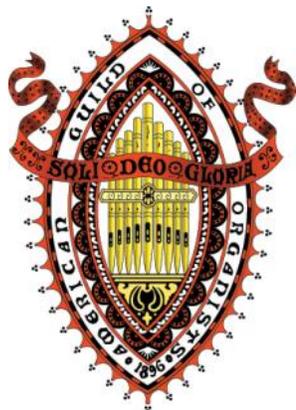


Guild of Organists

A.G.O. Pipe Notes

March 2020



Soli Deo Gloria

*“Sing psalms,
hymns, and
spiritual songs
with gratitude
in your hearts
to God.”*

Colossians 3:16

Richard Hoogterp, Dean
231-755-0141
E-mail: RichardHoogterp@gmail.com

Juanita Joiner, Editor
231-722-3689
E-mail: jrjoiner@comcast.net

Muskegon-Lakeshore Chapter
Website: www.mlago.org

Facebook:
Muskegon Lakeshore AGO

From the Dean ~ Richard Hoogterp

A large and enthusiastic group of singers and choral directors attended *Vocal Techniques for the Choral Singer* at Mona Shores Middle School on February 29. I believe that a number of factors have resulted in the success of the event this year and in 2019.

Here are some of the factors ...

Our chapter widely advertised this special event; Dr. Michael Match, Director of Music at First Congregational Church, workshop leader, and many other members put a lot of time and effort into personally inviting interested musicians to attend and Rory Closz and Melody Walden arranged for the use of the convenient and perfectly suited music room facilities at the school. These three factors alone spell success. Michael is adept at offering encouragement and communicating techniques by which singers can improve their skills. It was obvious that the choristers enjoyed the challenge of trying out new ways of becoming a more confident and effective singer. Finally, choir singers and those who direct choirs are always interested in the valuable experience of watching a successful director *at work*.

The list of choral directors attending included (I apologize for omitting anyone) Muskegon-Lakeshore Chapter members Kristen Avila, Jean Schuitman, Dr. Peter Kurdziel, John Mattson, Melody, Michael, Caron Farmer, Jennifer Florip, Eileen Hoogterp and myself. Also present were choir directors Jack Franklin (St. Paul's Episcopal), Sharlene Bourdon (First Evangelical Lutheran, North Muskegon), Diane Murray, (St. Mary's, Spring Lake), Barbara McCargar, (St. Stephen's, East Grand Rapids, Music Department Chairperson, Aquinas College), and Larry Biser, (Trinity Lutheran, East Grand Rapids, Choral Director and Organ Instructor, Aquinas). I think it worth noting that both Barbara and Larry, in addition to working with fine choral groups, have always found time to provide expert private voice lessons for aspiring singers.

I recall that, some years ago, two Catholic churches in Grand Rapids would offer a combined Choir Workshop-Retreat in August of each year. On at least one occasion, each singer was privileged to have a private voice lesson with either Larry or his wife, Diane, who is an accomplished soprano soloist and choral director.

Our March program this year is "A Members' Recital." This annual event (which is many times preceded by "In Memoriam" - but thankfully, not this year!) will take place at 3:00 PM, Sunday, March 15, at First Congregational Church on Jefferson Street in Muskegon.

I encourage all members to attend and enjoy a variety of music for our chosen instrument, along with selections by the church's handbell choir. At last year's program, it occurred to me that the selection of pieces was far more diverse than one would hear at a typical organ recital. As always, the free-will offering will be designated for the Irene Kolkema Scholarship Fund. I think people who attend this program are very generous in their contributions in support of those who wish to improve their organ playing skills.

I hope you experience a spiritually rewarding Lent and Easter season, and I also hope to see you at the program on March 15.

Muskegon-Lakeshore AGO Chapter

2019-2020 Programs

Complete details will be printed in your directory.

March 15, 2020 (Sunday) 3 p.m.

“A Members’ Recital”

First Congregational Church UCC—Muskegon

April 19, 2020 (Sunday) 4 p.m.

“Young Artist: Emily Amos”

First Presbyterian Church—Grand Haven

May 8, 2020 (Friday) Time TBA

“60th Anniversary Banquet and Celebration”

Prince of Peace Catholic Church—Muskegon

Steven Egler will be our guest speaker.

Nick Palmer was commissioned to

Feeding the Soul of the City

2019-2020

All performances are held
Tuesdays from 12:15 to 12:45 p.m.
unless otherwise noted.

March 24, 2020

“Grand Rapids Guitar Quartet”

April 14, 2020

“Gregory Maytan, violin”

May 26, 2020

“Quintessence, Woodwind Quintet”

June 9, 2020

“Denise Newell, mezzo soprano and Caron

Grand Rapids AGO Chapter

March 16, 2020 (Monday) 8 p.m.

“Local Young Organists in Concert”

Calvin University Chapel — 1845 Knollcrest Cir.
Grand Rapids, MI

Holland AGO Chapter

March 23, 2020 (Monday) 7 p.m.

“Local Composer Forum with Larry Visser”

Second Reformed Church — 225 E. Central Ave.
Zeeland, MI

West Michigan is so fortunate to have three great chapters located close enough to each other that we can attend and give our support by attending when possible. A great win for West Michigan.

A Financial Report

As of February 29, 2020

General Fund

\$3,773.73

Scholarship Fund

\$3,290.51

Young Artist Fund

\$799.00

Submitted by: Juanita R. Joiner, Treasurer



The American Guild of Organists Muskegon-Lakeshore Chapter



A Members’ Recital

Sunday, March 15, 2020

3:00 PM

**Featuring: Caron Farmer — Rob Hlebinsky
Richard Hoogterp — Peter Kurdziel
Members of FCC’s Canterbury Ringers**

First Congregational Church UCC

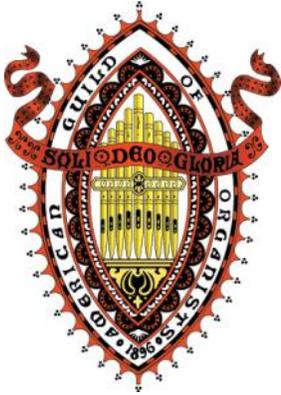
1201 Jefferson St.

Muskegon, MI

COOKIE REQUEST

We are asking the membership to provide cookies for the reception that will follow the program.

Please let Michael Match know so he can make final plans. He can be reached at tenormatch@aol.com or 812-219-5805. *Thanks*



The History of the Muskegon-Lakeshore AGO Chapter

Minutes from May of 1963 report that a Junior Choir Program at First Congregational Church drew a capacity audience and that 100 people were turned away. A year-end Guild-sponsored breakfast at Lakos Restaurant featured Dr. George Mead, National AGO Vice-President, who discussed the music program at Trinity Church, Wall Street. Coincidentally, Dick Hoogterp was recently told by a New York city musician that the annual music budget at that church is now \$2,200,000. It was probably a lower amount when Dr. Mead worked there. It was decided that the chapter would sponsor Marilyn Mason in recital during the following program year, and each member would be responsible for selling ten tickets to defray the expense involved. As seemed to be a frequent practice, the game of "Zingo" was played by all during one meeting.

Minutes for October of 1963 detailed an organ crawl which included the Moller organs at Central Methodist Church (now Central United Methodist Church) and the Evangelical Mission Covenant Church, the new Casavant at the First Reformed Church and the Wicks in the new Sacred Heart Catholic Church. The final instrument visited was an older Kilgen organ at St. John's United Church of Christ. Marilyn Mason did play in recital under chapter auspices at First Reformed Church in Muskegon, 8:30 PM, Wednesday, November 6, 1963. It was noted that the occasion was Dr. Mason's first performance in Muskegon. Dr. Mason also presented an organ master class for members on the morning of her recital.

Minutes of February 8, 1964 report that George Shirley suggested the possibility of the chapter hosting an AGO Regional Convention in Muskegon. In the 1960's, applications for AGO membership were received frequently, and each application was considered and deemed acceptable by the Board. A suggestion was made to plan a program around Jewish music. On March 14, 1964, Dr. Joan Boucher served as judge for an organ playing competition at Central Methodist Church. There were six beginners, four intermediate and two advanced contestants. Dr. Boucher had invited me to travel to Muskegon with her and Joseph Sullivan, long-time organist at the Cathedral of St. Andrew in Grand Rapids. I was impressed by all the young organists who played, and I was allowed to play a few pieces afterward for my own enjoyment. Mr. Sullivan helped me with registrations on the Moller, and I recall that he liked the Oboe stop. On April 4, Tom Wikman performed a recital at St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

To be continued. (collated by Dick Hoogterp, Dean)

Muskegon-Lakeshore Chapter Office Nominations

Our thanks to the Nominating Committee for 2020. Please thank the following people who graciously served: Shane Arkels, Eileen Hoogterp, Michael Match and Melody Walden.

The following people have accepted their name being placed on our 2020-2021 ballot:

Eileen Hoogterp — Sub-Dean	Michael Match — Dean	Juanita Joiner — Treasurer	Ron Vanderwest — Secretary
	Greg Borgman — Council (2023)		

Next Meeting
March 15, 2020

MISSION STATEMENT

The American Guild of Organists is an organization devoted to the advancement of organ and church music in the United States.

Since its founding in 1896, the Guild has grown from approximately 100 members clustered around New York to over 24,000 nationwide, with chapters in all 50 states and abroad. Synagogues and churches of all denominations and sizes are represented in the Guild's membership, which ranges from students to world-renowned recitalists and teachers.

The Muskegon-Lakeshore Chapter currently has some 30 members serving churches throughout the Western Michigan area.

A.G.O. Pipe Notes
Juanita R. Joiner, Editor
63 W. Dale Ave.
Muskegon, MI 49441