

Stop & Reed

February 2019

San Joaquin Valley Chapter American Guild of Organists
a Member Organization of the Valley Cultural Coalition

From the Dean

Over this past weekend Sub Dean Mike Varlas and I attended a leadership expo in southern California. AGO National hosted this event that allowed for chapter leaders from all over the country to get together, share ideas and experiences, and encourage better chapter management. It was very interesting to hear varying perspectives and challenges that our guild faces throughout the country. While some of the information was obvious, I did leave feeling very proud of our chapter. One of the main components of being in an organization is finding the value of it. In our situation, we most often find value through positive experiences. In order to have these experiences, as members we must get engaged and take advantage of everything the guild has to offer. Have you been to one of the events this season? Are you aware that our chapter hosts some of the world's finest organists? Come and reap the benefits of being in the SJVAGO!

In Harmony,
Cactus Harris

From the Sub-Dean

I just want to add my agreement to Cactus' words. As I listened to the presenters it gave me a great sense of encouragement to hear that we are doing many of the things that make for a great chapter. We have known for a long time that our chapter is a very special and wonderful group of organists, organ lovers and friends. As we continue on, the next step is for us to embrace this and share it with others. We are the best promoters of our chapter.

I would also encourage you to be a consumer of many of the chapter events that we offer throughout the year

Blessings,
Mike Varlas

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CCBF

Among the musical events that take place in the San Joaquin Valley, one that is always right up there at the top is the annual Central California Baroque Festival. The Festival was held at University Presbyterian Church of Fresno.

Besides the recitals the participants and their families were invited to spend time in the Exhibit Room (which was provided by the San Joaquin Valley Chapter/AGO) where they could play on a harpsichord, watch a video by Dr. Kimberly Marshall performing on an organ that J. S. Bach had played and take part in constructing a working model of a mechanical action pipe organ.

The Awards Recitals were held throughout the day with students performing on the piano, organ, harp, violin and in small ensembles. All of the selections were from the Baroque genre and were played for a live audience as well as an adjudicator. Each of the young musicians received a certificate of participation which was presented by none other than the Festival's featured composer, Johann Sebastian Bach...well sort of!



Julie Nguyen, Gold Medal recipient

Students who did not want to perform in the Awards Recitals had the opportunity to play in the Festival Recitals, which were held in the Great Room of the church.

Organ students competing in the Awards Recitals were Julie Nguyen (Gold Medal), student of Michal Hembd; Zachery Ergo (Honorable Mention), student of Jaquie Johnson; Auckland VanSaun (Gold Medal), Eden Van Saun and Emily Booth, students of Laurell Huber. Congratulations on your performance!

One of the hallmarks of the CCBF is the educational aspect. This year SJVAGO was able to partner with the Fresno County Music Teachers

Association and feature Dr. Kimberly Marshall as the guest lecturer/performer. She presented part of her "Genesis of Genius" program utilizing the sanctuary organ to play some of the earlier music that influenced J. S. Bach's compositions. She also showed the genius of Bach as he took the works of his predecessors and incorporated them into his own pieces.



Is it real...or is it Memorex?



Racking the 2' Flute on the toe board of the Orgelkids Organ kit

Chapter Events

Choral Workshop

Saturday, March 9, 2019
 9 AM- 12:30 PM
 University Presbyterian Church
 1771 E. Roberts Ave., Fresno
 Dr. Roy Klassen, Directing
 Open to all choir members and directors. Massed choir will be singing at the Hymn Festival the following day.

Hymn Festival

Sunday, March 10, 2019
 3:00 PM
 University Presbyterian Church
 1771 E. Roberts Ave., Fresno
 Dr. Roy Klassen, Directing

Organ Artist Series

Richard Elliott, performing
 Sunday, May 5, 2019
 3:00 PM
 First Congregational Church
 2131 N. Van Ness Blvd., Fresno

Officer Installation

Sunday, June 2, 2019
 Time and Location to be determined

University Presbyterian 50th anniversary

Presenting Hans Hielscher, Organ concert
 Thursday, May 23, 2019
 University Presbyterian Church
 1771 E. Roberts Ave., Fresno

CCBF continued

We were fortunate to have had the use of an Orgelkids working model of a tracker-action organ for the students and parents to assemble and play. The kit is an actual pipe-organ of two octaves and two flute ranks. The wind chest has a plexiglass front so that the actual pipe valves (pallets) can be seen as they open when the note is played. The organ is winded by a set of wedge bellows that are hand operated, which is not as easy as it would seem. It was not clear as to whether the students or the parents had the most fun with the kit.

Thank you to the L. A. and Long Beach chapters for the use of their Orgelkids kit.

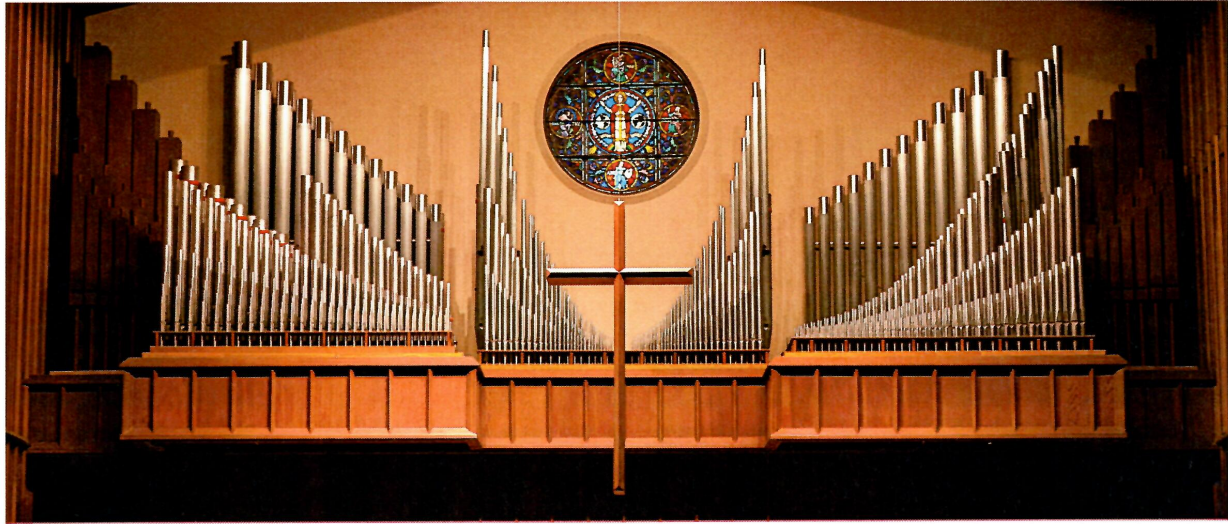


Cathy Walker plays Bach on the Orgelkids.



NEXT SJVAGO BOARD MEETING:
Tuesday, February 26, 2019
10:30 AM
University Presbyterian Church
1771 E. Roberts Ave., Fresno

Galloway Evensong



Galloway Memorial Organ Evensong

Scott Horton

organist

Sunday, February 10, 2019

3:00 p.m.

Admission Free - Freewill Offering to Benefit
the Casavant Organ Fund

First Congregational Church of Fresno

2131 N. Van Ness Blvd.

(559) 227-8489

Kern County Concert

*Kern County Chapter American Guild of Organists and
the Westminster Choir proudly present ~*

THE INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED FATHER/SON DUO

Dr. James Welch, Organist

Nicholas Welch, Pianist

IN CONCERT

Friday, March 1, 2019, at 7PM

First Presbyterian Church

1705-17th Street, Bakersfield, CA

Donations are welcome

The program will include works by Bach, Bizet, Chopin,
Demarest, Puccini, Vierne, and more.



Choral Workshop

SAVE THE DATE

March 9 and 10, 2019
Choral Workshop and Hymn Festival

The San Joaquin Valley Chapter, American Guild of Organists is proud of its mission, as stated each month in its magazine, THE AMERICAN ORGANIST. "The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to enrich lives through organ and choral music."

In light of this mission our chapter is planning a choral workshop again this year. Church choir singers will have a chance to combine voices in a mass choir, singing great hymns of worship and two anthems. The SJV/AGO is happy to invite you and other singers in your choir to participate.

CHORAL WORKSHOP
Saturday, March 9, 2019 - 9:00 am to 12:30 pm
University Presbyterian Church
1776 E. Roberts, Fresno, CA
Dr. Roy Klassen, Director

Choir singers will be learning these two anthems:

PRAISE YE THE LORD by Mark Hayes, with handbells
IDYLL OF PRAISE by Craig Courney

AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS HYMN FESTIVAL
Sunday, March 10, 2019, 3:00 pm
1776 E. Roberts, Fresno, CA
Dr. Roy Klassen, Director

Choir singers may register for the choral workshop by completing the attached form. (Copy as needed.) There is no charge for the workshop. As we will need to have enough music available, please mail the registration forms by Friday, February 15, 2019 to: Catherine Walker, 30751 Roaring River Dr., Coarsegold, CA, 93614 - or send the information by email to pcwalker65@gmail.com. Your music will be mailed to you or left at your church so that you can come to the workshop with the music learned!

PLEASE PUT THE DATES ON YOUR CHURCH CALENDAR AND INVITE OTHER SINGERS TO REGISTER.

Workshop Registration

AGO CHORAL WORKSHOP REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE RETURN BY FEBRUARY 9, 2019

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Church Choir Connection _____

Part - Soprano 1..... 2.....

Alto 1..... 2.....

Tenor

Bass.....Baritone.....

Mail to Catherine Walker
30751 Roaring River Dr.
Coarsegold, CA, 93614

Or email all information to: pcwalker65@gmail.com

Questions? 559-658-7376