



# Lorain County Chapter American Guild of Organists

[www.lcago.org](http://www.lcago.org)

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## Professional Concerns Workshop

February 10, 7:30 pm

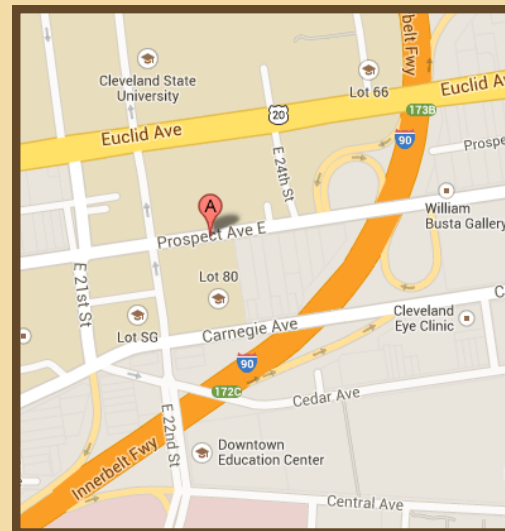
Trinity Cathedral, Cleveland

Our next LCAGO program is in cooperation with AGO Cleveland. It will take place on Monday, February 10 at 7:30 at beautiful Trinity Cathedral in Cleveland. The topic will be “professional concerns,” which encompasses all of the non-musical aspects of being an organist or church musician.

The evening will begin with a talk by our Regional Councilor, David Lamb. Following his presentation, there will be a choice of two sessions. One session will focus on résumé writing, and will be lead by Timothy Robson of Case Western Reserve University. The other session will look at clergy/musician relationships, and will be led by our own Rev. Jimmy Madsen and Brian Wentzel.

Trinity Cathedral and Trinity Commons are located on the southeast corner of East 22nd Street and Euclid Avenue, in downtown Cleveland. The Trinity parking lot entrance is on Prospect Avenue, east of East 22nd Street. Parking at Trinity is free for anyone attending Cathedral events or meetings (such as ours) at Trinity Commons.

If you would like to carpool to this event, please [contact the Dean](#).





## From the Dean

Dear Colleagues,

This is a busy time of year for most of us. I hope you will make sure to take time to stop and enjoy some music this holiday season.

There is lots happening in our chapter; you can read all about it here. I hope to see many of you on February 10, or perhaps at a concert this month.

Best wishes,

*Brian*

## Chapter News

### **Bob and Marcia's Magic Mechanical Music Marvels**

About a dozen LCAGO members and friends gathered at Bob and Marcia Ebert's house on September 22<sup>nd</sup> for a wonderful afternoon and evening together. After gathering together, Bob and Marcia gave us a tour of their many mechanical musical instruments, including a player piano, a nickelodeon, many antique disc and cylinder music boxes, a small carousel organ, several organ grinder organs, plus a 12 rank pipe organ. Most of us had not seen such a collection before, and it was fascinating to see both the instruments and the Eberts' passion for their collection.

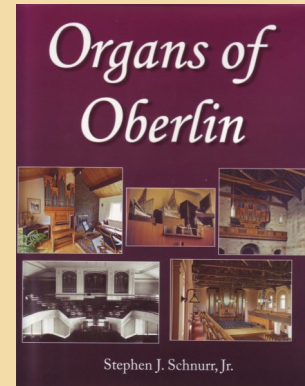
After a delicious potluck dinner, we gathered for our annual members meeting, postponed from June. The reports of the Dean and Treasurer were given, and the current slate of officers was re-elected. LCAGO programs for 2013-2014 were discussed and agreed upon (see below for details). The longest portion of the meeting was spent discussing the future of our chapter. The number of members and amount of participation have both been declining in recent years. The Executive Committee has considered whether it would be wise to even disband the chapter, but ultimately decided that that would not be wise to disband, but it does make sense to scale back our activities (such as number of programs and frequency of the newsletter). The members present agreed with this assessment, and further discussion was held on how to recruit more members. The Executive Committee was charged to develop these ideas further at their next meeting.

Chapter News [continued](#) on page 4

## New Book: Organs of Oberlin

**Organs of Oberlin**, by Stephen Schnurr, was published in 2013 by Chauncey Park Press of Oak Park, Illinois. The 160-page book, hard-bound with color dust jacket, chronicles the history of the pipe organ at Oberlin College, the Conservatory of Music, and in the churches and residences of the town of Oberlin, Ohio.

From the 1854 Alvinza Andrews organ in the First Congregational Church to several organs recently moved to the campus but not yet installed, this book is the most comprehensive study made of the organs of this community dedicated to inspiring and educating many of the world's finest musicians.



At one time, Oberlin boasted the largest organ department in the world, and still maintains one of the largest organ studios in the United States. As noted by Professor James David Christie, not many cities in the world with a population of 8,300 persons can boast nearly three-dozen pipe organs. Four of these are world-class concert organs crafted by the firms of Flentrop, Brombaugh, Fisk, and Bozeman-Gibson.

Oberlin Professor James David Christie has written the Foreword to the book. Beautiful photographs by William T. Van Pelt, Trevor Dodd, Halbert Gober, and Stephen Schnurr are balanced with archival images gathered from many sources, including the Oberlin College Archives.

Copies may be purchased for \$50 plus \$5 shipping and handling, per book.

Visit [organsofoberlin.com](http://organsofoberlin.com) for further details and for orders.

## Job Opening

Faith United Methodist Church, Lorain is looking for someone to play for a weekly worship service, piano and pipe organ if possible. Résumés can be sent to:

Lorain Faith United Methodist Church, 2201 Reid Avenue, Lorain, Ohio 44052

or emailed to:

[faithumc2008@centurytel.net](mailto:faithumc2008@centurytel.net)

Questions may be directed to the above email address or by phone to 440-244-3144.

## 2013-2014 Programs

- **September 22, 4 pm—Bob and Marcia's Magic Mechanical Music Marvels**  
See page 2 for a report on this event.
- **February 10, 7:30 pm—Professional Concerns event**  
LCAGO is co-sponsoring this workshop with AGO Cleveland at Trinity Cathedral in Cleveland. The session will start with words from AGO regional councilor David Lamb. Two concurrent sessions will follow—one on clergy-musician relationships by LCAGO members Jimmy Madsen and Brian Wentzel, and one on résumé writing by Tim Robson. There will also be time for socializing with colleagues.
- **May 4, 4:00 pm—Repertoire Sharing and Members Meeting**  
We'll get together at First UMC in Elyria to share some old and new favorites. Bring some music to share, or just come to listen and learn. Following our annual members meeting, those who wish will eat together at Blue Sky Restaurant following the event.

## Executive Committee Meeting

The LCAGO Executive Committee met on November 16, from 1:00 to 3:00 at First Lutheran Church in Lorain. Most of the meeting time was spent on discussing the membership ideas that came out of the September members meeting and on working on the new chapter Operating Procedures. The latter is coming along nicely, and should be ready soon to share with the chapter.

Based on the discussion at the members meeting, the committee decided to implement a dues-reduction offer to try to attract new LCAGO members. Committee members are all working to gather names of organists in Lorain County who do not yet belong to our chapter. **If you know of any such organists, please let one of the officers know.** In April, these organists will receive a letter from our chapter with promotional material and a letter inviting them to join LCAGO for the 2014-2015 year at half price (the remainder of their dues will be covered by our chapter treasury, which is healthy). The discount will only apply to those who are not currently AGO members. They will also be invited to our May 4 chapter event. About a week before the event, follow-up calls will be made to again invite them to the program and to join the Guild. A specific policy on this offer will be drawn up by the Executive Committee at their next meeting; your input is welcome.

## New Schedule for Newsletter

Please note that this newsletter is now published quarterly instead of monthly. This decision was made in order to help us best use our resources. Concerts and event of interest are updated weekly on our website ([www.lcago.org/events.html](http://www.lcago.org/events.html)).

The newsletter may be supplemented with periodic emails to the membership, so if we do not yet have your email address, please let us know what it is.

## Chapter Directory

The chapter directory will be published shortly. Please let the Treasurer know if any of your information has changed.

## AGO Mission Statement

**The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to enrich lives through organ and choral music.**

To achieve this, we:

- Encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music;
- Inspire, educate, and offer certification for organists and choral conductors;
- Provide networking, fellowship, and mutual support;
- Nurture future generations of organists;
- Promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles; and
- Engage wider audiences with organ and choral music.

## Substitute Organists

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## Contact Us

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Please email any newsletter information to the Dean.

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