

April 2017

The American Guild of Organists San Francisco Chapter Newsletter

Chris Tietze Celebrates 25 Years of Music Ministry at Saint Mary's Cathedral, San Francisco.

from William Vaughan

The San Francisco Chapter of the American Guild of Organists congratulates Chris Tietze on 25 years of music ministry at St. Mary's Cathedral.



Chris' family with parents (standing l to r: Helena, Jeanette, Chris, Betsy; seated l to r: Armin, Doris, Karl).



Chris and son Karl
at the St Mary's console.

During Chris' time at Saint Mary's, he has worked with six rectors/administrators and four archbishops, and he has performed for three popes.

By the way, he received the pope's Benemerenti Award in April, 2011, for many years of excellent service.

Chris will play an Anniversary Recital on Sunday, April 2 at 4pm. A reception follows.

April SFAGO Program

from William Vaughan

Greg Zelek: Recital and Workshop

Organ Recital: Friday, April 21 at 7 p.m.

**Workshop on recital preparation:
Saturday, April 22 at 10 a.m.**

Christ Church, Portola Valley

Concert organist Greg Zelek will play a recital at Christ Church, Portola Valley at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 21. The next morning, Saturday, April 22 at 10 a.m., Greg will present a workshop on recital preparation. Greg will go through the ins and outs of choosing repertoire, practicing at home, approaching unfamiliar instruments, and more. Greg is personable, engaging, and knowledgeable, and it is sure to be a wonderful weekend with him.



It'll be the week after Easter ... put your feet up, relax, and let someone else do the playing! This weekend with Greg Zelek is jointly sponsored by Christ Church and the Palo Alto/Peninsula and San Francisco AGO chapters.

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Submission deadline for the **May** issue is **April 10**

Dean's Column

by William Vaughan

When I last wrote a few words to you, it was the beginning of Lent. Now, Passover and Easter are almost upon us. Where have these days flown? Did you try programming new literature during Lent? Did your congregations experience "the joyful season of Lent" through your playing and the choir's anthems? As I write this article to you, I am at my computer in my office at church. I have Organlive.com streaming on my computer. In the past few hours I have gotten a few ideas of "new" music I will learn. One neat piece is Chelsea Fayre by Reginald Goss Custard. I immediately went to IMSLP.org and found the music. I played through it on the piano, and it will make a great prelude or postlude or even concert piece. It is a light-hearted piece. The only problem with getting onto IMSLP is that it is very addictive! I roamed through the other works and collections of Custard and other links, and found myself saving scores and copying page after page. Yikes!

We are about to enter the Church's most holy time of the year. How can these events challenge our lives? Do they, or is it just a job? Are we sensitive to our ancestors in faith and how they are portrayed in scripture? The Church sets before us a beautiful and prayerful ritual for Palm/Passion Sunday; The Triduum (The Three Days): Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday; The Great Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday. I find Holy Week and Easter far more challenging than Christmas. Musically we go through the gamut of organ and choral music, the highs and the lows of life, the joyful and the sorrowful, then back to the joyful. I have been re-reading the Missal for Palm Sunday and the Triduum to make sure I understand my part within the whole liturgy. As I said earlier, I picked all the anthems last summer up until June 2017. Occasionally I will change an anthem at the last minute if something better has come along, or if I find a text that is more fitting.

Three very powerful, reverent and prayerful moments for me during the Triduum are


- The Washing of the Feet on Holy Thursday;
- The beginning of the Good Friday Liturgy when the priest enters the sanctuary and prostrates himself on the floor for quite some time;
- The Solemn Intercessions of Good Friday when we pray not only for ourselves in the Church but also for:
 - The unity of Christians;
 - The Jewish people;
 - Those who do not believe in Christ;
 - Those who do not believe in God;
 - Those in public office;
 - Those in tribulation.

2024 Convention

by William Vaughan

Our chapter board has been in conversation with Matthew Burt (our Regional Councilor) and the national Committee for Conventions about the possibility of San Francisco hosting the 2024 AGO National Convention. As many of you know, the last SF National Convention was in 1984, and is still regarded by many who attended as one of the best. This would be the fortieth anniversary of that occasion, and an opportunity for our national members to discover the many excellent new instruments that have been constructed in the Bay Area since that time.

The Committee for Conventions is currently working hard to streamline the process for hosting National Conventions. In particular, cumbersome responsibilities such as hotel negotiations, transportation management, registration, development of mobile apps, and advertising, are all being centralized at National HQ, hopefully allowing local chapter committees to focus primarily on programming as the largest part of their responsibilities — planning the performances, new music commissions, worship services, and workshops. These are things that we as organists know how to do well and enjoy doing.

Nevertheless, hosting a successful National Convention would require a substantial commitment from volunteers — both within our chapter and in our neighboring chapters — in the years leading up to the Convention, and during the event itself. When we were considering hosting the 2011 Regional Convention, we invited comments and suggestions from Chapter members, and we would like to do the same again now. Please express any feedback you may have to me by email at billyv32@gmail.com by April 30. Thank you! 

San Francisco Chapter of the American Guild of Organists 2016–2017 Program Year

Friday, April 21

Christ Church, Portola Valley

7:00 p.m. Greg Zelek Recital

Monday, May 22

Congregation Sherith Israel, San Francisco

6:00 p.m. Reception

6:30 p.m. Catered Dinner and Annual Meeting

8:00 p.m. A Program for Organ and Cello

Jonathan Dimmock, organ and Angela Lee, cello

► Dean's Column, page 5

Review: March SF/AGO Program

by William Vaughan

A lcee Chriss played a most brilliant concert at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church in Berkeley. His playing was so very musical and flawless! Before the concert, the choir of St Mark's led us in Evensong, and after the concert, we feasted on some tasty delights. George said it would be a "Festive Reception," and it lived up to those words. There were more parishioners from St Mark's in attendance than AGO members. How can we get more members to come to our monthly events? Please let me know. 



New Rates

from Pat During

The AGO National Council has approved a new membership dues structure and schedule that will take effect this year. A discount of \$8 is available to all members who elect to receive electronic delivery of TAO rather than a printed copy.

The membership renewal process is about to begin. AGO will email (or "snail" mail if you have requested it) renewal notices to each member approximately 3 months prior to your membership expiration date. If necessary, they will send a 2nd, 3rd, and even a final 4th renewal notice. Renewal procedures are thoroughly described in the TAO (March) and on the AGOHQ website. For local assistance, please feel free to contact SFAGO Membership Chair, Pat During (ps7drng@aol.com or 510-357-2846).

Regular:	\$105
Special:	\$80
Young Organist:	\$50
Regular Dual:	\$41
Special Dual:	\$33
Young Organist Dual:	\$18
Chapter Friend	\$26

Next SFAGO Board Meeting

Monday, April 3 at 7:30 pm
St Mary's Cathedral, San Francisco
All are invited

Review: Grace Concert

from William Vaughan

On Sunday, March 5, Ronald Ebrecht played Organ works of Maurice Duruflé (1902–1986) the Last Impressionist, in Ebrecht restored versions. I mention this concert because the SF/AGO Special Projects Committee gave Ronald a grant to work on these restorations.

Steve Repasky gathered a schola to chant the verses in the *Prélude, Adagio et choral varié sur le thème du Veni Creator*, Opus 4




Ronald Ebrecht at the organ at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut



Pictured are Forrest Nolan, Eric Choate, Kevin Lopez, Steve Repasky, Jason Jia, Rob Bell, and William Vaughan.

Chapter Competition

from William Vaughan

Please join us on Sunday, April 9 for our chapter competition at St Luke's Episcopal Church at Van Ness and Clay. We have two competitors. There will be hymns to sing as part of the competition. It all begins at 4p.m. Please come be a part of the audience in support of our young organists. 

National News

Seattle POE-Advanced

The Seattle Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is excited to be hosting a Pipe Organ Encounter-Advanced from July 23-28 on the beautiful campus of Seattle Pacific University in Seattle, Washington. The POE-Advanced differs from a regular POE, as prospective students must submit a recording with their application. As a former POE attendee myself, this POEA is great place to meet people your age with the same interest -- the organ -- but also to meet people from different backgrounds, and ones who might approach the organ differently from you.

Our discount registration deadline is Saturday, April 1, 2017. All applications must be received by Monday May 1, 2017 to be considered for the POE-Advanced in Seattle. If you are in need of a scholarship to attend a POE, please apply soon, as the deadline for scholarships is Saturday, April 15, 2017.

We are excited to feature a fantastic line-up of faculty members, including: Norma Aamodt-Nelson, Joseph Adam, Barbara Baird, Douglas Cleveland, Renée Anne Louprette, Dana Robinson, Paul Tegels, and Carole Terry, along with associate faculty member Michael Kleinschmidt.

The instruments that are going to be featured during the Seattle POEA feature a wide range of both new and historically-important instruments in Seattle and Tacoma, including organs built by Flentrop, Pasi, Rosales, Hutchings-Votey, Noack, Fisk, Fritts, Brombaugh. We have recently added a visit to a historic Wurlitzer here in Seattle as part of the POEA program.

The week will include practice time on various instruments throughout Seattle. Classes will be offered on topics such as physiology of keyboard playing, improvisation, service playing, pedal technique, and theatre organ. Various faculty members will teach two masterclasses: one will focus on German Baroque music, while the other will center on music from the French Romantic repertoire. Finally, the week will include performances by many of the faculty members, along with two closing POEA student recitals.

Registration for the Seattle POEA is found online only at <https://www.agohq.org/education/poe/poe-advanced/>. I encourage you to register early, prior to the "early bird" deadline of April 1, 2017. The brochure for the Seattle POEA can be found at <http://agoseattle.com/LinkedDocs/POEABrochure.pdf>. For more information in general, please visit the Seattle POEA website at <http://agoseattle.com/poea2017.html>.

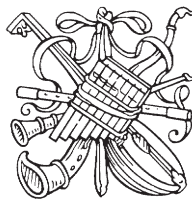
If you should have any questions about the Seattle POEA, please direct emails to Wyatt Smith at smithwd2009@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Wyatt Smith
Director, Seattle POEA
smithwd2009@gmail.com
(605) 430-3120 ✉

Videos for New Organists

The Committee on Continuing Professional Education has completed a series of 30 online videos. LESSONS FOR THE NEW ORGANIST are now available on the AGO YouTube channel. These virtual organ lessons are designed for those who have an interest in transitioning from piano to organ, as well as for those who might not have access to private instruction because of their geographic location or financial circumstances. ✉



New Membership Benefits

Earlier this week the Committee on Career Development and Support met in Indiana with several other national Guild leaders to identify new resources that the AGO could provide for the benefit of all members. The participants agreed to create a telephone hotline and dedicated email address that members can use to request assistance with questions relating to their employment and careers. In addition, they began drafting two new documents. One is an updated worksheet to help members and their employers calculate the number of hours required to handle the myriad responsibilities of an organist in a religious institution. The second document describes recommended procedures for employing church musicians. It will include principles for compensation and list specific components of equitable compensation packages for full-time and part-time church musicians. Updates on these initiatives will be provided to all members in the weeks ahead. ✉

Classified Ads

Collected by David Howitt

This information is provided as a service to SFAGO members and the employing institutions. Inclusion of information in this column does not imply endorsement by the SFAGO. Send **Job Referrals** items, **Substitutes Available** notices, and **For Sale** items to: dhowitt@sjbalameda.org. Deadline for the **May** issue is **April 10**. Online listings available at: www.sfago.org/jobs/

FOR SALE

Music library for sale:

I am writing in the hope that you can spread the word to help me get a church pipe organ music library into the hands of someone who can use it. My mother was a church organist, AGO member and music teacher for some 70+ years but is now in her 90's, severely disabled and can no longer play.

Her music library is here and is of no use to her anymore. There must be at least two hundred pounds of music going back over 100 years to more recent times. It would fill a large car trunk. It would be sad if I had to simply throw it all away and I would be happy to give it to

anyone who could make use of it in their organist duties. The organist who took over her position at the church has not expressed interest in it as he selects from an apparently small list of simple pieces, over and over again, without variation.

If you know of anyone who might be interested in this library, or could mention it to anyone who might, we would be grateful. We are in Monterey.

Geoff Fors
Monterey, CA
(831) 649-3103
Geoff@wb6nvh.com

Dean's Column, from page 2

How are we inclusive in our music ministry? How are we inclusive in our relationships with other organists in the Guild, or do we exclude fellow colleagues because of their education or instrument they play?

Hymn text writer Brian Wren sums it up so well:

"Christ is risen! Shout hosanna!

Celebrate this day of days!

Christ is risen! Hush in wonder:

All creation is amazed.


In the desert all-surrounding,

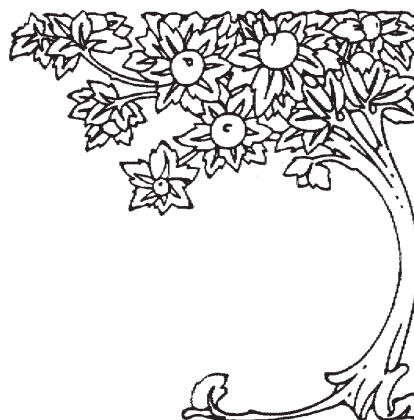
See, a spreading tree has grown.

Healing leaves of grace abounding

Bring a taste of love unknown."

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Alleluia! 



SFAGO Newsletter is published monthly, August thru May, with a Summer issue for June/July, by the San Francisco Chapter, American Guild of Organists. Opinions stated herein are those of the individual contributors and do not necessarily reflect official policies of this Chapter. The deadline for receipt of all newsletter items is the 10th of the month preceding publication.

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Obituary Listings: To be announced

Newsletter Articles: George Morten, 209.565.6660, sfago-editor@att.net

2016-2017
Last updated 11/14/2016

Bay Area Concert Calendar

Collected by Brian Swager

2017 April

Events, dates, times, and locations are subject to change without notice. Compiled from flyers, press releases, and listings submitted by members and organizations. SFAGO is not responsible for errors, although every effort is made to be accurate. Submission deadline for the **May** issue is **April 10**. Send event listings to sfagocal@gmail.com. For the most up-to-date calendar, visit www.sfago.org, click on **SFAGO Bay Area Concert Calendar**.

Recurring Venues

Churches and institutions offering programs on a regular basis have been assigned abbreviations so as to save space in our listings. Abbreviations are listed below with the full name of the venue. When no city is stated, San Francisco is assumed.

CPLH: Calif. Palace of the Legion of Honor

CSMA: Cath. of St Mary of the Assumption

GC: Grace Cathedral

SME-B: St Mark's Episcopal Ch, Berkeley

SPE-BU: St Paul's Episcopal Ch, Burlingame

April

1 Saturday

4pm. David Hegarty, Organ. CPLH

2 Sunday

4pm. John Karl Hirten, Organ. \$10 suggested donation. GC

4pm. Christoph Tietze, Organ. 25th Anniversary Recital. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

4pm. David Hegarty, Organ. CPLH

8 Saturday

4pm. Jonathan Dimmock, Organ. CPLH

9 Sunday

4pm. Cyril Deaconoff, Organ. Free/donations accepted. Mission Dolores Basilica

4pm. Jonathan Dimmock, Organ. CPLH

4pm. Jisook Park, Piano. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

6:05pm. Robert Huw Morgan, Organ. Preceded by 5:30 Evensong. Reception follows. SME-B

15 Saturday

4pm. Jin Lim, Organ. CPLH

16 Sunday

4pm. Sandra Simich, Piano. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

4pm. Jin Lim, Organ. CPLH

21 Friday

7pm. **SFAGO EVENT** Greg Zelek, Organ. Christ Church, Portola Valley

22 Saturday

4pm. John Walko, Organ. CPLH

23 Sunday

4pm. Susan Henderson Fisher, Organ. Ellis music fund benefit. \$10–20 suggested donation. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, Kensington

4pm. John Walko, Organ. CPLH

5pm. Temple Hill Choir & Orchestra. "Lamb of God" by Rob Gardner. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

29 Saturday

4pm. Jerome Lenk, Organ. CPLH

30 Sunday

4pm. Damin Spritzer, Organ. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

4pm. Jerome Lenk, Organ. CPLH

Looking Ahead

May

6 Saturday

4pm. David Hegarty, Organ. CPLH

7 Sunday

4pm. Benjamin Bachmann, Organ. \$10 suggested donation. GC

4pm. Hans-Uwe Hielscher, Organ. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

4pm. David Hegarty, Organ. CPLH

13 Saturday

4pm. Frédéric Blanc, Organ. CPLH

14 Sunday

4pm. Suzanna Barley, Violin; Jeanette Wilkin Tietze, Piano. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

4pm. Frédéric Blanc, Organ. CPLH

4pm. Christian Elliott, Organ. Free/donations accepted. Mission Dolores Basilica

6:05pm. Matthew Steynor, Organ. Preceded by 5:30 Evensong. Reception follows. SME-B

20 Saturday

4pm. Jonathan Dimmock, Organ. CPLH

5pm. Choral Evensong. Susan Jane Matthews, Director. Music of Rheinberger, Sumsion, Parry, Walton. Freewill donation. Ticketed dinner follows. SPE-BU

21 Sunday

3:30pm. Neave Piano Trio. \$15. RP-SR

4pm. Jonathan Dimmock, Organ. CPLH

4pm. Cathedral Choir School Concert. St Brigid School Honor Choir, Archdiocesan Children's choir. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

22 Monday

6pm. **SFAGO EVENT.** Annual Meeting, Dinner, and Concert: Jonathan Dimmock, Organ; Angela Lee, Cello. Congregation Sherith Israel

27 Saturday

4pm. John Walko, Organ. CPLH

28 Sunday

4pm. Philip Smith, Organ. Free parking. Freewill offering. CSMA

4pm. John Walko, Organ. CPLH

JUNE

3 Saturday

4pm. David Hegarty, Organ. CPLH

4 Sunday

3pm. Wayne Marshall, Organ. Tickets: sfsymphony.org Davies Symphony Hall

4pm. David Hegarty, Organ. CPLH

6:05pm. Jonathan Dimmock, Organ. Preceded by 5:30 Evensong. Reception follows. SME-B

10 Saturday

4pm. Jane Cain, Organ. CPLH

11 Sunday

4pm. Jane Cain, Organ. CPLH

17 Saturday

4pm. John Walko, Organ. CPLH

18 Sunday

4pm. John Walko, Organ. CPLH

24 Saturday

4pm. Jonathan Dimmock, Organ. CPLH

25 Sunday

4pm. Jonathan Dimmock, Organ. CPLH

