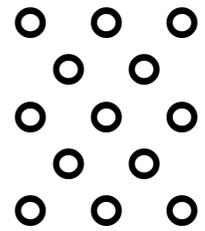


# THE DRAWKNOB

Newsletter of the Denver Rocky Mountain Chapter  
American Guild of Organists

February 2019



## Dean's Mixture

We were all saddened by the unexpected passing of Gabriele Korndorfer last November. Not only was she a bundle of energy and a faithful, longtime AGO member, but she had been our Chapter Placement Coordinator for many years. Fortunately, our Past Dean Benjamin Ehrlich has agreed to take on the placement service. If you know of a job opening or are looking for one, you can contact him at [ehrichbenjamin88@gmail.com](mailto:ehrichbenjamin88@gmail.com). He and Editor Thomas Strickland work together to create the monthly job listings that appear in *The Drawknob*. Ben also coordinates our Facebook page, so you can send him concert listings or other information for that purpose as well.

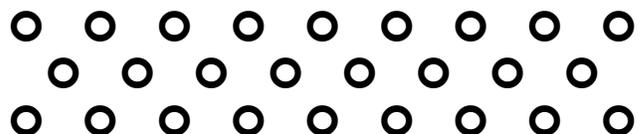
I'm finding that there's currently a high demand for substitute organists in the Denver area. If you are available to substitute, make sure the Chapter is aware of that. It would be a good idea to let Ben know directly, but you should also check your information in the national database at [www.agohq.org](http://www.agohq.org). As I detailed in our November 2019 issue, you need to click on Member Login in the upper right corner of the homepage, then click on Update Personal Information. Be sure to scroll down as far as View/Edit Chapter-specific data. When you check the appropriate boxes on availability to substitute, you will be listed on the substitute page in our chapter membership directory, which is going to be updated soon. If you need help in updating your information or renewing your membership, contact our Registrar, Diane Gallagher, at [dianegallagher48@gmail.com](mailto:dianegallagher48@gmail.com).

Note that for privacy reasons, the membership directory is available only to Chapter members in the password-protected area of our website,

[www.agodrmc.org](http://www.agodrmc.org). But there is also a public section called Hire an Organist under the Contact tab. These organist listings are not derived from your database information; you must fill out a form giving your permission for the information you provide and your picture to be shown on the website. E-mail me at [dsvogels3@gmail.com](mailto:dsvogels3@gmail.com) for this form or the one for organ teachers under the Learn to Play section. If you're already listed in either of these sections, it would be a good idea to check your information and update it with me if necessary.

If you're looking for a regular job, there are national resources available in addition to *The Drawknob* listings. On the same national website at [www.agohq.org](http://www.agohq.org), select Careers from the menu bar. You can search positions available nationwide (there were 67 at this writing), or you can post a job if you're working on behalf of an employer (\$100 for 30 days). I want to encourage everyone to make use of this national placement service, which is yet another benefit of your AGO membership. Also under the Careers menu, if you click on Career Development & Support, you'll find a number of great resources for seeking employment, calculating weekly hours, conducting an annual performance review, and more. You'll also be able to access a full explanation of why the AGO's settlement with the FTC prevents us from publishing salary guidelines any longer. But there's still plenty of information available elsewhere on salaries for church musicians! Read my upcoming column in the May issue of *The American Organist* for details.

David Vogels, CAGO



## THE DRAWNOB

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American Guild of Organists

All items for publication must be submitted by the 20th of the month preceding publication.

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Calendar information and Employment Opportunities to Benjamin Ehrlich, 633 Pearl St., Apt. 403, Denver, CO 80203, phone: 720-236-0256; e-mail: [ehrichbenjamin88@gmail.com](mailto:ehrichbenjamin88@gmail.com)

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Members at Large:

Billie Busby Smith, Susan Carl, Kris Harris (2020)  
Dan Dufford, Stephen Lockwood, Charles Nolen (2021)  
Carole Hedrick, Daniel Romero, Michael J. Zehnder (2022)

Chapter address, **New website address**, and Facebook  
P.O. Box 101448, Denver, CO 80250-1448  
[www.agodrmc.org](http://www.agodrmc.org)  
[www.facebook.com/agodenver](http://www.facebook.com/agodenver)

## January Recap

In January, we were fortunate to hear two first-rate organists perform in the Denver area. On Friday, January 17, the Denver Rocky Mountain Chapter and Saint Andrew United Methodist Church presented **Felix Hell**, a world-renowned virtuoso who has been giving concerts since he was nine years old. He enthusiastically played a substantial, diverse program including the Bach “*St. Anne*” *Prelude and Fugue*, Mendelssohn *Sonata No. 6* (based on the chorale “Our Father”), and the early 20th-century *Introduction, Passacaglia and Fugue* of Healey Willan in the first half. After a short intermission, he followed with Langlais’ *Fête* and Bovet’s *Meditation on Akatombo*, and concluded with Liszt’s 30-minute symphonic *Fantasy and Fugue on “Ad nos ad salutarem undam.”* Afterward, the organist generously met with concertgoers at a reception in the lobby. Saturday morning, 15 AGO members, students, and organ aficionados gathered for a 90-minute presentation by Dr. Hell. He performed the Bach *Tocatta and Fugue in D Minor* and answered a wide variety of questions from attendees. Of particular interest was the topic of pedal technique and organ shoes, which led to a

demonstration/lesson with a student. Dr. Hell finished with a personal introduction to the Liszt “*Ad nos, ad salutarem undam,*” with an invitation to watch him up close while he performed it.



Mark Zwilling, Music Director of St. Andrew United Methodist Church, Linda Mack, Sub-dean of the Chapter, and the artist, Felix Hell

At the workshop, participants get a close-up view



On January 31, Saint John’s Cathedral presented **Janette Fishell**, chair and professor of organ at the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University, in a concert entitled “*Symphonie Fantastique.*” She, too, is internationally recognized and has performed at eight national conventions and nine regional conventions of the AGO. Dr. Fishell played an intense program of late 19th- and 20th-century music on the cathedral’s impressive 1938 Kimball organ, opening with two movements from *Sunday Music* by Czech composer Petr Eben, who was the subject of her doctoral dissertation. She followed with music of Duruflé and the African American composer Thomas Kerr, the latter piece honoring the anniversary of the passage of the 13th Amendment, which abolished slavery. Dr. Fishell finished with the

*Organ Symphony No. 3* of Vierne. After the concert, she joined attendees at a reception in Dagwell Hall hosted by the AGO. This was the annual cathedral program underwritten by Stephen Dilts in memory of his wife, Joann Dilts.

Many thanks to Michael Zehnder and others for providing an impressive array of offerings for both receptions and to Linda Mack for organizing the music swap at Dr. Hell's concert.



## RIP Tamara Schmiede

Tamara Schmiede died in January. She had been a member of the Denver Rocky Mountain Chapter. Her family has provided this obituary. Note that a memorial service will be held January 15 at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Denver.

Tamara Schmiede died of ovarian cancer on January 31, 2020 at age 48. Tamara was born to Rick and Laurel Schmiede in Lansing, Michigan and spent her childhood in Allentown, Pennsylvania, and Rochester, Michigan. She was the oldest of four daughters to Rick and Laurel.

Tamara's life was surrounded by music, art, and the church. From an early age, her mother taught her the piano, took her to symphony concerts, and

encouraged her to study the organ. She attended the Interlochen Arts Academy for all four years of high school and went on to study at the Eastman School of Music, Indiana



University, and the University of Michigan. Tamara loved serving as Director of Music and Organist for Lutheran and Episcopal parishes in Texas and Colorado. She especially enjoyed her work at St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Fort Collins and Ascension Episcopal Church in Denver. In each of her positions, she was particularly fond of marketing and communications, which inspired her to study graphic arts and web design. Her career progressed into a happy combination of online communications and church music.

Tamara loved her work at Interweave and was inspired by her colleagues and friends to begin sewing quilts. She found great joy in sewing and completed 10 quilts in the time between her initial cancer diagnosis in 2015 and its recurrence in 2018.

Tamara is preceded in death by her grandparents and her uncle, Cameron Tonn. She is survived by her fiancé, Richard LaMonte, and his children Penelope and Porter LaMonte, her father and mother, Rick and Laurel Schmiede, her sisters, Marci Schmiede, Liza Schmiede, and Amanda Schmiede, her aunts and uncles, Jane Tonn-Kreski and John Kreski, Susan Wilson and Jim Wilson, four cousins, her ex-husband, Michael Wright, and four step-children, Alicia Wright, Christopher and Chika Wright, and David Wright. A memorial service will be held at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 2015 Glenarm, Denver, CO 80205 on Saturday, February 15th at 11:00 a.m. Memorial gifts may be made to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church Friends of Music, 2015 Glenarm Pl., Denver, CO 80205 or to Interlochen Center for the Arts, Tamara Schmiede Memorial Gifts, PO Box 199 Interlochen, MI 49643 or 231-276-7623 or [www.interlochen.org/memorial](http://www.interlochen.org/memorial).

## Scholarship Program

A flyer giving complete information about the Denver Rocky Mountain Chapter's Summer Scholarship Program is attached along with an application. Please spread the word about this program among teachers and young pianists you may know.

## Coming in March

**Music, Readings, and Poetry of the Contemplative Season** is the title of the March program of the Denver Rocky Mountain Chapter. The event will be at the **St. Paul Lutheran and Catholic Community of Faith**, 1600 Grant St., Denver. Chapter members will present music and readings drawing not only from the Christian season of Lent, but also from other global cultures and traditions. Participants include: organists Carole Hedrick, Mark Filbert, Linda Mack, Dan Romero, David Vogels; cellist James Fittz; pianist Steve Lockwood; and reader Sam Chizmar. If other members wish to participate in suggesting or doing a reading, please contact Linda Mack [linda joymack@hotmail.com](mailto:linda joymack@hotmail.com).

Information regarding a pre-concert dinner will be available in the March *Drawknob*.

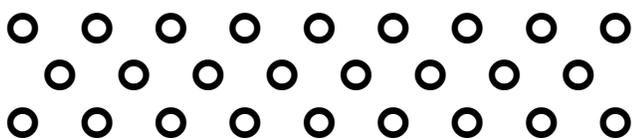
## Early Rates for Atlanta

The AGO National Convention in Atlanta, July 6-10, 2020, is offering significant savings for early registration with several deadlines. See the latest issue of *The American Organist* or go to the website.

<https://www.agoatlanta2020.com/registration/>

## Handbells Available

**Malmark Handbells for sale.** 4 octaves [G3-G7] plus C3, D3, E3, F3. Polished and in cases. Well cared for. Price includes 6 metal tabletop music desks, lamps, 2 folding tables. Located at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Park Hill, Denver. \$13,800. Contact: Lydia Morrongiello via email: [Lmorrongiello@yahoo.com](mailto:Lmorrongiello@yahoo.com).



## Pipe organ seeks home

There is a midi computer interface that comes with it, plug and play kinda' thing. As you might imagine, it sounds spectacular. We can offer delivery if need be, (with a small contribution towards fuel expense). Looking for a new home/adoption. For more details, contact Frank Newberry, Facilities Manager, TinkerMill, The Longmont Maker Space, 720-289-4980, [fanewberry@gmail.com](mailto:fanewberry@gmail.com)



## Employment Opportunities

*Listings should be sent to Thomas Strickland, temporary director, contact information on page 2.*

**Volunteer Organist, Our Merciful Savior Episcopal Church**, 2222 W. 32nd Ave., Denver, CO 80211. Seeking someone to play Sunday services in return for practice time on historic organ; hoping congregation will grow to provide a stipend. Farrand & Votey, 2 manuals, 17 ranks, mechanical action, built 1890, restored 2000. Contact [wendymw.ulibbarri@gmail.com](mailto:wendymw.ulibbarri@gmail.com) 303-458-6137 or 720-308-5376.

**Accompanist/pianist, St. James Presbyterian Church**, Denver. Paid rehearsals (currently Thursdays 6:30-8:00) and Sunday service (currently 8:45 with warmups ahead). 2nd Sundays off. Contact [Liz@sjpres.org](mailto:Liz@sjpres.org)

**Mother of God Catholic Church** in Denver is seeking a **pianist**. The position includes playing for Sunday masses (8:30, 10, and 12) and Thursday night rehearsals with the choir (6:30-8). Knowledge of the liturgy preferred but not necessary. Extra masses and flexibility offered.

Paid hourly. For more information and to apply please contact Emily McNulty, Music Coordinator, at [emilylileymcnulty@gmail.com](mailto:emilylileymcnulty@gmail.com) or 303.476.3645.

## Calendar

*Calendar items should be sent to Benjamin Ehrlich; contact information on page 2.*

**Saturday, February 8, 7:30 P.M.** Augustana Lutheran Church, 5000 E. Alameda Ave., Denver. **Stratus Chamber Orchestra**, *Serenade of Love & Enchantment*. The Serenade is the “music of the evening.” A lover sings below his lady’s open window, a violinist spins a tune to intertwine the hearts of the couple in the restaurant. However you picture it, the Serenade uses the language of love. Stratus’s serenade includes Canteloube’s *Songs of the Auvergne*, Strauss’s *Serenade for Winds*, and Johannes Brahms’s youthful and expansive *Serenade No. 1*. Ticketed event.

**Tuesday, February 11, NOON.** Saint John’s Episcopal Cathedral, 1350 Washington St., Denver. *Music at Noon*. The **Denver East High School Honors Choir** is the top auditioned mixed voice ensemble at East High School. The group sings a wide variety of music from multiple genres, styles, and time periods.

**Sunday, February 16, 2:30 P.M.** Saint John’s Episcopal Cathedral, 1350 Washington St., Denver. Prelude concert by **Leah Hansen, cello**. Newly appointed Principal Cello of the Colorado Springs Philharmonic, Leah received a Master of Music degree in Cello Performance at the University of Southern California Thornton School of Music. After the prelude, the **Cathedral Choir** sings Choral Evensong in the English Cathedral tradition at 3:00 P.M.

**Sunday, February 16, 3:00 P.M.** First Christian Church, 16 E. Platte Ave., Colorado Springs. Annual Chamber Music Program, featuring a potpourri of music from the classical period to the present day for small ensembles of strings, woodwinds and organ or piano, including a work by local composer John Leavitt. Come for a delightful afternoon of music. A free will offering will be taken.

**Friday, February 21, 7:00 P.M.** Good Shepherd Episcopal Church, 8545 E. Dry Creek Rd., Centennial. **Denver Brass5**, *American Soundscape: From Broadway to Bourbon Street*. Join the Denver Brass5 as we celebrate the cultural fusions that make up our American Soundscape—from the birth of blues and gospel to the fusion of classics and jazz. The Denver Brass5 will parade you from the Big Apple to the French Quarter, where blues, Dixieland, ragtime and all manner of jazz fusion and American folk traditions rule to this day. Part of our Music with a Mission Concert Series. Free admission, with a “love offering” to Covenant Cupboard Food Pantry. For more information, please visit [www.gshep.org/music-with-a-mission-concert-series](http://www.gshep.org/music-with-a-mission-concert-series).

**Friday, February 21, 7:30 P.M.** Saint Paul Community of Faith, 1600 Grant St., Denver. **St. Martin’s Chamber Choir**, *Shiru L’Adonai: Jewish Sacred Choral Music*. “Sing to the Lord” celebrates four centuries of Jewish sacred choral music, from the Renaissance’s Salamone Rossi of Venice, to Romantic-era Berlin Cantor Louis Lewandowski (a friend of Mendelssohn and colleague of Brahms), to 20th century additions, including a portion of the haunting but hopeful *Sacred Service* by Ernest Bloch, written in Switzerland in 1934 as he observed the clouds gathering over neighboring Germany. [smartinschamberchoir.org](http://smartinschamberchoir.org)

**Friday, February 21, 7:30 P.M.** Saint John’s Episcopal Cathedral, 1350 Washington St., Denver. **Beijing Guitar Duo**. Composed of guitarists Meng Su and Yameng Wang, the Beijing Guitar Duo has performed around the world in halls such as the Concertgebouw, Palau de Musica, Tchaikovsky Hall and the National Theatre in Beijing. Tickets \$10.

**Sunday, February 23, 2:00 P.M.** Lakewood Cultural Center, 470 S. Allison Pkwy., Lakewood. **February Fun: Music for All**. Three musicians having a good time--Jim Calm, Kenny Orr, Kevin Utter. Multiple instruments, in addition to 4-manual theatre organ. Multiple musical combinations. Public invited. Adults \$15, Students 21 and under \$5.

Sponsored by Rocky Mountain Chapter,  
American Theatre Organ Society.

**Sunday, February 23, 3:00 P.M.** Temple Emanuel, 51 Grape St., Denver. **St. Martin's Chamber Choir**, see February 21.

**Tuesday, February 25, 6:30 P.M.** Aspen Community United Methodist Church, 200 E. Bleeker St., Aspen, CO 81611. **James Welch**, organist.

**Saturday, February 29, 7:30 P.M.** Bethany Lutheran Church, 4500 E. Hampden Ave, Cherry Hills Village. **Baroque Chamber Orchestra of Colorado**, *The Complete Goldberg Variations...with strings attached!* J. S. Bach's beloved variations reveal a fresh dimension in an arrangement for strings and continuo, interwoven with selected variations in their original form for solo harpsichord. Our performance spotlights the combined talents of BCOC's ensemble of strings and continuo led by Cynthia Miller Freivogel. Tickets: Adult \$35.00, Student \$12.00.

**Saturday, February 29, 7:30 P.M.** Augustana Lutheran Church, 5000 E. Alameda Ave., Denver. **Colcannon: Authentic, Joyous Irish Music for LEAP DAY!** Colcannon has developed a distinctive, inventive, and contemporary musical style while still keeping in firm touch with the heart and essence of traditional Irish music. Colcannon's appeal crosses lines of age, gender and ethnic background. For while the musical focus is on the beautiful wealth of traditional Irish music — all acoustic instrumentation, traditional as well as original tunes and songs, with some of the songs in Mick's native Irish language — Colcannon's true message is the story of the resilient and joyous human spirit. Ticketed event.

**Sunday, March 1, 3:00 P.M.** Central Presbyterian Church, 1660 Sherman St., Denver. **Baroque Chamber Orchestra of Colorado**, see February 29.

