



En Chamade

Newsletter of the Northwest Arkansas Chapter,
American Guild of Organists
February 2018



Next Meeting

REGIONAL COUNCILLOR ROUNDTABLE

Friday, February 9, 2018

**Flying Fish Restaurant, Bentonville
6 p.m. Dinner**

**First Presbyterian, Bentonville
7 p.m. Discussion**

Please join us for an informal dinner followed by a lively discussion about Professional Concerns with Vicki Schaeffer, the SW Regional Council for the AGO. Apart from representing six states for the AGO, she is Director of Recruitment and a music professor in the Honors College at the University of Oklahoma in Norman. She is also a church organist at McFarlin Memorial UMC in Norman.

Although there is no fixed agenda for the meeting, certainly one topic will be how to move forward, now that neither the AGO nor individual chapters can publish tables of recommended salaries by hours worked and degrees earned, as well as supplemental guidelines for weddings and funerals.

It's not often that we get to talk with people who have direct input into the AGO national organization. If you have not attended a regional or national convention in a while, like me, this is a unique opportunity to connect with our national organization. And remember, it's a two-way conversation: Vicki may learn something from us that she can present to the

folks at headquarters. For example, I'll be eager to tell her about our program "*Just Add Pedals??*", organized this year and last by Jeannie Lee. Who knows, we may be developing something that could become a national program!

As fun and meaningful as all of this sounds, this type of event works only if you show up in Bentonville! We meet for dinner at Flying Fish (109 NW 2nd St) at 6 p.m., and then travel a short distance to First Presbyterian Church (901 NE J Street) at 7 p.m. If you want to eat dinner with us—and not at a separate table—please respond to me by Sunday, February 4th. No regrets necessary. If you want to show up only for the discussion, there's no need to respond, but please wait for us if no one is there precisely at 7 p.m. Our starting time is dependent upon whether we can get served and finished at the restaurant in a timely manner.

RSVP by phone or text at 479-268-6422 or via email at brochite@gmail.com -- No regrets necessary.

See you Friday!

Broc

January Event Recap...

Just Add Pedals?? Organ Basics for the Pianist

A mere few days ago nine NWACGO members (including two presenters) and seven participants met at Central United Methodist Church in Fayetteville on a

chilly, but lovely late January Saturday morning. Finding their way around the extensive remodeling being done to the sanctuary to create a dedicated music suite, participants arrived to sign in, grab light refreshment and settle in for a brief introductory talk by Scott Montgomery, the organist at CUMC.

Many of our guests were NAMTA (Northwest Arkansas Music Teachers Association) members, proficient in piano but eager to learn about organ pipes and ranks, varieties of sounds, how a console is set up, etc.

After Scott's introduction, the group divided into two smaller groups, one staying with Scott to explore the Moeller in more detail and the other traveling across the street to St. Paul's Episcopal Church. There, they met with organist-choirmaster Jack Cleghorn who demonstrated the Schantz organ and invited participants to sit down to play a bit.

At midmorning the two groups exchanged places, thereby giving an opportunity to experience sitting at a second organ, listening to sounds created in a very different acoustical space. AGO members stood ready to answer questions and build friendships across our musical community.

A very pleasant time was had by all. Hearty thanks go to our two presenters, Scott and Jack, who you might remember were recently introduced to us at last September's Meet-and-Greet. We in Northwest Arkansas are fortunate to count these eminent musicians among our ranks.

From the Sub-Dean...

With the chapter's outreach workshop ***Just Add Pedals?? Organ Basics for the Pianist*** concluded just this past weekend, we now look ahead to a couple "talking/eating/sharing" events over the next two months. Often our chapter gets together for organ or choral concerts or outreach work, such as last November's Organ Crawl or last weekend's workshop. Now comes an opportunity to sit down all together, enjoy each other's company and discuss freely our ideas about the chapter and its future. **Everyone's** input is very important to the health and growth of NWACAGO; make plans today to attend both these events. It should be easy to remember the dates; they both happen on Fridays, the 9th of the month!

FRIDAY, February 9th -- A Visit with our Regional Councillor, Vicki Schaeffer. Details of this gathering are outlined elsewhere in this newsletter, but you are heartily encouraged to attend the 6pm dinner, followed by a discussion time. Any thoughts or questions you have about the future of organs in general or our chapter in particular--here's the time and place for discussion. Reserve your place at the table right now!

FRIDAY, March 9th -- "Fun Night" Dinner and Concert. Let's not overlook the importance of getting together "just for the fun of it"! Building up our social connections through shared experiences such as dinner-plus-concert also serves to strengthen our professional ties. We're an eclectic group and YOU are an important part of it. Make plans to attend! More details forthcoming!

Jeannie