
HOLLAND A.G.O. NEWS

Sep 2023

A Letter From the Dean

Dear AGO Colleagues,

How can it be September already? It happens every year! Summer is over before we are ready for it to end. We expect to still have some nice weather, but activities are starting back up, and school, and some of our freedom is gone.

Cheer up, and look forward to our first AGO meeting on Monday, September 18, Those of you who cook will get a break. Just show up at First United Methodist Church, 57 W. 10th Street (use entrance A from the parking lot on 9th Street) and enjoy a meal you do not have to cook. We will gather at 6:15 and eat at 6:30. The menu will be a surprise. Following our meal, Gordon Bruns will lead us in a round table on the plans you are making for this season. Come and partake of the fellowship and inspiration. Try to think of a fellow church musician who is not a member of our group, and invite them. Please email juliamusicmaker@aol.com by September 14 with your intention to come.

Your board met this summer and we have some exciting events planned. The organ crawls of the last few years have been popular, so we are planning another one in October, on the 16th. On Sunday, November 19, we will attend the Bach Society concert at Second Reformed in Zeeland. We know you are all pretty busy in December, so we will skip to January and welcome the new year with our traditional Epiphany Soup Supper on January 8. Sunday, February 8 we will have a member recital emphasizing service music that has more recently been composed, including Lent and Easter selections. Monday, March 11 Sander Owens will explain and demonstrate the technology of his home virtual pipe organ.

Rick Van Oss will give us tips on introducing new hymns to the congregation on Monday, April 15. Our grand finale will be in May. We plan to invite composer Michael Burkhardt to come and do a program for us. The date is to be determined.

And of course, June means we will have our traditional picnic. Tentative date is June 17. Place to be determined. Any volunteers who would love to host? We had a super time at Bruns this year and at Koemans last year. We could also go to a park.

Some business that was attended to at the board meeting included a recap of the Summer Organ Encounter for young people interested in playing the organ. We helped support it financially this summer and plan to increase that support to a cap of \$500 next summer. This is an extension of the SOE that has been happening in Grand Rapids for a number of years and is the second summer it has been offered in Holland. Each participant receives three private lessons on three different organs and they give a recital at the end. Those receiving the scholarships audition and must have some keyboard facility. It is encouraging that seven students took part this year.

The board voted to discontinue monitoring AGO exams. The person who volunteered to do this is no longer a member of our chapter.

National AGO requested money from us for the Annual Fund, and we voted to increase this to \$100.

Gordon suggested that the chapter have a debit card and this was approved by the board.

Upcoming events include a recital by well-known organist Cherry Rhodes at Hope College on Tuesday, September 26 at 7 pm.

It has been called to our attention that there will no longer be a grace period for dues. We will try to alert you before your date to renew. (Read below for a narrative from the AGO about membership renewals, Ed.)

With all good wishes,

Julia Colingsworth
Dean of Holland AGO

Understanding AGO's Renewal Timeline – Guidance from AGO Headquarters:

Three Months Before Your Expiration Date An invoice is created for your next membership year. “Renew Dues and Subscriptions” appears on your ONCARD menu. Your status changes to “invoiced not paid” on your chapter’s member roster. A renewal notice is sent from headquarters, either by email or postal mail depending on your preferences.

Two Months Before Your Expiration Date A second renewal notice is sent from headquarters, either by email or postal mail depending on your preferences.

One Month Before Your Expiration Date A third renewal notice is sent from headquarters by postal mail.

2 Weeks Before Your Expiration Date Chapter officers receive notification of all members who have not yet renewed.

Bill Due Date AGO dues payments are due on the *last day* of the month before expiration.

Expiration Date: Always the First of the Month A membership expires, and a two week grace period begins at the time of expiration.

Two Weeks After the Expiration Date The grace period ends and memberships are marked canceled. If a payment is received after this date, delivery of *The American Organist* may be delayed.

Renewal step-by-step instructions can be found [here](#).

2023-2024 Calendar		
Sep 18, 6:15 p.m.	Catered Dinner followed by round table Q&A	First United Methodist Church, Holland
Sep 26, 7:00 p.m.	Hope College Annual Donia Recital: Cherry Rhodes	Hope College Jack H. Miller Concert Hall, Holland
Oct 16	Organ Crawl: Central Ave CRC, 14 th Street CRC, Third Reformed Church	Starting location and time TBA
Nov 12, 5:00 p.m.	Attend Holland Bach Society concert	Second Reformed Church, Zeeland
Jan 8	Epiphany Party	Location TBA
Feb 8	Members' Recital featuring new service music	Location TBA
Mar 11	Virtual Home Pipe Organs	Sander Owens' Home
Apr 15	Introducing and Playing New Hymns	Location TBA
May, date TBA	Workshop with guest composer Michael Burkhardt	Location TBA
Jun 17 (tentative)	Annual potluck picnic	Location TBA

Chapter Officers for 2023-2024

Dean - Julia Colingsworth

Sub-Dean - Aaron Goodyke

Secretary - Karen Howells

Treasurer - Gordon Bruns

Board Member/Web Site Admin - Rick Van Oss

Student Board Member - Sander Owens

Board Member at Large - Alex Cross

Newsletter Editor - Paul Dalman

Website – hollandareaago.org