
HOLLAND A.G.O. NEWS

Oct 2023

A Letter From the Dean

Dear colleagues,

We've had many nice days so can't complain about these last few rainy ones. By now, most of you are back into your fall routines, which in some ways is good.

Quite a few of us enjoyed our September meeting, a round table discussion led by Gordon Bruns which was preceded by a catered meal from Beechwood Grill. We also discussed an idea presented by member Ruth Baker on looking forward to an organ recital/sing along for the 250th anniversary of our country in 2026. The idea was received with enthusiasm.

Our October meeting, Monday, October 16 is earlier in the month than some of our meetings, and so hopefully you had made a note of it when you got the last newsletter. Our past organ crawls have been popular, and so while the weather is still a little bit predictable (not expecting snow yet) we are going to crawl. Please meet at 14th Street CRC, actually 14 W 14th Street, Holland, at 6:30 p.m. We are putting our new student member of the board, Sander Owens, to work immediately and he is setting up the details of the crawl. If it finishes at a reasonable hour, perhaps we will find a spot to have a little snack afterward.

Do keep in mind that our November meeting is on a Sunday. In addition to the Bach Society Concert at 5:00, Scott Vandenberg will speak to our chapter at 3:30. This is at Second Reformed in Zeeland.

Please continue to think of others you can invite to our meetings. There are SO many church musicians in our area who could benefit from our fellowship.

On Sunday, October 22, at 4:00, there will be a hymn sing introducing a new Spanish/English hymnal (GIA) at Hope Church, 77 W. 11th Street in Holland, coordinated by Rhonda Edgington.

That same day at 2:00, there will be a concert in memory of Floyd Farmer from Muskegon. This will be organ and choral music composed by Floyd who along with his wife Caron was extremely active in AGO and the arts in general. The location is First Presbyterian Church, 508 Franklin Avenue in Grand Haven.

A little news on our members: those of us at the September meeting heard about the gorgeous wedding of Audrey Thomas; congratulations to Elizabeth West who is now occupying the organ bench at Holland First Reformed; best wishes to our student members who are continuing their education (Bethany Dame and Ruth LeuamChampassak); cheers to several members away vacationing, (Linda Fulton visiting family, Karen Howells in Iona, Scotland, and Rick VanOss in Florida enjoying a well-deserved retirement.)

Please keep these members in your prayers, Marie Blauwkamp, Nyla Hensley who is caring for her husband, Norene Walters who is caring for both parents, and Stephen Jenkins. Our sympathy to the family of former member Sandy Edewaard whose memorial service was held recently.

Please keep your dean informed of any personal news you wish to share.

I hope to see you all at the organ crawl next Monday, October 16 at 6:30.

With warm wishes,

Julia Colingsworth

Joy Huttar Memorial Organ Recital

The Fourth Annual Joy Huttar Memorial Organ Recital at Grace Episcopal Church in Holland will be held on All Saints Sunday, November 5 at 3:00 PM. This year's recital will feature Holland native Dr. Jonathan Schakel as guest artist.

Organist and harpsichordist Jonathan Schakel is a native of Holland, Michigan, and a graduate of Hope College. He earned a doctoral degree in performance practice at Cornell University, where he studied with Annette Richards and David Yearsley. He holds a master's degree in organ and early music from Longy School of Music in Cambridge, MA, where he studied organ and harpsichord with Peter Sykes and continuo with Frances Conover Fitch. He has been a concerto soloist at the Staunton Music Festival in Staunton, Virginia, and has given organ recitals in the Netherlands, Germany, Scotland, and many of the United States, including performances at the Piccolo Spoleto Festival in Charleston, SC; Harvard University; Princeton University; Trinity Church, Boston; St Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh; the Ludgerikirche, Norden, Germany; and de Engelse Kerk, Amsterdam. His editions of Renaissance vocal music have been performed in the US, England, and Germany, and he serves as artistic director for the early music vocal ensemble Zephyrus. He is currently organist at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Charlottesville, Virginia, where he also serves as artistic director of the Westminster Organ Concert Series.

Member Directory - Is Your Information Current?

We will issue a new membership directory in November. Our data source is the AGO OnCard database, so please take time to review your entry there and make any corrections or updates. And, of course, be sure you've renewed your membership in order to be included. Thanks.

2023-2024 Calendar		
Oct 16, 6:30 p.m.	Organ Crawl: 14 th Street CRC and other sites TBA.	Starts at 14 th Street Christian Reformed Church
Nov 12, 3:30 p.m.	Attend Holland Bach Society concert; 3:30 talk by director Scott Vandenberg before the 5:00 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