



The Principal

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

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The Dean's Corner

Vernon Mouw, Chapter Dean



By the time you read this, Christmas will be past and we are looking forward to 2019. I hope that all the preparations were successful and your congregations and audiences, as well as all the participants, were blessed. Now you all can relax a bit and get ready for what is ahead.

I want to mention to you that the January program will be most interesting. Russ Litchfield is working on a program in the Quaker style which should be enlightening and enjoyable. That program is rapidly approaching, January 8, 2019. There will be a dinner so make your reservation right after the New Year.

Two other things to be thinking about are the President's Day Organ Festival sponsored by the Los Angeles AGO on February 18, 2019. Organs in Palos Verdes and Redondo Beach will be visited. This is a free event (except for a lunch) and something to look forward to. More information when it is available.

The big thing coming up this year is the Regional AGO Convention right in our backyard in Orange County. Information is already being put out and it looks like an extremely worthwhile event. Early reservations at a reduced rate are beginning after January 1. The dates of the convention are June 30 to July 3. Watch for e-mails, make a note on your calendar and plan to attend.

Finally don't forget the March 12 event - *Getting Ready for Easter* - at Bay Shore, and our Guild Service on May 5 in Palos Verdes Estates.

Happy New Year everyone.

Vern Mouw, Dean

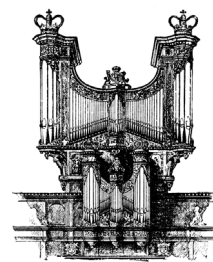
This Month's Meeting

Several members expressed to me that they would like to come to the church I serve, First Friends Church in Whittier and the program committee made plans. We will host the Chapter for a Hymn Service: *Spirit, Sound, and Silence*, on Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 8 pm. The Friends Choir and friends will offer three short compositions by some guy named Litchfield and *Tree of Life* by Gwyneth Walker. All will sing a selection of hymns that give an impression of what Quakers are all about. Please come lend your voice to the singing! J.S. Bach will make an appearance at the conclusion.

The organ was built by local Whittier builder, David Harris in 1976 and has four manuals and 54 ranks of pipes. It is eclectic in design, after the designs of Robert Noehren, and includes North German/Dutch and Classical French elements. The Meeting House is resonant and good for singing: not a typical Quaker meeting house which would not have an organ.

There will be a dinner beforehand at 6:30 pm in our Fellowship Hall. The menu will be: Green salad, Chicken Breast with lemon sauce, Red Potatoes, Green Beans Almondine, and Chocolate Cake. Cost is \$15 per person. Please RSVP to Elaine Elliot, bobelaine@bobelaine.com by Thursday, January 3rd.

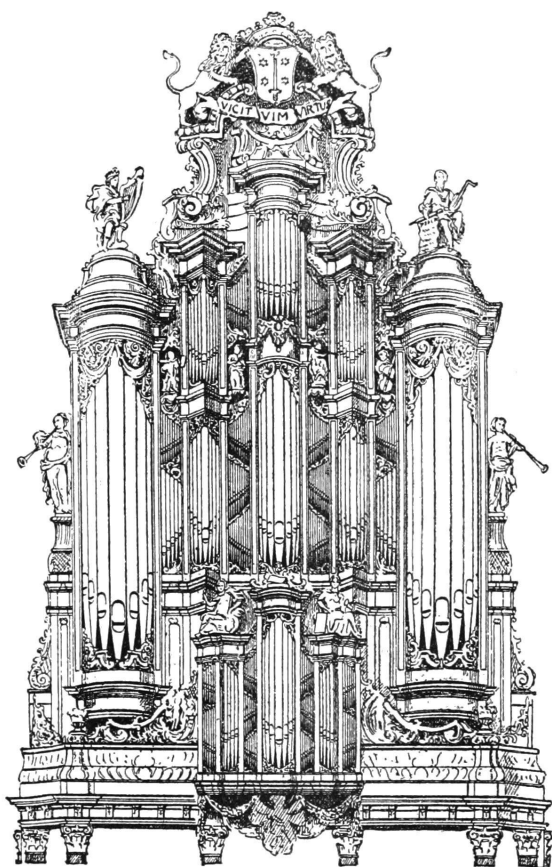
First Friends Church, A Quaker Meeting is located at 13205 Philadelphia Street, Whittier, CA 90601. The Meeting House is on the corner of Philadelphia St. and Washington Ave. The Fellowship Hall is accessed through the courtyard facing Washington Ave. There is a parking lot off the alley just east of our buildings and north of the corner businesses. Street parking is also available. I hope to see you!



Looking Ahead

We will not have a February Chapter meeting. We are encouraging our members to attend the President's Day Organ Tour organized by the Los Angeles Chapter, Monday February 18, 2019 from 9 am to 3 pm. This year the organs being visited will be in the South Bay. This is always a well-attended and stimulating event. Won't you attend?

Our next Chapter Meeting will take place Tuesday, March 12th at 8 pm at Bay Shore Community Church. The program, *Get Ready for Easter*, will be an opportunity for members to share pieces they are working on and get some feedback. Please bring your organ shoes and a piece to share!



Question of the Month

Here is a question for you to consider and discuss with your colleagues. Keep talking with each other and build a stronger community.

Someone has said: "The closer to silence the closer to God." How does silence play a role in your worship planning and music-making? Does your liturgy make provision for silence?

Russ' Resources and Repertoire

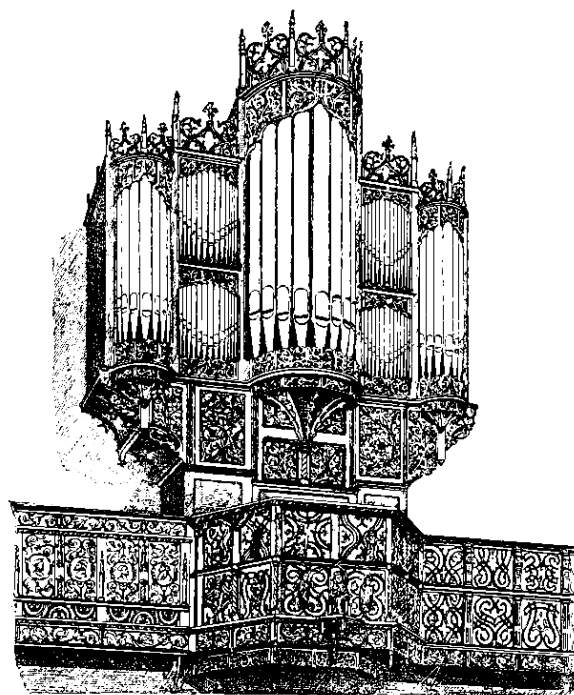
Here are a couple of links that jumped out at me recently. What resources have you seen that you could share with your colleagues? Send them to me and I will include them in The Principal.

Here is a link to a Facebook video about the St. Thomas Choir School in NYC.

<https://tinyurl.com/st-thomas-fb-video>

Here is a link to an article about raising money to restore the Erben organ at Old St. Pat's in NYC from the AARP magazine.

<https://tinyurl.com/aarp-organ-restoration>



Organ Study Scholarships

Don't forget to submit applications for any organ or piano students who might want to apply for financial assistance for organ lessons. A form with the guidelines was included in the November and December 2018 issues of The Principal, as well as this issue. Applications must be postmarked no later than February 1, 2019.

Position Available

Trinity Lutheran Church, 759 Linden Ave, Long Beach, CA is seeking a part time organist as current organist, Trevor Wolter, has had a job transfer out of state. Trinity is a Lutheran congregation affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

Responsibilities:

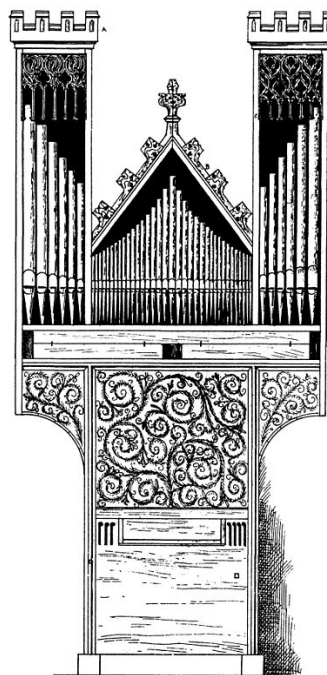
1. Accompaniment at one weekly worship service at 10:30 AM on Sundays. The worship service follows a liturgical format and primary accompaniment should be on the organ. Supplemental accompaniment on the piano is encouraged depending upon the hymnody selected for the day. Music for the service typically includes, 3+ minutes of prelude, 3 hymns, 2 liturgical songs, offertory, attendant music during communion, and a postlude.
2. Accompaniment of the choir, which rehearses once or twice weekly, currently Wednesdays at 5 PM and occasionally on Saturday mornings at 9:00 AM. The choir begins their Sunday warmup on Sundays at 10:00 AM.
3. Participation in the congregation's worship planning committee, which meets monthly at a date and time negotiated with the committee members.
4. Piano accompaniment of Wednesday evening devotional services during the seasons of Advent and Lent.
5. Service accompaniment of special services that do not fall on Sundays including Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Christmas Eve, and occasionally Thanksgiving.
6. Accompaniment at weddings and funerals (paid separately)
7. Coordination of guest instrumentalists occasionally throughout the year
8. An annual recital, concert, or hymn festival of the organist's design.
9. Arrangement of substitutes during absences.
10. Coordination of regular maintenance of the church's organ and pianos with the church's preferred service providers.

Qualifications:

1. Formal piano and organ study
2. Repertoire and experience performing in a variety of genres and styles
3. Experience accompanying weekly worship services
4. Experience accompanying choirs

This is a quarter time salaried position that includes two paid absences during the first year. The position is open until filled.

Please direct any questions you have to Trevor Wolter at trevor.wolter@trinitylclb.org. To apply for the position, please submit a cover letter and resume to jobs@trinitylclb.org.



From the Press Room

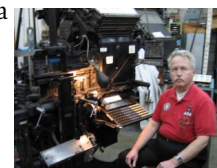
*James H. H. Lampert, Typesetting, Printing,
and Circulation*

(Note: Any opinions expressed in this column are strictly those of the author)

As I type this, I've just watched a broadcast of the classic Chuck Jones version of *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* (so far as I'm aware, the only screen version Dr. Seuss himself had a hand in). And it brings to mind a thought that occurs to me every year, around this time: Somebody, somewhere, really ought to write a chorale prelude on Albert Hague's "Whoville Carol."

Last month, I mentioned my annual "CD of the Year" auditions; the formal announcement of the winner will probably go up on both PIPORG-L and my web site on the same day, sometime around Epiphany.

And finally, I'd like to remind everybody that if you have an event you'd like to promote, we're at your disposal, both for announcements and inserts, so long as you start early. If you have a flyer, send it to us (PDFs are preferred); if you need a flyer, I can put one together in under an hour (please send a picture), at no cost to you.



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