
HOLLAND A.G.O. NEWS

Apr 2023

A Letter From the Dean

Dear AGO Colleagues,

Here we are, only two weeks out from Easter. The older I get, the more it creeps up on me. It seems like we just had that snowy Ash Wednesday.

I am sending this April newsletter a few days early, in part because the location for the hymn sing on April 23 has changed back to the original location, Christ Memorial Church, 595 Graafschap Rd. in Holland. We will also go with the original time, 5 p.m. This will be a great opportunity for fellowship. Please encourage your church choir to attend as a group along with other members of your congregation. If you have questions, email me at juliamusicmaker@aol.com or Alex Cross at alexander.cross@hope.edu.

The other urgent item is that the reduced price for attending the regional convention on the North Shore of Chicago is the end of March. So if you plan to go, you will want to get your reservation in at the lower rate. Please let me know if you are contemplating going and we will try to join forces for getting there. (See the April 2023 issue of *The American Organist* magazine. It has a full-page ad on page 21 devoted to the Great Lakes Regional Convention. ed.)

After the hymn sing we will have just two get-togethers left, the members' recital on Monday, May 23 on the Pasi organ at Grace Episcopal, 555 Michigan Avenue in Holland, at 7:30, and the annual picnic, which will be held on Monday, June 19 at the Bruns, 4033 66th Street in Holland at 6:00 p.m. You won't want to miss this delicious event. Be thinking what favorite dish you want to share with us.

If you would be willing to play on the members' recital, please let Gordon Bruns know. (gordonbruns@icloud.com) He is coordinating the program. This is an opportunity to play the new-ish Pasi organ.

Another important item is the fact that as a chapter we are donating to the Summer Organ Encounter for teens who would like to have an introductory set of three lessons on the organ. They will have three different teachers on three different instruments, with music provided. This program, started and supported by Bob Houskamp in Grand Rapids for the last several years, is being offered for the first time in Holland and Muskegon. After three lessons, the students will take part in a short recital on June 30. Please contact Elizabeth West for more information. She can be emailed at west@hope.edu. You can also find information and an application on the web at SOEGR.org.

A heartfelt thanks to Karen Howells for all the work she did to give us a successful organ crawl in March. All the i's were dotted and t's were crossed and it went like clockwork. She even shoveled the entry to the Methodist Church at the last minute. As you will recall, we almost got snowed out that day. The brand new pastor and wife at Maplewood Reformed attended at their church and were so thrilled to hear the organ played. It was a very enjoyable evening. Karen even furnished the refreshments.

It is that time of year when we need to recruit a nominating committee for officers for next year. If you could serve in this capacity, please let me know. If you are interested in serving on the board, please contact me (only using my cell phone now...269-225-7418).

Blessings as we serve during this most important season of the church year.

Julia Colingsworth

Summer Organ Encounter

The Summer Organ Encounter teams are planning for this year's programs. Note that I used a plural! We will have program sessions in Kent, Ottawa and Muskegon Counties this year. Lakeshore AGO Chapter will have Rob Hlebinsky and Dr. Peter Kurdziel as instructors. Ottawa AGO will have Dr. Elizabeth West and Rhonda Sider Edgington. Kent will have Norma DeWaal Malyfyt, Chan Jang and Julia Brown. All-star staff all around!

Teaching venues will use several different organs, teasing the students with different sounds and organ features. And then allowing them to demonstrate their new-found skills on large organs in significant spaces. Relatives, friends and organ-lovers will be welcomed to attend the Recitals and to meet with students afterward.

Lesson days will be a little different for each session as the high schools finish up on different days. We aim to get as much teaching and practice time in with each student as possible before the closing Recital, which is planned for Friday, June 30th, before the Fourth of July celebration weekend.

While planning for the next year we are so pleased to tell you that we have had three students taking lessons with private tutors since last June. These scholarship lessons are being taught by Chan, Elizabeth, and Dr. Joan Ringerwole. Each student has progressed very well, we are proud of their accomplishments.

Final details will be ready by the end of March, then we will begin to advertise for student sign-ups. If you personally have students to recommend please encourage them to look at our website and to fill in the application Form. SOEGR.ORG

Bob Houskamp

Young Organist Upcoming Programs

Two Hope College students will be giving their senior organ recitals in April:

Kelli Trudeau on Wednesday April 5 at 6:00 p.m.

Bethany Dame on Wednesday April 12 at 6:00 p.m.

Both will be in the concert hall of the Jack H. Miller Center for Musical Arts.

2022-2023 Calendar		
Wed Apr 5, 6:00 p.m.	Kelli Trudeau Senior Organ Recital	Hope College Jack H. Miller Concert Hall
Wed Apr 12, 6:00 p.m.	Bethany Dame Senior Organ Recital	Hope College Jack H. Miller Concert Hall
Sun Apr 23, 5:00 p.m.	Community Hymn Sing (note: the location and time have changed, again)	Christ Memorial Church, 595 Graafschap Road, Holland
Mon May 22, 7:30 p.m.	Members' Recital	Grace Episcopal Church, 555 Michigan Avenue, Holland
Mon Jun 19, 6:00 p.m.	Annual potluck picnic	Gordon Bruns' house, 4033 66 th Street, Holland 49423

Chapter Officers for 2021-2022

Dean – Julia Colingsworth

Sub-Dean – Aaron Goodyke

Secretary - Karen Howells

Treasurer - Gordon Bruns

Board Member - Rick Van Oss

Student Board Member - Alex Cross

Newsletter Editor - Paul Dalman

Website – hollandareaago.org