

AGO Toledo  
bridging our musical past and future...



# The Prelude

June 2016

## **DEAN'S MESSAGE**

What a great ending to our 2015-2016 program year! Jacob Taylor "rocked" Trinity Episcopal Church in downtown Toledo on Sunday afternoon, May 22<sup>nd</sup>! Our little organ scholarship student from Deshler has grown up into a musical artist to be reckoned with! Thanks also to Trinity for hosting us and to Melissa Flowers for coordinating the program and the dinner that followed.

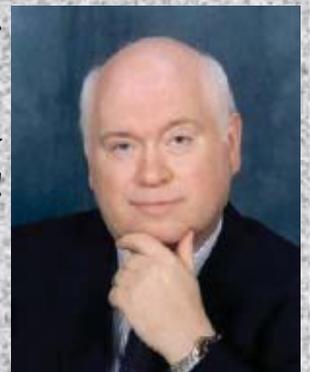
This is my last official message to you all as Chapter Dean. I have been happy to serve and certainly appreciated everyone's support over the past two years. This has been my third time serving as dean in many chapters.....I am now officially retired from that office! Our new chapter Dean is Mark Matthias, our Sub-Dean is Dennis Johns, our Secretary is Melissa Flowers and Pam Davis stays on as our very capable Treasurer. Our newest class of Executive Board Members include: Charles Brown, Denise Matthias, and John Roberts. They will be leading us into what I believe is the 75<sup>th</sup> year of our Toledo Chapter!

On a sad note we have learned of the passing of Carolyn Miller in Oak Harbor. She was a member of our chapter for some years. She was a "musical institution" in Oak Harbor at St. John's Lutheran Church. She not only grew up there but directed an active music program known especially for her annual Christmas program. She oversaw the installation of the church's four-manual Schantz organ that she played until her retirement in 2010. Carolyn was 95 years old. We enjoyed Garrett Law's recital there for our September program last year.

We want to thank all of our members who performed at our second *Saturday Afternoon at the Peristyle Organ Concert* at the Toledo Art Museum on May 21<sup>st</sup>. Organists participating included Marilyn and George Blackney, Brian Bogdanowitz, Curtis King, Joan McConnell and Nancy Russell. Thanks to all for keeping the Skinner "in front" of the public!

Well, I'm going to toddle off now and find my checkbook and pay my chapter dues! I hope that you all have or are planning to do the same! See you at one of next year's programs! Have a great summer!

*Neil Kraft, Dean*



## Toledo AGO Contact Info

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**Greetings!** As your new dean, I'm looking forward to our upcoming program year. We will soon be organizing and making plans for 2016-2017. If you have programming ideas that you would like us to consider, please drop me or one of our other officers/executive committee members a line, and we will consider it as we plan.

Many thanks to Neil Kraft, our past dean, for his work and dedication over the past two years. His leadership, efforts and input were inspirational and much appreciated! We look forward to having him continue to participate and offer his invaluable thoughts in our planning. Thank you, Neil!

As we lead into summer, I encourage each of you to take some time to attend a conference/continuing education event, read through some new music or some old gems and/or concentrate on acquiring a new playing skill or building on one that you would like to develop.

May your summer be relaxing, rejuvenating and blessed by God.

*Mark Mathias*

### MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to all who are interested in the organ. To become a member of the Toledo Chapter, contact Joan McConnell, Membership Chair.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

To submit articles, news, concerts, or vacant positions, contact:

**Email:** Kathy Rupp

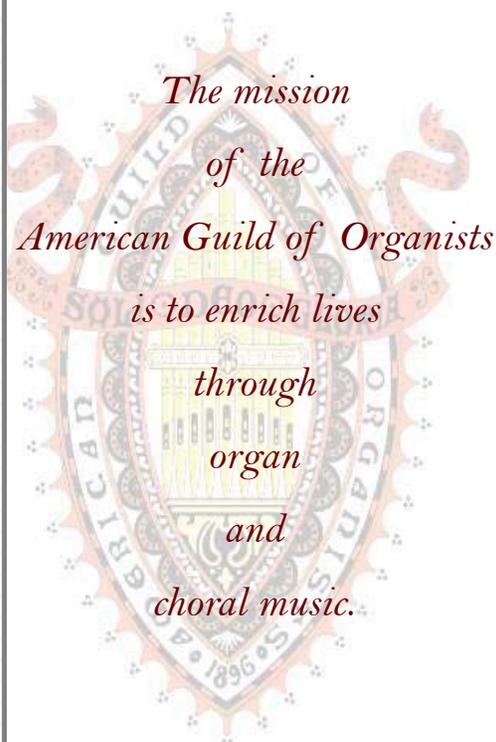
[kathy.rupp744@gmail.com](mailto:kathy.rupp744@gmail.com)

**Newsletter:** Melissa Flowers

[mflowers@findlaystmichael.org](mailto:mflowers@findlaystmichael.org)

### WEBSITE

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



## ELECTION RESULTS: Spring 2016

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Although not as hotly contested as Hillary and Bernie or Trump and his many opponents, still we had an election and there are results to report! We are grateful to have elected a slate of officers and a new “class” of the Executive Committee. Our leadership for the coming season is:

Mark Mathias, Dean  
Dennis Johns, Sub-Dean  
Melissa Flowers, Secretary  
Pam Davis, Treasurer

The Executive Committee consists of nine members, each serving a three-year term. Those elected are:

Class of 2019: Charles Brown, Denise Mathias, John Roberts  
Class of 2018: Marilyn Blackney, Melissa Flowers, Craig Whitaker  
Class of 2017: Ed Duling, Curtis King, Joan McConnell

In addition, Neil will join the rank and file of the Executive Committee as former Dean.

These are the folks who will plan our next season of events. If you have ideas or suggestions for the coming year’s calendar, please get in touch with any of us!

And please join me in expressing gratitude to those leaving the board: Sue Craig, Secretary and Kathy Rupp, Committee Member.

*Joan McConnell, Membership Chair*



← Nancy Russell

## Peristyle Concert

Six of us performed Saturday, May 21, on the Skinner organ in the Peristyle. Brian Bogdanowitz, Curtis King, Nancy Russell and George and Marilyn Blackney joined me in bringing a varied program to the Toledo Museum of Art. We had theater organ, German chorales and fugues, transcriptions from 19<sup>th</sup> century piano literature, 20<sup>th</sup> century French music, and even a duet on "The Stars and Stripes Forever". There were 250 people attending the concert, which was organized as a "drop-in" event. I've had several enthusiastic comments from folks in the audience; we truly brought people to the organ and the organ to the people!

Scott Boberg and Rebecca Speegle of TMA seem most eager to continue these programs. As soon as they contact me to plan another one, I will put out the call for players! Be thinking of pieces you would like to play on the Skinner. It is an instrument capable of great beauty and sensitivity, and, as several of us noted, it is a very comfortable console despite having four manuals. I hope we will have many more opportunities to share our musical gifts with the Toledo community at this venue.

*-Joan McConnell*

George and Marilyn  
Blackney →

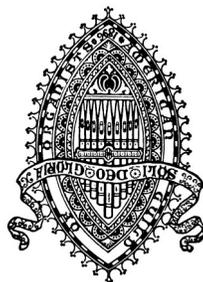


**POSITION OPENING:**

Director of Music/Organist for St. Petri Lutheran Church (ELCA), 3120 S. Byrne Road, Toledo, OH 43614. One Service at 9:30am on Sundays. Additional Services in Advent, Lent and Festival Sundays. One SATB Choir sings each Sunday and rehearses weekly from September to May; occasionally sings during the summer months. Currently there is no Children's Choir; however, reaching out to the children in the community and reinstating a Children's Choir has been a goal yet to be realized. Two-manual Casavant Pipe Organ and Yamaha C5 Grand Piano in the choir loft. Yamaha P22 vertical piano in the choir room. Extensive library of choral music for SAB, SATB and children (unison and two part), including many musicals. Starting date: September 15, 2016. Salary negotiable.

CONTACT: Tom Klockowski, Trustee of St. Petri Lutheran Church, 419-382-1267

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



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THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS