

Lehigh Valley Chapter

American Guild of Organists

September 2020

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Chapter Officers 2020-2021

Dean: Eric Gombert

610-435-1641

egombert@stjohnsallentown.org

Sub Dean: Janice Butz

610-882-9388

janicebutz@gmail.com

Secretary: Erin Petrella

484-863-9052

erinpetrella@gmail.com

Treasurer: Stephen Bueker

610-438-3766

sfbueker@icloud.com

Executive Committee

Jane Errera (2021)

Jackie Kuba (2021)

Linda Maule (2022)

Robert Riday (2022)

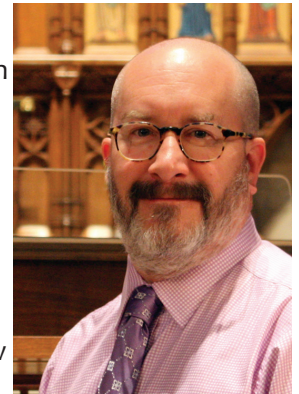
Gail Hanzl (2023)

Judy Love (2023)

www.lvago.org

Dean's Mixtures

“Lent is upon us, spring is around the corner.” This was Tom Dressler’s first sentence in our March 2020 newsletter. I received that issue in my email on March 5, just days before things really started to change, rapidly. All of our Chapter events listed in that issue were canceled, including the Bach Marathon which was just ten days later. Many churches didn’t have in-person worship on Easter! The AGO convention and POEs, all canceled. The sudden and continuing uprooting of the normalcy of our daily lives changed everything. Many of us learned new things, from how to teach a virtual lesson, to what Zoom is, to how to spend two hours just setting up technology to record a four-minute piece to participate in a national virtual performance recording project. Some have even realized this as the appropriate time to retire, moving their organ shoes out of regular use. There are many stories to be told and shared.



Prior to hearing about Covid-19, our Chapter Officers and Executive Committee were having exciting conversations about new ways of looking at our programming and events. This included more collaborations with other organizations including neighboring AGO Chapters, potentially putting more funding into fewer programs, and initiating opportunities

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September Event

Members' Virtual Recital

Saturday, September 19th

10 am

*Dean's Mixtures**Continued from page 1*

for members to just connect and socialize. Although everything on our schedule is subject to change, we were fortunate to have planned a season during which virtually everything can be... virtual, whether only online or where online access can be used to include those who aren't able to attend. Don't be surprised when you receive emails announcing a day and time for anyone who wishes to just gather online.

Please mark your calendar with our planned events. Also consider taking advantage of the many online opportunities from AGO National that Luke DiGiacinto mentions in his article. Thanks to Luke for serving on the Executive Committee and subsequently taking on the position of Education Coordinator. We are also searching for someone to be our Membership Coordinator. Contact me if you are interested or would like to suggest someone.

Lastly, please join me in giving special thanks to Tom Dressler for his years of service as the Dean of this Chapter. I conclude with another quote from Tom's last article, "Keep calm and keep playing."

Eric Gombert
Dean

September Event

SEPTEMBER MEMBERS' VIRTUAL RECITAL

Saturday, September 19, 10:00 am

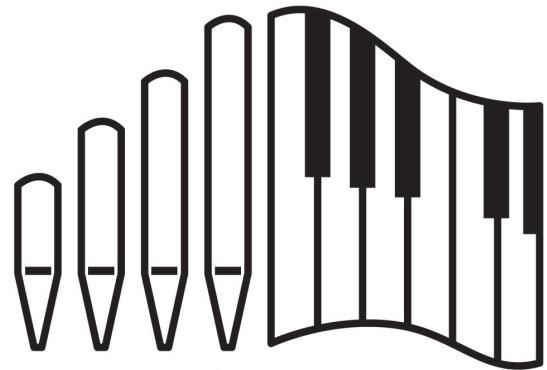
A 2020 twist for our September event is that our members' recital will be virtual.

We will use Zoom for this gathering so we can also see and talk with each other. The connection information is included at the end of this article and will be emailed a few days in advance as well.

As always, all are invited to perform. There are two ways to participate, either by providing the file or link to your performance video, or by performing live on the day of the recital using a WIRED connection. Recording can easily be accomplished using a smart phone. Contact Eric Gombert via email by September 8 if you plan to participate to receive additional details. See you on September 19.

Zoom connection link: <https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/89235101751?pwd=OWthWHUxdWVWVFhCZk-5BL3Rkek1mUT09>

Meeting ID: 892 3510 1751
Passcode: 723578



Lehigh Valley AGO

POE+ is Rescheduled

The POE+ week is rescheduled and approved for June 21–26, 2021. After a break while we were all "safe at home," the Committee will resume its work in September. Even during the pause we have met a deadline to submit our current budget and the deadline is approaching to submit our most recent proposed faculty list. While it is difficult to make the necessary arrangements to secure housing and arrange for various venues for lessons and activities, these contacts are high on our "to do" list. The daily schedule will evolve as these contacts can be resolved.

It is with cautious optimism that we begin to recapture our energy and enthusiasm to plan for this highlight for our chapter. We hope you will also plan to volunteer and participate along with the Committee to host this extraordinary event. Our Chapter has earned a strong reputation for offering outstanding events in the past. We plan to continue that legacy with the POE+ in 2021.

Save these 2020–2021 Dates for the Lehigh Valley Chapter, AGO

Events are subject to change

Saturday, September 19, 10 am

Members' Virtual Recital via Zoom

Video submission should be sent to Eric Gombert by September 8.
If you wish to perform live, please let Eric know of your participation and be sure that you have a wired internet connection

Sunday, October 4, 4 pm

How Are We Worshiping?

A Zoom event for Chapter members to share how our individual congregations and denominations are doing worship in the pandemic era.

Saturday, November 7, & Sunday, November 8

Improvisation Weekend

Saturday, 10 am to noon—An improvisation workshop will be led by Kalle Toivio, winner of the AGO improvisation contest

Sunday, 4 pm—Organ recital by Kalle Toivio, including an improvisation on a submitted tune
St Anne's Catholic Church
450 E Washington Ave, Bethlehem 18017

December—No meeting

January Jumpstart

Postponed until 2022

Saturday, February 6, at 10 am

Colleague Chat

Join with your fellow LVAGO members for a virtual gathering of conversation and camaraderie.
Topic to be announced.

Sunday, March 7, 3:00 pm

Annual Bach Marathon

First Presbyterian
3231 Tilghman St, Allentown 18104

Sunday, April 11, 4 pm

Organized Rhythm

St. John's Lutheran Church
37 S 5th St, Allentown 18101

Sunday, May 23, 4 pm

Young Artist Recital, Annual Banquet and Meeting

Presenting Emily Amos, Audience Prize winner, 2018 Albert Schweitzer Competition
DeSales University
2755 Station Avenue, Center Valley, PA 18034

Find Us on Facebook



Organ Teacher List

Do you teach organ, or would like to teach organ? Great! Please email Luke DiGiacinto to get on our list. Please include all ways in which you can be reached, phone, email etc. Please also include college, university, or institute information as well if necessary, a short bio with photo, and optionally a teaching philosophy (why you enjoy teaching). Thanks!
Email lukedig94@aol.com

Partnership and Scholarship

Collaboration is vital in keeping music communities closer together. It allows for mutual respect and support of ones endeavors. Do you know of, or work for an institution that would benefit from collaborating with the AGO? Specifically we are looking for an organization that would actively engage with us on some specific program or project for youth. We'd love to have participants available to apply for AGO scholarships in future. Thanks!

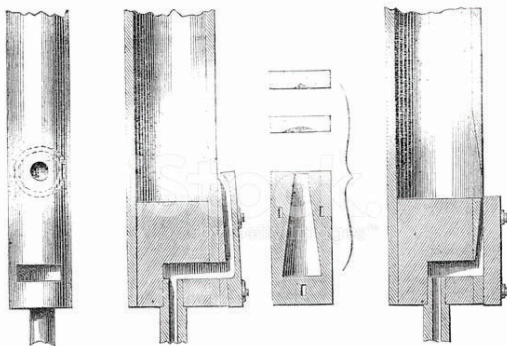
Email lukedig94@aol.com

Organ Education Webinars

Link to past Webinars and Recitals are included below. You will also find the upcoming events as well. For those reading from a paper copy, go to your ONCARD Membership website. You may be able to type this address into your internet browser.

www.agohq.org/online-programming-for-chapters/

Luke DiGiacinto, Education Coordinator



Organist Substitute List

If you would like to be included in the Organist Substitute List please forward your Name, Contact Information (phone/email) and Availability (Sundays, weekdays, etc) to Stephen Bueker, 2520 Clark Place, Easton, PA 18040; sfbueker@rcn.com.

Dale Bonenberger	Mon—Fri	917 328-9041
Ruthann Brandt	Mon—Sat	610 262-3304
Janice Butz	Mon—Fri	610 882-9388
Stephen Cable	Mon—Sat	484 866-6019
Carol Dzurenda	Mon—Sat	215 538-7273
Kevin Freaney	Sun—Sat	610 283-1944
Pauline Fox	Sun—Sat	610 735-2037
Ellen Erb	Saturday	570 350-0343
Charles Glandorf	Sun—Sat	610 416-1055
Eric Gombert	Mon—Sat	610 435-1641
Gail Hanzl	Mon—Sat	610 264-5859
Bryan Holten	Mon—Sat	585 633-8705
Michael Huffman	Mon—Sat	610 433-6563
Joe Kaczmarek	Sun—Fri	484 433-4336
Jacqueline Kuba	Mon—Sat	570 386-4480
Michael Kuhnert	Mon—Sat	215 536-4345
Dodd Lamberton	Sun—Sat	484 935-3505
James Matz	Sun—Sat	610 367-8094
Linda Maule	Mon—Sat	610 258-5006
John McEnerney	Sun—Fri	215 794-7338
Richard McIntyre	Mon—Sat	908 283-4691
Erin Petrella	Sun—Sat	484 863-9052
Maria Prochnau	Sun—Sat	610 866-2560
Karen Scott	May—Sep	610 737-1701
Michael Seroka	Mon—Fri	570 386-2378
Brian Snyder	Mon—Thurs	484 838-0977
Donald Vaughn	Mon—Sat	610 966-0682
Matthew Wary	Mon—Fri	610 473-8777
Stephen Williams	Mon—Fri	610 737-5196
Stephen Ziminsky	Mon—Sat	610 417-2669
Freda Zimmerman	Sun—Sat	610 381-3089

Newsletter Editor and Webmaster

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vmdennispa@juno.com

Placement Service

See the Placement page on www.lvago.org for information and the Placement Service Information Sheet.

Newsletter Deadline

Next Edition: Thursday, September 17, 2020