

A Letter From the Dean

Hello and happy fall everyone-

I've heard so many positive comments about October's meeting with Raymond Haan, and I'm not only pleased the program went so well, but I'm gratified it was well received. Your AGO board and I aren't always sure if the ideas we find interesting will take spark out there amongst you all. I'm grateful to Roberta Kraft for the splendid idea of inviting Ray, and special thanks to all who played.

Our newsletter editor Paul passed along a comment he received recently from Jack VanderPlate, a former member from afar, living in Florida-

Wow, Paul!

I was just talking with some of the AGO members here in the Treasure Coast chapter. We were noting that it's months between good events in our area for organ. And when they happen you have to travel to get there, and pay. Then I get the Holland newsletter... an embarrassment of organ riches. You should mention to the membership sometime how very musically blessed west Michigan is, and that it's something too easily taken for granted.

Anyway, greetings to the old gang!

Jack

So consider yourselves notified, and duly reminded! :)

We have some really exciting organ events coming up in the next weeks, and I wanted to mention a few of them. This weekend, Sat. Oct 27 at 7:30pm, our own Huw Lewis is playing with the Holland Symphony, two works for organ and orchestra that are really worth hearing – the Jongen Symphonie Concertante, and the Rheinberger Organ Concerto. Take advantage of the opportunity to hear these works live. Huw will be sure to show all the best sides of Hope College's Casavant, which is also really well-suited for this repertoire.

Then, the following week, it's an Organ-Quadruple-Header in Holland!

Sunday, Nov 3 at 1pm at Grace Episcopal, Grace Notes will have the Joy Huttar Memorial Recital (many of us remember Joy fondly, and this is a great way to honor her memory) with Al Fedak, church musician and organist in NY, well-published composer, Hope College grad, and former organist at Grace Episcopal.

You can grab a sandwich after this concert, and then head over to Third Reformed, where at 3pm the annual Rietberg Recital will feature Third Members Larry and Carla Sue, performing works for handbells, with Linda Strouf on organ.

The following night, it's our November AGO program! We'll meet this month at Central Avenue CRC (thanks to Judy for organizing this), to share with one another Music for organ and instruments (or organ 4 hand, or organ/piano). Come even if you just want to listen. The three-manual Schantz at

Central Ave is not often heard in concerts, the space is grand and has a pretty good acoustic, so this is a unique opportunity to hear the organ and gather ideas. That is Mon, Nov 5 at 7:30pm. Please let me know if you are planning on playing.

Then, because we can never have too much organ music, I'll be playing a concert on Tuesday night at Hope Church, Nov 6 at 7:30pm. That's right – Election night! Come on over after you've visited the polls (you WILL be voting, right?) to enjoy music in honor of Veteran's Day, on the theme of War and Peace. I'll be joined by a fabulous tuba player who has his DMA from U of North Texas, James Sailors, and noteworthy will be the organ transcriptions by Peter Sykes of the War and Peace movements from Holst's The Planets. Also, this fall is the 35th Anniversary of the Radio Program Pipedreams, which airs on Blue Lake Public Radio Sunday mornings at 7am. We are celebrating Michael Barone's educational and fun program dedicated to the organ, and reminding organ lovers to support your public radio station.

Finally, at our last board meeting, we were discussing expanding our current young organist scholarships, which are complimentary Hope College organ students' AGO membership, to include any high school students studying organ in Holland. To assess how many potential students could be eligible, would you let us know if you have any young organ students? Once we see how many are out there, we can decide how to move forward.

Overheard from one organist to another:

“I want to know if you have any experience working with tone deaf people.”

“I have a bass section full of them...”

Hope to see you in the coming weeks at organ events in Holland, and happy practicing!

Rhonda

Chapter programs for 2018-19

Nov 5 – 7:30pm – Central Avenue CRC – Organ Plus – We can all bring our favorite organ plus repertoire, plus our favorite collaborator (instrumentalist, piano 4 hands, organ/piano) and it will be a collegial time of music sharing together.

Dec – Visiting Mike Van Doornik and others at Freedom Village (details to follow)

Jan 6 – Epiphany party at home of Julia Colingsworth – including singing together from the Oxford book of Carols.

Feb 4 – 7:30pm – First Reformed, Holland – Choral Reading Session, plus Introducing 1st Reformed's New Lending Library and New Organ Console - Rick and Cheryl will present some of their favorite choral anthems for us to sing together, Rick will demonstrate the new organ console, and we will have a tour of the new lending library that has been recently opened to the public, with organ music and choral anthems available to borrow.

March 1 – 7:30pm – Hope Church – Dr. Mary Cohen, U of Iowa – Inside/Outside Prison Choirs.

An expert in the field of arts in prisons, Dr. Cohen leads a ground-breaking ensemble in Iowa City, that combines inmates with volunteers who make music together.

March 25 or 26 – Sacred Dance with Hope College Prof. Linda Graham - The head of the dance department at Hope College, Linda will answer questions you have about sacred dance, how it can be used in worship, and some best practices for collaborating with dancers.

April (after Easter - TBD) – Musician-Clergy Relations, with Brian Carder and the Pastors at Hope Church – the second in our series, after last year’s very successful event at Grace Episcopal.

May 19 – 5pm – Second Reformed of Zeeland – Members Recital (on the newly installed organ!) Start thinking about what you’d like to play.

June – End of year Potluck, location TBD

Zeeland Second Reformed Church Events

Second Reformed Church in Zeeland will soon launch its upcoming Second Series celebrating the restoration and tonal enhancement of the Reuter Pipe Organ, and the completion of the year-long Deep and Wide Capital Campaign and Building Project. Two events are scheduled this fall:

- A day of Dedication and Celebration will be capped off with a Hymn Festival on Sunday, October 28, at 5:00 p.m. Hymns, songs, and anthems will observe the “5 Solas” of the Reformation: Sola Scriptura, Sola Fide, Sola Gratia, Solus Christus, and Soli Deo Gloria. (If you would like to sing with the Chancel Choir, contact Gordon Bruns for music and rehearsal times.)

- The “After” Organ Concert is scheduled for Sunday, November 18, at 5:00 p.m. This is the counterpart to the “Before” concert held just before the organ was removed for restoration. Music is provided by five organists with connections to Second Church and/or Zeeland: David Schout, Rick Van Oss, Aaron Goodyke, Jim Folkert, and Gordon Bruns. The same program that was played “Before” will be played “After”, this time with brief commentary to describe and demonstrate what is new and better about the organ after its restoration and tonal enhancements—good music, as well as informative to the person in the pew.

The public is invited to these events, with no admission fee and a light reception following. Second Church is at the corner of Central Avenue and Church Street near downtown Zeeland.

www.secondreformedchurch.org

Grace Church's “Grace Notes” organ concerts

November 4 at 1 p.m. – Local legend (and former Grace Church Holland organist!) Alfred Fedak

December 9 at 12:30 p.m. – Dr. Elizabeth West – Hope College, former Holland AGO dean

January 13 at 1 p.m. – Linda Fulton – our favorite newest organist in Holland

February 10 at 1 p.m. – Jane Bosko – another former Holland AGO dean, and organist at Harderwyk

Additional events of interest

Sun, Dec 2 at 3 p.m. - Rick van Oss Free at Three Advent Recital at First Reformed

Sun, Dec 2 at 5 p.m. - Rhonda Edgington Advent Recital at Hope Church

Chapter Officers for 2018-2019

Dean - Rhonda Edgington

Sub-Dean – Linda Fulton

Board Members – Roberta Kraft, Rick Van Oss

Hope College Student Board Member – TBA

Ex Official:

Treasurer - Gordon Bruns

Newsletter Editor - Paul Dalman

Website – hollandareaago.org

2018-2019 Calendar		
Sat Oct 27, 7:30 p.m.	Holland Symphony with Huw Lewis	Jack Miller Concert Hall, Hope College, Holland
Sun Nov 4, 1:00 p.m.	Grace Notes concert – Al Fedak	Grace Episcopal Church, Holland
Sun Nov 4, 3:00 p.m.	Annual Rietberg Concert - Larry and Carla Sue (Handbells) with Linda Strouf on Organ	Third Reformed Church, Holland
Mon Nov 5, 7:30 p.m.	Organ Plus – Bring and Play Music For Organ With Other Instruments	Central Avenue Christian Reformed Church, Holland
Tue Nov 6, 7:30 p.m.	Veteran's Day Concert – Rhonda Edgington and James Sailers (Tuba)	Hope Church, Holland
Sun Dec 2, 3:00 p.m.	Free At Three Advent Recital – Rick Van Oss	First Reformed Church, Holland
Sun Dec 2, 5:00 p.m.	Advent Recital - Rhonda Edgington	Hope Church, Holland
Dec TBA	Visit with Mike Van Doornik and others	Freedom Village, Holland
01/06/18	Epiphany Party	Julia Colingsworth's home
Mon Feb 4, 7:30 p.m.	Choral Reading Session/Library Introduction/New Console Demonstration	First Reformed Church, Holland
Fri, Mar 1, 7:30 p.m.	Inside/Outside Prison Choirs	Hope Church, Holland
Mar 25 or 26, TBA	Sacred Dance in Worship – Linda Graham from Hope College	TBA
April (after Easter), TBA	Musician-Clergy Relations – Brian Carder and Hope Church Pastors	TBA
Sun May 19, 5:00 p.m.	Annual Members Recital	Second Reformed Church, Zeeland
Jun TBA	Annual Picnic	TBA