



The Executive Committee of
Grand Rapids AGO
2012-2013

Officers

Larry Biser, *Dean*
(lgbiser@att.net)

Chris Dekker, *Sub-dean*
(christopher.dekker@yahoo.com)

Irene Beethe, *Secretary*
(irene.beethe@gmail.com)

Errol Shewman, *Treasurer*
(EShewman@hotmail.com)

Council Members at Large

Ardis Keizer, 2013
(keizerh@msn.com)

Cornelius Huizenga, 2013
(cjhdds@hotmail.com)

Norma deWaal Malefyt, 2014
(norma.malefyt@calvin.edu)

Bruce Klanderma, 2014
(bklanderma@aol.com)

Joan Ringerwole, 2015
(jringer@dordt.edu)

Brian Bartusch, 2015
(bbartusch@centralreformedchurch.org)

Members Ex-Officio

Joel Gary, *Education Coordinator*
(joel.gary@comcast.net)

Herman Keizer, *Chaplain*
(keizerh@msn.com)

Robert Houskamp, *Registrar*
(bobjoan6387@sbcglobal.net)

Howard Slenk, *Membership Coordinator*
(slen@calvin.edu)

Dennis Buteyn, *Webmaster, Cipher Editor*
(dlbuteyn@sbcglobal.net)

Verlyn Schultz *Photographer*
(vjsgm@aol.com)

THE CIPHER

The Monthly Newsletter of the Grand Rapids Chapter
American Guild of Organists

October 2012

From the Dean

The drive to Lansing was beautiful with fall trees shedding their housedresses of green for party dresses of red, orange and yellow. A slight mist rose from fallow fields like so many ballerinas on point. Rows of dead and dying corn stalks stretched into the distance like a ranks of a Prussian army. No, you haven't arrived at fallinmichigan.com. Yesterday, as I have for every fall since I have been Dean of the GRAGO, I attended the Deans' Meeting at Brian Fowler's organ shop in Lansing. Nearly every Dean in Michigan attends the annual fall State Dean's meeting. This year it was headed up by our new Region V Councillor, David Lamb and our Michigan District Convener, Dr. Joseph D. Daniel. Next fall, the meeting is to be held in Grand Rapids, as it is a shorter commute for the northern Deans.

It is interesting to compare programs from all our state's chapters and meet the other Deans as well. Each Chapter Dean makes a presentation of the highlights of their chapters. Sometimes ideas cross-fertilize guilds. Lansing "borrowed" our idea of Bookmarks and I am sure we will in turn borrow from another guild. All the chapters seem to have an emphasis on programs for the young.

I made special mention of the November 7, Pipelines program that we hold annually for fourth graders. As of this issue we have 620 children registered for the event. It is extremely rewarding to take part in this event. The delight on the faces and the audible responses of the children is wonderful to witness. I wish more of you would join the performing members and see this educational experience for yourselves. If you are free between 9:30 and 10:30, think about joining us at Central Reformed Church.

I also spoke about our Anne VanderHeide Young Artist's program and its sponsorship by the Anne VanderHeide Fund of the Grand Rapids Community Foundation. We are grateful to Stu VanderHeide and the entire VanderHeide family for supporting this as well as the Pipelines event.

This year we are bringing Dongho Lee to Grand Rapids as our young artist. She played a flawless program at the National Convention and you will want to make sure to hear her on October 21 at 3:00 p.m. The program is being hosted by East Congregational Church UCC this year. They are located at 1005 Giddings Ave. SE in the Ottawa Hills neighborhood. Please plan to attend the recital and Ms. Lee's workshop the following evening. The workshop will also be held at East with a punch bowl and dinner preceding it in their newly refurbished dining room. Thanks to Joel Gary for all his work on this program and the preparations for the dinner.

I hope to see you all there,

Larry Biser



Young Artists Recital Series

Dongho Lee, organist

On Sunday, October 21, at 3:00 p.m. The Grand Rapids Chapter of the American Guild of Organists with the underwriting of the Anne Heyboer Vander Heide Fund of the Grand Rapids Community Foundation will present the second in our series of Young Artist Organ Recitals. This recital will take place at East Congregational Church U.C.C. located at 1005 Giddings Ave. S.E.



We are very grateful to the family of our former colleague, Anne Vander Heide, for their sponsorship of this recital series. They have been long time supporters of *GRAGO Pipelines*, a program which introduces fourth graders to the pipe organ. *Pipelines* takes place on November 7th this year at Central Reformed Church which has generously provided their facilities for many years.

We encourage everyone to attend what promises to be a wonderful recital. Ms. Lee will be playing music by Matthias Weckmann, J.S. Bach, Felix Mendelssohn, Marcel Dupré, Percy, Whitlock and Petr Eben.

There is no admission fee for this recital and we invite everyone to come and enjoy this brilliant young organist.

October Meeting

On Monday, October 22, Ms. Lee will be presenting a Masterclass at East Congregational Church. We will have our usual punchbowl at 6:30 p.m with dinner at 7:00 p.m. and program at 8:00 p.m. For reservations you may email to agodinner@grago.org or call Errol Shewman at 456-9232 if you are not called by a council member.

A native of Seoul, South Korea, **Dongho Lee** was awarded both the First Prize (the Lilian Murtagh Memorial Prize) and the Audience Prize in the 2010 American Guild of Organists National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance, which was held at the 50th national convention of the Guild in Washington, D.C.

Ms. Lee earned undergraduate and graduate degrees from Yonsei University in Korea where she studied with Dr. Tong-Soon Kwak. During her studies in Korea, she also served as organist of Seoul Anglican Cathedral. In 2004, she moved to the United States to continue her studies with Dr. Martin Jean at Yale University and the Yale Institute of Sacred Music, where she earned a second master's degree and was awarded the Julia R. Sherman Prize for excellence in organ playing. Ms. Lee is currently completing her doctoral studies at Indiana University's Jacobs School of Music where she is a student of Dr. Christopher Young. At Indiana University she was a recipient of the inaugural Jacobs Scholarship and has also served as Associate Instructor of Organ.

Ms. Lee has played recitals throughout the United States, Europe, and South Korea. Other competition credits include First Prize in the 2001 Klais Jang Cheon Organ Competition (Seoul) and Finalist standing in the 2008 Canadian International Organ Competition (Montreal). She now resides in Durham, North Carolina where she serves as Music Director and Organist at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church in Fayetteville, NC and plays weekly hour-long demonstrations of the organs of Duke University Chapel. Her first commercial recording was released in early summer 2011 on the Pro Organo label, and features 20th century organ music performed on the new C.B. Fisk organ at Indiana University. Ms. Lee is represented by Karen McFarlane Artists.

MUSIC AT MID-DAY

Park Congregational Church. 10 East Park Place. Concerts on Tuesdays from 12:15-12:45 p.m. Cost: **FREE**. Lunch served from 11:15 am – 1:30 p.m. for \$5.00. Homemade Soup, Salad Bar, Bread, Beverage and Cookie.

Oct. 2 – Jim Metzler, organ

Oct. 9 – Donald Sikkema, baritone; Robert Byrens, piano

Oct. 16 – Mark Loring, organ

Oct. 23 – David Hall, marimba

Oct. 30 – Carol McNally, organ

Sunday, October 7, 3:00 p.m., Second Congregational Church, 525 Cheshire Dr. N.E. The *Sounds of Second Concert Series* presents the *Second Church Organists Recital*. Six past and present organists will present a wide variety of music on the 49 Rank Reuter Organ. Participating organists include: Ron Krebs, Dr. Kent Hill, Janet Hill, Joel VanderZee, Chris Dekker, and Mark Loring.



Friday & Saturday, October 12-13, 8:00 p.m. DeVos Performance Hall. Grand Rapids Symphony presents music by master composers, Bach, Saint-Saëns and Beethoven. \$18-\$90 grsymphony.org

Friday & Saturday, October 12-13, Mighty Wurlitzer Concerts, G.R. Public Museum 272 Pearl St. N.W. Featuring Rob Richards, organist at Disney's El Capitan Theatre. Friday 7:00 p.m.; Saturday 2 p.m. Tickets \$10 adults; \$5 children.

Thursday & Friday, October 18-19, Royce Auditorium, St. Cecilia Music Center, 24 Ransom Ave. N.E. Grand Rapids Symphony Rising Stars presents music of Mozart and Mendelssohn. \$18-\$34 grsymphony.org

Friday & Saturday, October 19-20, 7:30 p.m., Covenant FAC Auditorium, Calvin College. Collage concert of 11 music department ensembles. \$15 adults; \$5 students. www.calvin.edu/music

Sunday, October 21, 3 p.m. East Congregational Church, 1005 Giddings Ave. S.E. **Dongho Lee** in recital. No admission charge.

Friday & Saturday, October 26-27, 8:00 p.m. DeVos Performance Hall. Grand Rapids Symphony presents Mozart's *Jupiter* Symphony and Brahms *Second Piano Concerto*. \$18-\$90. grsymphony.org

Saturday, October 27, 7:30 p.m. Dimnent Chapel, Hope College, Holland. Holland Symphony Orchestra with organist Huw Lewis presents Poulenc *Organ Concerto* and Saint-Saëns *Symphony No. 3 in C minor*. \$18 adults; \$15 seniors; \$5 students.

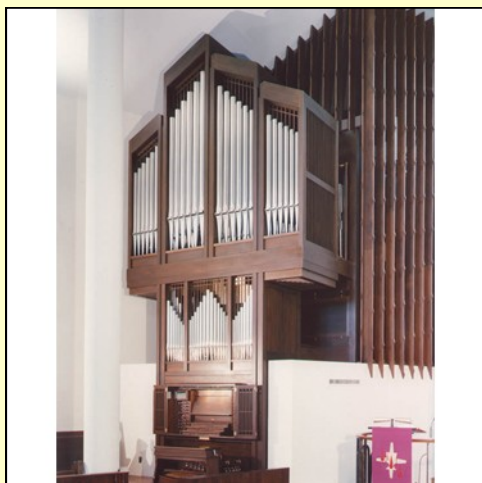
www.hollandsymphony.org



Summary of Treasurer's Report for Grand Rapids Chapter AGO

Checking account balance (09/24/12)	\$7,151.83
Savings account balance (08/31/12)	\$3,225.20
Endowment balance (09/21/12)	\$43,790.89
Young Artist's Recital Fund (09/24/12)	\$100.00

**Trinity October Organ Occasions
for the 20th Anniversary Celebration
of the 1992 Orgues Létourneau Ltée, opus 26
Trinity Lutheran Church
2700 East Fulton**



Sunday, Oct. 7 3 p.m.

Organ Plus a program of music for organ, voice, handbells and instruments

Program will feature organist Larry Biser, vocalists, the Resound handbell choir and instrumentalists from Trinity Lutheran Church.

The concert will included a piece for organ and handbells written from this occasion.

Sunday, Oct. 14 3 p.m.

Organ Recital

Dr. Elizabeth Claar, Trinity's organist, will present a program of literature for the organ that exploits the capabilities of this marvelous instrument in the acoustical splendor of Trinity's Sanctuary.

Sunday, Oct. 28 3 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Meets J.S. Bach

A visit from Johann Sebastian Bach as enacted by Dr. Paul Barte from Ohio University School of Music where as assistant professor of music, he teaches organ, harpsichord, early keyboard studies and music history and serves as the university organist. Dr. Barte appears in period costume and with his German accent to present the life and work of Lutheran's best loved composer. Some of our young organ students will join J.S. Bach for this entertaining and informative concert of Bach's music.

**Grand Rapids Chapter AGO
Programs 2012-2013**

Sunday, October 21, 3:00 p.m. East Congregational Church. **Dongho Lee**, Young Artist Recital.

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Monday, October 22, 8:00 p.m. East Congregational Church. Masterclass with Dongho Lee.

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Wednesday, November 7, 9:30 a.m. Central Reformed Church. *Pipelines* program for fourth graders.

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Sunday, November 18, 5:00 p.m. St. Mark's Episcopal Church. Duet Organ Recital: Dana Robinson and Paul Tegels.

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Monday, November 19, 8:00 p.m. St. Mark's Episcopal Church. Workshop. Chapter 75th Anniversary Celebration. Wine and hors d'oeuvre reception. Presentation on history of the chapter by Howard Slenk.

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Sunday, January 20, 3:00 p.m. Cathedral of St. Andrew. Members' Recital for the public.

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Sunday, February 10, 3:00 p.m. Basilica of St. Adalbert. Andrew Kotylo, organ recital.

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Monday, March 18, 8:00 p.m. Calvin Christian Reformed Church. Quimby Competition.

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Sunday, April 14, 3:00 p.m. Central Reformed Church. Young Organists Concert.

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Monday, May 20, 8:00 p.m. Trinity United Methodist Church. Anton Armstrong Choral Workshop.