The American Guild of

ORGANISTS

European Chapter

NEWSLETTER

Third Quarter

2022

The Dean's Corner

Dear European Chapter Members,

Newspapers and magazines are getting thinner, news programs on radio and television are getting shorter, traffic is running a little quieter, and life, in general, is slowing down. Yes, it's that time of the year again! Whether you're heading to a faraway destination or sticking to a staycation (in Belgium, people used to call it "la balconia"), vacation is the perfect time to get a little "empty" and slow down.

A slower life is increasingly becoming a blessing rather than a curse. Do you also experience how the hustle and bustle of everyday life make the mind impatient, hinder concentration and make us forget what counts?

As I write these lines, my thoughts go to the successful Spring Meeting in Aachen. It is hard to describe what a pleasure it was to see friends and colleagues again in the casual atmosphere and camaraderie that characterizes the get-togethers of our European Chapter! *Quod erat demonstrandum* : an online meeting is not the same as one in real life.

Over the past week, we met with the board and cut the knot for the 2023 Spring Meeting, which will hopefully be one of regular length. Barry Jordan, our Newsletter Editor, will explain the plans for Spring Meeting 2023.

Furthermore, you will be able to read news about our members. Enjoy the read. May it help our European Chapter to continue to grow as a community of people who share the same passion.

Cordially,

Johan
Chapter Dean

The Board

Dean:
Johan Hermans

Sub-Dean:
Giorgio Parolini

Secretary:
Alissa Duryee

Treasurer and Membership Coordinator:
Ludo Vandersmissen

Newsletter Editor and Web-Master:
Barry Jordan

Members at large:

Bernard Sanders

Axel Wilberg

Katelyn Emerson

Contact details for office-bearers may be found on our web page (htpps://www.agoeurope.eu). Email sent to the address *board[at]agoeurope.eu* will reach the entire board.

Editorial

Dear Chapter Members

This newsletter is going to be a lot shorter than the last, but that is only right and proper. There is not much news when we haven't just had a Spring Meeting - except when we are just about to have one! After the Spring Meeting is before the Spring Meeting. As Johan has mentioned, we have now decided where it is going to be, so now it just needs to be organised. Just turn an electronic page or two and all will be revealed.

What we do have is a good long list of upcoming recitals. This would be even longer if more than a handful of people communicated their upcoming commitments. The point is less "advertising" - it is really unlikely that the appearance of a date in our newsletter is going to fill the hall - but just to let your fellow members know what you're doing and for us as a chapter to get a sense of community, as widely spread as we are.

Enjoy the read!

Barry Jordan

The Spring Meeting Photo Album

The photo album took a little while to complete, but it has been done for quite a while now. As usual, this is placed on our Facebook page. The link to the album is https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.4920173528020130&type=3 . Anybody can see these pictures, whether on FB or not!

By the way: to see all the photos from previous years, go to https://www.facebook.com/agoeurope/photos. At the top of the page you will see a panel labelled "Albums", but there are only a few icons to be seen. At the right you should find a button "See All". That is the "open Sesame"!

There is another, possibly better way to get to the pictures you are longing to see: simply go to https://www.agoeurope.eu/pastspringmeetings.html . You will find a tab for each meeting; there is a link to the report and to the photo gallery in each case.

Bernard Sanders retires

Bernard Sanders retired in July after 28 years of service as Director of Music for St. Gallus and St. Mary's, the two Catholic churches in Tuttlingen, Germany. His duties included conducting orchestra Masses every Christmas and Easter as well as for other Feasts and concerts. The repertoire encompassed most of the Mozart and Haydn Masses as well as music by Michael Haydn, Schubert, Carl Maria von Weber, Diabelli, Reger, Rheinberger, Mendelssohn, C. Franck, but also included early music by Palestrina, Schütz, Wm. Byrd, Charpentier, Händel, Bach (Cantatas), and others. Many works by lesser known classical (Brixi, Wagenseil, Caldara, Dreyer, Betscher, Kreutzer, Tittel, etc.) as well as contemporary (Distler, Duruflé, etc.) and even still living composers (Stefan Trenner, Hubert Zaindl, Robert Jones, John Leavitt) including Sanders' own compositions were also performed. During his tenure, a Christmas musical with children's choir and the men's schola in the Easter Vigil became tradition. The ensemble "Bénissez" was formed to introduce more contemporary music into liturgy. The group regularly enhanced services in both catholic churches but was also a frequent guest by the protestant neighbors. His duties as diocesan liaison included instruction and workshops for the many local part-time church musicians and a bi-annual event with the combined choirs of the Tuttlingen area. During this time he concertized extensively on the organ, especially programs for organ with other instruments, and composed the majority of his well over 200 published compositions. Five complete CDs with his works can be heard on various streaming channels. For several semesters he taught a class on the history of the organ and organ construction at the Hochschule für Musik in Trossingen and for 10 years directed a Big Band in Spaichingen. Before coming to Tuttlingen, Sanders served the parish of St. Michael's in Wermelskirchen, Germany (where he also directed a Big Band). After 21 years of service to the European Chapter of the AGO as Chapter Secretary and Newsletter Editor he gave up these positions at the beginning of the year but remains on the Board as Member at Large. He is looking forward to dedicating more time to composition, to his studies in musicology at the University of Tübingen, to travel, and to his two daughters – not necessarily in that order. A graduate of St. Norbert College, Sanders received his Master's Degree from Wichita State University. In Germany he completed a further degree in organ performance and examinations for church music. He will continue to reside in Tuttlingen.

Composers amongst us

Bernard Sanders´ new organ work ”Beacons“ was premiered by the composer on May 15th, 2022 at St. Mary´s Church in Tuttlingen, Germany. It is conceived for small organs without pedal and consists of four movements: Prayer for Nature, Prayer for Mankind, Prayer for Peace, and Prayer for a Special Occasion. It was written for Carson Cooman upon the occasion of his 40th birthday.

Staying with Bernie, two further editions of his music have just been released in print. His "Four Advent Motets on the gregorian Introits to the Sundays in Advent" [51086] for 3 Trombones (with optional mens' voices) are now available from Martin Schmid Blechbläsernoten (www.martin-schmid-blechblaesernoten.de).

The collection of Chorale Preludes for the Advent-Christmas Season "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" is now available from Lorenz Publishing Company [70/2381S]. The publishers write, "in this volume Bernard Wayne Sanders provides characterful treatments of various hymns of the season. As is often the case in Sanders' hymn-based music, a blend of traditional techniques and contrapuntal textures is combined with contemporary harmonic elements for a personal and appealing result." It is also available online as a digital download.

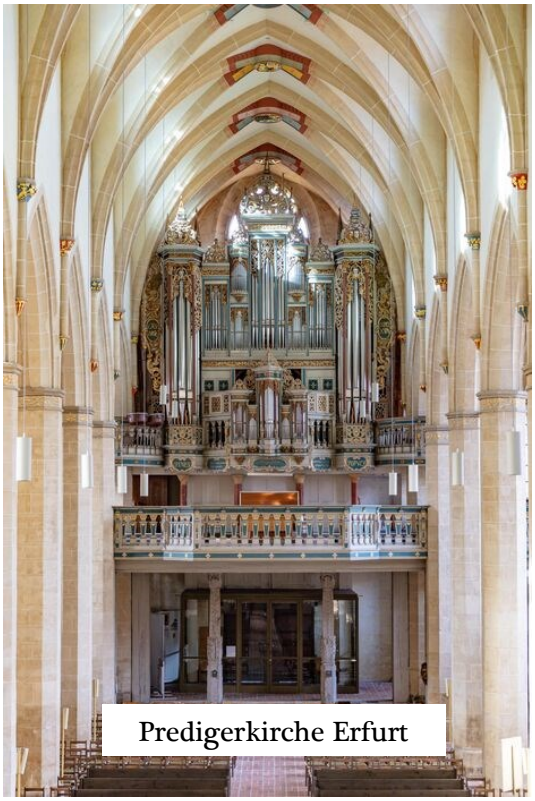
Alissa Duryee has recently been awarded Second Prize in the Scuola Internazionale de Milano "New Music for Harpsichord" competition. She performed two of her compositions in the final round, which was held in the musical instrument collection of the Castello Sforzesco in Milan, Italy. "Suite", a work in five short movements, was awarded the Second Prize.

Barry Jordan is happy that the excellent organist Christian von Blohn has chosen to record his organ piece “Praise Song” on a Naxos disc *Evocations: Contemporary Organ Music,* together with music by Theo Brandmüller, Arvo Pärt, Thierry Escaich and an impressive improvisation by von Blohn. Barry has also been listening to recordings of some of his music from long ago and making some of it fit for YouTube. So far, you can hear Summer Music and Time and the Land II. He feels it would be a pity if it all disappeared without trace. It took hours.

The big news

Your board met recently, on Sunday 3rd July to be precise, per Zoom, to deal with some humdrum stuff but also, most importantly, to make a decision on the location of the Spring Meeting 2023. It was decided that, since we had no firm commitment from anyone to organise it, we would make a snap decision involving no waiting; my own offer to organise the meeting in Thuringia, centred on the lovely city of ERFURT, was accepted. This means that we will be in Germany for two years in a row, something we have otherwise tried to avoid, but, as I pointed out, there differences between Aachen and Erfurt (or anywhere in Thuringia) are so immense that they might as well be different countries anyhow.

Amongst the organs I am planning to visit: in Erfurt itself, the Volckland organ of St Crucis, the Klais organ in St Severi, the newish Schuke organ in the cathedral, the Walcker organ in the Augustinian monastery and, mainly because of the glorious case by Ludwig Compenius (1648). The organ itself is nice but not really special. One excursion will take us to towns associated with Johann Sebastian Bach: Arnstadt, Mühlhausen, Eisenach, where he was born, and we will take the opportunity to visit the Wartburg, where Martin Luther hid out when people were after him.



Predigerkirche Erfurt

Then we will visit the Stertzing organ in Büßleben (the instrument you see on the cover of this issue), the Eilert Köhler organ in Suhl, and Heinrich Gottfried Trost's masterpiece in Waltershausen (eat a good breakfast, it's hard work!)

One excursion will take us to southern Sachsen-Anhalt, where we will encounter some famous instruments: Ladegast organs in Weissenfels and the most famous of all, in the cathedral of Merseburg, and the glorious Hildebrand organ in Naumburg's Wenzelskirche.

It's going to be great!

Merseburg Cathedral

Erfurt, the "Krämerbrücke"

Upcoming recitals

July 4, 9:00 and 10:30 am Katelyn Emerson
Tacoma, Washington (USA), AGO National Convention, Christ Episcopal Church: George Muffat, Johann Adam Reincken, Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck, David Dahl, Hugo Distler, Felix Mendelssohn, and Johann Sebastian Bach

July 6th, 1:15pm Philip Hartmann
London (England), Temple Church

July 8th, 7:00 pm Barry Jordan
Hamburg (Germany), St. Petri: Buxtehude, Bach, Klatzow, Franck

July 8th, 7:00 pm Axel Wilberg
Niederehe (Germany), St. Leodegar: Valente, Frescobaldi, Rossi, Bassani, Gabriele, Storace und Vivaldi

July 12th, 12:00 Philip Hartmann
Ulm (Germany), Minster

July 19th, 12:00 Philip Hartmann
Ulm (Germany), Minster

July 20th, 5:00 pm Chelsea Chen
Aarhus (Denmark), Cathedral

July 21st, 8:00 pm Giorgio Parolini
Kuopio (Finland), Cathedral: J.S. Bach/F. Liszt; L. Vierne; C. Franck; G. Macchia; O. Ravanello

July 23rd, 12:00 Giorgio Parolini
Gjøvik (Norway): O. Ravanello; M.E. Bossi; G. Macchia

July 23rd, 12:00 Chelsea Chen
Copenhagen, Denmark, Cathedral (Vor Frue Kirke)

July 24th, 4:00 pm Barry Jordan
Lübeck, Cathedral: Buxtehude, Bach, Klatzow, Nowowiejski

July 24th, 7:00 pm Giorgio Parolini
Lillehammer (Norway): J.S. Bach/F. Liszt; L. Vierne; C. Franck; G. Macchia; O. Ravanello

July 24th Christoph Hintermüller
Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Assumption, San Francisco, USA

July 25th, 7:30 pm Chelsea Chen
Magdeburg, Cathedral: Mulet, Mendelssohn, Franck, Holst, Chen

July 12th, 12:00 Philip Hartmann
Ulm (Germany), Minster

July 27th, 7:30 pm Giorgio Parolini
Meiningen (Germany), Stadtkirche: J.S. Bach/F. Liszt; J. Brahms; O. Ravanello; M.E. Bossi; G. Macchia

July 29th Christoph Hintermüller
Atlantic City Boardwalk Hall, USA

July 29th, 6:00 pm Giorgio Parolini
Munich (Germany), St. Franziskus: J.S. Bach/F. Liszt; L. Vierne; C. Franck; G. Macchia; O. Ravanello

July 31st, 4:00 pm Giorgio Parolini
Basilika St. Aposteln, Cologne, Germany: Franck, Vierne, G. Macchia

July 31st, 12:30pm Rhonda Sider Edgington
St John United Church of Christ, Dover, Ohio, as part of the OHS National Convention on the Votteler/ Holtkamp/Sparling organ (1938)
Music of Ginastera, Pepping, Walcha, Creston, Manz

August 2nd, 12:00 Philip Hartmann
Ulm (Germany), Minster

August 4th, 8:00 pm Katelyn Emerson
Columbus, Ohio (USA), St. Joseph Cathedral, OHS National Convention Closing Concert

August 6th, 3:00 pm Otto Maria Krämer
St. Quintinus Cathedral Hasselt (Belgium)

August 6, 7:30 pm Katelyn Emerson
Portland, Maine (USA), St. Luke's Cathedral: Bach Virtuosi Festival

August 7th, 12:00 Philip Hartmann
Giengen ad Brenz (Germany), Stadtkirche

August 9th, 12:00 Philip Hartmann
Ulm (Germany), Minster

August 14, 8:00 pm Katelyn Emerson
Stuttgart, Germany, Stadtkirche Bad Cannstatt: Johann Sebastian Bach, César Franck, Josef Rheinberger, Rachel Laurin, and Maurice Duruflé

August 16th, 12:00 Philip Hartmann
Ulm (Germany), Minster

August 17th, 6.30 pm Christoph Hintermüller, Organ
Pulheim/Sinnersdorf (Germany), St. Hubertus

August 17th, 8:30 pm Gary Desmond
Trier (Germany), Konstantin-Basilica

August 19th, 6:30 pm Thomas Dahl
Hamburg, St. Petri: Franck et al

August 20th, 11:30 am Gary Desmond
Wiesbaden (Germany), Marktkirche

August 21st, 11:30 am Katelyn Emerson
Ulm, Germany, Münster: Edward Bairstow, Leo Sowerby, Rachel Laurin, and Joseph Jongen

August 21st, 5:00 pm Philip Hartman
Wiblingen (Germany), Klosterkirche

August 21st, 8:00 pm Rhonda Sider Edgington
Lake Leeleanu, Michigan (Lake Leeleanu RV Park organ series): Ian Farrington, Grieg, Bach, B.W.Sanders,

Laurin, Fletcher

August 26th, 8:00 pm Agnes Goerke
Wilhelmshaven (Germany), Banter Kirche: Bossi, Kuusisto, Merikanto, Sulonen, Jongen

August 28th, 6:00 pm Agnes Goerke
Stadthagen (Germany), St.-Martini-Kirche: Bossi, Kuusisto, Merikanto, Sulonen, Jongen

August 30th, 12:00 Philip Hartmann
Ulm (Germany), Minster

September 3, 12:05 pm Katelyn Emerson
Recklinghausen, Germany, Kirche St. Peter

September 4th, 17:00 Barry Jordan
Weißenfels (Germany), Marienkirche (Opening concert of the Ladegast Festtage): Rheinberger, Ritter, Schumann

September 5th, 7:30 pm Barry Jordan
Magdeburg, Cathedral: Sweelinck, Bach, Jordan, Stanford

September 6th, 7:30 pm Katelyn Emerson
Düsseldorf, Germany, Basilika St. Lambertus

September 7th, 7:30 pm Johan Hermans
Oosterkerk Zeist (The Netherlands)

September 9th Rhonda Sider Edgington
concert for the NW Wisconsin AGO chapter, location TBD: Music of Bernard Wayne Sanders

September 11th, 4:00 pm Chris Bragg
Niederndodeleben (Germany), St. Peter and Paul

September 11th, 7:00 pm Johan Hermans
Christuskirche Niebüll (Germany): Bach, Pachelbel, Bedard, Moretti

September 13th, 12:00 Philip Hartmann
Ulm (Germany), Minster

September 16, 7:30 pm Katelyn Emerson
Glens Falls, New York (USA), First Presbyterian Church

September 16th, 7:30pm, Rhonda Sider Edgington,
Grand Rapids, Michigan, Calvin University chapel: Music of Bernard Wayne Sanders

September 18th, 7:00 pm Nicholas Schmelter
Stuttgart (Germany), Matthäuskirche

September 18th, 3:00 pm Rhonda Sider Edgington
Holland, Michigan, Hope Church: Music of Bernard Wayne Sanders

September 20th, 12:00 Philip Hartmann
Ulm (Germany), Minster

September 23rd, 7:30pm Katelyn Emerson
Methuen, Massachusetts (USA), Methuen Memorial Music Hall: Rachel Laurin, Leo Sowerby, C. Hubert H. Parry, Charles-Marie Widor, Alexandre-Pierre-François Boëly, Sigfrid Karg-Elert and Max Reger

September 27th, 12:00 Philip Hartmann
Ulm (Germany), Minster

October 1st, 6:00 pm Philip Hartmann
Ulm (Germany), Minster

October 7th, 10:00 am Bernard Sanders
Tuttlingen (D), ev. Stadtkirche: "Musik & Ermutigung": Bach, Sanders

The recitals list can also be found on our website, where it is updated whenever new information becomes available! *https://www.agoeurope.eu/Member%20Recitals.html*

Contributions to the Newsletter are always welcome.

Concert listings can be sent to the editor at any time and will be added to the rolling roster on the web site within a short period of time, usually a day or two. Unfortunately I have to impose deadlines for the listings here in the Newsletter; it is very time-consuming to add new concerts here once everything has been formatted. If there is no special reason to hold the Newsletter back, it will appear in the first week of a quarter, so that the following deadlines will now apply:

25th December for the first Quarter
25th March for the second Quarter
25th June for the third Quarter
25th September for the fourth Quarter.

I update the web page whenever I get new information, but I only update the Facebook page once a month.

Waltershausen

Our member Alexia Tye is a member of the organisational team.