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Front-and-Center this month is the Biennial Convention of the American Guild of Organists in Boston, MA, June 23-27. It is not too late to register and attend this stellar event but hotel rooms are getting scarce, so try to book now if you possibly can. If you have been to a national AGO convention before you have an idea how great a range of concerts, recitals and workshops is offered, but Boston has done this before (’76 and ’84) so they are experienced and they are good at it. I expect this convention to be nothing short of SPECTACULAR. If you can only go to a national convention once — this is the one to attend!

If you are going, please email me or Sheri and let me know, and perhaps we can have a chance to meet there for coffee or a meal.

Next-up is our July 9 event. This is the first time in recent memory we have tried an event in July, and a workshop with a potluck seemed a good choice. The subjects, while not universally appealing, should be of interest to many of you.

If you have struggled with Finale software trying to make it do what you want instead of what it wants, you’ll appreciate David Bohn’s workshops (one for beginners and one for more experienced users.) David’s experience with the software is broad and deep and he is a wonderful teacher. I cannot tell you how many times during the editing process of the MILWAUKEE ORGAN BOOK I had to call-on David for help with a Finale conundrum. He was always willing to solve my problem over the phone, and on several occasions actually coming to my home to help me with the problem. (No, I’m NOT volunteering him to do that for you) It is not exaggerating to say that the MILWAUKEE ORGAN BOOK would not yet be in print were it not for David’s help. I can assure you, you will learn from him.

The alternate workshop is “Taxes / Deductions for Church Musicians” led by Jeff VerKuilen, CPA, FAGO, and Wisconsin Convener for the AGO. As owner of his own accounting firm dealing in taxes, he is well-versed in the ins-and-outs of the tax code and typical deductions and rules affecting church musicians, and at the same time, Jeff is a hard-working church musician and a fine organist. I’m looking forward to his presentations.

Even if the workshops are not your cup-of-tea, you can participate in the potluck and have a chance to meet or catch-up with your colleagues and friends at a time when most schedules are a little lighter. Please consider; this is the very best kind of support we can give to each other. I hope to see you there. The evening is FREE to chapter-members and only $10 for guests.

Speaking of the MILWAUKEE ORGAN BOOK, I can tell you that sales are going well among the general public, but I confess to being disappointed in the sales-numbers for chapter members. Many of you expressed excitement or interest in the book, but that has not translated into sales within the chapter. Perhaps it is just one of those things you intended to do but haven’t gotten-to yet. If so, there’s no better time than the present. If you haven’t thought about purchasing a copy, please give it serious consideration. Remember that all the profit goes to the chapter, so you will be rewarding yourself with some great music and rewarding the chapter with funding at the same time. Just buy it.
June 2014

4 (Wed) 12:15 Ted King, Organ
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist
812 N. Jackson St
Milwaukee, WI

4 (Wed) 12:15 Nancy Siebecker, Organ
First Presbyterian Church
200 Church St
Neenah, WI

6 (Fri) 7:00 Christopher Martin, Organ
Organ Dedication Concert
Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church
11313 N. Riverland Rd
Mequon, WI

8 (Sun) 4:00 Wallace Cheatham, Organ
St. Mark AME
1616 W. Atkinson Ave
Milwaukee, WI

10 (Tues) 7:30 William Schlueter, Organ
Church of the Gesu
1145 W. Wisconsin Ave
Milwaukee, WI

11 (Wed) 12:15 EStrella Piano Duo
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist
812 N. Jackson St
Milwaukee, WI

11 (Wed) 12:15 Michael Simonini, Organ
St. Bernard Catholic Church
1617 W. Pine St
Appleton, WI

12 (Thurs) 12:15 Dr. Derek Nichols, Organ
First Presbyterian Church
200 Church St
Neenah, WI

15 (Sun) 3:00 Hymn Festival for Trinity Sunday
Pilgrim Lutheran Church
2664 N. 68th St
Milwaukee, WI

15 (Sun) 7:00 Ken Cowan, Organ
Lisa Shihoten, Violin
Shepherd of the Bay Lutheran Church
11836 Hwy 42
Ellison Bay, WI

18 (Wed) 12:15 Cristiano Rizzotto, Organ
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist
812 N. Jackson St
Milwaukee, WI

18 (Wed) 12:15 Matthew Walsh, Organ
Trinity Lutheran Church
804 Grignon St
Kaukauna, WI

21 (Sat) 2:00 Avec le Bois Woodwind Quintet
St. Casimir Church
2600 N. Bremen St
Milwaukee, WI

25 (Wed) 12:15 Dr. Solon Pierce, Piano
The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist
812 N. Jackson St
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25 (Wed) 12:15 Don Verkuilen, Organ
St. Mary’s Catholic Church
628 5th St
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Congratulations to the newly elected Class of 2016

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Fr. Tom Lijewski        Dean Rosko

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Membership 2014-15

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Membership Category check appropriate boxes

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