

TITULAIRE

The NEWSLETTER for the AGO PALOMAR CHAPTER

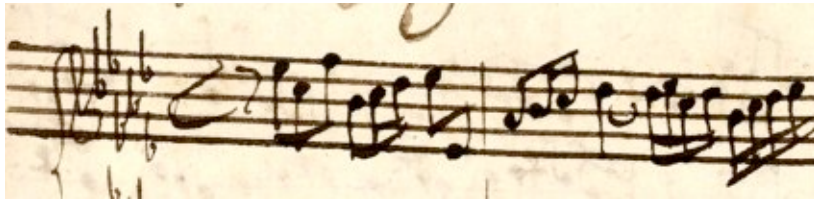
ISSUE NO. 181 (May 2020)

<https://agopalomar.org>
<https://www.facebook.com/agopalomar/>
<https://www.agohq.org>



During the COVID-19 lockdown while churches are closed and not open for services, we must utilize other methods to inspire and engage our congregations. For example, the staff/clergy at House of Prayer Lutheran Church in Escondido records videos of Sunday services in advance. The videos are then uploaded Sunday morning to YouTube for parishioners to view/participate. From left to right: Music Director/Cantor Carol Gross, Lector/camera-operator Samantha Gross, Organist Henry Doktorski, Pastor Rev. Dr. Daren Erisman (April 11, 2020).

A Note from the Dean



Dear AGO Palomar Chapter Members,

As you are well aware, things have slowed down considerably. In some regards, it seems life has been put on PAUSE. Our March workshop was cancelled. Our May Scholarship Auditions are cancelled. Our May members recital is cancelled. Or perhaps I should say postponed, although we have not scheduled backup dates. At this time we do not know if we're having our June dinner meeting and installation of officers. Certainly we cannot until our governor relaxes the stay at home orders. Of course, when we meet again I expect we will have to wear masks, keep six feet apart, etc.

I have been laid off at Saint Martha in Murrieta. As I am a W-2 employee at Saint Martha I have applied for unemployment, although I'm still working at House of Prayer Lutheran in Escondido. The pastor, cantor, camera operator/lector and I meet and record the Sunday service which is then uploaded on YouTube. My other work has slowed or stopped—no choir rehearsals, I lost some funerals and accordion gigs, but I have kept busy revising and promoting my two non-fiction books about the Hare Krishna movement, so I'm certainly not bored.

Perhaps some of you have been laid off your church jobs. I understand that there may be State or Federal Government aid if you are a 1099 contractor. The AGO National Website lists many resources which might be helpful. See <https://www.agohq.org/responding-to-covid-19/>. It may be worth your while to explore the resources on this page if you have lost work due to the virus.

On another note, I would appreciate if you write to me and tell me what's happening at your church, for a forthcoming Titulaire. Are you still working? How have things changed? Have you been laid off? What are you doing with your time. Please send photos also.

That's all for now! Stay safe! (One of my San Diego friends told me his 94-year-old mother was in the hospital for eight days with Covid-19, but she recovered and is back at home. Good for her!)

Sincerely,

Charlotte's Web

A monthly column by Charlotte Atkinson

The Final Curtain, by Carol Graham

Charlotte Atkinson finished spinning her earthly web on Saturday, May 2, 2020. During her 87+ years, she “caught” a lot of musicians and potential musicians with her passion for and devotion to music making. The transition to the Heavenly Realm happened quickly and to the end she was busy spinning words of love and care to the many people who had filled her life.

In 1982, I became a part of “the web” as Charlotte’s neighbor in Vista. We had a lot in common since we were both church organists and piano teachers. My son, Mike took lessons from Charlotte and is still good friends with her son, David. Some of my favorite memories are of what we called “Music on the Hill”, a music camp for our students during the summer. We incorporated lots of fun musical activities and as walked back and forth to our studios on the hill and then Down the hill to All Saints Episcopal Church for introduction to the organ. Charlotte delighted in thinking up creative, fun ideas for children to enjoy with music. Her studio was full of all kinds of instruments - big, small and toy. She never lost that childlike wonder of what is simple and beautiful.



Charlotte dedicated herself to musical excellence. Her years of promoting AGO kept our Palomar Chapter from extinction in the 1970s. In 1988, Charlotte headed up the committee to bring the AGO Regional Convention to Carlsbad. Our chapter still benefits financially from the profit we made at that convention. While her husband Bill was on the staff of the Army & Navy Academy in Carlsbad, Charlotte was responsible for procuring the 3-manual Schlicker organ for the Chapel on the beach at the Academy. Some of our members remember the excellent concerts there. Bill (a professional flutist) and Charlotte were the “Atkinson Duo”. Foreign exchange students, cadets and private students kept in touch with Charlotte as adults and brought her much joy.

The list of Charlotte’s musical accomplishments is extensive. Additionally, she was always studying, learning and writing. During the past 5 years since she moved to Temecula, I collaborated with her on the book called “The New School of Practical Church Music”, a humorous look at the changing world of church music. She was pleased that \$2,000 in book sales/donations have been added to the Scholarship Fund.

I hope other chapter members who have memories will contribute to “Charlotte’s Web” in the next months. At some point, there will be a Memorial Service, but in the meantime, share your thoughts and memories by emailing them to Dean Henry Doktorski.

Carol Graham

Charlotte's Web

The Final Article, by Carol and David

Our mom, Charlotte, as you know, was a creator, a writer, caring and creative with children and “children” meaning her creations other than human. Why did Charlotte, (from the book) do what she did for Wilbur; Because he was her friend, as life was mom’s friend, “That in itself is a tremendous thing. I wove my webs for you because I liked you. After all, what’s a life anyway? We’re born, we live a little while, we die.” “By helping you, perhaps I was trying to lift up my life a trifle. Heaven knows anyone’s life can stand a little of that.”

I think of her “egg sac” her “great work-the finest thing i have ever made” as mother’s favorite book refers to it, as all her children, all her creations, all her hobbies, all her animals, all those things and people whom she ever touched or thought of or dreamed up. Her eggs hatched, some floated away. Some stayed to keep Wilbur (who i equate with life and all mother touched) company.

Mom was a giver, one of ideas, time, music, she always gave all she had. She loved: her family, her extended family including all of you. Thank you all for your friendship and your professional relationships with her.

Carol and David, children of Charlotte Atkinson

Short Biography of Charlotte from the NAMM Website

July 15, 2010: Charlotte Atkinson is an organist extraordinaire! Showing an aptitude for music early on, Charlotte continued with formal education earning Bachelor and Masters degrees in music. At San Diego State University, she first met her husband, William, in Howard Brubeck's theory class. In her junior year at SDSU, she and William (Bill) were married and spent the next several decades touring as the Atkinson Duo with Charlotte on piano, organ and harpsichord and Bill on flute and choir directing. They were organist and music directors of several churches and were actively involved in many service and musical organizations. They were mostly involved locally with the Army and Navy Academy in Carlsbad and the First Presbyterian Church in Oceanside. Charlotte is now in her 40th year of serving the First Presbyterian Church. Somehow, among a myriad of other activities, they also managed to operate the Music Makers retail store in Carlsbad and the Atkinson Handbell Supply company for several years. Charlotte also had numerous opportunities to perform in Europe in many famous churches, including some where J. S. Bach had performed. Charlotte has her own pipe organ at home that Bill built for her. She continues to perform and teach professionally.

To listen to an interview with Charlotte, go to <https://www.namm.org/library/oral-history/charlotte-atkinson>.

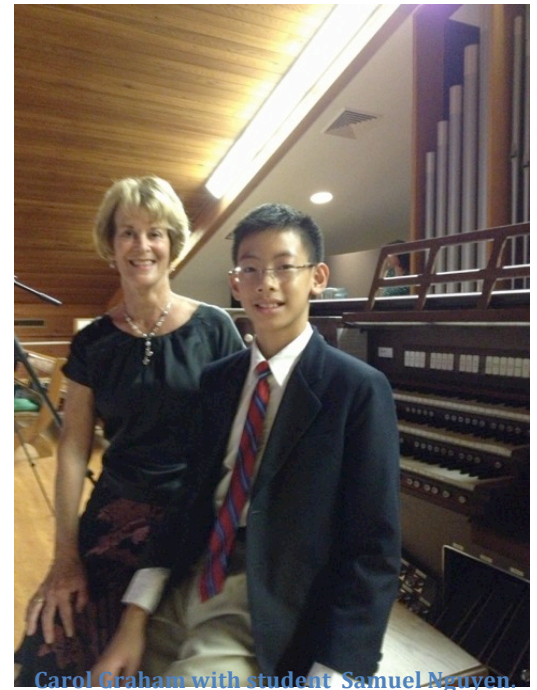
Education Notes

Submitted by Carol Graham, Education Chair

Organ Scholarship Auditions have been postponed until June (hopefully). More applicants are needed. The application and procedures are on the website, agopalomar.org. Pianists of any age audition with a piece or 2 short pieces, as well as organists of any age.

Did you know that Frederick Holman has 30 short lessons on the AGO You Tube Channel? Lots of great ideas and how to do it! Check it out and other workshops at agohq.org/education.

Carol Graham, Education Chair earlygram@gmail.com



Member News

Chuck Klotz, husband of Penny Klotz died on April 26th after a long illness. They were married for 52 years. Penny's address may be found on the chapter website, agopalomar.org/membership which is protected by password for privacy. Directions for PW are on the website.

Palomar Chapter Officers for 2020-2021

Dean: Henry Doktorski

Sub Dean: Howard McCullough

Secretary: Carol Graham

Treasurer: Steve Vandlen

Chaplain: Reverend Herb Chamberlin

Board Members at Large: Adam Ferrara, Jenny Yun, Bonnie Rex

Sixteen members of our chapter voted in the election. The tally was unanimous with no dissenting votes.

Adapting to the Lockdown

Cheryl Holzer tells us, “My church job situation:

Fallbrook United Methodist is doing Facebook live services on Sundays at 10 am. There are four (4) of us present including the minister, choir director (now soloist) and minister's husband. A funny thing happened on Easter Sunday. A choir member showed up at church! She is an older lady with dementia. The minister let her stay but told her not to do it again.

First Church of Christ, Scientist Carlsbad-Vista: This church is doing Zoom services with no music. I play for this church on Wednesday nights. For the performing arts, the pandemic has been very challenging!”



Jerry Colling, M. D., writes, “I'm a 60 year member of Carlsbad Community Church. Of course we're hearing Dr. Lee Hamby's sermon along with a praise team each Sunday morning until we can safely get together in our Worship Center. Our organist, Mary Ellen Chanco, is not a Chapter member but I self-appointed myself to keep connected to AGO's cause. “

George Butterfield tells us, “Fourth Church of Christ, Scientist has operated online since March 22. Details at www.christiansciencelajolla.com. Organ Stop recently completed updating all four music catalogs. Used popular music was sent out last week ago and orders have been processed. Due to the cancellation of the National conventions of both AGO and ATOS, we may have an opportunity to sell more music. Our goal has been for several years to sell all remaining stock of sheet music and focus on the organ business.”

Peter L. Bates writes, “What's going on with me? Well, the church remains closed to the public, however, we are streaming services each week and I'm recording a 20-25 minute organ meditation each week using the tech crew that records the service. I do much of my work at home but go into the church to prepare the organ for the recordings, check my mail and do some administrative work. Staff meetings, bible studies and Board meetings are through zoom. All full-time and some part-time staff at Covenant continue to be paid

full salary. Most of the part-time staff have been furloughed. Our paid quartet sings 3 choral anthems and 2 hymns for each streamed service and I also play a prelude to the service. They rehearse 1 hour before we record and I give them the music for the following week. None of the volunteer choir members or office volunteers are allowed into the buildings. If you wish to check out services and/or organ meditations go to <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCJ1tG13IPA2XBwSIU70vyPA>."

Peter continues, "As with all chapters, you are finding it necessary to cancel, or significantly postpone all gatherings. I wondered if you might consider a Facebook live event. The Los Angeles Chapter held one in March for the Aaron David Miller concert. When everything was shut down in California, Aaron was already in the air headed for San Marino to prepare for his recital. Some quick thinking of a few members saved that event and it was enjoyed by many more than would have actually attended the program. What equipment necessary? An iPhone 11. No special camera, no special microphones. I was planning on attending, but when I received an e-mail suggesting that people of my age category may be turned away, I decided to watch on-line. The camera location was fixed, but the sound was great. I was astonished to find out that all was done with the iPhone. Perhaps your member's recital could be held through this media?"

Sally Fay says, "Our church, St. Thomas More in Oceanside, is recording Mass each week and it's available online every Sunday after 6 AM. www.stmoside.org is the website where online Masses are available. We do include music, and I'm playing every other week. I don't have a lot of free time - I'm still working full-time with my day job as Software Engineer - we have been virtual for 7 weeks now and they are anticipating we will work from home through the end of May."

Kimberly Bedell says, "I am doing well and feel very blessed. My church job is continuing and I'm getting very good with PowerPoint, Garage Band, Dropbox, and Acapella. We have our services "live" over Zoom. I am very blessed that dear sweet Arvis H is a member @ King of Kings. She recently played a lovely piano solo for a service. I am doing some tele-teaching which has been a bit of a learning curve as well."

David Lewis writes, "At Trinity, Escondido, we are doing much the same as you mentioned. Scott and I are pretty much staying up in the mountains at our little cabin. A perfect place to isolate. We rarely see anyone. That said, I went home last week and met a few people at church every night to pre-record some psalms, hymns and preludes with flute and violin. We kept our distance but it was fun and felt like we were in church. A lot of work but we all, three people at a time felt that the experience was very rewarding and spiritually uplifting. The "Viewers" on Sunday morning are really enjoying the music and especially seeing the inside of the empty church. We did all the music through Pentecost Sunday at the end of May, so I expect to not come home again till then. It looks like we will all be doing this at least through June and maybe a lot longer. We are all very concerned about the future of our choirs and bell ensembles. That 65 year old restriction will kill us."

David continues, "I spoke with Howard today and we both agree, along with everyone probably, that there is no need to make plans for AGO events for the remainder of the year. Especially if they involve paying someone. We can plan the October Scholarship concert since it is just us, and cancel if necessary. I think the chances of cancelling are very high. I'll contact our usual slate of performers to set a date at least. Everyone has been so busy and booked up in the past...this time we will probably have nothing to do ! Even if we do not have the student auditions this year we can still raise funds for the cause."

Henry Doktorski writes, "Saint Martha Roman Catholic Church in Murrieta where I play on alternate Saturdays laid off me and many other staff. Luckily I get unemployment benefits as it was a W-2 job. House of Prayer Lutheran in Escondido, where I play on Sundays, is still paying my salary, although they cancelled a promised \$1,000 check to go towards my trip to Germany (now postponed two years) with the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians. I now go to House of Prayer twice a month with our Music Director/Cantor, Pastor, and Lector/Camera-person where we record two consecutive Sundays on video. On Sunday mornings the appropriate service is posted on YouTube for the congregation. To date, our Easter Sunday service has had 150 views.

2019-2020 Palomar Chapter Calendar

Sunday, September 15, 4:00 pm: Kick-Off Potluck Dinner, Single-Malt Scotch Whisky Tasting, and Light Entertainment by members at Charlotte Atkinson's home at 45922 Gold Mine Drive, Temecula, 92592.

Sunday, October 13, 4:00 pm: Concert and Dinner Scholarship Fundraiser at Trinity Episcopal Church, 845 Chestnut Street, Escondido, 92025. Original organ works will be performed by some of our finest organists and students. The impressive Massed Choir, conducted by Kapellmeister David Lewis, will also perform.

Saturday, November 23, 4:00 pm: Recital by Henry Doktorski at House of Prayer Lutheran Church, 795 N. Rose Street, Escondido, California 92027. Henry will play the first half of the program on the church's 1989 two-manual and pedal Schlicker organ. The second half will feature his 1979 Victoria accordion.

Sunday, November 24, 3:30 pm: Recital by Dr. Michael Munson, organist, at First United Methodist Church, 341 South Kalmia Street, Escondido, 92025.

Sunday, January 19, 4:00 pm: Solo Organ Recital by Raúl Prieto Ramírez, San Diego Civic Organist, at The Village Community Presbyterian Church, 6225 Paseo Delicias, Rancho Santa Fe, 92067.

CANCELLED Sunday, March 29, 3:00 pm: Presentation by Dr. Emma Whitten titled "Organ Music for the New World: Music from Spain and Mexico from the Baroque to the Present" at Mission San Luis Rey, 4050 Mission Ave, Oceanside, CA 92057

CANCELLED **Sunday, May 3, 4:00 pm:** Members Recital on the three-manual and pedal Ken Simpson pipe organ (with Rodgers electronic enhancements) at Oceanside First Presbyterian Church at 2001 South El Camino Real, Oceanside, CA 92054. Members who perform will receive a \$100 honorarium from the Chapter. CANCELLED

PROBABLY WILL BE CANCELLED **Monday, June 8, 6:00 pm:** Dinner and Installation of New Officers at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church, 1087 W. Country Club Lane, Escondido, 92026. PROBABLY WILL BE CANCELLED

PALOMAR CHAPTER AGO

2018-2019 OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES (updated July 5, 2019)

OFFICERS

Dean: Henry Doktorski, 951-435-9209, henrydoktorski@gmail.com
Sub-Dean: Howard McCullough
Secretary: Carol Graham
Treasurer: Steve Vandlen
Chaplain: Reverend Herb Chamberlin

BOARD MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Adam Ferrara
Bonnie Rex
John Naples

COMMITTEES

Endowment Fund Committee

Judith Moore, Chair
Carol Graham
Cheryl Holzer

Education Committee

Carol Graham, Chair
Kimberly Bedell

***Titulaire* Newsletter**

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Charlotte Atkinson, columnist

Webmaster

Bonnie Rex

Program Committee

David Lewis
Howard McCullough

Placement Committee

George Butterfield, Chair

First, visit the following link: <http://www.agosd.org/jobs/job-listings.html> This will take you to the San Diego Chapter AGO's website Job Listing page. Here you can 1) view current job listings for San Diego and Palomar Chapters, 2) post a job vacancy, and 3) contact George via email or phone with any placement questions. Please note there is a nominal \$35 fee to post a job listing.