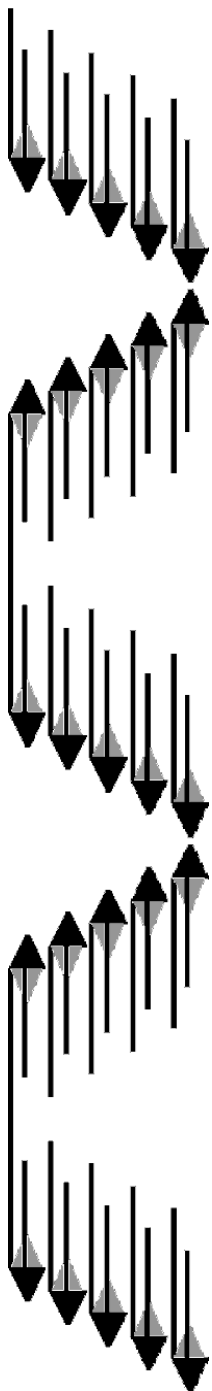


The CYPHER

Volume 28, Number 1

September 2009

The Newsletter of the American Guild of Organists — Southern Arizona Chapter



AGO New Member Event:

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 5 PM

Sharing repertory for keyboard and choir in smaller churches,

featuring

David Wachter, Eric Holtan, Norene Walters,
Garmon Ashby, Janet Tolman and Ken Kelley.

Hosts are David Wachter and Bruce Anderson ,
2585 N. Avenida San Valle, Tucson
Light supper will be provided

Reservations by September 6 to Joyce Swinehart, joycees@cox.net
Invite colleagues who would find membership in AGO valuable!



***Chapter members are invited to support the commissioning of a new work for organ and trombone*.**

Local composer Roger Foreman has been commissioned to write a piece for trombone and organ that will be performed by trombonist Patrick Lawrence and organist Pamela Decker in a recital at the University of Arizona on Nov. 14. Roger Foreman, son of harpist Rebecca Foreman, completed his bachelor's degree in composition at the University of Arizona in 2008. This Fall he began graduate work in composition at the University of Florida, where he was given a full-tuition grant for his graduate study. In the past, Roger has composed several works that were performed by the Tucson Symphony Orchestra.

Patrick Lawrence contributed \$250 toward the commission. The Executive Board of the Southern Arizona Chapter of the AGO has agreed to work with its members to raise the remaining \$750 toward the \$1,000 commission. Seven Board members have already agreed to contribute, so we are off to a good start.

We would like to invite you to participate in this exciting adventure. If you are interested in making a contribution towards the goal of \$750 from our chapter, **please mail your tax-deductible contribution to Treasurer Maxine Fifer, 4527 N Camino Cardenal, Tucson AZ 85718, no later than Sept. 15.**

The dedication statement in the musical work and on the concert program will read something like this:

Commissioned by the Southern Arizona Chapter of the American Guild of Organists and Dr. Patrick Lawrence

**AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
SOUTHERN ARIZONA CHAPTER
2215 E. SECOND STREET
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85719**



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DEANS MESSAGE

Dear Colleagues

The Southern Arizona Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is pleased to welcome you to its' upcoming season of events. This year, we are pleased to present stimulating programs that reach out to both the seasoned professional musicians among us, as well as to those of us who are perhaps beginning their careers in church music, serving various denominations, and churches of all sizes, great and small. We are presenting outstanding recitalists in collaboration with the University of Arizona Roy A. Johnson Memorial Organ Series. We are seeking to begin new initiatives to bring young musicians to a love of the organ and its literature, through the Johnson Scholarship Fund, and also to involve a larger number of Tucson and area church musicians in our programs, inviting them to the fellowship and collegiality which is so much a part of membership in the American Guild of Organists. I would like to mention in particular the hard work done by our program committee and Sub-Dean in preparing a wonderful season of events. The opening event (details inside) at the home of Bruce Anderson and David Wachter, provides an ideal opportunity to bring a potential new member to explore new repertoire ideas. Also, the reception following Gail Archer's recital, which is sponsored by the Chapter, enables us to win new friends for the organ, and bring a colleague to an outstanding Sunday afternoon program on September 27 (details inside).

There are many folks in the greater musical community of Southern Arizona who enjoy the organ and its music, who we would love to involve in our various activities. Perhaps there is a way that all of us can proclaim our love for the "King of Instruments" to those around us, whether it be our clergy, choir members, or music-loving friends. We can certainly rejoice in the exposure our instrument receives weekly in our churches, through accompanying choirs and instruments, and proclaiming in bold voices the praises of God while leading the singing of our congregations. Our programs this year are not just for the chosen few, but for all of us to learn new repertoire, savor new friendships, and

partake of listening with new understanding to both the familiar and the new. I invite each of us to bring a friend to each of our events and enjoy all that we have to offer in church and concert hall. Perhaps you have an idea about future programs to share with us. Or your church or community choral organization may be hosting an event. We want to hear from you! In addition, please check our listings of events in the “Cypher” and in “News of Members” regularly online on our website <www.agosaz.com>.

Jeffrey Campbell
Dean, Southern Arizona Chapter
American Guild of Organists

MEMBER NEWS

Organ Recital

Matthew Whitehouse will present his DMA Solo Recital on Monday September 14 at 7 p.m. in Holsclaw Hall.

Northminster Presbyterian Church

Scottish Heritage Weekend—

Kirkin’ O’ the Tartan Service. Friday, October 23, 2009, 7:00 pm.

A unique service accompanied by pipes, drums and pageantry, it recognizes Presbyterian roots in Scotland. Includes family blessings, a pipe band, organ and anthems based on traditional Scottish tunes.

Reformation Sunday, October 25, 9:30 & 11am

Festive services, celebrating Presbyterianism’s Scottish heritage, with stirring music and processions accompanied by full pipe band in Scottish regalia.

Evensong Service, November 8, 5:00 p.m.

Loosely based on the Anglican Evensong tradition, the service will feature favorite choruses, solos and ensembles from *Elijah* in recognition of the 200th Anniversary of Mendelssohn’s birth.

NEW PAMELA DECKER CD SET

The August issue of *Diapason* (Recording review section) has a great review of Pamela Decker's two-CD set *Decker Plays Decker*, issued by Loft Recordings. Dr. Decker is both composer and performer on this CD-set, playing her works on the Flentrop organ at St. Mark's Cathedral in Seattle, Washington.

CHOIR DIRECTOR POSITION AVAILABLE

A part-time choir director position is available at Lutheran Church of the Foothills, 5102 N. Craycroft Road, Tucson. Interested parties should contact Holly Hope, Music & Worship Chairperson at (520) 299-5631 or hollyhopeaz@gmail.com.

CYPHER DEADLINES FOR 2009-2010

The deadlines for submissions for the 2009-2010 season are: October 9; November 11; December 10 (tentative); February 12; and April 12. The final product is expected to appear within 3-4 days of the deadline.

2009-2010 Season

The Southern Arizona Chapter's 2009–2010 season encompasses concerts, educational events and social gatherings. Please note these dates on your calendars and make a point of spreading the word to friends and colleagues! These are opportunities not to be missed!

AGO New Member Event: SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 5 PM

Invite colleagues who would find membership in AGO valuable!

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Janet Tolman and Ken Kelley.

Light supper will be provided.

Hosts are David Wachter and Bruce Anderson , 2585 N. Avenida San Valle, Tucson

Reservations by September 6 to Joyce Swinehart, joycees@cox.net

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University of Arizona Organ Recital *Roy A. Johnson Memorial Concert Series* SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

“German Romantic Organ Music”

**Co-sponsored by the Southern Arizona Chapter of the American Guild
of Organists**

1:30 pm

Pre-concert talk (free admission) by **John T. Brobeck**, Associate Professor of
Musicology,

Room 146, UA Music Building.

2:30 pm

Recital **Gail Archer**, Organist,
in Holsclaw Hall

AGO members contact Dusty Johnson by September 23 for free admission.

Tickets: 520-621-1162

\$9 General Admission; \$7 Seniors and UA Employees; \$5 UA Students

**Choral Music Event: Stephen Paulus
Saturday, October 31, 10 am**

St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church, Bloom Music Center
Lunch (\$5) will follow. Reservations by October 24 to Joyce Swinehart, joycees@cox.net

Stephen Paulus, internationally known composer, will discuss his compositional style and will give a reading of new music for choir. He will conduct the attendees in two choral pieces.

**University of Arizona Organ Recital
Roy A. Johnson Memorial Concert Series**

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 7 PM
UA Faculty Recital**

**Pamela Decker, Organist, Professor of Organ/Music Theory
Holsclaw Hall**

Program includes the Foreman work commissioned by the Chapter
Tickets: 520-621-1162

\$9 General Admission, \$7 Seniors and UA Employees, \$5 UA Students

**Showcase Organ Recital
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 3 PM**

Featuring

Matthew Whitehouse, Norene Walters, Marilyn Van Roekel, Shinji Inagi

St. Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church, 602 N. Wilmot

**Epiphany Potluck
SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 5 PM**

at the home of Pat Kaltenberger, 12242 N. Heritage Club Place, Marana
Reservations by January 3 to Joyce Swinehart, joycees@cox.net

**Professional Concerns Workshop
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 10 AM**

Christopher Cook, Region IX Coordinator for Professional Development
Lunch (\$5) will follow.

Dove of Peace Lutheran Church, 665 W. Roller Coaster Road
Reservations by February 20 to Joyce Swinehart, joycees@cox.net

University of Arizona Organ Recital in Holsclaw Hall
Roy A. Johnson Memorial Concert Series
FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 7 PM
Douglas Cleveland, Organist

Tickets: 520-621-1162
 \$9 General Admission, \$7 Seniors and UA Employees, \$5 UA Students

Mildred Flood Mahoney Memorial
Organ Recital
SUNDAY, APRIL 25, 2:30 PM
Shinji Inagi, Organist
Holsclaw Hall
 Free admission

Year-End Celebration and Potluck
SUNDAY, MAY 23, 5 PM

at the home of Derek and Carolyn Redmore, 5646 Genematas Drive, Tucson
 Reservations by May 16 to Joyce Swinehart, joycees@cox.net

SPECIAL NOTE!!

Recently you received a new chapter brochure describing the programming for 2009-2010. All the dates and times in the brochure are correct, but unfortunately, three of the DAYS are listed incorrectly. Please make the following changes to your brochure, and share the brochure with a potential member of the chapter.

Stephen Paulus event is **Saturday**, Oct. 31

Douglas Cleveland recital is **Friday**, March 5

Shinji Inagi recital (Mildred Flood Mahoney memorial) is **Sunday**, April 25

ADVERTISERS RATES (Black & white ads only)

#1 Yearbook ad only #2 Yearbook & Cypher ad in 3 issues #3 Yearbook & Cypher ad in 5 issues

Classified ads: Members free Classified ads: Non-members 3 lines \$10, 1 issue

Size	#1	#2	#3
Business card	21.00	42.00	56.00
Half Page - 3¼"H x 4½"W	63.00	126.00	168.00
Full Page - 7"Hx4½"W	84.00	168.00	224.00

All ads submitted, other than business cards, must be camera-ready.

If interested, contact Maxine Fifer, Treasurer, 325-7721, wetypefast@aol.com.

Deadline is Sept. 10, 2009.

From Matthew Whitehouse, Roy A. Johnson Memorial scholarship awardee:

This summer, thanks to the generosity of the Southern Arizona Chapter of the AGO, I attended the Region VII convention in Albuquerque, NM, as a recipient of Roy Johnson Memorial scholarship funds. My time in Albuquerque was delightful, as the Albuquerque AGO chapter put on a well-organized convention with fantastic artists and superb venues. Albuquerque's spectacular natural setting was an added bonus.

Crista Miller opened the first full day of the convention with a recital on the 1967 51-rank Holtkamp organ at the University of New Mexico's Keller Hall. Her program featured largely 20th- and 21st-century music. Highlights included Jean Langlais' intense and colorful "Soleil du Midi" from *Cinq Soleils* (1983) and Michael Remson's humorous *Whistle Stop*. Miller played both organ and whistle for *Whistle Stop*, which also included a large contingent of whistles played by members of the audience.

Stephen Tharp's recital on the 50-rank Moller organ (1955, renovated in 2005) at First Presbyterian Church in Albuquerque included an absolutely breathtaking account of Max Reger's *Fantasy and Fugue on "How brightly shines the morning star."* Tharp's projection of this complex work's architecture was masterful, and his sense of rhythmic drive, particularly in the fugue, was brilliant. He also drew numerous dark, intense sounds from the Moller organ, which proved to be an excellent vehicle for this vast work.

Maxine Thévenot, whom Southern Arizona AGO chapter members will remember from Tucson's October 2008 *Organ Spectacular* event, played a colorful

recital on the fine new 41-rank Fisk organ at First Presbyterian Church in Santa Fe. This instrument, completed in 2008, is a wonderful addition to the Southwestern US organ scene, and Thévenot showed it off well in music ranging from Sweelinck to Henri Mulet to Simon Preston.

Daniel O'Connor, the 2009 Region VII RCYO winner, proved most worthy of this honor in his recital on the 1971 36-rank Wicks organ at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. His rendition of J.S. Bach's *Prelude and Fugue in A Minor*, BWV 543, had an excellent sense of articulation, drive, and rhythmic architecture, and his performance of Vierne's *Clair de Lune* (Pièces de fantaisie II) featured beautifully shaped lyrical lines. His program concluded with an energetic performance of Stephen Paulus' *Bliethely Breezing Along*.

Workshop highlights included a fascinating presentation on the organ's role in opera by Albuquerque chapter member and *Santa Fe New Mexican* art critic Craig Smith. I also particularly enjoyed Marsha Seale's informal workshop on professional concerns, and Regina Carlow's interactive presentation on working with children's voices.

The Albuquerque AGO chapter is to be congratulated for hosting a well-run and artistically exemplary regional convention. My time in New Mexico was most memorable, and I am deeply grateful to the Southern Arizona AGO chapter for supporting my attendance.

Inside:
2009-2010 Chapter Program
Chapter Commission of Organ Work
Report on Region VII Convention
Dean's Message

Publication Information: ***The Cypher*** is a bimonthly newsletter published by the **Southern Arizona Chapter of the American Guild of Organists**. It is distributed to chapter members, organists of churches in Tucson and surrounding communities, and deans of all chapters in Region IX (Arizona, California, Hawaii, and Utah). **Southern Arizona Chapter members who do not request the printed version will receive *The Cypher* via email.** Send information for publication to Derek Redmore, 5646 N. Genematas Dr., Tucson, AZ 85704-5934, or to email address derekredmore@msn.com. Please type "Cypher" in the subject line. Views expressed in any of the pieces herein are those of the writers and not necessarily those of the Southern Arizona Chapter—AGO, its officers or members.

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