



“Gee, Dad, it’s not a Wurlitzer”

AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

Les Bois Chapter Newsletter

May, 2013

www.agoboise.org

The mission of The American Guild of Organists is to enrich lives through organ and choral music



From the Dean - Dr. Rafael Morvant

“The Book of Worship for United States Forces' has been used as the primary worship resource in military chapels, in the field, as well as aboard ships since 1974. It is a hybrid hymnal combining the faith traditions of Protestants, Catholics, Orthodox, and Jews. As a unique liturgical document, [it is] the product of a great amount of research and ecumenical development . . .” The Army and Navy have provided chaplains to the service men and women since the founding of our nation but not until 1920 did supply these ministers with supplies: the Act of 1920 (also known as the Capper Bill) ensured each chaplain be supplied with a field desk, folding altar, chest of 300 hymn books, assembly tent, folding tables, and 32 folding benches. And with this, the newly appointed Chiefs of Chaplains for the Army and Navy set out to produce a military hymnal as soon as possible. The result: “The Army and Navy Hymnal” of 1920 followed by a string of revisions (and attempts) until the above mentioned, begun in 1967. The major difference, however, between the 1974 hymnal and those preceding is controversy.

The first involves copyright procurement. Of the 446 hymns selected, only 125 required some remuneration. Around 100 hymns required a small processing fee of less than \$10, and the remaining 25 required royalties between \$20 and \$50. But there was one hymn that was, by far, the most expensive: the copyright owner Manna Music Company wanted an initial payment of \$10,000.00 for the use of one hymn and five cents per copy in each hymnal published. The outrageous royalty fee for the hymn was far beyond the budget forecast and the sad probability of this hymn not being included in the hymnal was nearly certain. The hymn was “How Great Thou Art.” Just as it seems that this favorite would be left out, it was discovered that the original text of “How Great Thou Art” was a poem, "O Store Gud," written in 1886 by the Reverend Carl Boberg. The poem was eventually sung to a Swedish folk song (the melody with which we are all familiar).

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Music Week Organ Recitals

Trina Moore

Monday, May 6

Organist and Handbell Choir director at the Meridian United Methodist Church Works by Bach and Paxton, Arrangements by Wolford, Wagner and Mickelson



Robert Schmidt, SPC

Tuesday, May 7

Associate Organist at the Cloverdale Seventh Day Adventist Church and Assistant Organist at the Cathedral of the Rockies Works by Mendelssohn, Gawthrop, Bach, Gigout and Vierne

Sean Rogers

Wednesday, May 8

Music Minister at First United Presbyterian Church, Nampa Works by Mathias, Howells, Whitlock, and Walton



Michael Boney

Thursday, May 9

Canon for Music and Organist at St. Michael's Cathedral, Boise

All recitals are held at
St. Michael's Episcopal Cathedral
8th & State Streets, Boise
12:15-12:45 P.M.

AGO
Region VIII
Convention
Highlights
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www.agosalem.org

**Les Bois Chapter
Summer Organ Recitals
at St. John's Cathedral**

Ray Morvant has just announced that there will again be three summer organ recitals at St. John's Cathedral.

The exact dates are being determined, however, each will be held on a Monday during June, July and August, 12:15—12:45 P.M.

If you would want to play this summer or share the recital please let Ray know ASAP as he is finalizing the roster, so rise to the occasion and make use of this offer!

Organ Recital This Friday, May 3

New Trompette en Chamade

First United Methodist Church
"Cathedral of the Rockies"
11th & Hayes Streets, Boise
7:30 P.M.



This Friday you will hear the debut of the Cathedral pipe organ's new herald trumpets—the first installation of any horizontal trumpets in the Treasure Valley!

The concert will feature three organists: Tom Robin Harris, Margaret Dean, and Cathedral Organist David Young, and will include a performance of Aaron Copland's "Fanfare for the Common Man" for organ and percussion, and an organ Toccata on "All You Need is Love" (yes, the Beatles song), by British composer Paul Ayres. ([Hear it Here](#)) A reception will follow this final concert in the 2012-2013 Cathedral Concert Series.

Save the date and invite your friends and neighbors. The concert is free and open to the public.

**Answer to the last
Mystery Organ**

Disney Hall Organ

www.disneyhallorgan.com



Music/Theology Humor

Why doesn't heaven have a pipe organ?
Because they needed the keys in hell to
make accordions.



**Why is this man
laughing?**

Because he is now on the
Concert Artist Cooperative
Roster of Organ Artists!

Congratulations to

Michael D. Boney!

Check it out in the April, TAO, pp. 23, 41 & 42



**Meet Our
Executive
Committee**

Gary
Stringham

Chaplain

Les Bois Chapter Executive Committee

Dean: Dr. Raphael Morvant, CAGO
dean@agoboise.org

Sub-Dean: Trina Moore
happyorganfeet@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Kirk Higginson, SPC
treasurer@agoboise.org

Members-at-Large:

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Gary Stringham: gstringham@aol.com

Membership Coordinator: Sheryl Hillman, SPC
sheryl_hillman@hotmail.com

Website: Ryan & Robyn Henrie
ryan@henrie.org

Newsletter: Michael Civiello, SPC
civiello2@hotmail.com

Next Executive Board Meeting—May 4, 9:00 A.M.
707 N. 8th St., Boise

Archive Photos — Hymn Workshop

Everything You Wanted to Know About Playing Hymns Except the Hymn Itself

April 20, 2013—East Nampa Stake Center—Nampa, Idaho

Presented by Michael Civiello and Sheryl Hillman



Salem Conference Highlights

Sunday, June 23

3:00 P.M.— Young Organist Competition

7:00 P.M. — Opening Worship Service

Monday, June 24

9:00 A.M.—Worship service (Youth)

10:30 A.M.— Concert — "Bach and Sons"

2:00-4:30 P.M — Workshops

7:30 P.M.— Concert — Michael Kleinschmidt

Tuesday, June 25

9:00 A.M.— Worship service (Morning Prayer)

10:30 A.M.— Concert — RCYO Young Comp. Winner

2:00-4:30 P.M. — Workshops

7:30 P.M.— May Dudley Memorial Concert

Wednesday, June 26

9:00 A.M.— Worship service (Music of David Dahl)

10:30 A.M.— Organ Recital — Heidi Kohne

3:00 P.M.— Organ Concert — Bruce Neswick

7:30 P.M.— Closing Concert — Silent Movie/Organ

Brigham Young University 12th Annual Organ Workshop August 6-9, 2013

Develop organ-playing skills for your own enjoyment, for church, for teaching. Four days of organ skill-building classes for all levels

<http://organworkshop.byu.edu>



Dean's Message continued from page 1

As the hymn gained popularity in Northern Europe, it was translated into German under the name, *Wie Gross ist Du*. However, in 1925, the Reverend Gustav Johnson, of North Park College in Chicago, enjoyed this new hymn and translated the hymn into English from the original Swedish text. He gave it a name, which is closer to the original Swedish version, "O Mighty God, When I Behold the Wonder." And it is this version—indexed as *How Great Thou Art (Original Version)*-- that is printed as hymn #1 in the "The Book of Worship for United States Forces."

The second controversy involves two hymns—both by the same composer, Sydney Carter. The first, "The Lord of the Dance" (# 308) was set by Carter to the Shaker tune "Simple Gifts." In it Carter describes the life of Jesus as a dance. Many felt (some very strongly) that portraying Christianity and its theology in such a light manner to be highly inappropriate. This controversy, however, died down and Carter's song is found today in many hymnbooks. The other hymn by Carter was not so easily dismissed. "It was on a Friday morning" (# 286) sings from the perspective of one of the thieves crucified with Jesus (one from Matthew=Mark; definitely not the Lukan thief). The refrain sings: "It's God they ought to crucify Instead of you and me, I said to the carpenter Ahanging on the tree," with verse 4 screaming "To hell with Jehovah . . ."

Definitely not a praise hymn! Anyway, with over 2,000 letters of complaint and Congressional involvement the song was replaced in the second printing in 1977.