



Prairie Pippings

The Monthly Newsletter of SDAGO

The Mission of SDAGO is...

to bring the excitement and inspiration of the organ and its music to children and adults through events of education, entertainment and discovery.

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The American Guild of Organists**

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September Program

Chapter Potluck and Preview

Friday, September 7 at 6 pm

Schempp Residence

809 E. Plum Creek Road, Sioux Falls



To begin the program year, Chapter members are invited to attend a potluck gathering and a preview of the great things coming in the season ahead. Part of the evening will be an introduction to the OrgelKids kit organ that JF Nordlie has constructed and a discussion of how the chapter might purchase it and use it to promote the organ in our area. We'll also catch up on everyone's summer activities, hear about the national convention, and see what the year entails for our AGO chapter. Yearbooks will be distributed to those at the meeting. The rest will be mailed later in September.

Meat, coffee, and utensils provided. Bring a dish or dessert to pass. **RSVP to Marilyn Schempp (mmschempp@sio.midco.net) or reply to the event on our Facebook page.**

OrgelKids Comes to SDAGO

SDAGO has a long history of educational events designed to introduce young musicians to the organ. We've hosted many Pipe Organ Encounters and Pedals, Pipes & Pizza events over the years. Now, we have an opportunity to enhance our educational outreach with the OrgelKids kit organ. The organ will be demonstrated at our September meeting, and the chapter will discuss purchasing the instrument and formulating plans for its use.

John Nordlie provides the following background for the project:

The OrgelKiids project was the brainchild of Lydia Vroegindeweij, and educational publisher and organist in Holland. Her idea was to start an educational project allowing children to become acquainted with the organ by assembling a real instrument that could be played once complete. The first "Do-organ" was built in 2013 by retired organ builder Wim Janssen. Lydia stated, "What good are beautifully restored organs if we have nobody who can play them anymore?"

The first instrument was an immediate success and a second instrument was started. Shortly after that interest was kindled throughout the world and people wondered how they might get an instrument in their area. Drawings were made of the original instrument and a licensing program initiated. An independent offshoot of the original European program was started in the United States called OrgelKids USA.

Last year I decided that it might be fun to build an instrument and I purchased a set of drawings and license to construct one instrument. Being a true organ builder I redrew the plans to incorporate materials and construction practice that was common to our production without changing the basic framework of the instrument. The instrument is made up of two ranks of pipes with a compass of two octaves. The

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NOTES from the Dean



Greetings, Fellow Chapter Members:

Please take time to read the article by AGO President, Michael Bedford in the August issue of *The American Organist* magazine entitled "Don't Cheat the Rest!" He compares the needed rests in music to the needed rest in our own lives—

how periods of rest and silence can lower blood pressure and reduce stress as well as give us a source of refreshment and rejuvenation. I hope you have had some time this summer for rest, refreshment, and rejuvenation. It is that time of year when we are all gearing up for our fall schedules at church, school, and other jobs you might be working at. Our SDAGO board has been gearing up for an exciting year for our chapter events, too. On September 7 at 6:00 pm you and your significant others are invited to the Schempp home (809 Plum Creek Road) for some time social time to catch up with each other, hear about the national AGO convention in Kansas City, see what will be happening in our chapter this year, and, most exciting, see the little OrgelKids organ that John Nordlie has built for our use. We will be voting on purchasing this instrument for our chapter to have in its possession and discussing how we might share this in different ways in our community, such as taking it into the classroom in order for students to learn about the organ. I had the opportunity to bring it along with me this summer when I taught at the International Music Camp in the Peace Gardens and the students really enjoyed putting it together and then playing little pieces on it. What a fantastic teaching tool! Come learn more! This past year I also purchased a Johannus organ for my home, so feel free to bring your shoes and some music along to try it out!

If you haven't renewed your membership yet, please do this soon so we can make sure our membership book is accurate and up to date. If you need help renewing through ONCARD, let one of the officers help you or feel free to call AGO headquarters. They are anxious to help you, as well. Jack Mohlenhoff has agreed to put the membership book together for us and also will be our communications person, putting together our newsletter and updating the SDAGO website and Facebook page. If you haven't already, go onto the Facebook page and "like" us!

Thank you to these folks who have agreed to serve on our SDAGO board and to Geri Peterson for serving as our past dean and Paul Griffith for his two years as a member-at-large.

We have a couple of members' recitals this year that I want to be sure you are aware of. Michael Barone's Pipedreams is celebrating its 35th anniversary this year, so chapters are invited to host a recital honoring that anniversary. Our recital is set for Sunday, October 7 at 3:00 at First Congregational. A number of people have already agreed to play, but we could still use a few more. Variety is the key! Some are performing with an instrumentalist, others are playing solos. As soon as you know what you would like to play, let me know! Contact Spencer Smith (spencer.smith.piano@gmail.com) at First Congregational to set up a rehearsal time. I hope you will also start thinking about what Bach piece you want to tackle this year for our annual Bach Birthday Bash. That is scheduled for Friday, March 22 at 7:00 pm at the Augustana chapel. The Augustana University Chorale will be joining us for this event.

Please notice all of the many opportunities provided for your enjoyment and growth this year. If you have any events to add, please let Jack Mohlenhoff know so he can add them to our website and the membership book which will be coming out soon.

Musically,

Marilyn Schempp

Coming in October...



**Celebrating 35 Years of
Pipedreams
—A Members Recital
October 7 at 3:00 PM
First Congregational Church
300 S. Minnesota Ave—Sioux Falls**

SDAGO members present a recital in honor of the 35th Anniversary of Pipedreams, APM's long-running radio program devoted to the organ and its music hosted by Michael Barone. Organ solo repertoire as well as music for organ and instruments will be included on the program. SDAGO joins chapters around the country in recitals recognizing this landmark anniversary.

If you're interested in playing, contact Marilyn Schempp
mmschempp@sio.midco.net



Convention Comments by Marilyn Schempp

As always, it was a fantastic week in Kansas City hearing the fabulous organs and connecting with friends old and new. I was especially proud since this was in our region. After so many years of hearing about the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, it was wonderful to finally get to see and hear the organ in that space. Jan Kraybill is the curator of the instrument so did some of the performing, but the final event—the St. Cecilia Concert—was also held there with organ and orchestra. Kimberly Marshall and Thierry Escaich were big hits for that concert. It is always a thrill to attend concerts at the Unity Temple and hear the Auditorium organ. Another gorgeous, new church is Village Presbyterian in Prairie Village, KS. They have a new Richards, Fowkes & Co. instrument there. Doug Cleveland performed with dancers at that event. I was amazed at how many of the performers played for memory at this convention. RCYO competitors from our seven regions were outstanding performers—it is wonderful to know that we are in good hands with these young organists! The Improvisation Competition was also held during this convention. Rob Horton, who taught at Dordt for a short time, was one of the competitors who placed second and won the Audience Prize. With the 100th anniversary of WW I upon us, that was the theme for the week. One of the events included a small choir and dancers who portrayed families and wives sending their loved ones off to war. It had to have been the most moving event of the week with hardly a dry eye in the room! This theme was especially significant since the WW I Memorial was right next to our motel. I felt fortunate to have had time to walk through the memorial before the week's events started—that helped to pull the whole theme together for me. Of course, one of the great things about our national conventions is all of the helpful workshops and the many exhibits. I was able to observe conductors Charles Bruffy and Mark Hayes at work during a couple choral reading sessions.

I always come back so inspired from these conventions, ready to practice and learn new music that I heard or purchased. Next summer are regional conventions and ours is in Milwaukee, then on to Atlanta in 2020 and the national in Seattle in 2022. Our own Wyatt Smith is the chair for the Seattle National. That should be a fun place for a convention! I hope you consider attending one of the next conventions!

Welcome New Members and Friends!

Several new people have joined our ranks this year—welcome! In the coming months, we will feature profiles of some of these folks to help you know them better.

Harpichord and Virginal For Sale

Liz Soladay is selling her harpsichord and virginal. The harpsichord was completed by Ed Kottick in 2014. It has a single manual with 2 8' stops, a 4' and a buff. The virginal was made by Curtis Berak in Los Angeles in the early 80's. It has a single manual at 8' pitch and a 48-note compass. Both instruments are going back to Ed Kottick in Iowa City to be checked over.

They will be available by the end of September.

Email Liz at bowsconbrio@trietel.net or call her at 605-770-0767.

More Musical Events

September 24, 2018, 4:00 PM at First Congregational Church

White Spruce Chamber Players in Concert

Freewill donation

September 29, 2018, 7:00 PM at St. Joseph Cathedral

Transept Vocal Ensemble presents *The Tudors: Monarchy, Drama and Music of Celestial Harmony*. Dr. Timothy Campbell, Conductor.

For more information/tickets, visit www.transept.org/concerts

October 1, 2018 at 7:30 PM at the Washington Pavilion

VikeSing Men's Choral Festival with special guests Cantus

Tickets available at www.washingtonpavilion.org

SDAGO Elects New Officers

The votes are in, the results have been tabulated, and our new SDAGO officers are:

Marilyn Schempp, Dean
Zachary Brockhoff, Sub-Dean
John Nordlie, Secretary-Treasurer
Marcia Klimes, Member-at-Large (17-19)
Geri Peterson, Member-at-Large (18-20)

Thanks to everyone who voted, and to our new officers for your leadership this year!

(OrgelKids, Continued from page 1)

organ has hand pumped feeder bellows and a reservoir to stabilize the wind pressure. The wind chest has a clear plastic bung so one can watch the valves open as the keys are depressed and the pipes play.... There is much to learn from this little instrument.

My shop completed the instrument earlier this summer. I first used the instrument at my church for a children's sermon but the real debut of the instrument came when Marilyn Schempp took the instrument to the International Music Camp at the Peace Gardens in North Dakota.



SDAGO on Facebook

If you are on Facebook, be sure to follow chapter activities and articles of interest on our chapter Facebook page. Look for

[American Guild of Organists-South Dakota Chapter](#)