



# Pipeline

American Guild of Organists—Red River Valley Chapter

Volume 34, Number 4

Oct/Nov/Dec  
2020

## Message From the Dean

As I write to you on Wednesday morning, October 28, there is still so much uncertainty about life. Election Day will be over by the time you read this letter from me, and we can get on with other things in life—such as staying safe and healthy.

After having been open for 3½ months during most of the summer and early fall, First Lutheran Church has closed once again to in-person worship and all outside groups as of Friday, October 16. Since I don't know how long we will be closed this time, we have decided that we cannot host the AGO Christmas Sing-along in early December here at First Lutheran Church. We are trying to figure out what to do instead.

Everyone is trying to figure out how to live their lives. And, more than ever before, we need MUSIC in our lives so much!

I am presenting virtual organ recitals each Wednesday at 12:45 online. I can tell you that it is mighty strange to be playing a recital for nobody in person except for the person recording and livestreaming the recital.

First Lutheran has also returned to recording worship and then presenting it each Sunday on the radio, cable TV, and on our Facebook page. I know that some churches have been doing this ever since mid-March, so at least we did get a bit of a break here when we were live during most of the summer and the first few weeks of fall.

We would have been in the midst of our Diamond Anniversary series of recitals and concerts and other events by now. But, have no fear—they're all coming next season!

I pray that each of you stays safe and healthy and strong and courageous

## Message From the Sub-Dean

during these days in which we presently live. God WILL see us through this pandemic. Don't hesitate to reach out to me or another board member or another chapter member if you need to talk or be in contact with one another. We need music, as I've already said, and we also need each other!

With gratitude and thankfulness,  
Michael Olson  
Dean, Red River Valley Chapter,  
AGO

## New Chapter Member

We've obtained a new chapter member! Please welcome Beth Buchholz to our membership. Her email address is [bbuchhol@midco.net](mailto:bbuchhol@midco.net) (note that there is no 'z' in the email address even though there is in her last name).

## Treasurer's Email Address Correction

The RRVAGO chapter treasurer's email address was misspelled in the previous issue of the *Pipeline* in the article announcing the new officer email addresses. To clarify, it is [treasurer@rrvago.org](mailto:treasurer@rrvago.org).

## First Friday Luncheon

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic and for the health and safety of all, the First Friday Luncheons have been indefinitely suspended until further notice. The Fry'n Pan restaurant on Main Avenue in Fargo remains closed. We will re-evaluate going forward and make a decision as to the resumption of this monthly gathering when we see there is more clear resolution of the COVID-19 pandemic and such time as it seems appropriate to begin meeting again.

## Chapter Officers

Dean: Michael Olson,  
[dean@rrvago.org](mailto:dean@rrvago.org)

Sub-dean: Dillon Swanson,  
[sub-dean@rrvago.org](mailto:sub-dean@rrvago.org)

Secretary: Bradley Steen,  
[secretary@rrvago.org](mailto:secretary@rrvago.org)

Treasurer: Alex Swanson,  
[treasurer@rrvago.org](mailto:treasurer@rrvago.org)



## RRVAGO Treasurer's Report

Financial Status of the Red River Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists Bell Bank Checking Account for the period of June 30, 2020—October 1, 2020

**BEGINNING BALANCE** \$5,748.91

**INCOME:**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
7/18	Nat'l. AGO Membership dues	\$107.00
8/6	Live-streaming equip. donation	100.00
8/14	Nat'l. AGO Membership dues	99.00
8/16	Arts Partnership ½ refund of annual dues	30.00
8/24	PayPal for microphone refund	139.74
9/18	Nat'l. AGO Membership dues	<u>82.00</u>

**TOTAL INCOME** \$557.74

**EXPENDITURES:**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Payable To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
7/16	PayPal	100 #10 envelopes with return addresses/seal	\$48.72
7/16	1003	Nat'l. AGO Annual Fund donation	50.00
7/21	Debit card	Wix.com for website "Pro" package	132.00
7/22	1004	Arts Partnership for annual dues	60.00
8/10	PayPal	Microphone for live-streaming events	139.74
8/14	Debit card	Tripod for live-streaming events	33.31
8/14	Debit card	Webcam for live-streaming events	218.32
8/31	Debit card	Re-ordering microphone	<u>139.74</u>

**TOTAL EXPENSES** \$821.83

Net Profit (Loss) (264.09)

**ENDING BALANCE:** \$5,484.82  
(October 1, 2020)

*A.P. Swanson, Treasurer*

## New Facebook Page for RRVAGO

After several failed attempts to reclaim the chapter's old Facebook page, a new one was created on April 4, 2020. Please check it out, like, and follow it if you haven't already. Search for "Red River Valley Chapter of the American Guild of Organists" or "@RRVAGO". We have been, and will continue to post organ music videos to the page to keep our audience and members involved and active during the COVID-19 pandemic, and the page will also be used as a general chapter news outlet.

## RRVAGO Website is Here!

As promised, our chapter website was published a few months ago and is nearly complete! Check it out at [www.rrvago.org](http://www.rrvago.org). Thank you very much to all who gave their expertise, time, and talents to ensure this project was successful, namely Dr. Jean Hellner, our new Webmaster and executive committee member. Also, thank you to Ryan Hardy, Webmaster and President of the Red River Theatre Organ Society and our new chapter Publicist, for advising us during the process.

The site contains a substantial amount of chapter information including contact information, officers and committees, local organs, and upcoming chapter and area organ events. Certain pages are still under construction and we would appreciate member input and ideas of things that may be added to the site that do not appear on there already.

## RRVAGO & RRTOS Join Forces at Chalk Fest

The September 19th Arts Partnership "Chalk Fest" event at the Red River Zoo was every bit enjoyable by those who attended as it was useful as an advertising outlet for both organ clubs. A baptism-by-fire setup of the RRVAGO portative organ was the experience of Ryan Hardy, Alex Swanson, and Dillon Swanson, who assembled the instrument underneath a tent provided by The Arts Partnership (TAP). The organ is now complete with the recently built, 5-note Holzprincipal extension. Dylan Thiele, the youngest member of RRTOS arrived mid-day and a great number of intrigued event attendees, many of whom were children, were drawn to the joint-club booth through the entertainment of short songs and medleys played



---

(continued from Page 2) on the portative. The attendees were each encouraged to play it themselves and it was more than likely all of these people's first time playing a pipe organ.

It is unknown as to when the portative organ was last used by our chapter for a public appearance, but it has at least been since July, 2015 when it was put into storage. The ease of assembly of the instrument and obvious portability (hence its name), we look forward to using it regularly for such events in the coming years.

## Materials Still Needed for Chapter History Book

As work continues on the chapter history book, it has been discovered that a significant amount of *Pipeline* newsletters as well as meeting minutes are missing from the chapter archives among other things. The information contained in these missing records are crucial to the completion of the history book, so to reiterate our previous request for members to donate or loan the chapter any chapter memorabilia they might have, please check your closets, attics, basements, offices, etc. for these things and contact Alex Swanson at [treasurer@rrvago.org](mailto:treasurer@rrvago.org) or Jean Hellner at [webmaster@rrvago.org](mailto:webmaster@rrvago.org). As of now, most of the useful information we could use would likely be in the newsletters, of which are needed from 1995-2012, and chapter yearbooks, many of which are missing. So far several members have responded and we thank you for your help!

## RRVAGO Treasurer's Books Audited

A letter from Sally Harmon, Auditor of the chapter for the 2019-20 year was presented at a recent executive committee meeting. She has found the treasurer's books and reports of the July 1, 2019-June 30, 2020 fiscal year to be in good standing. Should any member ever have any inquiries regarding the treasurer's records, please email the chapter treasurer at [treasurer@rrvago.org](mailto:treasurer@rrvago.org) and he would be happy to email any of them.

## "Resiliency" - A Note from the Nat'l. Director of Engagement and Chapter Development

I recently read a quote that I wanted to share with you; *Tough times don't last. Tough people do.* It seems like what we've all been through over the past six months should have certainly made us more resilient; however, there are times when we get thrown a curve ball that requires you to react and pivot quickly. I truly believe (and hope that you will agree) that your chapters provide you with a group of colleagues who can lift you up, support you and empathize with you. To me, this is why I've always felt so passionate about chapter structured organizations. The opportunity to be recognized, mentored and respected might not often happen at work, so especially during these challenging times, having someone who has got your back can really make a big difference. I encourage you to continue with the *member care* calls that were initiated in April, as these might be needed now, more than ever. Please know that the AGO has always got your back; that we are here to not only help you better serve your members, but also to just listen. Don't go it alone. To quote the Motel 6 commercial, "we'll leave the light on for you."

Lastly and most importantly, get out and **VOTE** on November 3rd! The outcome of this election will affect members of our profession in many ways, known and unknown. If you are a young organist, this may be your first election. Please locate where you can register and do so immediately. For those who are retired, make sure that any change of address you may have made since the last election, has been updated in your voting profile.

Elizabeth George, CMM  
Director of Member Engagement and Chapter Development  
[Elizabeth.George@agohq.org](mailto:Elizabeth.George@agohq.org)  
212-870-2311, ext.4307



## Letter of Congratulations from Nat'l. AGO President

The Diamond Anniversary Committee is proud to present a letter from National AGO President Michael Bedford to the chapter disclosing his word of congratulations to us for having achieved the 75-year milestone in 2020.



## American Guild of Organists

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS AND THE AMERICAN ORGANIST MAGAZINE  
475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE • SUITE 1260 • NEW YORK, NY 10115 • 212-870-2310  
FAX 212-870-2163 • E-MAIL [info@agohq.org](mailto:info@agohq.org) • WEB SITE [www.agohq.org](http://www.agohq.org)

August 6, 2020

The Red River Valley Chapter AGO  
PO Box 2223  
Fargo, ND 58108-2223

Dear Members of the Red River Valley Chapter,

Once upon a time, in another century, a brand new chapter of the American Guild of Organists was born. This birth did not take place in a major metropolitan area like New York, Chicago or Los Angeles. No, this chapter was born in the fine city of Fargo, North Dakota, to people who work every bit as hard and care every bit as much for fine organ and choral music as the residents of larger cities. The immediate family (18 charter members) was greatly pleased at the new birth, and as word of its arrival spread, there was great rejoicing throughout the land.

My heartiest congratulations to the Red River Valley Chapter of the AGO on reaching your 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary! On that great day of April 9, 1945, as World War II was drawing to a welcome close, who could have foreseen the great longevity and accomplishments this newly formed chapter would enjoy?

But your story is no fairy tale. Everything you have done and all you stand for is very real and significant. You have provided your area with fine recitals, workshops and hymn festivals, and have hosted such notable performers as Marilyn Mason, Paul Manz, Chelsea Chen, Paul Jacobs, Diane Bish, David Cherwein, Fred Swann, and many others. You have also accomplished what many chapters can only dream about: hosting the North Central AGO Regional Convention in 2001.

I wish for you much success as you continue to carry on the work of our great organization. If I am still around for your 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, I will rejoice once again with you. Meanwhile, cheers! Skoal! Mazel tov! Be ye proud and joyful!

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Bedford".

Michael Bedford, AAGO, ChM, DMA  
President, American Guild of Organists

---

## Getting to Know Your New Officers



**JEAN HELLNER**

As a musicologist, theorist, pianist, and organist, Jean Hellner enjoys performing, studying, and teaching music. She earned a PhD in musicology from the University of North Texas, where she also taught, performed in the new music ensemble, and played the viola da gamba in the early music ensemble. She holds a master's degree in musicology from The Florida State University in Tallahassee, and, as part of her undergraduate education, she studied piano with Rosario Marciano and music history with Friedrich Heller in Vienna, Austria.

Being an active scholar and performer, Jean has given several papers and lecture recitals locally, nationally, and internationally. Having a broad range of interests, her research encompasses a wide variety of topics from eighteenth-century opera to nineteenth-century symphonic music to the music of Olivier Messiaen.

Jean currently studies organ with Peter Nygaard, and she serves as an organist at Peace Lutheran Church in Fargo and as a substitute organist at Trinity Lutheran Church in Moorhead. In addition to being a member of RRVAGO and the Society for Eighteenth-Century Music, she is a founding member of the Edvard Grieg Society of the Dakotas and the Community Orchestra academy.



## RRVAGO Regular Board Meeting—July 14, 2020

A regular meeting of the RRVAGO board was held at First Lutheran Church on the above date. All officers were present plus Jean Hellner. The meeting was called to order by Dean Michael Olson at 7:09 p.m.

The secretary's report was read by Bradley Steen (minutes from the last board meeting held on May 16, 2017). Dillon Swanson moved to accept the report as read, seconded by Alex Swanson, motion carried. The treasurer's report was read by Alex Swanson. Michael Olson moved to approve the report as read with the correction of Bill Tweten's last name spelling seconded by Dillon Swanson; motion carried.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** Jean Hellner discussed the progress she has made on designing the chapter's website (rrvago.org) and she has almost reached a point where it will be necessary for the purchase of a hosting package from our host website, wix.com. She has expressed desire to purchase the premium package at the 50% discount which is being continually offered by Wix, with the possibility of moving onto Word Press as a hosting site. Alex Swanson moved that said premium package be purchased at the 50% discounted rate (\$132.00 for the year), seconded by Michael Olson; motion carried.

Alex Swanson explained that the chapter's by-laws which were adopted in 1995 are in need of updating. Jean Hellner has already combed through them and compiled a list of updates which would be suggested based on the current set recommended to chapters by national AGO. It was mentioned that the members at large (6) could be abolished and instead be replaced by a chapter webmaster and social media/Facebook administrator, both as officers & board members, making the total count of board members 6 persons. A by-laws review committee consisting of the proposed by-law changes at the next board meeting.

Alex Swanson and Jean Hellner were appointed to be chapter archivists.

The chapter's portative organ has been repaired through grant money from the Orlee Howell Pipe Organ Fund at the F-M Area Foundation and is in need of a few more repairs to 5 damaged pipes. Alex Swanson will take care of applying for additional grant monies and he and Lance Johnson will see to it that the necessary repairs are made.

Michael Olson's noon-hour concerts will be live-streamed to the chapter's Facebook page. Last Sunday's hymn sing has already been viewed by 150 people. Bradley Steen suggested that future hymn sings include instrumentalists and vocal ensembles, which was well-received.

Alex Swanson moved to rejoin the Arts Partnership, seconded by Bradley Steen; motion carried.

There is an ample supply of postage stamps available for board members to use. Dillon Swanson moved that the chapter purchase 100 return address #10 envelopes (like the Red River Theatre Organ Society) and they will be divided amongst the officers. This was seconded by Michael Olson; motion carried. Alex Swanson will email a file of the chapter's recently created letterhead.

Dillon Swanson stated that National AGO President Michael Bedford will write our chapter a congratulatory letter for the observance of our Diamond Anniversary which will be published in our history book.

The nominating committee for the 2021-22 year will be selected at a later date.

Chapter membership cards will be looked into, as it would be fairly easy to maintain this system with the number of members on our membership roster (24 at present).

Sally Harmon has audited the chapter treasurer's books for the 2019-20 fiscal year and she found them to be in good order.

Dillon Swanson mentioned that we will likely be unable to have the Christmas Carol Ring and Sing at First Presbyterian Church of Fargo this year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Different locations have been used in years past and this might be a necessity for 2020.

The next meeting of the RRVAGO board will be on August 4, 2020 after the evening meeting of the Diamond Anniversary Committee.

There being not further business, Alex Swanson moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dillon Swanson; motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bradley J. Steen, Secretary



## RRVAGO Regular Executive Committee Meeting—August 5, 2020

A regular meeting of the RRVAGO Executive Committee was held at First Lutheran Church on the above date following a meeting of the Diamond Anniversary Committee. All officers were present with Ryan Hardy and Susan Clambey attending as guests.

The meeting was called to order by Sub-Dean Dillon Swanson at 7:31 p.m. Michael Olson moved to approve the agenda as sent via email, seconded by Jean Hellner; motion carried.

The Dean's report was given by Michael Olson. Alex Swanson moved to approve the report, seconded Jean Hellner' motion carried.

The Sub-Dean's report was given by Dillon Swanson. Jean Hellner moved to approve the report as read, seconded by Michael Olson; motion carried.

The secretary's report was sent out via email prior to the meeting. Alex Swanson moved to approve report as sent, seconded by Jean Hellner; motion carried.

The treasurer's report was given by Alex Swanson. Dillon moved to accept the report as given, seconded by Jean Hellner; motion carried.

**Old Business:** The chapter's First Friday lunch was discussed. They have not been held since February. It was decided to continue postponing them and the Executive Committee will reconsider the matter in January.

**Website.** The website is being finished up by Webmaster/new Executive Committee member Jean Hellner. She reported that it may be ready for publishing by the end of this week. Some of the pages to make on the new website include URL links to national AGO website, event announcements, chapter history page, teaching, subbing, and officer contact information. It was decided to follow suit with the Red River Theatre Organ Society and create an Instagram account/profile for the chapter.

**COVID-19 and programming update.** We will continue live-streaming the noon-hour Wednesday recitals to our Facebook page. The Bach Evening Prayer will be re-recorded and posted later. This fall, Dillon Swanson would like his sophomore recital to be an AGO event .

**New Business: Christmas Carol Ring & Sing;** Dillon Swanson reported that First Presbyterian Church of Fargo may not be open for such events until January. There has been no formal decision from the Fargo-Moorhead Area Music Club as to whether the Ring and Sing will happen. After some discussion about our chapter's desire to feature more organ music in the event, Alex Swanson moved that our chapter host its own event as we did prior to about 6 years ago, and still offer organists to the Music Club for the Ring and Sing event. This was seconded by Michael Olson; motion carried. The date will need to be confirmed with the church.

**AV Technology purchase.** We have used Ryan Hardy's equipment for our live-stream and recording work thus far but will need to eventually acquire our own. Ryan stated to obtain the equivalent of his equipment we would need the following: Tripod for approx. \$25, Blue brand 'Yehti' model microphone for approx. \$130, and a 1080p HD web camera for approx. \$187 (or a 720 HD for approx. \$134). Alex Swanson and Michael Olson pledged to donate \$100 each towards the cause, and Dillon Swanson pledged to donate, too. Alex Swanson then moved that the chapter purchase the necessary equipment, seconded by Michael Olson; motion carried.

**Membership invitations.** Dillon Swanson suggested we compose a letter and send it to every area church, encouraging pastors, organists, pianists, choir directors, etc. to join AGO and our chapter. Alex will check to see how chapter friend memberships are handled and if we can offer first-year-only discounted chapter friend memberships as an incentive to join, possibly as a group rate if several members of one church join.

Alex mentioned that Solveig Bartz, Ardis Witte, and Judy Buscher have all recently died, all of them being area organists and former Red River Valley Chapter members and/or officers.

**Newsletter.** Dillon Swanson suggested we look into a new template/format for the Pipeline and he will talk to Ruth Discher and Alpha Roeszler about this.

**Chapter Operating Procedures (By-Laws).** Jean Hellner, Chairman of the by-laws/operating procedures committee, presented the proposed amendments to our chapter operating procedures (originally called "Standing Rules"), as they were originally adopted in 1995 and have not been updated since then.

*(continued on page 8)*



(continued from Page 7)

After some discussion and more amending, Jean then moved to adopt the proposed amendments, seconded by Alex Swanson; motion carried. Alex will type them up and a master file (Microsoft Word Document) will be placed in the chapter's Google Drive folder for future amending. The updated operating procedures will be placed in this year's chapter yearbook.

The amending of the operating procedures confirmed the addition of Webmaster and Publicist as appointed Executive Committee positions and Jean Hellner and Ryan Hardy have been appointed to them and were welcomed to the committee.

Chapter membership meetings were discussed briefly. Aside from the May meeting, they have not been held regularly for many years (they used to be held September through May, totaling 9 a year). When the pandemic is over, having a chapter meeting will be revisited.

Ryan Hardy talked about Chalk Fest, hosted by The Arts Partnership (of which our chapter is a member). He has reserved a booth for our chapter and the Red River Theatre Organ Society to share. It will take place at the Red River Zoo Saturday, September 19.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held tentatively on September 15, 2020, with a location to be determined.

There being no further business, Alex Swanson moved to adjourn meeting, seconded by Michael Olson' motion carried and meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bradley J. Steen, Secretary

## RRVAGO Regular Executive Committee Meeting

September 15, 2020

A regular meeting of the RRVAGO Executive Committee was held at First Lutheran Church on the above date. All members were present including Alpha Roeszler. The meeting was called to order by Sub-Dean Dillon Swanson at 7:10 p.m.

Alex Swanson moved to approve the secretary's report as emailed by the secretary prior to the meeting, seconded by Michael Olson; motion carried. Alex Swanson moved to approve the agenda as amended by Michael Olson, seconded by Dillon Swanson; motion carried.

The Dean had no report for this meeting. The Sub-Dean's report was given by Dillon Swanson. He read a congratulatory letter sent to the chapter regarding our Diamond Anniversary from national AGO President Michael Bedford, which will be printed in the upcoming history book. An accompanying certificate will be sent to the chapter later and the chapter secretary will send President Bedford a thank you note for his letter. Ryan Hardy moved to approve report as read, seconded by Alex Swanson; motion carried. The treasurer's report was given by Alex Swanson. Dillon Swanson moved to approve the report as read, seconded by Ryan Hardy; motion carried.

**Old Business:** The AV equipment for live streaming has been purchased, tested, and works great.

**Website:** Our new chapter website is working well and a few photos and executive committee members bios are still needed. A few pages are still under construction. Webmaster Jean Hellner has heard from the Twin Cities Chapter, and they have a database of area pipe organs which they would like to cross-reference with us to make sure the instrument information is accurate on both pages.

**Pipeline Newsletter:** The executive committee had previously discussed the possibility of using a new format for the *Pipeline*, and possibly publishing it bi-monthly instead of quarterly. Executive Committee meeting minutes and financial information of the chapter perhaps would not be published on the RRVAGO website for privacy and confidentiality reasons.

**Website:** The Executive Committee will determine the criteria for what is okay to publish on the website and Alex Swanson will review the old *Pipeline* Newsletter issues before they are published on the website as he reads through them for the writing of the history book.

(continued on page 9)



(continued from page 8)

**Christmas Carol Sing-Along:** Dillon Swanson reported on layout of this year's Christmas Carol Sing-Along. The theme will be "You Shall Have a Song" (a quote from Isaiah 30). The carols and readings will tie in with one another and have an overall theme. Jean Hellner mentioned Calvin Hampton has lovely arrangement for soprano and organ of the Magnificat which could be used in this year's program.

**New Business: Chalk Fest:** Ryan Hardy has reserved a table for RRVAGO and the Red River Theatre Organ Society at this event, which is put on by The Arts Partnership, of which both organizations are members. It will take place this coming Saturday, September 19, and volunteers from RRVAGO and RRTOS will be needed to sit at the joint-chapter booth. The RRVAGO portative organ will be displayed and demonstrated. Ryan will be at the booth for the duration of the 10 a.m.-4 p.m. time slot (there is room for only two volunteers at any given time). Both organizations' secretaries will send emails to their members and have interested volunteers contact Ryan Hardy (president@rrtos.org).

**Portative Organ:** Alex Swanson mentioned five metal Principal pipes need repair (1 needs soldering and the rest need dents to be removed). The F-M Area Foundation could issue the chapter another grant to cover the repair costs. Dillon Swanson moved that the chapter fill out a second grant application to the foundation for a grant from the Orlee Howell Pipe Organ Fund, seconded by Jean Hellner; motion carried. The repairs will be made after Chalk Fest.

**Live-Streaming Noon-Hour Recitals:** An email from First Lutheran Church staff was read by the Dean. They would like to live-stream the Michael Olson (& friends) weekly Noon Hour Organ Recitals due to fear of copyright infringement or false attribution among other things and would prefer the chapter no longer stream them to the RRVAGO Facebook page. Dillon Swanson mentioned we could purchase a license for producing such streams and it is the executive committee's current understanding that no such copyright violations have taken place. There was some confusion as to how First Lutheran Church could be at risk per the production of these streams. A discussion was held, and the Dean and Sub-Dean will meet with the First Lutheran officials and report back to the executive committee. They will suggest that each organization stream the recitals to their Facebook pages separately from one another. Dillon Swanson will also look into whether national AGO offers licensing for chapters.

**Pipedreams:** Michael Barone of Pipedreams has contacted Michael Olson and has asked about our chapter programming, Facebook page, and website. He will publicize events for us and was told about the chapter's diamond anniversary.

**Announcements:** 1) Dillon Swanson is playing the Wednesday noon hour recital tomorrow at First Lutheran Church. 2) The Halloween Spooktacular will be performed by Dillon Swanson and Andrew Steinberg at Trinity Lutheran Church in Moorhead again this year and our chapter wants to advertise for AGO events in the program if we can. The date of release will be the last Sunday of October. 3) Pipeline deadline is first week of month it is published.. 4) The next meeting of the RRVAGO Executive Committee will be Tuesday October 20, 2020 following he regular Diamond Anniversary Committee meeting, location to be determined. 5) Beverly Everette of the University of Mary in Bismarck will be performing next week's noon-hour Wednesday recital.

There being no further business, Alex Swanson moved to adjourn the meeting seconded by Michael Olson. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bradley J. Steen, Secretary



## RRVAGO Regular Executive Committee Meeting

October 20, 2020

A regular meeting of the RRVAGO Executive Committee was held via Zoom on the above date. All officers were present. The meeting was called to order by Sub-Dean Dillon Swanson at 7:35 p.m. Dillon Swanson moved to approve the secretary's report as emailed, seconded by Alex Swanson and Ryan Hardy. The Dean's report was given by Michael Olson; he will let us know when First Lutheran Church will be open for recording again. The Sub-Dean's report was given by Dillon Swanson; the Wednesday noon recitals are receiving great reception on Facebook. Andrew Steinberg and Dillon Swanson will be performing the annual Halloween Spooktacular at Trinity Church in Moorhead on Halloween night. The treasurer's report was given by Alex Swanson. A new member has joined the chapter, Beth Buchholz of Casselton, ND. Several members need to pay their dues and notices will be sent to them. Alex Swanson moved to approve the reports as read, seconded by Dillon Swanson; motion carried.

**New Business: Christmas Carol Sing-along:** Dillon Swanson went through the program lineup. A sign-up sheet will be sent out to the chapter members. There was talk about having the event live, if possible, but it cannot be at First Lutheran Church as originally planned.

Alex Swanson has not taken action on the portative organ repairs yet and has suggested that the executive committee get together to inspect all the pipes before they are given to Lance Johnson to send off for repairs as there appears to be more than the original five he selected that need minor repairs. There is also a dead note that needs to be fixed, otherwise it functions wonderfully.

Alex Swanson is writing the first chapter yearbook since the 2007-08 program year and the secretary will email it out as a PDF file to the membership once it is completed. Alex will also create membership cards and send them to chapter members via email.

The next meeting date of the RRVAGO Executive Committee will be November 24, 2020 (Tuesday) via Zoom, tentatively at 7:00 p.m.

There being no further business, Dillon Swanson moved to adjourn, seconded by Michael Olson. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bradley J. Steen, Secretary

## Diamond Anniversary Committee Meeting—October 20, 2020

A regular meeting of the Diamond Anniversary Committee was held via Zoom on the above date. Those present were Michael Olson, Bradley Steen, Jean Hellner, Susan Clambey, Alex Swanson, Dillon Swanson, and Ryan Hardy. Absent was Jim Gurney. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dillon Swanson at 7:03 p.m. Ryan Hardy moved to approve agenda as sent out by the chairman, seconded by Jean Hellner; motion carried.

The chairman's report was given by Dillon Swanson. He is working on re-scheduling all anniversary year programs with their proper venues and a revised schedule will be sent out later.

**Old Business:** A history book update was given by Alex Swanson and Jean Hellner. Alpha Roeszler has donated a sizable amount of RRVAGO documents and has been thanked for her valuable donation. The entirety of the chapter's materials at MSUM have been scanned. Many past Deans who were contacted have responded and will write a message for the history book. Peter Nygaard will also write the forward for the book. Sue Clambey suggested that the book be 8½" X 11" and it was agreed that this will be the printed size.

**New Business:** Michael Olson stated that First Lutheran Church is closed again to the public until further notice, so our Christmas Carol Sing-along and November piano-organ duet recital will have to be filmed.

The Christmas Carol Sing-along (December 7th) will have to be online, likely.

The next meeting date of the anniversary committee will be December 15, 2020 (Tuesday) at 7:00 p.m. There being no further business, Ryan Hardy moved to adjourn. The motion carried and meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Alex Swanson, Secretary



Program from the 40th Anniversary Celebration of the RRVAGO

Program -  
AGIO + member



**The American Guild of Organists**  
Red River Valley Chapter

40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION  
SEPTEMBER 15, 1985  
4:00 p.m.  
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, MOORHEAD, MINNESOTA

PROGRAM

Welcome.....Joan Bystol, Chapter Dean

Organ selections.....Ruth Berge, Organist

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Sonata de Primo Tono   | José Lidon<br>(1752-1827)            |
| Suite, Op. 5<br>Sicilienne   | Maurice Durufle<br>(b. 1902)         |
| Chorale Prelude: Allein Gott in der Höh'<br>sei Ehr', BWV 662<br>(All Glory Be to God on High) | Johann Sebastian Bach<br>(1685-1750) |
| Fantasia and Fugue in G Minor, BWV 542   | Johann Sebastian Bach                |

Greetings and brief history of the chapter.....Mary Tangen

Birthday packages

Lunch - Fellowship Hall

Business Meeting

Histories were compiled by Susan Clambey and Carol Saastad.





The AGO has created new logos in a variety of formats for chapters to use. These can be found on the Chapter Leadership Toolkits page on the AGO website: <https://www.agoq.org/chapter-leadership-toolkits/>. There you will find a **Logo Identity Style Guide**, along with logo files for screens (digital/screen display on web, email, video), and logo files for ink printing (onto paper or other items for publication). These files necessitated password protection, as some deans were being contacted by imposters asking for donations, using our new letterhead and logo. Those who should be authorized to use these logos are people like printers or designers doing graphics work for chapters, as well as those in charge of email notifications, chapter newsletters and websites.

#### Contact Information

American Guild of Organists  
Red River Valley Chapter  
PO Box 2223  
Fargo, ND 58108-2223  
[rrvago@hotmail.com](mailto:rrvago@hotmail.com)  
[www.agoq.org/chapters/redrivervalley](http://www.agoq.org/chapters/redrivervalley)

Publication Title: *Pipeline*  
Issue Date: Oct Nov Dec 2020  
Statement of Frequency: Quarterly  
Editor: Ruth Discher

If you are interested in getting the *Pipeline* delivered right to your email box, please send a message to [rrvago@hotmail.com](mailto:rrvago@hotmail.com) and include the email address that the newsletter should be sent to. For those without email, we will send a printed copy. Please send your information to the address above. We encourage feedback as well as submission of articles for publication. Please send your *completed* articles by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month to [rrvago@hotmail.com](mailto:rrvago@hotmail.com). We reserve the right to accept, reject, edit or modify any submission.