



FOOTNOTES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
ST. PETERSBURG CHAPTER OF
THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

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From the Dean

Dear St. Petersburg Chapter AGO Members,

I hope this newsletter finds all of you enjoying a well-deserved rest after your successful holiday programs. Personally, I often find it difficult to enjoy the holidays. While the rest of our church and school staff are taking time away from religious education classes and youth group meetings and so on, the choirs are still running at full steam. It's an occupational hazard, of course, but much of the stress is offset by the wonderful music that we get to perform this time of year. And of course, it's always particularly rewarding when big crowds turn out for a program. All the effort then seems worthwhile. I was reminded of this when I attended the *Messiah* performance that was hosted by St. Peter's Cathedral with Dwight Thomas conducting. The cathedral was filled with audience members of all ages and walks of life. It was one of those rare moments when I got to sit back and enjoy great music while letting someone else do all the work!

Which brings me to a suggestion that I'd like to invite all of us to consider: namely, attending the events that are put on by our colleagues and by our AGO Chapter, not just to support those events, but also to edify and enrich ourselves. If you find yourself dragging along and doing the same old thing, year after year, it's very beneficial to see and hear what others are doing. It can inspire you to try something different or more ambitious than you might otherwise do. We have some wonderfully talented local musicians, and the AGO chapters all around the bay host a lot of excellent programs. For this new year, please resolve to attend and participate and contribute to the musical and artistic life of our community.

One opportunity for such involvement is the Regional Convention being held in Sarasota this month. Presenters from around the region and around the world will be in our backyard, so if you've ever wanted to attend an AGO convention, here's your opportunity to do so without having to get on a plane or drive half-way across the country!

Also, in February, we will have our Choir Festival at First Presbyterian Church. Our Sub-Dean, Richard Dale, used to host similar choir festivals at his previous church and they were always a lot of fun for all involved. In fact, we decided to try this program precisely because we kept receiving requests for it from the choir members who participated in the events from several years ago. It's not too late to join us! Just call or e-mail Richard Dale and let him

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Next Executive Board Meeting

**Jan. 12, 2010
6:30 p.m.**

**Holy Family
Conference Room**

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From the Dean *(Continued from page 1)*

know you're coming. Your choir can sing any selection you choose, and then at the end, all of the choirs will combine to sing three selections directed by Tom Lippert, the Music Director at First Presbyterian Church. Jack Rain will be available as our accompanist on the great Reuter organ, or the church's Steinway concert grand piano will be available if you'd prefer to use it. The acoustics in First Presbyterian make singing a joy, and Jack has a whole new Solo division of digital stops on the organ, plus some serious 32's that have been added to the Pedal. Please invite your choirs to participate and, even if your choir cannot attend, plan to be there yourself to hear this choral extravaganza!

One thing I need to bring to your attention: the published schedule of our events says that Robert Hebble will be here in April. Since that information was published, however, Mr. Hebble has had to cancel his appearance here and we are in the process of putting together a different program. Details will be forthcoming as they are available, but for now, just know that the event with Mr. Hebble will, unfortunately, not be taking place.

Happy New Year!

Robert Todd, Dean

Choral Festival

Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of the St. Petersburg Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, I would like to invite you and your choir to attend a Choral Festival to be held at First Presbyterian Church, 701 Beach Drive, in St. Petersburg. The event will take place on Sunday, February 21, 2010, at 4:00 pm. The rehearsal will be that day at 2:00. Conductor of the massed choir will be Tom Lippert of First Presbyterian.

The format will be simple. We invite your choir to sing one selection by themselves. This can be ANY selection your choir enjoys.

We will then join forces and sing the following pieces together:

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross	Gilbert Martin
Ave Verum Corpus	W. A. Mozart
My Eternal King	Jane Marshall

These are selections that most of you already know and would be usable during the church year. The program will end with the hymn, "When in Our Music God Is Glorified."

If you need accompaniment, a grand piano will be available; or if you have an organ accompaniment, Jack Rain, organist at First Presbyterian will be available.

This is a wonderful opportunity for you and your choir to sing with 150 other singers in the magnificent acoustics of First Presbyterian Church. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me. Please let me know that you are coming as soon as possible.

Richard Dale, Sub Dean

Home 727-397-9990

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Chapter Coming Events

January 17-20 — **Region IV Mid-Winter Conclave**, Sarasota. See <http://psalmsandpalms.org/> for more details and registration form.

January 21, 2 p.m. — **Hector Olivera Organ Concert**. First Presbyterian Church, Naples, Florida. A lecture by Francesco Ruffatti will begin at 10:30 a.m. This is a FREE concert, and carpooling will be available for interested persons.

February 21, 4:00 p.m. — Choir festival. First Presbyterian Church, St. Petersburg. Host: Jack Rain. Rehearsal at 2:00. Request that participants wear choir robes if possible. Each choir performs an anthem of its choice. This will be followed by 3 anthems sung by all the choirs together.

March — Happy Easter.

April — To be announced

May 11, 6:30 p.m. — Installation of officers and Stammtisch dinner. St. Thomas Episcopal Church. Laura Ellis will be there. Stammtisch dinner in the parish hall, provided by Cathy Blanchard and Louise Yardumian.

St. Petersburg College Organ Concerts

Heissler Events

The Music Center of St. Petersburg College

February 12, 7:30 p.m. — **Thomas Dressler**, noted historical performance specialist for both 18th- and 19th-century music, \$5.00 donation.

Chapter Members' Coming Events

St. Peter's Episcopal Cathedral

140 4th St. N., St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Dwight Thomas, Director of Music Ministries

Choral Evensong

Monthly through May
last Sunday of each month at 6:00 p.m.

Durufié *Requiem*

with chamber orchestra
March 14 at 3:00 p.m.

Faith Lutheran Church

7750 Beneva Road, Sarasota, Florida 34238

January 31, 4 p.m. — **James David Christie Recital**, official organist of The Boston Symphony in a benefit concert for Faith's Music Fund

February 25, 7:30 p.m. — The United States Army Chorus Concert

March 28, 4 p.m. — Palm Sunday Cantata, "The Seven Last Words Of Christ" (Th. Dubois)
United States Army Chorus Soloists, with orchestra, Dr. Joseph Holt, conductor, Roger W. Roszell, organist

Please call the Music Office of the church now for ticket information and reservations:
941-924-4664, ext. 31

SUBSTITUTES

Inclusion in this list of substitutes does not constitute an endorsement of skills by the AGO. The St. Petersburg Chapter encourages interviews with prospective substitutes.

Dennis Crowley Cell: 941-350-0746
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Lynn Vera 727-644-1712
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Rick Waterman Cell: 727-481-8128
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POSITIONS AVAILABLE

(For more information on these positions, please visit the Chapter [website](#).)

East Lake United Methodist Church, Palm Harbor, Florida. Organist/accompanist, position available November 1, 2009. For more information, contact Charles Cheeseman at cheesemanc@pcsb.org or 727-644-8464.

Oakhurst United Methodist Church, Seminole, Florida. Organist/Accompanist. Two services, 3-manual Rodgers organ, Boston grand piano. Submit résumés to davidwtomlinson@aol.com (staff parish chairman).

A Pittsburgh composer, Robert G. Farrell, is offering two *free* organ preludes to anyone who visits his site at www.sibeliusmusic.com. Many composers list their music here, so you will have to "search by composer." The site allows you to view and hear all works listed. Simply click on the preludes that are listed for free. The music will appear for you to print out at *no cost*.. Mr. Farrell is published by CanticaNOVA Music Publishers, and Selah Publishing Company.

SACRED CHORAL MUSIC by Robert G. Farrell can be purchased at www.sibeliusmusic.com PRELUDES for ORGAN can be purchased at: www.sacredsoundworks.blogspot.com

Contact information: Robert G. Farrell, 39 Oakwood Square, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15209, farrell39@comcast.net

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Rick Waterman, Newsletter Editor
Robert Todd, Webmaster

Have info for FootNotes?

If you have information to be included in an upcoming issue of *FootNotes*, please forward it to Rick Waterman (tbhockeyfan@gmail.com), no later than the 1st of the month preceding the desired

AGO Membership Cards

AGO membership ID cards are available for those would would like them. Please contact Charles Sims by e-mail (ccsimsfl@gmail.com) or phone (727-896-8483) to request yours.