



The Principal

NEWSLETTER OF THE LONG BEACH CHAPTER
OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

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September, 2020

The Dean's Corner

Robert York, Chapter Dean

Greetings!

I hope you all had a wonderful summer. We are already approaching the start of our new season.

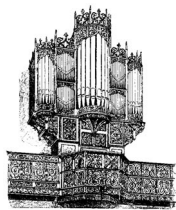
Our programming committee has put together a great line-up of events and programs using a combination of online events for the near future and events for 2021

that can be either live or if need be, online. Either way our season is fantastic!

On TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 8TH, at 7PM we will have our annual potluck/kick-off party but this year it will be a Zoom meeting. You will receive notification with the meeting code, etc. prior to the event. These types of parties have been very successful nationally with other AGO chapters and we look forward to having great fellowship!

I look forward to seeing you all!

Robert York



POE Report

Dr. Hwang reports that our POE will rise from its ashes (pandemic permitting, of course) July 12-17, 2021. Let us all pray for a vaccine, a cure, or preferably both.

Organist Position Available

Gethsemane Lutheran Church, La Crescenta, CA
Sunday Service at 10am

For more information Contact church office.
Phone number is 818-248-3738. Email is:
glcmlc@gmail.com

New Members

We have three new members:

Mark Husey

A graduate of Westminster Choir College, Mark Husey sent me this:

"It's a pleasure to be a part of the Long Beach AGO Chapter following three seasons at Holy Trinity, San Pedro (where I was Robert York's successor once removed) after serving at Blessed Sacrament in Hollywood as successor to Dr. Hyunju Hwang. It's my hope that Chris and I may eventually be more geographically proximate to this chapter's home base but for now we're no more than a podcast's length away. I'm thrilled to join your ranks and am continually amazed at the ever-broadening talent pool that makes our SoCal AGO chapters so enriching, even in these biblical times. Please reach out to me on social media on [facebook.com/mark.husey](https://www.facebook.com/mark.husey)"

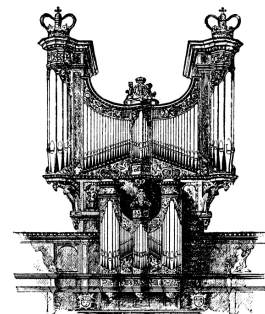
<http://mhusey.com>

Dr. James Hurd

Dr. Hurd was born in Texas, and grew up in Kansas, where he received his Bachelor of Music degree. He has a Master of Music from the American Conservatory of Music in Chicago, and a DMA from USC. He is on the faculty of El Camino College, and serves both St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Redondo Beach, and First Baptist Church in Rolling Hills Estates.

Seong-Ok Yuh

I hope to learn more about Seong-Ok Yuh in time for the next issue of The Principal.



Has Your Personal Information Changed?

Friendly reminder from Dr. Hwang: Be sure to check your personal information in ONCARD to make any updates.

COVID-19 Dues Assistance

There is COVID-19 dues assistance for those who may have lost income due to COVID-19 and are unable to pay their dues this year. There are funds available thru AGO National to pay the member dues this year. Simply contact Elizabeth George, Director of Member Engagement and Chapter Development, American Guild of Organists. Her phone number is: 212-870-2310, ext. 4307. Her email is: elizabeth.george@agohq.org

Resources and Repertoire

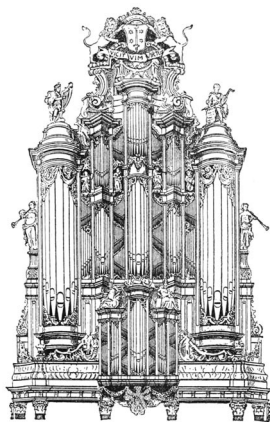
James Lampert, filling in for Russ Litchfield

Back in May, I offered links to YouTube videos from Monica Czausz and Alison Luedecke. This issue, I offer something I just discovered this week, while looking for the beginning of the service I live-streamed on Sunday the 16th at First Church Cambridge.

Among the past services on First Church Cambridge's YouTube channel, Peter Sykes has posted a number of Voluntaries as separate videos. I've hardly scratched the surface, but as soon as I was aware of them, I TinyURL'd a filtered listing of them

<https://tinyurl.com/SykesVoluntaries>

Even though I barely know Prof. Sykes, I consider him a friend, just as I consider Claudia Dumschat, J. Melvin Butler, and Diane Belcher (among many others in the organ world whom I've barely met) to be friends. How could I not consider him a friend, after he gave a self-described ham-handed beginner like me the unsupervised run of the First Church Cambridge Frobenius?



2020-2021 Season

All events will be virtual. Access links will be sent by email and also posted on our website at www.lbago.org.

September 8, 2020 – Tuesday, 7:00 pm

*Kick-Off Party, BYOC**

Host: Robert York, Dean

October 11, 2020 – Sunday, 4:00 pm

Organ Concert – St. Thomas Church in Leipzig, Germany

Performer: Sebastian Heindl

November 15, 2020 – Sunday, 4:00 pm

Concert – Celebrating Beethoven's 250th Anniversary

Performers: Althea Waites (Piano)

and Hyunju Hwang (Organ)

Piano Concerto No.2 for Piano

Organ Suite for the Mechanical Organ,

WoO33

Piano Sonata No. 12, Op. 26

December 8, 2020 – Tuesday, 7:30 pm

Members' Recital – Christmas Organ Music

January 12, 2021 – Tuesday, 7:30 pm

Lecture – "Imagery, Structure, and Symbolism in J. S.

Bach's Orgelbüchlein"

Lecturer: Tom Mueller

February 2, 2021 – Tuesday, 7:30 pm

Celebrating Black History Month with a Spiritual

Arrangement for Organ

Lecturer: James Hurd

March 21, 2021 – Sunday, 4:00 pm

Members' Recital – Celebrating Bach's Birthday

April 13, 2021 – Tuesday, 7:30 pm

Educational Event – TBA

Provider: National AGO Resources

May 9, 2021 – Sunday, 4:00 pm

Guild Service and Installation of Officers

Host: Sean O'Neal

* BYOC - Bring your own cocktail.



Submission Guidelines for The Principal

Many of you are already aware that I use rather antiquated software to assemble, typeset, and print this newsletter (and we all know that “old” does not mean “inferior,” or we wouldn’t be playing the organ). But it does mean that certain modern formats are difficult for me to deal with.

In particular, DOC and DOCX files are the most difficult, since I have almost nothing at home that can deal with them easily, or even render them faithfully.

RTF (Rich Text Format), on the other hand, is something that nearly every modern word processor can produce, and it’s very easy for me to deal with. Another good choice would be a plain ASCII or UTF-8 text file, or the body of a plain text email.

And remember: if you have an event, we want to be able to get the word out in time to make a difference. The industry standard for monthly periodicals is to have them in the mail by the beginning of the month, and that’s what I try to do.

Oh, and if I talk about column-inches, and you’re not sure what I mean, well, it’s exactly what it sounds like: Merriam-Webster defines a column-inch as “a unit of measure for printed matter one column wide and one inch deep,” and Oxford defines it as “A one-inch length of a column in a newspaper or magazine.”

Getting To Know You, and The Instruments We Play

Do you have an interesting story about yourself? Play an interesting instrument? Have any online videos you’d like to share in this time of isolation? Mark Husey told his story right in the New Members announcement. We’d love to hear from you (and it gives me something better to print than my own wild rantings! Email JHHL@toast.net

From the Press Room

*James H. H. Lampert, Typesetting, Printing,
and Circulation*

(Note: Any opinions expressed here are strictly those of the author!)

Lamentations on a Mess

First, the remainder of the 2019-2020 Disney Hall season was canceled, eliminating performances by Monica Czausz, Boston Baroque, and Les Violins du Roy. Then everything planned for my Spring vacation evaporated in a puff of COVID-19-contaminated

breath, although some of what I would be missing is already rescheduled for 2021.

Then the Hollywood Bowl season was canceled, and I went from perhaps as many as 18 concerts over the 10-week summer season to having nothing but my small archive of broadcast concerts.

Then I got word that the new Disney Hall season would be canceled through the end of 2020.

There are clerics and church musicians I haven’t seen face-to-face in months, and some I haven’t even seen online. And it’s been five months since my last organ lesson.

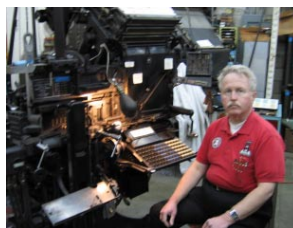
At the Printing Museum, we haven’t been open for normal operations for months. But at least there, we’ve actually had things to do during the enforced downtime, mostly things we couldn’t have accomplished without it: the new wing finally got permanent wiring, and a floor that wasn’t the divot-riddled bare concrete our tenant had left us with. But I’ve only been able to do Linotype demos for a few contractors, and some very tightly controlled special events, and even then, doing it behind a mask, and choking on my own steam.

But it hasn’t been all bad: I finally found the time to start writing a new draft of the novel that first led me to begin organ lessons. And I’ve been able, through the wonders of live-streaming and YouTube, to attend churches I’ve only ever been able to attend while on vacation, including St. Stephen Lutheran of Williamsburg, VA and Transfiguration Episcopal (New York City’s famous “Little Church Around the Corner”), all from the comfort of my office (in a completely empty building, obviating any need for a mask). And I expect that as long as those churches continue to have online services, I will continue to join them with some regularity, even after I resume attending in-person services.

And perhaps that is the biggest positive lesson of the COVID-19 Pandemic: that we can still gather together in spirit, even while physically isolated, fully participating in ways that, under the present circumstances, would be suicidal if we did so in person. While I’m having trouble even imagining how some of our virtual events will play out, the schedule does look intriguing.

Stay safe, everybody.

James H. H. Lampert
Your Humble Typesetter



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Special thanks to the International Printing Museum.
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