



# The Principal

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

Volume 77, Number 5

January, 2023

## The Dean's Corner

Happy New Year! I hope your Christmas was filled with the sounds of majestic instruments and angelic singing, and the warmth of a loving community. I am so grateful for our successful 2022 season, highlighted by our Kick-Off Party, Concert, and Bruch Neswick's Workshop. I want to thank everyone for their hard work and participation.



I want to announce that Robert Luke Martin just moved to Maryland, where he will be at the Lord of Life Lutheran Church in Fairfax. He joined our chapter in 2018 and was instrumental as a member, hosting chapter events and contributing as a program committee member. For the 2022 POE last summer, he volunteered as a secretary, registrar, program booklet editor, and service coordinator. Moreover, all the kids just LOVED him. He will be sorely missed. I am sure we all with Robert the very best in his new job and adventures.

As we begin a new year, our next event will be the Members' Recital taking place on Tuesday, January 24, 2023, at 7:00 pm, at St. Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church, 5306 East Arbor Road, in Long Beach. Google Map:

[https://maps.app.goo.gl/hLwfxbcE3iG5Hf9t8?q\\_st=ic](https://maps.app.goo.gl/hLwfxbcE3iG5Hf9t8?q_st=ic).

I want to give special thanks to William Henderson who is hosting the event and also to our four performers: Kyle Black, Patricia Hannifan, Emily Lacina, and Russell Litchfield.

Looking ahead to February, please note that "Pedals, Pipes, & Pizza" originally scheduled for February 18, 2023, has been canceled. Instead, we will be joining the 15th Annual Presidents' Day Organ Festival (LAAGO) which comes to Beverly Hills on Monday, February 20, 2023. This year, the festival features seven performances on five organs at three churches, i.e., the Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church, Church of the Good Shepherd, and All

Saints Episcopal Church. More details can be found on page 2.

Finally, I am the bearer of sad news. Dr. Fred Swann passed away on November 13, 2022, at the age of 91. The Guild National News indicates that a Memorial Service will be held on Wednesday, January 25, 2023, at 10:30 am, at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church in Palm Desert. The service will also be live-streamed on YouTube and Facebook. More details can be found on page 2.

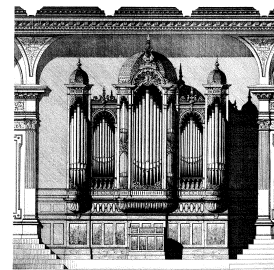
I wish you all the best during the upcoming season and look forward to seeing you at our January event.

Dr. Hyunju Hwang  
Dean, Long Beach AGO

## New Music for a New Year Members' Recital

This month, we present Kyle Black, Patricia Hannifan, Emily Lacina, and Russ Litchfield in a recital that is to include (as of press time) works of Alfred Fedak, Guy Bovet, Pierre Dandrieu, Healey Willan, Benedict Schleppe-Connolly, Jaebon Hwang, Craig Phillips, Andrew Moore, Noel Rawsthorne, and others.

Please note that the 6:00 PM dinner has been canceled. Recital curtain time remains 7:00 PM.



## 2023 West Region AGO Convention

The Portland, Oregon Chapter of the American Guild of Organists will host "Let's Dance!": the 2023 West Region Convention of the AGO, July 10-13, 2023. For more information, go to:

<https://www.agowest2023.com>

# Los Angeles Presidents' Day Organ Festival

This year, the Presidents' Day Organ Festival, on Monday, February 20th, will feature five organs in three churches, in Beverly Hills. Details will be posted, as available, on the Festival web site,

<https://www.laorganfestival.com>

This is also where you will have the opportunity to order a box lunch, which will include a sandwich, a bag of chips, cookies and a drink. Lunches are provided by a local sandwich shop and include a variety of meats and vegetarian choices.

## Venues

- Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church (1959 Möller)
- Church of the Good Shepherd (2008 Noack)
- All Saints' Episcopal Church (1951 Casavant, 1969 Abbott & Sieker, and 1992 Winfried Banzhaf)

## Schedule

9:00 am - Coffee and pastries served in the courtyard at Beverly Hills Presbyterian Church  
9:30 am - Performances begin  
11:30 am - Lunch  
12:30 pm - Performances continue  
3:00 pm - Reception at All Saints Episcopal Church

## Long Beach Chapter Programs

January 24, 2023 - 7:00pm

*"New Music for a New Year"; Members' Recital*

*(Note that the 6:00 dinner has been canceled)*

St. Thomas of Canterbury Episcopal Church  
5306 East Arbor Road, Long Beach, CA

February 18, 2023

*Pedals, Pipes, & Pizza*

🚫 CANCELED

February 20, 2023

*Presidents' Day Organ Festival*

Three churches in Beverly Hills, CA

March 19, 2023 - 4:00 pm

*Members' Recital*

St. Luke's Episcopal Church  
525 E 7th St, Long Beach, CA 90813

May 21, 2023 - 4:00 pm

*Guild Service & Installation of Officers*

*Host: Peter Bates*

Covenant Presbyterian Church  
607 E 3rd St, Long Beach, CA 90802

## Memoriam

Dr. Frederick Swann

July 30, 1931 - November 13, 2022

A memorial service for Dr. Frederic Swann will be held Wednesday, January 25, 2023, at 10:30 a.m., at St. Margaret's Episcopal Church in Palm Desert. The service will begin with a 30-minute organ preludes honoring Dr. Swann's illustrious career as an organist. Attendees should arrive on time so as to be seated by 10:30 a.m. Douglas Leightenheimer and the St. Margaret's Choir will be leading the service along with organists David Higgs, Nathan Laube, and Todd Wilson. The service can be viewed live on YouTube and Facebook:

YouTube

<https://youtube.com/@st.margaretsepiscopalchurc7155>

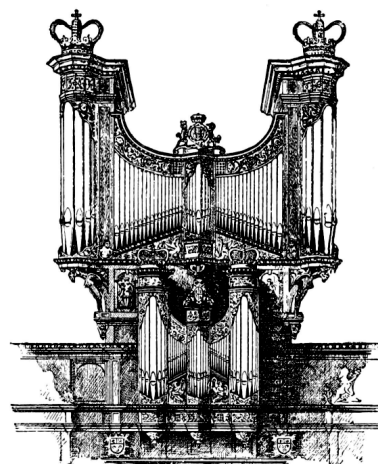
Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/St.MargaretsEpiscopalChurch>

From the New York Times: "Frederick Swann, who in churches on the East Coast and the West played some of the world's grandest organs, performing classical and religious works on the complex instruments with sensitivity and technical skill, died on November 13 at his home in Palm Desert, California. He was 91. The cause was cancer, said Karen McFarlane Holtkamp, who was Mr. Swann's secretary in the 1960s and '70s and then his concert manager.

"Mr. Swann was well known in New York as organist and music director at Riverside Church in Manhattan, where he began playing in the 1950s. In 1982 he reached a much wider audience when he moved to the Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove, home base of the Rev. Robert H. Schuller, the television evangelist. There he appeared each week on "Hour of Power," one of the most widely watched religious programs in the country, with a viewership in the millions...."

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/12/02/arts/music/frederick-swann-dead.html>



## Job Availability

Choir Director (Part-time: 20 hours/ week)

Faith United Methodist Church of Torrance

2115 W 182nd St, Torrance, CA 90504

For more information:

<https://www.faithsouthbay.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Choir-Director-v2.0.pdf>

## From the Press Room

*James Lampert, Production and Distribution*

*(Any opinions expressed here are solely those of the author.)*

As I type this, part of a flower bed in my front yard remains flooded, and my hopes of finishing taking down the Christmas lights next weekend are rather dim, but things are certainly worse elsewhere: last night's evening news interrupted by automaed Emergency Alert System warnings of possible flash-flooding in Long Beach, and tonight's evening news showing rockslides, mudslides, and a sinkhole that caught two cars. I hope that nobody here has been flooded out of their homes, churches, or cars.

Even without any official Chapter events, December was a busy month. Then again, it always is, no doubt the reason for the lack of any official Chapter events. Of the three Member events promoted, I attended only the first one, the Christoph Bull/I-Chin Lee event at First Lutheran of Torrance. The preceding Wednesday, I'd received my second COVID booster shot (Omicron-optimized), and I'd taken the Thursday and Friday off, so that I could recover from the aftereffects (I have a rather robust immune system, producing robust aftereffects), do some Linotype maintenance at the Museum, and attend the concert. Dr. Bull and Ms. Lee did not disappoint.

The Rolling Hills UMC event was simply too far away to be practical for me; I sincerely hope it went well, and that the mention in the December issue brought in a few more people. As to Peter's event at Covenant, that was the afternoon when I donned a safety harness and climbed onto the garage roof, to put up the year's final installment of Christmas lights.

This year's Presidents' Day Organ Festival has a couple of personal connections. A very dear friend of mine, The Rev'd Allison English, was an Associate at All Saints', before moving on to become Rector of Calvary Clifton Episcopal in Cincinnati. And their small Winfried Banzhaf positive (listed as the "Chamber Organ" on the web site is a near duplicate (unless the date listed is wrong) of a Winfried Banzhaf positive that was used in a 1987 Orange County Chamber Orchestra concert (for the "Albinoni" Adagio of Remo Giazotto).

It is rather a shame that we have had to cancel the PPP event we'd planned for February. But the cancelation

should be a learning experience as well. Permit me to illustrate with a series of events involving the aforementioned Orange County Chamber Orchestra.

I was the self-styled "Last Founder" of OCCO. I was literally that: the deadline for founding contributions had passed, but Maestro Micah Levy, knowing my friendship to the Orchestra, and my financial situation, held the Founders' Circle open past the deadline for me, and me alone, and in 1988, when my finances had improved, I made, and fulfilled my Founder's pledge. At any rate, in 1994, Maestro Levy received an out-of-state offer that was too good to pass up. A conducting fellowship, I think it was.

Micah wasn't just the Conductor of the OCCO. He wasn't just the Music and Artistic Director. In many ways, he *was* the OCCO. He ran everything. And without him, the Orchestra barely made it through a single season under Diana Halprin, before it simply collapsed, because Maestro Levy simply hadn't created a structure that could survive without him.

That's what happened with our February PPP event. It was too dependent upon one person. We should do our best to avoid making anything entirely dependent upon a single person. This newsletter is an example. A few years ago, when it was announced that we needed somebody else to do *The Principal*, I was able, after a single issue that Dolly put together, to jump in on very short notice. And there is no doubt in my mind that if I were suddenly unable to continue producing *The Principal*, somebody else would be able to jump in.

James H. H. Lampert  
Your Humble Typesetter



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**Members at Large**

**2023**

Jay Rogers, Eric Nelson

**2024**

Daniel Parks and Mark Milliren

**2025**

Dolly Ickler and Susan MacKensen

**Committees**

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