



Lorain County Chapter American Guild of Organists

www.lcago.org

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Visit to Leek Organ Shop

A large crowd of LCAGO members and visitors from as far away as Toledo were present at the Leek Organ Shop in Berea on May 15.

We began with an ice cream social, hosted by Bob and Marcia Ebert. After we had had our fill, James Leek and LCAGO member Randy Wagner (formerly of Organ Supply Industries) spoke to those gathered about their experiences working as organ builders.

James Leek showed then off his new shop, pointing out the various areas of the shop and the work that happens there. There were a number of organs in the shop for service during our visit, and another organ that was fully set up and playable.

After the tour LCAGO members convened for our annual meeting ([see page 3](#)).

You can see more pictures on Leek's [Flickr page](#). Their [Facebook page](#) also has some videos from the event.







From the Dean

Dear Colleagues,

I've been a fan of Jean Langlais' organ music for a long time. At one of my first organ lessons my teacher handed me the catalog of the Organ Historical Society (remember when those were printed?) with some CD's circled. One was Volume 1 of Langlais' complete organ works played by Ann Labounsky. I have enjoyed this and other volumes of the series over the years, played a number of Langlais pieces, and read Labounsky's biography of the composer. You may have seen that Langlais' second wife has just published a biography of her late husband—and it is entirely free online! I have just finished reading this, and am looking forward to when I have an organ again so I can play some of his music again. Visit www.agohq.org to read this fascinating look into the life of one of the great 20th-century organ composers.

Best wishes,
Brian

Chapter News

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the LCAGO took place at 4:00 pm on May 15 at the Leek Organ Shop. It was reported that both our total membership and our bank account are higher than last year at this time. After the reports we began discussion on programs for 2016-2017. Further discussions were referred to the executive committee (see report on [page 4](#)). The ballots that had been mailed in were opened and counted. Officers elected for 2016-2018 are:

Dean: Brian Wentzel
Sub-Dean: Marty Bruner
Treasurer: Ira Cooper
Secretary: Bob Ebert

New Member

Please welcome to our chapter Gerwin Hoekstra! Gerwin is a student at Oberlin.

Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee met at Ira Cooper's house on June 16. After reviewing the previous year's programs, the committee worked on planning programs for the upcoming year. Preliminary plans include:

- Dedication of a new Buzard organ at Grace Episcopal Church, Sandusky, in September.
- Visit to Randy Wagner's house organ in Oberlin in the fall.
- Organ introduction program for adopted and foster children in the spring.
- Annual meeting in coordination with a recital at Oberlin in the spring.

Please watch the newsletter and our website for more details to come.

Job Opening

Amherst United Methodist Church—Organist

Amherst UMC is looking for an organist for their worship services. There is no choir. One service on Sunday mornings at 10:30; \$75/service. Contact Rev. Bob Ludwig, pastor, at bdrhome@glwb.net or (740) 223-6383.

Theater Organ Concert in Lorain

The American Theatre Organ Society is having its convention in Cleveland this summer. As part of the convention, Ron Rhode will be playing a concert and accompanying a silent movie at the Lorain Palace Theater. This event will take place on Wednesday, July 6 at 3:30 pm. Tickets cost \$25.

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.

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