



The Windchest

Newsletter of the Delaware Chapter,
American Guild of Organists

December 2021

www.delawareago.org

Letter from our Dean

As Christmas grows near, and many of us are practicing madly to make each Christmas musical offering memorable, please stop for just a moment to think about what a wonder our AGO Chapter is.

We are not large and we are not small. We are just right! While there are a number of larger chapters than we, and there are many considerably smaller chapters, we are in the perfect spot. We are small enough that each of us knows most of our members and enjoys catching up with them at meetings. How lovely that we can do this!

We are large enough to offer quite an array of programs each year, both educational and social, to meet the needs of a variety of members. There are two of these programs coming up in January that check the social and educational boxes.

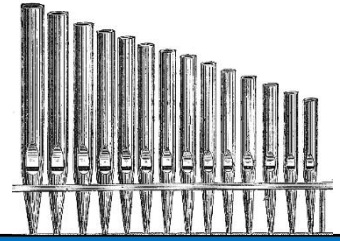
Think of the amazing things this medium-small chapter has accomplished in the past: we have organized and presented two Regional Conventions and two Pipe Organ Encounters. Each of these took the immense work and countless hours of many members to carry off. But what fun we had doing these, and what memories were created at each event!

We have continued, even during the pandemic, to present a full slate of chapter programs to the delight of our members. Many chapters stopped all programming during this time, but we did not. While the social, fun times together are largely without much cost to the chapter, educational events can come with substantial expenses.

Your board has decided to ask you to chip in to help with these program expenses this year. Many, many chapters have been asking for donations such as this for years, but this is new to our chapter. I hope you'll want to contribute to our remarkable programming this season. Even a small donation will help us reach our goal of \$500 in member donations.

Send your check made out to AGO Delaware to: Michael Bareham; St. Paul's Lutheran Church; 701 S. College Avenue; Newark, DE 19713.

David Schelat



Delaware AGO Chapter Officers

David Schelat, *dean*

Gabe Benton, *subdean*

Don McFarland, *secretary*

Mike Bareham, *treasurer/registrars*

Members-at-large

Dalaie Choie

Joe Loudon

Steven Patchel, *newsletter*

Jane van Valkenburg

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*Delaware AGO
Member Spotlight*

Jane Van Valkenburg



From our Subdean

The Delaware chapter is offering some very exciting programming this season!

Twelfth Night Party

Sunday, January 9, 2022

The Delaware Chapter of the American Guild of Organists invites you to an Epiphany Party on at the home of Joanne Hench (and Charlie Collier), 13 Fall Brooke Rd. Newark from 2 – 5 p.m. Each guest is asked to bring a finger food appetizer or dessert. Beverages will be provided. Guests are also asked to bring a wrapped, gender-neutral gift valued at \$10 for a game to be played by all. Please RSVP Barb Bayers 203-260-4295 text/call or babayers@gmail.com by Thursday January 6, 2022. Guests are asked to wear masks except while actively eating/drinking.

January JumpStart 2022

Saturday, January 15 - 9:00-3:30



Since 2004, the Philadelphia Chapter has excelled in offering this mid-winter refresher, designed to inspire you with the contributions of leaders in the profession in a relaxed environment. It's also as much a time for reconnecting with colleagues and making new friends... and don't we need that especially after these many months?

Saturday, January 15, 2022

**Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church
625 Montgomery Ave, Bryn Mawr
9:00 AM - 3:30 PM**

Registration will begin at 8:30 AM in the new glass Atrium! The first session beginning at 9:00 AM will be a Hymn Sing in the Sanctuary. Lunch will be at Noon, and the last session will begin at 2:10 with a recital by Renée Anne Louprette, presentation of Chapter Awards, and closing remarks. We will meet afterward at Gullifty's for additional social time. Clinicians will Tom Trenney, Renne Anne Louprette, Eileen Hunt, Jeff Brillhart, Mark Miller, Shelly Moorman-Stahlman, and David Storey.

Topics • choral reading • intro to the console • pipe anatomy and simple repairs • women in the profession

To register online www.agophila.org/Pages/agophilachapterevents.htm

If you would like to carpool to Bryn Mawr, you can contact Gabe Benton at gabe@gracechurchum.org

—Gabe Benton

DELAWARE AGO

Winter Events at a glance

Twelfth Night Party

January 9 • 2:00-5:00

13 Fall Brooke Rd. Newark

January Jumpstart

January 15 • 9:00-3:30

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian

February Brunch

February 19 • 10:30 am

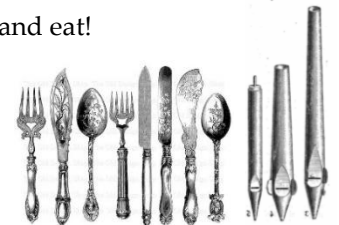
Metro Diner Newark



February Brunch

Saturday February 19

Members of the Delaware chapter of the AGO will be gathering for a relaxed time of socializing at Metro Diner, located in the Omega Shops, 4601 Ogletown Stanton Rd. Newark. RSVP not necessary, just show up and eat!



Notable Events



Key Locations

- Christ Church Christiana Hundred, 501 Buck Rd., Greenville
- First & Central Presbyterian Church, 1101 N Market St. Wilmington
- Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, 503 Duncan Road Wilmington
- St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 701 S College Ave, Newark
- Westminster Presbyterian Church, 1502 West 13th Street, Wilmington

JANUARY

Sunday 2 January 4:00 pm Sounds of the Season Concert

Joseph Martin's cantata
Let There Be Christmas
Mike Bareham, Director
St Paul's Lutheran Church

Saturday 8 January 3:00 pm Mastersingers of Wilmington

A tuneful post-holiday return.
David Schelat, conductor
First and Central Presbyterian
Tickets: marketstreetmusicDE.org

Sunday 9 January 4:00 pm

Epiphany Jazz Vespers

The Micah Graves Project
Philadelphia-based jazz ensemble
Church of the Covenant

Saturday 15 January 9:00-3:00

January Jumpstart

One-day workshop sponsored by
Philadelphia Chapter
Register at agophila.org

Sunday 16 January 3:00 pm

Philadelphia Brass and
F. Anthony Thurman, organ
Westminster Presbyterian

FEBRUARY

Sunday 6 February

4:30 Prelude/5:00 Choral Evensong

The Choir School of Delaware,
Arreon Harley, director
Gabriel Benton, organ prelude
Christ Church Christiana Hundred

Sunday 27 February 10:00 am

Melodic Movements Dance

Transfiguration Sunday
Morning worship
Church of the Covenant

MARCH

Sunday 6 March

4:30 Prelude / 5:00 Choral Evensong

Prelude: Music for Viols and Organ
The Sylvan Consort
Bruce Barber, organ
Christ Church Christiana Hundred

Sunday 13 March 4:00 pm

A Celebration of Women in Song

Alize Rozsnyai, soprano
Dan Espie, piano
Playing music of Philadelphia
Composer Melissa Dunphy
Church of the Covenant

SHENANDOAH UNIVERSITY'S
**2022 CHURCH
MUSIC INSTITUTE**
In-person Two-Week Conference Event
Visit www.su.edu/cmi to learn more!

Tom Trenney
Week One: June 19-24, 2022
Adult Choir Techniques & Repertoire

Andrea Baxter
Week Two: June 26 - July 1, 2022
Children's Choir Techniques & Repertoire

Dr. Wayne L. Wold, Director

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

by Steven Patchel

Jane Van Valkenburg

AGO Board Member



JANE, where are you from originally?

I was born in the little town of McComb, Ohio, but my family moved to nearby Findlay where I lived through High School.

What are your earliest musical memories?

I loved sitting with my mother on the piano bench, singing along as she played through the Methodist hymnal. I remember hearing my sister (12 years older) practice the piano and I was especially impressed with “Rhapsody in Blue.” My father and my sister played in a community band, and going to their summer concerts in the park was always a treat, partly for the music and partly for the ice cream bars that were at the close of the evening.

What was your musical training/background?

I couldn’t wait until I was in second grade and “old enough” to start piano lessons. When I was 12, my mother chaired a committee at our church to hire a full-time musician, and Margaret McPherson Dubocq came to St. Andrew’s UMC from Chicago and changed my life. My mother died the next year, but Margaret Dubocq took me under her wing and immersed me in church music. I sang in the Junior High Choir, High School and Adult Choirs, and started organ lessons. That led to summers at the Interlochen, which led to organ study at the UMichigan and eventually (after marriage and three children) to an M.Mus. at Bowling Green State.

What brought you to Delaware?

Family. My husband Carl and I started our careers in Virginia, continued them in Ohio and finished them in Texas. When it was time to retire, we thought long and hard about where we wanted to be, and the grandkids won. Our youngest daughter and her family live in Middletown and we are delighted to be here near them.

You’ve had an ecumenical career in church music.

Any reflection on your experiences?

During the course of my career, I had the opportunity to introduce three new hymnals to congregations. In 1978, the ELCA church I served in Charlottesville, VA, adopted the *Lutheran Book of Worship*. In 1990, we introduced *The Presbyterian Hymnal* to First Presbyterian in Findlay, OH, and in 2013, First Presbyterian of Bryan, TX, proudly purchased first edition copies of *Glory to God*. Each of these introductions was accompanied by announcements, workshops, hymn parties, contests and anything else that would whip up excitement about the new hymnal. Expanding the congregation’s repertoire of song was a priority, sometimes to their dismay!

Now that you’re retired, I know you’re doing substitute work. What is that like for you?

That’s correct, and I absolutely love subbing. When I was regularly employed, Sunday morning was my favorite part of the job [so] Subbing lets me enjoy that best part regularly. I don’t have to attend committee meetings, recruit choristers, submit and defend budget proposals, etc., I’ve always loved visiting a variety of churches, too, and subbing lets me do that. Since I’ve played in liturgical as well as non-liturgical churches, I’m able to adapt to most styles.

How has the pandemic season been for you?

In general, my husband and I are staying closer to home, and our family holidays haven't included everyone, thanks to quarantines.

A positive outcome, though, has been that my brother in Illinois and my sister in Ohio have been having Zoom calls every two weeks. We were planning a get-together in April, 2020, but learned to Zoom when that had to be cancelled. We've kept it up and so are in touch with each other more than we were before the Pandemic – a good thing for three old people!

Any current music repertoire?

My violinist husband and I are working on a few Christmas pieces – Vaughan Williams "Greensleeves" and some carol arrangements by Catherine McMichael, and my 8 year old grandson and I are learning to play the ukulele. (He's putting me to shame!)

Any hobbies/interests outside of music?

I'm also in a Line-Dancing group, partly for the exercise, but mostly for the costumes.

Substitute List

KEY: (S) Sunday, (C) choir, (HB) Handbells, (SS) Special Services, (W) Weddings, (F) Funerals



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Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!