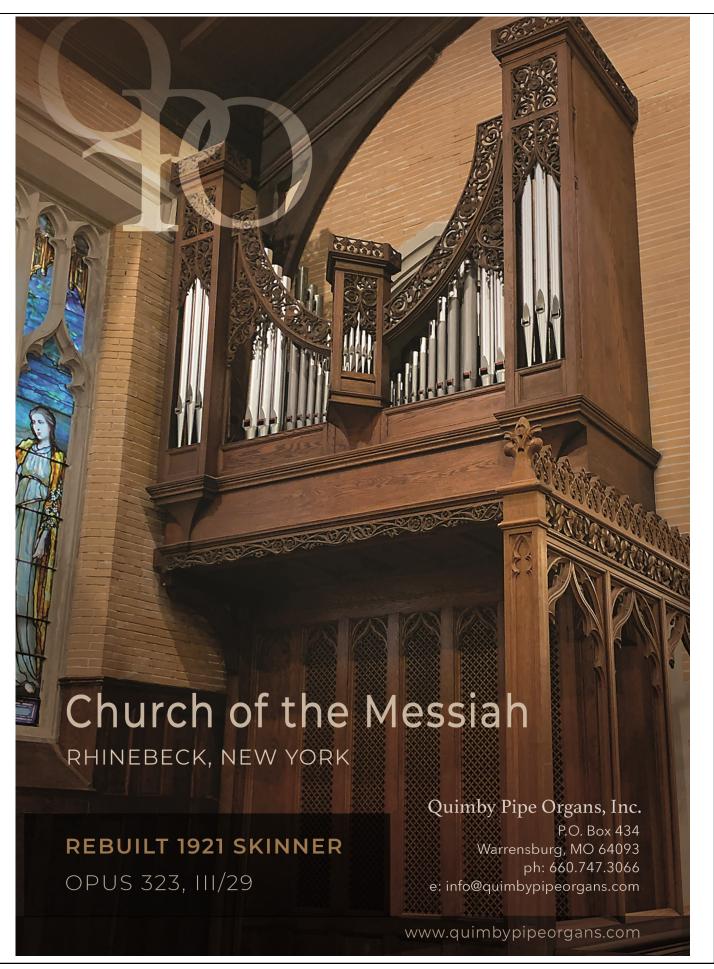
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Dr. Pamela Decker Professor of Organ and Harpsichord pdecker@email.arizona.edu 520-204-5691

For more information, contact David Boulton (undergraduate advisor) at davidboulton@arizona.edu







#### Membership Renewals

#### **Membership Renewal Information**

- We want you to be included in our current 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.agohg.org/oncard/
- 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 (LarsAndersen@tvlc.org ) at 520-909-9038.

Membership Directories have been distributed. If you have not received yours, please contact David Horr at dahorr@comcast.net

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do not request a 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 AGO, its officers or members.

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Average White Band 11/21

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Samara Joy

The Guess Who 11/23

The Fab Four 11/30

Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder Christmas 12/5

Jake Shimabukuro Holidays in Hawaii 12/6

Mariachi Sol De Mexico de José Hernandez 12/13

Shadows of the '60s: A Holiday Tribute to Motown 12/14

Jim Brickman: Comfort and Joy 12/28





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