



MIXTURES Newsletter

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAPTER DEAN



Dear Colleagues,

We are well into our Lenten journey in which this season of penitence and reflection yields to rebirth and renewal. As organists, our journey is well under way as we prepare meaningful Holy Week and victorious Easter music.

This month, chapter members from Fort Worth and Dallas journeyed to several local churches for an organ crawl. We enjoyed a good day full of camaraderie, hospitality, and the history of local instruments. Thank you, **Peggy Graff**, for organizing this event.

On May 6, we will install our new officers at a brief chapter meeting immediately preceding **Peter Conte's** recital. You will soon receive voting instructions via email. I am especially grateful to **Jerry Aultman, Janet Pummill, and Arlene Small** for serving on our Nominating Committee. They have brought forward an excellent slate of officers to guide us into our chapter's future ventures.

I know you will enjoy reading the columns in this issue of *Mixtures* which highlight chapter news, activities, and opportunities for growth.

As we travel on our Lenten journeys this year in the uncertain wake of world events, we realize that as church musicians, we assist our congregations to travel their journeys as well. May we be faithful in fulfilling our awesome duty.

Beverly Howard, D.M.A.
Dean



From Peggy Graff, Sub-Dean and Program Director

Thank you for your continued support of our chapter and its events. Please consider attending the following event which will conclude the 2021-2022 season!

The 2021-2022 FW-AGO season is winding down, but there is one more exciting event planned! On Friday, May 6 at 7:00 pm, we will hear organist Peter Conte perform a recital on the 150-rank, 5-manual Dan Garland pipe organ at First United Methodist Church – Fort Worth. Weather-permitting, there will be a reception at no cost to all who attend held in the beautiful garden area outside the sanctuary. The renovation of Wesley Hall will not be completed by this date, so we hope for a beautiful evening in the Garden! Hope to see you May 6!

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.

NOTE-WORTHY NEWS! PEGGY GRAFF, CERTIFICATION EXAM COORDINATOR

We are pleased to announce that four chapter members have passed a section of the Colleague (CAGO) exam taken last November! Congratulations to **Alissa Brewer**, who passed Section 1 of the CAGO exam; and to **Dana Chavarria**, who passed Section 2 of the CAGO exam. These two candidates will continue on to take the other section of the CAGO exam in November of this year. Congratulations to **Alan Kerr** and **Ken Surley** who completed their CAGO certification this past November. Kudos to you all – we are proud of your accomplishments and are exceedingly delighted for you!

Certification has been the backbone of the AGO since its inception. Studying for and taking the guild exams is a way to challenge yourself, improve your organist skills, and it can also perhaps remind you that you know more than you think you know!

Please contact FWAGO Certification Coordinator, Peggy Graff, if you wish to study for a level of AGO certification this coming season (2022-2023) including the AAGO, ChM, and FAGO exams. Email address: pgraff@myfumc.org.

Workshops will be held for Service Playing Certification (SPC) and Colleague (CAGO) exams on the following dates this coming summer:

SPC: Saturday, August 20 | 9:00 am – 12:00 pm | 1:00 – 4:00 pm (attend both morning and afternoon sessions)

CAGO: Saturday, August 27 | **SECTION 1:** 10:00 am – 12:00 pm | **SECTION 2:** 1:00 – 4:00 pm (attend the workshop for whichever section you plan to take, or you can attend both sessions)

*Have you been out of college for a while,
or have you been a church organist for a long time and need to brush up on your skills?
The certification process can do this for you.
Yes, it takes extra effort, but the dividends are great!*



CHAPTER ELECTIONS

It is chapter election year again. Elections are governed by the chapter's official *Operating Procedures* which have been approved by the chapter's voting members. The Chapter Secretary is charged with managing the elections.

Executive Committee Election: Every even numbered year our chapter has an election of Executive Committee members. The committee forms the governing board of the chapter. The committee is comprised of a Dean, Sub-Dean, Secretary, Treasurer, and six Directors (members at large representing chapter members). The six Director positions are grouped into two classes with each class serving four-year terms on a rotating basis so not all six positions become vacant at the same time. All of the positions are unsalaried volunteer incumbents.

Terms expiring midnight, June 30, 2022. Elected terms of the current Dean, Sub-Dean, Secretary, Treasurer and three of the six Director positions expire at midnight on June 30, 2022.

Non-elected Chapter Staff Positions: The Executive Committee appoints all other staff positions. Appointments have no term limits, but incumbents serve at the pleasure of the current Executive Committee and may be cancelled at any time. Chairs of the Courtesy, Finance, Membership, Placement & Substitutes, Professional Development, and Program Subcommittees all are appointed staff positions. The Executive Committee also appoints a Chaplain, Historian, Certification Exam Coordinator, and ONCARD Chapter Administrator. Other staff positions are members of those subcommittees. Subcommittee membership appointments currently include Email Administrator, Chapter Photographer, Community Arts Calendar Coordinator, Deputy Treasurer, Editor, Webmaster, Placement & Substitute Administrator, Scholarship Administrator, and Social Media Administrator.

Ad Hoc Nominating Committee: In accordance to our chapter's *Operating Procedures*, by December 31, preceding the election year, the Executive Committee appointed an *ad hoc* Nominating Committee with Jerry Aultman, FAGO, as chair and members Janet Pummill, CAGO, and Arlene Small. The Executive Committee tasked the Nominating Committee to develop a slate of Executive Committee *Officer* nominees for FY23 (July 1, 2022—June 30, 2023) and FY24 (July 1, 2023—June 20, 2024) and a slate of *Director* nominees for FY23, FY24, FY25 and FY26 (July 1, 2022—June 30, 2026) and was asked to report a nomination slate at the February 1, 2022 meeting of the Executive Committee. The reported slate follows.

Nomination Slate: To fill Officer Vacancies:

Dean: **Peggy Graff, CAGO** (Regular Member). She is currently Sub-Dean.

Sub-Dean: **Dr. Devon Howard** (Regular Member). He is currently a Director whose term expires on June 30th.

Secretary: **Ken Surley, CAGO** (Regular Member). He is the current Secretary and is permitted to run for another term.

Treasurer: **Elizabeth Kutz, CAGO** (Special Member). She is the current Treasurer and is permitted to run for another term.

To fill three Director Vacancies:

Andy Rose (Young Organist member). He was appointed to an elected Director's position that was vacated prior to term ending June 30th.

Aaron Walton, SPC (Young Organist member)

Fang-Lan Hseih, SPC (Special Member)

You may add nominees to the slate. Submit by email or postal mail the name of your nominee. Attach the names of five chapter voting members with their signatures to show their endorsement of your nominee. To be accepted, the email or postal mail must bear a send date or postmark not later than April 1, 2022. The ballot going to the voting members will bear the nominees made by the Ad Hoc Nominating Committee and any additional nominees submitted by the foregoing procedure. Send addition nominations to:

Ken Surley, CAGO 2913 Spinner Lane, Grand Prairie, TX 75052

kensurley@aol.com

Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza



Many thanks to event coordinator Past Dean **Rebecca Sawyer** and to the FW AGO chapter volunteers who led an excellent Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza event on Saturday, January 15, at Arborlawn UMC in Fort Worth.

The program began with an introduction to the pipe organ with **Dan Garland** teaching about the pipes and **Jerry Westenkuehler** playing pieces to demonstrate their timbre. Many FW AGO member volunteered to facilitate the sessions including **Alissa Davis**, **Josh Lang**, **Larry McCain**, **Janet Pummill**, **Jordan Smith**, **Amy Stewart**, **Ken Surley**, and **Echo Wilson**. Past Dean **Kyla Rosenberger** provided flyers about the Will Hayes Scholarship Fund and applications for attendees.

Nineteen students and two piano teachers were introduced to pedal technique and given a taste of hymn playing. They were instructed in the difference between playing the organ (wind instrument) and the piano (percussion instrument). They were given a partial tour of the chamber, allotted time for registration assistance on the Garland organ, and given the chance to perform in an informal concert. All participants wore masks, sanitized, and were served pizza in a non-contact way.



Notes of thanks from parents and students have been received as have requests to repeat the event in the future. Kudos to everyone who participated!

*Photos courtesy of Echo Wilson.
Submitted by immediate Past Dean,
Rebecca Sawyer.*



Our Young Organist, Isaac Foreman, at Lincoln Center!

Our Young Organist chapter member, Isaac Foreman, who is studying piano performance at Julliard, performed two pieces by Stefan Wolpe as part of the Juilliard Focus Festival in Lincoln Center on the evening of January 26, 2022.



Welcome Young Organists

We are thrilled to have the following Young Organist Members join us during the Year of the Young Organist:



Caleb Uhl joined our chapter in January. He is a worship leader, minister, conductor, and music educator who has a love to use music for the glory of God and the good of His church. He is a graduate of the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville where he received a Bachelor of Music degree in Music Education (Choral and Vocal Emphasis). Currently, he is a student at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth where he is pursuing a Master of Music degree in Worship Leadership. At SWBTS, he is a graduate assistant for the School of Church Music and Worship, and the director of the seminary's new bell choir, the Southwestern Ringers. He also serves on the worship staff at First Baptist Church of Keller.

His interest in the organ grew while he was in college when he was exposed to his church's 31 rank Casavant pipe organ. From there on he started to play around on the organ and continues to do so both on the organs at Southwestern Seminary and at his church. He plans to study organ next school year at Southwestern with Mrs. Sueda Luttrell. By God's will, Caleb hopes to continue to use the organ in worship as a minister of music and as a conductor in the future.

When not playing on the organ, you can find Caleb enjoying time with his family and friends, fishing, hunting, hammocking, and playing with his corgi, Ellie Mae.

Ying (Astrid) Miao joined our chapter in February. She is currently working on a Master of Music in piano performance and pedagogy at Southwestern Theological Baptist Seminary where she also studies organ.

TREASURER'S REPORT

For first half of FY22 (July 1 – December 31, 2022):

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| Actual Revenue | \$ 8,487.20 |
| Actual Expenses | \$ 4,855.49 |
| Net worth as of 12/31/2021 | \$77,930.00 |

(Submitted by Elizabeth Kutz, CAGO, Treasurer.)

Fort Worth Chapter Membership Statistics

(Source: ONCARD, March 15, 2022)

Our chapter has reached an historic high for number of members! Our chapter was formed in 1929. Membership over the past 20 years has hovered between 120 and 145. We now have 161.

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| Chapter Friends (no vote) | 5 |
| Dual Members | 33 |
| Regular Members | 50 |
| Special Members (over 65/disabled) | 55 |
| Young Organist Members (under 30) | 18 |
| TOTAL | 161 |

Three of the Dual Members are Young Members in their primary Dallas chapter, so we actually have 19 Young Organist Members.

All of the Dual Members have Dallas as primary chapter except:

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Arizona Chapter | 2 |
| Boston Chapter | 2 |
| Charlotte Chapter | 1 |
| Cleveland Chapter | 1 |

Note that AGO Headquarters is still working to replace ONCARD national membership database system. Three software companies are under consideration. The national council will select one. It is expected a new system could be in place within about a year.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Please check our chapter website <http://www.fortworthago.org>
for the most current information on events performed or supported by our chapter members.

Broadway Baptist Church Lenten Recital Series

Half-hour recitals begin at 12:15 p.m. All are cordially invited.
Broadway Baptist Church is at 305 W Broadway Ave, Ft Worth, TX 76104

Mon, Apr 11

Bradley Reznicek, organ; Organist at Broadway Baptist Church

Tue, Apr 12

Adam Pajan, organ; Lecturer in Music at the University of Oklahoma's School of Music

Wed, Apr 13

Mallory McHenry, harp; Instructor of Harp at TCU



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 2021 calendar year. No donations received yet for 2022.)

WILLIAM E. HAYES YOUNG ORGANIST SCHOLARSHIP DONOR

Distinguished Benefactors (\$1000+): *Put your name here!*

Benefactors (\$500-\$999): *Put your name here!*

Guarantors (\$250-\$499): *Put your name here!*

Patrons (\$150-\$249): *Put your name here!*

Sponsors (\$100-\$149): Peggy Graff, CAGO; Susan Fuchs, CAGO

Underwriters (\$50 - \$99): Cheryl N. Harris; Larry B. McCain, SPC; Janet W. Pummill, CAGO;
Kyla K. Rosenberger, CAGO

Subscribers (under \$50): Dr. Margo Dillard; James Hoyer; Jeanette Keim, SPC;
Carol A. Kocher, SPC; Elizabeth Ann Kutz, CAGO; Lorraine Mearns;
Michael L. Reed, SPC; Rebecca Sawyer; Dr. Sheryl Sebo, AAGO;
Katie M. Sheetz; Minette M. Sicard; Dr. Emmett Smith; Echo Wilson, SPC

DONATIONS FOR CONCERT PROGRAMS

Distinguished Benefactors (\$1000+): *Put your name here!*

Benefactors (\$500 - \$999): Burton H. Patterson

Guarantors (\$250 - \$499): Rev. Robert B. Linnstaedt; Louis Walker

Patrons (\$150 - \$249): Peggy Graff, CAGO; Dr. Emmett Smith; Walter Wilson, SPC
and Echo Wilson, SPC

Sponsors (\$100 - \$149): Dana M. Chavarria, SPC; Ahreum Han Congdon; Darryl P. Knapp;
Joshua Lang; Dr. Linton E. Powell; Kyla Rosenberger, CAGO

Underwriters (\$50 – 99): John R. Arey, CAGO; Dr. Jeffrey G. Brummel; Dr. Laurence D. Furr;
Kurt S. Hilsabeck, CAGO; Alan C. Kerr; Sueda M. Luttrell; Jacqueline MacLean;
Larry B. McCain, SPC; Raymond McDaniel, Jr., ARCO; Lucille Pumphrey;
Glenda Robinson, CAGO; Dr. Sheryl L. Sebo; AAGO; Mary Jo Springer;
Bradley W. Volk, CAGO

Subscribers (under \$50): Dr. Margo Dillard; James Hoyer; Carol A. Kocher, SPC;
Elizabeth Ann Kutz, CAGO; Lorraine Mearns, Michael L. Reed, SPC;
Rebecca Sawyer; Katie M. Sheetz; Minette Sicard; Dustin Tatro;
Matthew S. Wilkinson; YangSun Yu, SPC

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (Elected Positions as of July 1, 2020)

| | | |
|------------------|----------------------|--|
| Dean | Beverly Howard, DMA | howardbann@aol.com |
| Sub-Dean | Peggy Graff, CAGO | pgraff@myfumc.org, peggy.graff@att.net |
| 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 (Terms expire June 30, 2024)

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| Director Position 1 | Dana Chavarria, SPC | romans10dmr@gmail.com |
| Director Position 2 | Echo Wilson, SPC | echowilson4321@gmail.com |
| Director Position 3 | Dennis Opferman | dcopferman@yahoo.com |

Class B (Terms expire June 30 2022)

| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|
| Director Position 4 | Devon Howard, DMA | devonhoward@mac.com |
| Director Position 5 | Dale Bench, CAGO | DalePipeOrgans@sbcglobal.net |
| Director Position 6 | Andy Rose | andyrose95@gmail.com |

STANDING SUBCOMMITTEES

Appointed Committee Chairs and Appointed Members

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Chaplain | The Rev. Raymond McDaniel, ARCO raymcd07@yahoo.com | |
| Communications | Ed Ackermann, CAGO | ackermannstudio@sbcglobal.net |
| Chapter Photographer | Dale Bench, CAGO | dalepipeorgan@sbcglobal.net |
| Community Arts Calendar Coordinator | Ahreum Han Congdon | acongdon@fpcf.w.org |
| Editor | Ken Surley, CAGO | kensurley@aol.com |
| Email Administrator | Ed Ackermann, CAGO | ackermannstudio@sbcglobal.net |
| Social Media Coordinator | Alissa Brewer, SPC | alissad74@yahoo.com |
| Textedly Administrator | Guillermo (Willie) Martinez | guimart@swbell.net |
| Webmaster | Andy Rose | andyrose95@gmail.com |
| Courtesy | Glenda Robinson, CAGO | glendaprobenson@me.com |
| Finance | Elizabeth Kutz, CAGO | |
| Deputy Treasurer | Ed Ackermann, CAGO | ackermannstudio@sbcglobal.net |
| (Immediate Past Treasurer) | | |
| Historian | Emmet Smith | j.o.smith@tcu.edu |
| Membership | Dana Chavarria, SPC | romans10dmr@gmail.com |
| ONCARD Chapter Administrator | Ed Ackermann, CAGO | ackermannstudio@sbcglobal.net |
| Placement & Substitutes | Dr. Linton Powell | lintonpowell@tx.rr.com |
| Placement & Substitutes Administrator | Dale Bench, CAGO | DalePipeOrgan@sbcglobal.net |
| Professional Development | Peggy Graff, CAGO | pgraff@myfumc.org |
| Certification Exam Coordinator | Peggy Graff, CAGO | pgraff@myfumc.org |
| Scholarship Administrator | Kyla Rosenberger, CAGO | kyla.keyboard@att.net |
| Program | Peggy Graff, CAGO | pgraff@myfumc.org |

CONTACT INFORMATION

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

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: | ackermannstudio@sbcglobal.net |