
HOLLAND A.G.O. NEWS Jun 2023 (there was no May issue)

A Letter From the Dean

Dear AGO Colleagues,

What a blessing to have this glorious summer weather. We were ready for it. Along with beautiful days comes a myriad of events, which luckily doesn't coincide with a major church holiday.

Most of the graduation parties and end of school year busyness will be over by the time we have our final AGO event of the season. That will be the potluck picnic at the home of the Bruns. You won't want to miss it. Be there, June 19 at 6:00 p.m.! The Bruns will provide a main dish and sodas. Please bring your favorite side dish. We would like an approximate headcount, so please respond to gordon@brunsconsult.com with your joyful acceptance of his invitation or regrets ASAP.

These are the directions Gordon has provided: Make your way south or north to 140th Ave. in Laketown Township. Turn west and follow as it turns into 66th Street. One-sixth mile north of that corner, you will see a white mailbox at 4033 66th St. Note: the bridge at exit 41 on I-196 is closed.

Thanks to all of those who played on the fine members' recital in May, to Stephen Rumler who hosted us at Grace Episcopal, and to Gordon Bruns who coordinated it. If you were unavailable to play, there will be an opportunity again next year.

Some important announcements:

National AGO is no longer giving a grace period for paying dues. If you miss your date to renew, there is now a reinstatement fee. It is recommended to pay by credit card either using ONCARD or by phone, 212-870-2310. There are four people in our chapter who need to renew by July 1, Jane Bosko, Roberta Kraft, Joanne Jansen, and Judy Koeman.

We welcome new friend of the chapter, John Eisenhauer and new young organist member, Derek Bostrom, student of Elizabeth West, who did an amazing job on the members' recital. Please introduce yourselves to them.

Congratulations to Rick Van Oss on his retirement. Thankfully he will still be in the area except for some winter months which they will spend in the south. Rick has served long and faithfully at First Reformed and was a founding member of our chapter.

With sadness I report that Floyd Farmer, who with his wife Caron was a long-time supporter of the arts, died suddenly earlier this month. His obituary information is below.

Elizabeth West is heading our nominating committee. If you are interested in serving as an officer, please contact her, west@hope.edu.

I look forward to seeing you soon at the picnic.

With all good wishes, Julia

The Pillar Organ Recital Series

Rob Hlebnsky will be playing an attractive program of Disney favorites. Great program for children!
Wednesday, June 14, 2023, at 12:15 p.m.

- Touch the Sky Alex Mandel/Mark Andrews
from *Brave*
- Who Is She Patrick Doyle
from *Cinderella* (2015)
- Reflection Matthew Wilder/David Zippel
from *Mulan*
- Speechless Alan Menken/Benj Pasek and Justin Paul
from *Aladdin* (2019)
- I am Moana Lin-Manuel Miranda, Opetaia Foa'i and Mark Mancina
from *Moana*
- Guiding Light John Kavaanaugh
from *Elena of Avalor*
- My Once Upon a Time David Goldsmith and John Kavanaugh
from *Descendants 3*
- Show Yourself Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez
from *Frozen 2*

Summer Organ Encounter Closing Recital

This June, seven teenagers are discovering the pipe organ in Holland and Zeeland. We urge all Holland AGO members to attend the closing recital on **Thursday, June 29, 7:00 pm at First Reformed, 630 State Street in Holland.**

The Summer Organ Encounter offers three free beginning lessons to teen pianists who are curious about playing the organ. Each lesson is on a different instrument with a different teacher. We will have Rhonda Edgington teaching at Grace Episcopal, Aaron Goodyke at Second Reformed in Zeeland, and Elizabeth West at Harderwyk.

Bob Houskamp started SOE in Grand Rapids in 2013. In Holland, 2022 was our first year and we had three students, all of whom are still taking organ lessons! As of June 2023, SOE in Grand Rapids and Holland/Zeeland will have taught 59 students.

Besides attending the recital, please keep SOE in mind for students for next year. To learn more, email Elizabeth West <elizabeth.clar@gmail.com> or visit <https://www.soegr.org/>

Elizabeth West

Music Department
Hope College
Holland, Michigan

Floyd Farmer Obituary

Floyd H. Farmer, Jr., 78, died unexpectedly on June 3, 2023 in Muskegon. He was born on December 17, 1944 in Muskegon, MI to Floyd and Doris (Rademacher) Farmer, Sr. A 1963 graduate of Reeths-Puffer High School, Floyd went on to earn bachelor's and master's degrees in music from Hope College and Southern Methodist University respectively. Then, after several years of teaching, he went on to earn a degree from Thomas M Cooley Law School. While he enjoyed a long and successful career as an attorney, he continued his passion for music as a choral conductor, composer, critic, performer, and advocate for professional singers. He was the founder and artistic director of Camerata Singers as well as a conductor of the Cosmopolitan Male Singers and several church choirs. He served on the board of education for Muskegon Public Schools as well as the boards of various arts organizations, both local and national, including Holland Symphony Orchestra and Chorus America.

SURVIVORS

He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Caron (Vanden Hoek) Farmer, three brothers, Frank (Karen) Farmer, Dale (Patricia) Farmer, and Timothy Farmer, and a sister, Kathy (Steven) Ongert; brother-in-law David Adams, as well as many extended family and friends. He was preceded in death by his parents, Floyd and Doris (Rademacher) Farmer, Sr. and a sister, Diane Adams.

SERVICE

A commemoration of Floyd's life will take place at a later date. Please visit www.clockfuneralhome.com to leave a memory or sign the online guestbook.

You may send condolences to Caron at:

Caron Farmer
1668 Jefferson St.
Muskegon, MI 49441

Hear Local Organist and Organ on 'Pipedreams'

The 'Pipedreams' advertisement in the June issue of *The American Organist* magazine indicates their program for the last week in June will include a work of local interest. Chapter member (and past Dean) Rhonda Edgington will accompany Brian Reichenbach on the trumpet in Carson Goodman's Solstice Sonata. The recording was made at Zeeland's Second Reformed Church.

It will be aired locally on Blue Lake Public Radio, WBLV, 90.3 MHz at 7:00 a.m. on Sunday, July 2. Closer to Grand Rapids it can also be heard on their other station WBLU, 88.9 MHz at the same time. (The Blue Lake stations only broadcast the first hour of Pipedreams, but from the advertisement this number should be in the first hour.) It can also be heard on the program's website pipedreams.org as program number 2326.

2022-2023 Calendar		
Mon Jun 19, 6:00 p.m.	Annual potluck picnic	Gordon Bruns' house, 4033 66 th Street, Holland 49423

Chapter Officers for 2022-2023

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