



MIXTURES Newsletter

Volume 93, Issue 3, Spring Edition, March 18, 2023

A periodic publication of the Fort Worth Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

©2023 Fort Worth Chapter, American Guild of Organists



FROM DEAN PEGGY

Happy Spring! With that being said, I would like you to ponder all the ways you have served so far this year (the list must be long) and what your motivation and focus as organists and patrons of the arts will be this season. After pondering this on a personal level, I have come up with some thoughts you might consider:

~ Invite a friend or friends to one of our chapter's recitals – we all need to promote our craft and get others excited about it!

~ Give a 30-minute noon recital during the week on a certain theme (liturgical season, hymns, a composer, or composers of a given stylistic period or genre, instruments with organ, voices with organ, etc.) and offer a light lunch following the recital.

~ Offer an after-church demonstration of the organ for interested children, youth, and adults.

~ Challenge yourself to prepare for an AGO certification exam. If you have already passed the SPC exam, consider trying the next level of certification!

~ Arrange a lunch or coffee with a small group of organists and talk about anything under the sun. The more you get together, the more you will support and encourage each other!

~ Invite a couple of organists to your church and share some new repertoire with each other.

~ Think outside the box about your Sunday prelude. Collaborate with an instrumentalist.

~ Invite clergy, music directors or anyone who is an organ aficionado to join the AGO, and offer to bring them to an AGO event.

~ Give something to the scholarship fund and to the program fund (a little goes a long way).

~ Share with your pastor that you would like to take some organ lessons to help freshen up your skills and ask if the church could budget for some lessons (continuing ed).

~ Volunteer to serve on a committee for the SW Regional Convention our chapter will host in 2025. We need everyone who can roll up their sleeves to help with this worthwhile project!

~ Take a Sunday off to hear a colleague at another church or listen to the live-stream recordings of your colleagues.

Have a wonderful Spring and try something new to freshen up your organist skills, connect with other organists and musicians, and support this organization.

“We can do together what none of us can do alone.”

AGO Colleagues and Friends:

Don't miss our next chapter program on **Monday, April 17 at Broadway Baptist Church at 7:30 pm.** The Pummill girls are presenting, which should be interesting and fun! **Come to the 6:15 pm dinner and chapter meeting,** followed by the program. More information about dinner reservations to follow soon!



Amy Stewart, Janet Pummill, and Sallie Pollack, presenters

Aspire.... Respire.... Inspire

The organ, when alive with sound and energy, can ignite the Holy Spirit within us and around us. As organists, we aspire to serve as musical vessels, creating a spiritual connection for our congregations.

This is a big ask!

This is a most worthy task!

We will share our individual personal journeys as players of this magnificent instrument.

We will share ideas about self-care which allow us to continue in healthy states of mind, body, and spirit.

SAVE THE DATE!

Peter Richard Conte, Organ Recital

Friday, May 5, at 7:00 pm

First United Methodist Church – Fort Worth | 800 West 5th Street | Fort Worth | 76102

A reception will follow the recital in Wesley Hall.

“Superb artistry in the lost art of organ transcription...To play that many lines with only ten fingers is technical wizardry, but to do it with feeling and magic is indeed rare. The combination is exciting and captivating.”

(American Record Guide)

Peter Richard Conte is an organist whose nearly unparalleled technical facility, brilliant ear for lush tonal color, and innovative programming style have made him one of the most sought-after “orchestral” organists of this era. In 1989, he was appointed Wanamaker Grand Court



Organist at what is now the Macy’s Department Store in downtown Philadelphia—the fourth person to hold that title since the organ first played in 1911. He performs a majority of twice daily recitals, six days each week, on the largest (29,000 pipes) fully functioning musical instrument in the world. Mr. Conte is also Principal Organist of Longwood Gardens, Kennett Square, PA, Organist/Choirmaster of St. Clement’s Church, Philadelphia, a frequent collaborator and soloist with the Philadelphia Orchestra, and guest artist for the Philly Pops annual Christmas Spectacular.

Mr. Conte is highly regarded as a skillful performer and arranger of organ transcriptions. He has been regularly featured on National Public Radio, and on ABC television’s “Good Morning America”, and “World News Tonight.” For 13 years he was heard on “The Wanamaker Organ Hour” radio show, broadcast via the internet at WRTI.ORG. He has been a featured artist at several American Guild of Organists’ national and regional conventions and has performed as soloist with orchestras around the country.

Peter Richard Conte has served as Adjunct Assistant Professor of Organ at Westminster Choir College, Princeton, NJ, where he taught Organ Improvisation. He is the 2008 recipient of the Distinguished Alumni Award from the Indiana University School of Music, Bloomington. In 2013, the Philadelphia Music Alliance honored him with a bronze plaque on the Avenue of the Arts’ Walk of Fame. His numerous recordings appear on the Gothic, JAV, Pro Organo, Dorian, Raven, and DTR labels. His most recent solo CD, *Virgil Fox Remembered*, was released in May 2016 on the Raven label.

Peter Richard Conte is represented exclusively in North America by Phillip Truckenbrod Concert Artists, LLC.



Celebrating over 50 Years of Dedicated Service to the Fine Art of the Pipe Organ

AGO/QUIMBY REGIONAL COMPETITION FOR YOUNG ORGANISTS

Peggy Graff, RCYO Chapter-Level Coordinator

The FW-AGO Chapter will host the RCYO chapter-level competition on Saturday, April 15, at 1:30 pm. First United Methodist Church – Hurst has graciously extended their generosity to host the competition, and we are very excited for the two young organists who will compete. Each competitor will play three repertoire pieces - a Bach prelude and fugue, a work composed after 1750, a contemporary piece of the competitor's choice, and lead a hymn for audience singing, totaling 40 minutes. We need an excellent attendance from the FW and Dallas AGO Chapters to serve as the singing audience for the hymn; thus, I encourage you to mark your calendar and plan to actively support the two young organists competing from our region.

The first-place winner will receive a cash prize of \$500, will receive a free membership in the AGO for one year, and will be expected to compete at the SW Regional Convention in Tulsa, OK on June 27-30. The cash prize for the second-place winner is \$250. If you are motivated to underwrite one or both cash prizes, please contact Peggy Graff at pgraff@myfumc.org by April 5.

AGO/QUIMBY RCYO COMPETITION

APRIL 15, 2023

1:30 PM

FUMC HURST | 521 WEST PIPELINE ROAD | HURST, TX | 76053



**Fort Worth Chapter to host
2025 Southwest Regional AGO Convention
June 30–July 3, 2025**

Greetings colleagues!

I am sure by now you have heard that the Fort Worth chapter will host the Southwest Regional AGO Convention in 2025. This is very exciting, and I am grateful to have been asked by the Executive Committee to serve as the Convention Coordinator!

Our first step will be to form a Steering Committee. That's where you come in! Earlier this month, you received a call to action from our Dean, Peggy Graff, listing the committee chair positions available. If you think that you would make a great fit for one of the positions, please send me an email to let me know. If you think that maybe a chair position is not a good fit for you, but know you would do well on a sub-committee (i.e. Workshops Committee, Recitals Committee, etc.), please let me know that as well. We would like to have all of the committee chair positions filled by Easter.

Thank you all in advance for your prompt response to this announcement. I look forward to planning this convention with you all!

Jordan Smith

jordan@ststephenpresbyterian.com

2025 Southwest Regional Convention Coordinator

American Guild of Organists

Fort Worth, Texas | June 30–July 3, 2025

First Donation Received for 2025 SW Regional Convention

Our treasurer, Elizabeth Kutz, CAGO, received a donation check of \$2,000 from Charles McLure in memory of his mother, Maxine, who enjoyed playing her Hammond C2 and the piano for events throughout the city of Fort Worth for many years. She was passionate about the organ and its music.

Below is a memorial statement Charles McLure requested to be included to recognize the donation. At the Executive Committee meeting on January 19, the committee voted to use the donation for guest organists being featured on recitals for the Southwest AGO Regional Convention in 2025 hosted by our chapter.

In loving memory of Maxine Hilliard McLure (1919-2001)



Gifted organist, dedicated pianist, lifelong Fort Worth resident, and
loving mother with patience and tolerance beyond measure.

Love you, miss you! —Charles

(Submitted by Ed Ackermann, CAGO, Deputy Treasurer)

MEMBERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

As of **March 20, 2023**, we have **147 paid members** in our chapter (31 of these members have dual membership). Breakdown by membership category as follows:

- 63 Regular Members (18 dual membership)**
- 63 Special Members (9 dual membership)**
- 17 Young Organists (4 dual membership)**
- 4 Chapter Friends**

(Reported by Dana Chavarria, CAGO, Membership Committee Chair/ONCARD Database Administrator)

WELCOME NEW MEMBER, DANNY BROOKE!

We are thrilled to welcome new member, Danny Brooke who maintains dual membership with the Austin Chapter.



Danny Brooke is the associate organist at Emmaus Catholic Church in the Lake Travis area of Austin. He is also the owner of VOCE Instruments, LLC (voceinstruments.com), who has completed a few projects in the DFW area, including a new custom VPO for St. John Paul II University Parish in Denton. He actively participates in his local AGO chapter in Austin and holds office as Membership Committee Chair.

(Reported by Dana Chavarria, CAGO, Membership Committee Chair/ONCARD Database Administrator)

HAUPTWERK NEWS



*VOCE Instruments, LLC, installation
at St. John Paul II University Parish,
Denton, TX*

Electronic organs operating with the Hauptwerk platform in churches and residences in the greater Dallas-Fort Worth area continue to increase in numbers. For those interested in having a custom organ built, upgrading existing Hauptwerk installations, or seeking maintenance assistance please welcome Austin, TX based **VOCE Instruments, LLC** (pronounced Vo chea'). The team is led by Danny Brooke (a staff member of the Austin AGO Chapter and a dual member of the Fort Worth Chapter) who is frequently in the greater DFW area. Contact information:

VOCE Instruments

Achieving Excellence in Sound and Function

VocelInstruments.com

Facebook/VocelInstruments

(Submitted by Ed Ackermann, CAGO, Deputy Treasurer)

FINANCIAL REPORT

(As of February 28, 2023)

ASSETS

Bank checking account balance	37,681.86
Bank savings account balance	47,731.87
Contract downpayment refundable upon request	400.00
TOTAL ASSETS	85,813.73

LIABILITIES

Balance payable on two scholarship awards	800.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	800.00

NET WORTH

85,013.73

(Submitted by Elizabeth Kutz, CAGO, Treasurer)



Thank you, Donors!

With grateful thanks to our donors who support the mission of the Fort Worth Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. *(This list is for donations received for the calendar year 2023 as of March 15, 2023.)*

2025 SW REGIONAL CONVENTION DONORS

Charles McLure in memory of **Maxine Hilliard McLure** (1919 - 2001): \$2000

WILLIAM E. HAYES YOUNG ORGANIST SCHOLARSHIP DONORS

Distinguished Benefactors (\$1000+):

Benefactors (\$500-999):

Guarantors (\$250-499):

Patrons (\$150-249):

Sponsors (\$100-149):

Underwriters (\$50-99):

Subscribers (Under \$50):

DONATIONS FOR CONCERT PROGRAMS

Distinguished Benefactors (\$1000+):

Benefactors (\$500-999):

Guarantors (\$250-499):

Patrons (\$150-249):

Sponsors (\$100-149):

Underwriters (\$50-99):.....Danny Brooke

Subscribers (Under \$50):

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Elected Positions as of July 1, 2022)

OFFICERS (2 year terms expire 30 Jun 2024)

Dean	Peggy Graff, AAGO	pgraff@myfumc.org
Sub-Dean	Devon Howard, DMA	devonhoward@mac.com
Secretary	Ken Surley, CAGO	kensurley@aol.com
Treasurer	Elizabeth Kutz, CAGO	flutepipe@gmail.com

DIRECTORS (MEMBERS AT LARGE) Divided into 2 classes on staggered 4 year terms

CLASS A (4 year terms expire 30 Jun 2024)

Director Position	Capt. Dana Chavarria, CAGO	romans10dmr@gmail.com
Director Position	Echo Wilson, SPC	echowilson1234@yahoo.com
Director Position	Dennis Opferman	dcopferman@yahoo.com

CLASS B (4 year term expires 30 Jun 2026)

Director Position	Fang-Lan Hsieh, SPC, PhD	fhsieh2010@gmail.com
Director Position	Aaron Walton, SPC	theaaron.walton@gmail.com
Director Position	Andy Rose	arose@myfumc.org

STANDING SUBCOMMITTEES - Appointed Committee Chairs and Appointed Members

Chaplain	The Rev. Raymond McDaniel	raymcd07@yahoo.com
Communications	Echo Wilson, SPC	echowilson1234@yahoo.com
Editor	Ken Surley, CAGO	kensurley@aol.com
Email Administrator	Echo Wilson, SPC	echowilson1234@yahoo.com
Social Media Coordinator	Alissa Brewer, SPC	alissad74@yahoo.com
Webmaster	Andy Rose	arose@myfumc.org
Courtesy	Glenda Robinson, CAGO	glendaprobinsont@sbcglobal.net
Finance	Elizabeth Kutz, CAGO	flutepipe@gmail.com
Deputy Treasurer	Ed Ackermann, CAGO	AckermannStudio@sbcglobal.net
Historian	Emmet Smith	j.o.smith@tcu.edu
Membership	Dana Chavarria, CAGO	romans10dmr@gmail.com
ONCARD Chapter Administrator	Dana Chavarria, CAGO	romans10dmr@gmail.com
Placement & Substitutes	Dr. Beverly Howard	hymneditor@aol.com
Professional Development	Peggy Graff, AAGO	pgraff@myfumc.org
Certification Exam Coordinator	Peggy Graff, AAGO	pgraff@myfumc.org
Scholarship Administrator	Joshua Lang	joshua.lang@tcu.edu
Program	Devon Howard, DMA	devonhoward@mac.com

CONTACT INFORMATION

Chapter Website:	www.fortworthago.org
Chapter Facebook page:	Fort Worth Chapter, American Guild of Organists
AGO HQ website:	www.ago.org
Southwest AGO Region Facebook page:	AGO Southwest Region

Update your email contact list to make sure emails from the following are sent to your inbox and not your junk mail box:

AGO HQ:	renewals@agohq.org
Fort Worth Chapter:	echowilson1234@yahoo.com