

En Chamade

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



From the Dean...

I hope that everyone's Lent and Easter playing and conducting went as well as was hoped. It's sort of sad that some of our best work in action never gets heard by our colleagues, since we tend to all be in action at the same time. However, there is an exception to that — our annual gathering to play for each other, in a new format this year called "Musical Pot Luck". I don't want to steal Jeannie's thunder about the event itself, but it will be Saturday morning, April 28, at First Methodist in Bella Vista. In addition to hosting the event, I'm looking forward to sharing with you a big piece that I'm preparing for the following day at church. Although now is still too early to tell whether I'll change my mind and play something less risky, I'm hopeful I'll follow through, applying the motto "nothing ventured, nothing gained." I encourage you to take some risks for this gathering as well, as it is not to be a big public display.

Did any of you do anything exciting or new during Lent? I did! I'm excited that I participated in my first full-length Taizé service, with no outside music added, on Maundy Thursday. I'd be glad to share the details with any of you who might think of doing this going forward. I must give credit to both Rev. Les Oliver at Central UMC Rogers and the Rev. Jeanne Williams at First UMC Bella Vista who had the vision and expertise for this type of service. As you probably have experienced, when you are in sync with your clergy, great things can happen! I'll post a summary of the service, complete with the bulletin, pictures, and a video link to the service, to my blog

at brochite.com once all of this information becomes available.

Happy Easter again, and good luck making it through to Pentecost and beyond.

Broc

OFFICER ELECTIONS
APPROACHING!
WATCH FOR EMAILS
MID-APRIL AND MID-MAY

From the Sub-Dean...

The warming temperatures and rain showers have brought on springtime full force. What a reminder of nature's cycles, watching bare branches green up and spring flowers showing their cheery faces. Likewise my "cycle" of service as Sub Dean draws to a close with this month's message. I have been honored to serve the chapter as Sub Dean the past two years, collaborating with others to develop programs of general interest and service to the musical community. But don't look for me to disappear! I stand ready to help next year's Sub Dean with ideas, energy and willing hands.

But wait--- stop the valedictory! We still have our upcoming event:

Musical Potluck
*(Bring a brunch dish
and a piece of music to share!)*
Saturday morning, April 28th.
**New location: First United
Methodist Church, Bella Vista**

N.B.: there has been a change of venue, due in large part to the hyper-activity in Siloam

Springs surrounding the annual Dogwood Festival that weekend. A quilters' group that uses the Grace's Parish Hall on a monthly basis needs to use the whole church space to display their goods for the Festival-goers. ☹

Please see the attached poster for more details.

Looking forward to seeing you there,

Jeannie

Report from the Nominating Committee

The 2018-2019 Nominating Committee met recently to begin the process of developing a slate of officers for a vote at our May chapter meeting. The committee consists of Jeannie Lee (chair), Sara Sharp, and Linda Kelly. Our goal is not only to develop a slate of officers, but also to match up additional members' strengths with chapter needs.

There are a number of responsibilities great and small; spreading them across the chapter membership relieves the burden on a small group of people. For example, although I personally will not be running for office next year, I will volunteer to be on the Yearbook (Directory) Committee. That relieves the elected Secretary of a significant task and engages participation more broadly across the general membership.

Now, where are **your** strengths and abilities? To paraphrase the late President Kennedy: *Ask not what your chapter can do for you, but what you can do for your chapter!*

Can you snap a photo and write up a brief item to submit to *The American Organist*? You would be the Reporter, serving on the Programming Committee with the sub dean and others, but with that single responsibility.

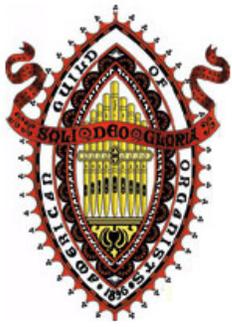
Can you help set up and serve coffee? You would be on the Hospitality Committee that interfaces with Programming.

Do you like meeting new musicians and talking with them about the chapter, encouraging them to join as a member or friend? You would be on the Membership Committee, working with the Dean.

Are you passionate about educating local volunteer organists and pianists about organ literature and service playing? You can service on the Education Committee and/or the Programming Committee with that explicit goal.

So when Linda, Sara and I come asking about how you can help the chapter move forward in the next year, be ready to talk about your strengths and ideas! There's a place to use those gifts!

Jeannie



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Voting for the Executive Committee ("The Board") (Your Chapter Officers) for 2018-19

As you probably know, the American Guild of Organists follows a July 1 to June 30 fiscal year, which impacts how we vote for our new officers. We do our best to follow the schedule established by the national guild, which is incorporated into our local bylaws that were updated and approved in May 2017. For more detailed information about this schedule and other governance issues, please find our bylaws published at the bottom of the Chapter Web page:

<https://nwacago.org/membership/>

OUR TENTATIVE TIMELINE:

April 15. Nominating committee submits slate to the existing board; slate is recorded in minutes & announced to the membership. Once the slate is released, there is a mandatory 30-day waiting period to allow additional nominations to be accepted by a petition signed by at least 5 voting members in good standing and submitted to the chapter secretary.

May 15. Window for accepting additional nominations closes.

May 16. Voting can commence by absentee (email) ballot. You may vote absentee even if you plan to attend our year-end meeting where we finalize the voting.

May 20, 6 p.m. Absentee voting closes at some point before our physical meeting, which is planned at AQ Chicken, 1207 N Thompson Ave (US 71-B), Springdale.

So expect an email in the middle of April to announce the preliminary slate and another in May to announce the final slate. No action is required from you during the interim unless you want to gather signatures for a board run. However, it's really important to follow up on the May message and VOTE! More voting means more engagement, and that's vital to our chapter!

Broc