

## AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

Les Bois Chapter

[www.agoboise.org](http://www.agoboise.org)

*The purpose of the American Guild of Organists  
is to encourage excellence in the performance  
of organ and choral music and to support and  
inspire each other.*

### From the Dean

Greetings,

On October 14, I attended a Master Class by Paul Jacobs, hosted by BYU-Idaho. Jacobs, who at 31 is the chair of Julliard's organ department, is the only organ soloist ever to receive a Grammy Award (2011). At the age of 23 he performed all of the organ works of Bach in an 18-hour non-stop marathon performance. So, one would wonder what insights such talent and experience would offer at a Master Class. The answer: basics.

While Mr. Jacobs had many specific observations regarding the particular literature under scrutiny, I found his asides regarding clear-cut guidelines for the basic approach to technique to probably be the most helpful to the students in attendance. For example, he points out (as many teachers have) that if one is having trouble consistently playing a piece or section correctly, then one needs to slow it down—as slowly as necessary. This is often a difficult point for students, but from the lips of one such as Paul Jacobs, it may carry sufficient weight to break through! He pointed out that Mozart's father would use beans to count how many times young Mozart had played a section correctly. Each correct turn moved a bean to the other side. However, if a mistake was made, all the beans went back and things started over. Ten times in a row without a mistake is a high standard, but better attainable at a realistic tempo. Perhaps the greatest deterrent to more performance participation by our membership is "performance anxiety" and part of this fear is an honest sense of the inconsistency of one's technique. Jacob's advice can go a long way to helping any student.

~ Ray Morvant

### Thank You

A big thank you goes out to Patricia Nelson for all her hard work on the chapter board as the newsletter editor. She is taking time off to be with her family. We will miss her energy and contributions.

Robyn is taking over the newsletter, and a new membership coordinator is in the works.

### Membership Dues

Thank you to everyone who has paid their membership dues for this year. If you haven't renewed your membership yet, please do so as soon as possible. Payments can be mailed to Kirk Higginson at 6900 W. Pomona Rd., Boise, ID 83704, or paid via Paypal on the membership page <http://www.agoboise.org/membership.html>.

### Upcoming Chapter Events

#### **Annual Chapter Christmas Party**

*Friday, December 2, 2011*, at the home of A.J. and Suzie Balukoff. Details are still in the works, but save the date now to avoid over-scheduling later.

#### **Pedals, Pipes and Pizza**

*January*. A specific date and location have not yet been determined.

#### **Progressive Dinner/Brunch**

*Late February/March*. We are considering a brunch on a Saturday morning. Locations and performers are now being considered. If you have a location you would like to visit or would like to recommend a performer, send your requests to Ray Morvant at [dean@agoboise.org](mailto:dean@agoboise.org), or 639-5548.

#### **Organ Crawl/Members Recital**

*Late March/early April*. The tentative location is the Hemingway Center at Boise State University.

October 2011

## Organ Crawl in Salt Lake City

We are considering holding a Friday-Saturday Chapter "Organ Crawl" to Salt Lake City, during the month of May 2012. Our chapter has tentative approval to hear and play the organs of Temple Square, as well as on the campus of University of Utah. Another possible destination will likely be the Cathedral of the Madeleine, and/or St. Mark's Cathedral.

Before we begin making firm plans, we first need to know from our members if there's interest in such a trip. We don't need firm commitments yet, but need to know if there's tentative support. Please contact Robyn at [newsletter@agoboise.org](mailto:newsletter@agoboise.org), or 375-9866 by November 15, 2011 with a "tentative yes" if you're interested in such a venture.

## Other upcoming events

### **50th Anniversary Celebration of the Schlicker Pipe Organ.**

*Sunday, October 23, 2011, 4:00 p.m. St. Michael's Episcopal Cathedral, 518 N. 8th Street, Boise.*

An organ recital will be presented by Michael Boney, John Bostron, and David Young, with Justin Stamps on the trumpet. This event is free and open to the public.

### **"First Fridays" Concert**

*Friday, November 4, 2011, 7:30 p.m. First United Methodist Church, "Cathedral of the Rockies," 717 N. 11th St, Boise.*

"First Fridays" is a new chamber music concert series held at Boise First United Methodist Church, "Cathedral of the Rockies," with concerts held on the first Friday of each month now through May.

The November concert will include several organ works performed by Chapter Member David Young. Music will include works by Bach, Hummel, and Copland.

Free admission.

## **East Texas Pipe Organ Festival**

*Monday, November 14 - Thursday, November 17, 2011. Kilgore, Texas.*

This four-day festival will honor the life and work of Roy Perry (1906-1978). For additional information, visit the website [www.easttxaspipeorganfestival.com](http://www.easttxaspipeorganfestival.com), send inquiries to [easttxaspipeorganfestival@yahoo.com](mailto:easttxaspipeorganfestival@yahoo.com), or visit Facebook at East Texas Pipe Organ Festival.

## Job Postings

Svetlana Maddox is available for substituting in Boise area churches, including Liturgical services. She can be reached at 695-3454.

## Les Bois Chapter Executive Committee

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