

## Sioux Trails AGO Chapter Information

### Chapter Board Members:

**Dean:** Wayne Wagner, wagnerwl@comcast.net

**Sub-Dean/Program Chair:** Michael Asmus, masmus@gustavus.edu

**Secretary:** Christine Schulz, musicbox@hickorytech.net

**Treasurer:** Ron Shilling, shillirl@mlc-wels.edu

**Publicity Chair:** David Porth, porthda@gmail.com

**Newsletter Editor:** David Lim, dlim@gustavus.edu

**Member-at-Large:** Paul Otte, otte@hutchtel.net

**Member-at-Large:** Mark Thompson, markt@ctmankato.org

**STAGO Chapter Website:** [www.agosiouxtrails.org](http://www.agosiouxtrails.org)

**National AGO Website:** [www.agohq.org](http://www.agohq.org)

The Sioux Trails AGO Chapter invites you to submit your recitals and other forthcoming organ-related events to the Publicity Chair, David Porth, for publication on the chapter website and *VOX PRINCIPALIS*. Submit events at least one month in advance.



# VOX PRINCIPALIS

Sioux Trails Chapter Newsletter  
American Guild of Organists

Wayne Wagner, Dean

– Fall 2012 –

### From the new Sioux Trails AGO Dean, Wayne Wagner

Thank you for granting me the opportunity and privilege to serve as your Dean for the next two years. Along with the other members of the ST-AGO Board, I hope that we will provide leadership that continues to make membership in our chapter of benefit to each of you.

Thanks to our Past-Dean Chad Winterfeldt for his excellent leadership. We have appreciated his patient and steady approach. His encouragements and efforts to broaden the awareness of our chapter by others within our area have been significant.

Thank you also to each of you for joining our chapter or renewing your membership. We are pleased that you have chosen to do so and hope that you will find events of interest to you in the current year. Although a majority of our membership clusters around the Mankato-New Ulm-St. Peter area, some of you live a distance from there. No matter where you live, I encourage each of you to join us for as many events as possible. Get to know fellow chapter members and enjoy their company as we further our knowledge and enjoyment of the organ. Our first two events this fall (a dinner in Mankato and a presentation on organ maintenance in New Ulm) have been great ways to get the season started. Be sure to read about them in this newsletter or on our website ([www.agosiouxtrails.org](http://www.agosiouxtrails.org)).

Check the article by Michael Asmus, our Sub-Dean and Program Chair, about the plans for events in the coming months. Please do send us your suggestions for events that would be of interest to you. Events we are planning include educational activities, performances, and social gatherings. One of our goals is to explore organs in our area. We have a very good variety of new, refurbished, unique, and historically interesting ones to see and play.

One of the things I am excited about is that we have several organ students from the colleges in our area who are chapter members. We are very happy to have you with us and were very pleased to see many of you at our first two events, as well as at several organ concerts/recitals in the Twin Cities area. Your enthusiasm for the organ is encouraging to all of us.

The Board has agreed to have newsletters produced on an as-needed rather than a monthly basis. We will try to keep you informed, however, about events and news of the chapter. We intend to distribute communications and publicity primarily through our website and email correspondence, and will make the newsletter available that way as well. This seems to be a fast and cost-effective way to reach almost all of our members. We will make efforts to provide regular mail notices to those of you without an Email address on file with us. Please accept our apology if you did not receive information about our first two events this fall.

Finally, bring a friend to an event! Some people find it easier to go to something when you already know someone who will be there. So, bring them with you.

Best wishes,  
– Wayne Wagner, Dean

### **Sioux Trails AGO Events Planned for Winter & Spring 2013**

A presentation will be held regarding musicians' injuries by staff from the Sister Kenny Rehabilitation Institute at Abbot Northwestern Hospital, Minneapolis. This presentation will provide information about common injuries that musicians encounter, along with possible causes, types of treatment, and ways of prevention. This event will take place at Gustavus Adolphus College sometime in February. A firm date and time have not yet been determined. Presenters have spent a significant period of their career working with musicians, especially from the Minnesota Orchestra, The Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, Saint Olaf College, Carleton College, and other notable institutions.

Other planned events include a student and member recital in April. An organ crawl to either Hutchinson or Sleepy Eye and spring business meeting are planned for later in the spring; a social gathering will be held prior to the business meeting. Dates and times for all these events have yet to be finalized. Check the chapter website in future months for updates regarding dates and times.

– Michael Asmus, Sub-Dean/Program Chair

### **Remarks about David Engen's presentation *Basic Organ Tuning & Maintenance***

On behalf of the American Guild of Organists – Sioux Trails Chapter, I wish to extend many thanks to David Engen for giving a wonderful presentation. Many members commented on the interesting material and how thoroughly it was explained. All in attendance gained knowledge on how different pipes organs work and how to diagnose a problem within the organ. Always remember: If you cannot figure out the problem, please call your technician! You do not want to injure yourself or the organ. With proper attention and maintenance, your organ will continue to be a wonderful addition to the worship life at your congregation for many years to come.

– David Porth, Publicity Chair

### **A Retrospect of Events from Spring & Summer 2012**

This summer, our chapter proudly presented its annual Summer Noontime Recital Series in Mankato, each Tuesday of the summer months, beginning June 12 and ending August 21. The recitals occurred in two locations in downtown Mankato: five weeks at Grace Lutheran Church, 320 East Main Street and six weeks at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 720 South Second Street. Each recital featured a member or friend of the chapter performing a varied recital lasting approximately 35 to 45 minutes. All programs were free and open to all.

We invited two guest performers from the Twin Cities and Collegeville, respectively. Our first guest performer, Dr. Kristina Langlois, professor of organ at Concordia University, St. Paul, opened the series on the Hendrickson at Grace Lutheran; our second guest performer, Br. Theophane (Kraig) Windschitl, St. John's Abbey, Collegeville, introduced our audiences to the Holtkamp at Bethlehem. All other recitals were played by chapter members. Attendance for the recitals varied from 52 persons to 156 persons, with an average attendance of about 75.

Perhaps the most enthusiastically received recital was the Patriotic Potpourri recital, presented on July 3. In addition to virtuosic compositions, several patriotic songs were sung, such as *America the Beautiful* and *My Country 'Tis of Thee*. This rousing secular opportunity to showcase the organ as a means for leading participatory song was particularly gratifying for the performers and also greatly appreciated by the audience members.

We were grateful for the generous support of the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, who provided a grant for us to enhance our publicity efforts. In addition, we received a generous amount of dollars from the free-will donation accepted at each recital. Our summer series continues to be a very successful activity for our chapter; as we plan for another summer we should strive to envision new means to attract audiences to these wonderful recitals.

– Chad Winterfeldt, Past-Dean

### **NOTE: Last Paper Copy of *VOX PRINCIPALIS***

In the interest of saving financial and material resources, this edition of *VOX PRINCIPALIS* will be the last printed copy sent to STAGO members and friends. Subsequent editions will be sent via Email and posted on the chapter website. If you would like to continue receiving a printed copy, contact the Newsletter Editor, David Lim (Email: dlim@gustavus.edu; Mail: 800 W College Avenue, Saint Peter, Minnesota, 56082). However, note that by not contacting the Newsletter Editor, it will be assumed that you no longer want a paper copy of *VOX PRINCIPALIS* sent to you.