



# The Tulsa Tracker

Newsletter of the Tulsa Chapter,  
American Guild of Organists  
July, 2020

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## *From the Dean...*

Dear Chapter Members and Friends,

It is my honor and privilege to serve another term as Dean of the Tulsa AGO. While our communities will continue to face unprecedented challenges in the days ahead, I still believe there are many opportunities for growth that our Chapter will seize.

Plans are being solidified for a new Chapter season that will have both in-person and streamed components. This fall we will offer two workshops by chapter member **Adam Pajan** covering organ tonal design and hymn-playing. Elizabeth George, Director of Member Engagement & Chapter Development at the national AGO office, has expressed interest in offering Adam's workshops to chapters with more limited resources. I will work with her to make this happen!

Our chapter webmaster **Lyndon Meyer** has created a YouTube channel for us that will stream our public events going forward. Thank you, Lyndon! Everyone, please subscribe to the channel and read Lyndon's piece in this newsletter.

Like many of you, I was shocked and saddened to hear of Eliot Glaser's untimely death. Flowers were sent to Lise on behalf of the Tulsa AGO officers and membership. I offer my deepest condolences to Lise and I hope you will reach out to her in the near future.



Stay healthy,

*Joseph*

Joseph Arndt, Dean



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### **2021 Regional Conventions Cancelled:**

In a unanimous decision the National Council, National Convention Committee, and Coordinators for the 2021 Regional conventions have agreed to postpone our conventions until 2023. This difficult decision was made because of concerns about being able to meet in person, worship, hold workshops and sit together in concerts. The National Convention Committee asked if Tulsa would be willing to host the Regional Convention in 2023, and the Chapter Executive Committee voted to do this.

We have negotiated a new contract with the Hyatt Regency downtown to hold our convention June 27-30, 2023. With much of our program already planned for next year we are in a great position to move forward with plans for 2023. Thanks to everyone for their commitment and hard work so far.

- Casey Cantwell, Convention Coordinator

## THE AGO DURING THE PANDEMIC: CURSED OR BLESSED?

As we are all aware, the COVID-19 pandemic has altered the course of life in the world as we know it. While we are all adversely affected by the radical changes in our lifestyle, there are some positives that are emerging from the gloom. Since we are all made in God's image, we are nothing if not creative. I would like to share just a few examples of how the AGO is responding in a healthful way to some of the pitfalls that have beset us.

As you are aware, the 2020 Atlanta National Convention has been canceled for obvious reasons. There are many who would want to avoid flights and hotels, including some performers and workshop leaders. Our executive director, James Thomashower, informed me that his wife Penny told him early on that he would NOT be going to Atlanta, so get used to it.

In an enormous group effort, a new steering committee was formed to plan and execute a virtual celebration in lieu of the Atlanta convention. The AGO Organ Fest 2020: Beauty in the Midst of Chaos, will be live streamed July 20-24 each evening from 8:00 to 9:00 pm EDT (7:00 pm for us).

This virtual festival will include performances by young competition winners, interviews, awards presentations, and the annual installation of new officers. Those of us involved have been busy making videos which we have submitted to the steering committee. These will be professionally organized and seamlessly conjoined so that the final product will be a meaningful experience. There is no charge to view the festival, and non-members of the AGO are welcome to join us. Check it out sometime after July 13 at [www.agoorganfest2020.org](http://www.agoorganfest2020.org)

As many of you know by now, the Tulsa Chapter, along with the other 2021 host chapters, has postponed their regional convention to 2023. While this is a disappointment, there are too many unknowns in our future to know how successful conventions will be in another year. The upside is that this gives steering committees more time to plan and organize, and more importantly, more time to extend fundraising efforts.

All chapters are at work creating various online and virtual programming for the coming year, and staff members, officers, councillors, committees and task forces are continuing the work of the Guild through Zoom meetings and e-communications. The coming year may look different, but it will happen, just as life exists even in times of strife and unrest. And we will all be doing our best to protect the safety of our constituency.

During the pandemic, we continue to endure setbacks and radical changes to our daily lives. But we are still here. We are still strong. It speaks well of all of us that we have discovered unique and creative ways to go about our lives and still be productive. Even in the midst of chaos and confusion, the hand of God is at work through us. May it ever be so!

- Michael Bedford, President  
American Guild of Organists



Now is the time! You can renew your existing membership, or join the AGO today. This organization is actively working to help organists, directors, and friends of the instrument and its music. Visit [www.agohq.org](http://www.agohq.org) and click on Membership – we need your voice!

Dear friends,



As my time as your Regional Councillor comes to a close (I can't believe it has been 6 years!), I want to thank all of you for what you do for the AGO. I will admit I am a bit prejudiced, but during my travels around the region, I always thought of you as the benchmark for what we hope a chapter will be...an executive board that is not afraid to think outside of the box and agree to host a regional convention, strong programming that showcases all types of music and instruments, and a welcoming membership that goes out of its way to encourage and inspire all.

You have been living the mission of the Guild for years, and I know that you will continue to do so in the future.. Thank you for your kindness to me during my term; but more importantly, thank you for the way in which you treat each other. I will continue to use you as my inspiration as I move on to my new role as Councillor for Membership. Thank you again for all that you do and for supporting me so graciously.

Peace,  
Vicki J. Schaeffer  
SW Regional Councillor  
Chair, Board of Regional Councillors



**Please subscribe to the Tulsa Chapter YouTube channel today!**

We have recently created a YouTube channel, which the chapter will use to stream chapter-sponsored events. **We have an immediate goal of reaching 100 subscribers**, so that we can customize the URL for the account, and make it easier for our members and the public to find our content. If you have a YouTube or Google account, please go to [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzZrCylmiL71r9c4NFs\\_Vhg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzZrCylmiL71r9c4NFs_Vhg) and click the red **SUBSCRIBE** button. Currently the channel has no content, but once we start having events again, that will change! Thank you! - Lyndon Meyer, Tulsa Chapter Webmaster



Mary Jo Dixon, the widow of long-time Tulsa Chapter member Farrell Dixon, died unexpectedly on June 11. Mass of Christian Burial was held at Holy Family Cathedral on June 18.

Long-time Tulsa Chapter member Eliot Glaser died unexpectedly on June 17. Eliot was an incredible musician, becoming a Fellow of the AGO. He was always happy to help in any way that he could, without ever expecting an accolade. When the Chapter threw a party for him after he was awarded the FAGO, he was genuinely surprised. That was Eliot, quietly competent and a true friend to all who knew him. The Chapter sent flowers to Lise and her note of thanks beautifully summed up her husband of 42 years: "Taking comfort in the fact that Eliot's last marathon in

February (he did 2-3 a year), I also went along with him to California. And I saw how eager and happy he was at the start and how he showed incredible endurance along the way as I drove by twice. Then ended fully in his element. He *ran* through Death Valley. So, knowing him, he made quick exit through the valley of the shadow of death and was quickly taking in his new surroundings while being sure to send us signals that he came through that valley okay." - Lise Glaser

*A Service of Christian Burial will be recorded at St. Dunstan's and be available for viewing soon.*

## Virtual and In-person Worship:

Please check websites for the most current information about worship schedules:

All Souls Unitarian Church [www.allsoulschurch.org](http://www.allsoulschurch.org)

Asbury United Methodist Church [www.asburytulsa.org](http://www.asburytulsa.org) [www.facebook.com/asburytulsa/](https://www.facebook.com/asburytulsa/)

Boston Avenue United Methodist Church [www.bostonavenue.org](http://www.bostonavenue.org)

Christ United Methodist Church [www.cumctulsa.com](http://www.cumctulsa.com)

Church of Saint Mary [www.churchofsaintmary.com](http://www.churchofsaintmary.com)

Fellowship Lutheran Church [www.flctulsa.org](http://www.flctulsa.org)

First Baptist Church [www.tulsafbc.org](http://www.tulsafbc.org)

First Presbyterian Church [www.firstchurchtulsa.org](http://www.firstchurchtulsa.org)

First Presbyterian Church, Stillwater [www.stillwaterfpc.org](http://www.stillwaterfpc.org)

First United Methodist Church [www.fumctulsa.org](http://www.fumctulsa.org)

Holy Family Cathedral [www.tulsacathedral.com](http://www.tulsacathedral.com)

Kirk of the Hills [www.thekirk.com](http://www.thekirk.com)

St. Dunstan's Episcopal Church [www.stduntulsa.org](http://www.stduntulsa.org)

St. John's Episcopal Church [www.sjtulsa.org](http://www.sjtulsa.org)

St. Patrick's Episcopal Church [www.saint-patricks.com](http://www.saint-patricks.com)

Trinity Episcopal Church [www.trinitytulsa.org](http://www.trinitytulsa.org)

## Other Virtual Opportunities:



Members of the Chancel Choir, New Covenant Orchestra and Asbury Power & Light present this year's Americana Concert: A Celebration of America. This year's concert, hosted by Asbury's Music Director, Michael Kemp and former Music Director, Hart Morris will feature all your favorite American folk songs, hymns and spirituals.

[asburytulsa.org/watchlive](http://asburytulsa.org/watchlive)

### Noon Recitals • Every Friday at 12:00noon

Broc Hite is continuing his bite-sized "Weekly Acorn" series for a third month into the summer. The solo piano programs are typically 5 to 10 minutes long, and are presented via Facebook Premiere. In July, Beethoven Sonata Op. 2, No. 1, and Grieg's Suite No.1 from Peer Gynt are scheduled. You can find the archives on his Website: [brochite.com/listen](http://brochite.com/listen) or [facebook.com/BrocKeysPedals](https://www.facebook.com/BrocKeysPedals)

### Fourth at First – Patriotic Concert

This pre-recorded, online event at First Methodist of Bella Vista, Arkansas, features the singing of several patriotic songs, Dudley Buck's Concert Variations on the Star-Spangled Banner, and concludes with Lift Every Voice and Sing. A link will be posted on [brochite.com/listen](http://brochite.com/listen) or [facebook.com/fumcbv](https://www.facebook.com/fumcbv)

### St. John's Episcopal Church [www.sjtulsa.org](http://www.sjtulsa.org) Music at Midday

lives streamed on Facebook  
Wednesday, July 1 at Noon - Joseph Arndt, organ presents Music of Bach and Buxtehude  
Saturday, July 4 at Noon - Adam Pajan and Joseph Arndt, organ presents Music for Independence Day  
Concert Variations on The Star Spangled Banner - Dudley Buck  
Excerpts from "Water Music" - G. F. Handel, arranged by Jean Guillou  
Cantilena in G - Arthur Foote  
Reverie - William Grant Still  
Patriotic Suite - Charles Callahan  
Wednesday, July 8 at Noon – Adam Pajan, organ  
Sonata no. 8 – Alexandre Guilmant

**Second Saturday Silents • Saturday, July 11 at 11:00am** livestreamed [www.circlecinema.org](http://www.circlecinema.org) and click on Events  
The 1923 romantic classic *Zaza* starring Gloria Swanson and H.B. Warner, plus a funny Felix the Cat silent cartoon, will be accompanied by Bill Rowland on the 1928 theatre pipe organ.



The American Guild of Organists is thrilled to announce the first online [OrganFest](#), which will take place **July 20-24**. Each evening's broadcast will premiere a new work which had been commissioned for the 2020 National Convention in Atlanta, accompanied by interviews with the composers.

Featured performers will be Jens Korndörfer, Amanda Mole, Alan Morrison, Thomas Ospital, and Catherine Rodland. Additional recorded performances by recent international organ competition winners will be presented, and short presentations will share exciting news and updates from the AGO.

The daily YouTube premiere (7pm Central) and accompanying [Festival website](#) will be available at no charge.

OrganFest 2020 promises to be an exciting way to showcase our beloved instrument and the great work of the AGO. Please share this information widely with your music-loving friends.

While we are saddened by the cancellation of many musical events this spring and summer, including our National Convention in Atlanta, we look forward to celebrating the future of organ music together online next month.



Organist/Accompanist needed at Centenary United Methodist Church of Tulsa. Includes one Sunday service plus a choir rehearsal on Wednesdays. Instruments include a Rodgers 905 organ, an older model but in great condition, plus a Yamaha Clavinova which is fairly new and has many features.

For details about the position, contact pastor Keith McArtor at: [keith@mcartorlaw.com](mailto:keith@mcartorlaw.com).



Antique reed organ that is lovely, but it was motorized and now needs work.

Absolutely free to a good home! Contact Nancy Kachel at 918-230-6301.

### **AGO Membership Renewal:**

If it is time for you to renew your membership, you should have received an email reminder from National after May 1. The subject line read "Your Annual AGO Renewal Notice 2020-2021." If you opted for a paper invoice, those were mailed a few days later. The majority of the Tulsa Chapter members are on a fiscal year (July 1 – June 30) renewal. If you joined or renewed at another time, you will receive a reminder before that anniversary.

Thanks for renewing your membership in a timely fashion, and for considering a gift to both the National AGO and the Tulsa Chapter! Be a Friend of the Tulsa AGO! If you prefer to send a check to the Chapter directly, that form is attached. Your support is greatly appreciated!



## FRIENDS OF THE TULSA AGO – Thank you for your support!

### BOMBARDE (\$200 and above)

Michael Bedford  
Fred and Barbara Elder  
John Riester  
Karen Rich  
Nick Wilson

### GREAT (\$100 - \$199)

Casey Cantwell  
Lyndon Meyer  
Bill Shambaugh  
Bruce Wilkin

### SWELL (\$50 - \$99)

James Craven  
Gerald Frank  
Ferne Howell  
Stephen Kucera  
Michael McCrary  
Richard and Peggy Ziglar

### CHOIR (Up to \$49)

Joseph Arndt  
Kay Bradley  
Kathy Call  
Bruce Carrico  
Michele Cowen  
Jon Grigson  
Joyce Hatchett  
Carolyn McCright  
Cheryl Melvin  
Colette Meyer  
Gay Miller  
Susan Panciera  
Ron Pearson  
Lynda Ramsey  
Tom Starnes

*Add your name to this list! Donate to the Tulsa Chapter AGO!*

#### Available to substitute:

CAFFEY, Carol	918-747-1714
CARRICO, Bruce	918-461-1376
COWEN, Michele	918-430-4235
HILLER, Karen	918-660-0506
KUCERA, Stephen	<a href="mailto:skkansas@gmail.com">skkansas@gmail.com</a>
MEYER, Colette	918-252-2561
SMITH, Vicki	918-607-3170
	<a href="mailto:vickis2@cox.net">vickis2@cox.net</a>
WILSON, Nick	806-787-6202

#### Teacher List:

BEDFORD, Dr. Michael	918-346-8104
BIGHLEY, Dr. Mark	918-269-4320
CANTWELL, Casey	918-809-9162
FRANK, Dr. Gerald	405-372-3357
PEARSON, Ron	918-584-4701
SMITH, Vicki*	918-607-3170

\*Instruction in Harp also available

Visit our website: [www.tulsaago.org](http://www.tulsaago.org)

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[jpdrenkler@gmail.com](mailto:jpdrenkler@gmail.com)  
919.741.7685

**Lyndon Meyer, Webmaster**  
[lmeyer@churchofsaintmary.com](mailto:lmeyer@churchofsaintmary.com)

**Members-at-Large**  
Stephen Kucera (2022)  
Nick Wilson (2024)  
Paul Pinkosky (2026)

**Mike McCrary, Auditor**  
[michael-mccrary@utulsa.edu](mailto:michael-mccrary@utulsa.edu)

**Fred Elder, Treasurer**

[fredelder@cox.net](mailto:fredelder@cox.net)

**Karen Rich, Secretary/Historian**

[karen.rich.tulsa@gmail.com](mailto:karen.rich.tulsa@gmail.com)

Send items for inclusion in the August issue of the TRACKER by Saturday, July 25 to [Karen.rich.tulsa@gmail.com](mailto:Karen.rich.tulsa@gmail.com)