

The American Guild of Organists



Windline—August 2017

Clearwater Chapter
www.clearwaterago.org

Bradley Swope,
Dean
Thomas D. Huffman,
Windline Editor

DEAN'S MESSAGE, AUGUST 2017



I want to begin my term by acknowledging that many of you don't know me very well, and so I look forward to getting to know each of you better. I imagine we do have a lot in common. Many of us can sing by memory two or three verses of most of the hymns in our hymnal, and we even have the page numbers memorized for a lot of them. None of us ever have enough practice time, and then when we finally get to sit down on the bench, the cell phone rings three times and several people walk by having loud conversations as if we are the ones inconveniencing them!

Nevertheless, what we do every week is some of the most wonderful and meaningful and holy work that anyone is privileged to do. We minister to all ages, in times of joy and times of sadness. We are the ones who make the magic happen all year long in worship, and especially on high holy days. This AGO chapter exists as a way for us to support each other as we continue to uphold the amazing history and impact of organ and choral music. Thank you so much for your continued membership and participation in our chapter, regional and national events. My thanks as well to each person who has accepted a position on the board, and my apologies to our past-dean, Stephen Allen, for all the questions I will have to ask him this coming year! May God bless our work together.

Bradley Swope

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Members can now access the current and all back issues of *The American Organist* magazine from May 2014 at www.agohq.org
- Deadline for items to be included in the next issue of this newsletter is the 20th of the month.
- Welcome to new member Michelle Thomas (Dual with St. Petersburg).
- Linda Lund, Minister of Music at Lutheran Church of the Palms invites other area choirs to join in presenting the Christmas portion of *Messiah* this December. If interested contact Linda at (727)482-7952 or locpmusicminister@gmail.com

FTC SETTLEMENT AND SALARY GUIDELINES

In 2015, Federal Trade Commission expressed concern that certain of our practices and procedures were anti-competitive. In the fall of 2016, after many months of negotiations with the FTC during which the AGO was supported by our legal counsel, the National Council unanimously voted to enter into a settlement with the FTC to resolve their issues. Part of this settlement was that Salary Guidelines will no longer be published or shared with members, clergy, or anyone else. Here are some questions answered as shared on the national headquarters website. (www.agohq.org)

Why are the Salary Guidelines and Model Contract Provisions no longer on the AGO website?

We have removed these documents from our website to comply with the requirements of our settlement agreement with the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). Chapters must do the same. For that matter if you, as a member, have an old copy of the AGO's Salary Guidelines, you must not use that document in salary negotiations. You should destroy it.

Since the AGO's Salary Guidelines are gone, how can I negotiate a fair salary with my employer?

An employee may turn to a number of other resources, such as (1) what you currently earn, (2) what you understand other similarly qualified individuals earn, whether they are organists in your community or other professionals such as musicians in symphony orchestras, or university professors, (3) published information from unions of similarly qualified professionals such as the American Federation of Musicians, (4) data published regularly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and (5) guidelines published by denominational music organizations. It may be particularly useful to document what your time commitments will be to plan, prepare, practice, and perform service music, and to carry out all other duties expected of you for the position. You can also detail your academic study, years of training, and relevant experience. What the AGO cannot do, however, is provide you with salary data for this effort.

As a Chapter Officer, I still have a copy of the old Salary Guidelines in my files. May I give them to my chapter members?

The AGO's settlement prohibits you from doing so. It is particularly important for all chapter leaders to comply with this provision rigorously. Further detailed information is available in the current (August) issue of *The American Organist*.



Please examine the mailing label on your copy of TAO Magazine. If the expiration date is on or before 8/1/2017 and you have not renewed your membership within the last 30 days, then your membership has lapsed. To avoid disruption of membership benefits and TAO Magazine, renew online by visiting www.agohq.org and accessing ONCARD via the MEMBER Login, or by calling the AGO Headquarters staff at 212-870-2310 (9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Eastern Time); or e-mail members@agohq.org.

Clearwater Chapter Friends should write a \$50.00 check to "Clearwater Chapter AGO" (for July 2017-June 2018) and mail to:

Bob Booth, Treasurer
3316 Sam Bernadino St.
Clearwater FL 33759-5619

Understand that "Chapter Friend" membership only supports the local chapter and doesn't provide the benefits of belonging to the national organization like access to parts of the AGO website or the TAO magazine. Chapter Friend is designed for those not currently serving in a paid position.

September Chapter Meeting

Member Sharing and Dinner

Monday, September 18, 2017

6:00 p.m. Dinner

7:00 Sharing Time

Calvary Episcopal Church
1615 1st Street, Indian Rocks Beach

Bring organ music, choral music to play/sing—or speak on other topics of interest like creative solutions to performance problems in particular choir or organ works.

Please RSVP to the host, Matthew Burke about what you are bringing/saying.
(407) 618-6702 or m.edwardburke@gmail.com

Cost of the meal is \$10.00

For a reservation, send your check by September 13 to :

Bob Booth, Treasurer
3316 San Bernadino St.
Clearwater FL 33759-5619

POSITION AVAILABLE

St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Dunedin, is seeking an individual who will bring glory to God by providing music through organ/piano which supports the spoken and printed word and provides a variety of musical styles to the glory of God. The organist will work in concert with the Worship Leaders to provide meaningful musical worship experiences for the congregation.

This position serves as organist/pianist for Sunday morning traditional service, including prelude and postlude and other musical selections as needed during the worship service; and all other scheduled special celebration of worship where the organ/piano is the primary instrument utilized. Responsibilities include preparing and presenting hymns selected by the Pastor, with clear and robust introductions, appropriate tempo and volume, and with occasional alternate harmonization. Rehearse with and accompany vocalists, instrumentalists, and small groups as scheduled for worship services throughout the year by the Worship Minister. Maintain and assure proper use, care, repair and maintenance of the pipe organ and pianos.

This Position is part time (approximately 10 – 15 hours weekly). Hours include: weekly rehearsals and Sunday mornings, along with preparation.

The ideal candidate should have and demonstrate strong experience or training on a pipe organ, piano or equivalent; have a committed and growing relationship with Jesus Christ; be committed to evangelism; have good organizational and communication skills; and be able to multitask and manage projects. An Associate degree in Music Leadership or related field supplemented by two (2) years' experience as an Organist or equivalent work experience is preferred.

To apply, please submit the following: your resume, and a cover letter with references to resume@sapcd.org

MEMORIAL SERVICE

A memorial service for Michael E. Hunter will be Saturday, August 19 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, Tampa. Michael was a friend and colleague who was Dean of the Tampa Chapter of AGO and had served the Guild in many capacities including District Convener. The Clearwater Chapter has made a memorial gift to the AGO Annual Fund in Michael's memory.

CLEARWATER AGO 2017-2018 OFFICERS

DEAN: Bradley Swope
bswope@tampabay.rr.com
SUB-DEAN: Mark Prater, AAGO, Ch.M

SECRETARY: Dr. Linda Pointer

TREASURER: Bob Booth

BOARD MEMBERS
Carol Alexander (2018)
Bob Shone, CAGO (2018)
Stephen Allen (2019)
Matthew Burke (2019)
Shawn Thomas (2020)

Board Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 9:00 AM at: First United Methodist Church of Clearwater, 411 Turner St.

Next Board Meeting: September 6.

GROM EDUCATION FUND
PETERSON SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Tom Huffman, Chair
hufftom@aol.com

PLACEMENT COORDINATOR
Priscilla Ortoski
tap.tortoski1@verizon.net
(727)845-4745

LOOKING AHEAD 2017-18

Friday, October 27 7:00 p.m.	<i>Pipescreams</i> First Presbyterian Church, Dunedin Reception following
Sunday, November 19	Members' Recital
Wednesday, December 27 6:00 p.m.	Christmas Dinner Bon Appetit, Dunedin
Sunday, January 7	Hymn Festival
February 17-18 9:00-Noon 3:00 p.m.	Handbell Weekend Saturday Workshop with Rick Holdsworth Sunday concert by <i>Ring Sarasota!</i> Prince of Peace Lutheran, Largo
Sunday, March 11 3:00 p.m.	Greg Zelek, Organist Prince of Peace Lutheran, Largo
Tuesday, April 17	Tri-Chapter concert, Palladium, St. Petersburg
Sunday, May 6	Chapter Installation of Officers and Banquet

SUBSTITUTES AVAILABLE

(O=Organist only; O/D=Organist/Director; D=Director only; V=Vocalist)

Please send updates or corrections for this list to Placement Coordinator Priscilla Ortoski by call (727) 845-4745 or emailing tap.tortoski1@verizon.net. Inclusion in the lists below does not constitute the Chapter's endorsement of skills, and thus it encourages interviews with prospective substitutes. Those listed must be a member of The American Guild of Organists.

Peggy BeVille	(727) 726-8457 O (727) 403-8166 (cell)
Cheryl Brouette	(727) 453-0317 O
Brent Douglas	(727) 459-7025 O, O/D
Grayce Hillman	(727) 642-7322 O, O/D, V
Roberta Hoopes	(727) 442-8333 D
Matt Lancaster	(727) 313-5129 O
Dr. Linda Pointer	(727) 441-1099 O, O/D
Mark Prater, AAGO, ChM	(727) 536-2698 O, O/D
Dr. Sandra Rogers	(727) 560-2376 O, O/D, V
Robert Shone, CAGO	(727) 789-6527 O, O/D <i>rcshone@aol.com</i>



AVAILABLE FOR EVENTS—NOT SUNDAY

MORNING	
Stephen Allen	(813) 968-7095 O, O/D
Tom Huffman	(727) 409-8726 O, O/D

*AGO Clearwater Chapter
Winline
Thomas D. Huffman, Editor
hufftom@aol.com*