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## FROM THE EDITOR

Regina Kettering, Editor ([editor@pitago.org](mailto:editor@pitago.org))

If you did not have a chance to attend the September meeting in real time, you can still see it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tbI-pBzZIK4> A link directing to the YouTube video is also present on our Facebook page.

We had a lively side-conversation going, with people commenting on additional information about the Chapter. I was very impressed with the amount of work that went into the program, from the research by Frank Kurtik, Suzie Gilliland, and

Barbara McKelway, to the organization by Ken Danchik, Chaz Bowers, Jon Tyillian, and Aaron Sproul to get the video recorded and posted.

If you have anything of interest for the chapter archives, please contact Suzie Gilliland. She will happily transfer anything of interest to our current archives in the Heinz History Center. We also want to thank the Heinz History Center for generously allowing us access.

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## DIRECTORY UPDATE

Barbara McKelway

email: [jbarbara.mckelway@gmail.com](mailto:jbarbara.mckelway@gmail.com)

# DEAN'S NOTES

by Chaz Bowers, Dean ([dean@pitago.org](mailto:dean@pitago.org))

Our September meeting was a wonderful beginning to our centennial celebration! My sincerest thanks goes out to Suzie Gilliland, Barbara McKelway, and Frank Kurtik for their wonderful presentation on our chapter's history. There can be no doubt that an exorbitant amount of work went into the planning and preparation of that meeting. My thanks also goes out to all who made the meeting possible behind the scenes: Ken Danchik, Regina Kettering, Jon Tyillian, and Aaron Sproul. Imagine what our 1920 colleagues would say knowing that our centennial year began "virtually" amidst a panic. Then, imagine their confusion when telling them that some of our membership watched from their mobile telephones. They would think that this was something out of a science fiction novel!

Last week, Fr. Jim Chepponis was kind enough to send me a letter containing scores of pieces that have been commissioned by the Pittsburgh Chapter over the years, and I would like to devote one of my upcoming articles to listing some of the musical commissions made by our chapter. If you know of any pieces that we are in some way responsible for over the years, please consider emailing me and letting me know about them.

Our celebration continues this month with another unique opportunity: an exploration of the

Carnegie Hall Organ. It seems that there is so much mystery behind this instrument's current state, so I can imagine that many of you are just as eager as I am to see what condition the organ really is in and what it sounds like after remaining silent for some time.

I've personally always found this instrument to be fascinating. I don't know of any other instrument in the city with four diapasons on the great, two Tubas in the solo (a major and minor), and over a dozen percussion stops, including a piano! This is a meeting not to miss! Be sure to tune in on YouTube and join us as we explore one of Pittsburgh's treasures from years past.

In other news, I welcome Nick Will back to the executive board in the role of Coordinator of Placements and Substitutes. After returning home from his post at the North American College, Nick has agreed to resume his service, pairing churches in need with able organists. I also extend our collective thanks to Jon Tyillian for serving us these past two years and for his continued excellent work for our chapter.

Looking forward to seeing all of you virtually as we explore the Carnegie Hall organ!

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## OCTOBER PROGRAM

by Ken Danchik, Sub-dean ([sub-dean@pitago.org](mailto:sub-dean@pitago.org))

Finally, we get access to one of the most interesting and intriguing organs in our city, the Organ in Carnegie Music Hall in Oakland.

Several of our chapter members who have knowledge and experience with this organ will visit the installation and examine the many special features. Hopefully, we will be able to play a bit and listen to some of the unique ranks.

This program will be professionally taped, and presented on Monday, October 26th, at 7:00 PM. Join us for lively discussion after the presentation. Look for an email blast for additional information and log-in instructions.

***From the Organ Historical Society Website:***

Carnegie Music Hall, seating 2012, opened in 1895 with a 4-manual 56-stop Farrand & Votey. In 1910, Skinner made tonal changes as Op. 180 and provided a new console. Skinner installed Op. 270, a IV/108, retaining 30 of the previous ranks. The organ was rebuilt and enlarged in 1933 to a IV/126 as Op. 907, with another new console.

The percussion division, added in 1950, has an interesting history. The stops originally came

from Skinner Op. 545, a IV/47 installed in the Metropolitan Theatre (now the Wang Center for the Performing Arts) in Boston in 1926. The organ was sold to Wurlitzer and placed in the Auditorium of the H. J. Heinz Co. in 1930. The organ was considerably damaged in the Flood of 1936; it was rebuilt and enlarged by Kimball that year - who also provided a new console, one that resembled ones used in their then-recent installations in Denver and Pretoria. The percussion stops were given to the Carnegie Music Hall organ as a gift of the Heinz Company in 1950. What was left of the Kimball eventually found its way to Texas, where it was broken up for parts in 1987.

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## **AN OUTLINE OF THE HISTORY OF THE ORGANS IN CARNEGIE MUSIC HALL**

by James Stark

On Tuesday evening, November 5, 1895, a large group of dignitaries, including the donor, Andrew Carnegie, gathered in the Music Hall auditorium for the formal dedication of the new Carnegie Library, Museum and Music Hall complex (Carnegie Institute) in the Oakland section of the City of Pittsburgh. Frederic Archer, the newly-appointed music director and organist, inaugurated the festivities with a performance of Carl Maria von Weber's Jubilee Overture played on the newly-installed Farrand & Votey pipe organ. The Mozart Club, Pittsburgh's oldest choral society, sang two numbers and then Mr. Carnegie took the podium to greet his guests. The following day, Mr. Archer performed the first of many public recitals on the new organ.

Frederic Archer died on October 22, 1901, which event initiated a search for a new municipal organist. Edwin H. Lemare was at that time touring the United States and was asked to play

a recital in Pittsburgh. Lemare was appointed municipal organist in late December 1901. In February 1903, it was reported that the Music Hall organ would be rebuilt by the Hutchings-Votey Company of Boston and would incorporate "some of organist Edwin H. Lemare's mechanical ideas." This included a new console but only a couple of minor tonal changes. The estimated cost was \$2,500. Lemare resigned effective the end of the 1904-5 season; he actually played his last Pittsburgh recital on January 29, 1905.

An almost-two-year search ensued and, in April 1907, Charles Heinroth of New York City, was appointed and played his first recital on October 5, 1907. Heinroth, however, was not shy about telling the public that the organ was "not up to date," a comment that appeared in an interview published in the New York Times. The economic downturn in 1907 and the substantial enlargement of the Carnegie Institute building

during 1906–7 probably delayed work on the organ, but in May 1910 a contract was signed with Ernest M. Skinner for radical changes in the tonal design of the instrument. Again, in May 1917, the Skinner Company was engaged to build a completely new organ with new chests and all pipes either new or revoiced.

Heinroth left in 1932 and Marshall Bidwell, formerly of Coe College, Cedar Rapids, Iowa, was appointed organist. Aeolian-Skinner undertook a further rebuilding of the organ, under the sole direction of Ernest M. Skinner, in the summer and fall of 1933. The last alterations occurred in 1950 when Aeolian-Skinner was engaged to install a number of Skinner

percussions that had been donated by the H.J. Heinz Company. G. Donald Harrison made a few tonal changes at that time, but the instrument remains largely the work of E. M Skinner. Paul Koch, who succeeded Bidwell in 1966, played the 4,737th regularly scheduled free recital on Sunday, December 20, 1981, with the printed program promising an additional recital in January 1982. While no program has been found, we have it on good authority that that last recital was played by William Lindberg. Some consideration was given to restoration in 1990, but the organ has, nevertheless, remained silent for most of the last 40 years.

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## THE BROTHERS MANZ

By Wilberta Pickett

*John Pickett, husband of member Wilberta Pickett, had a bad fall on July 2nd, landing hard on his forehead. Wilberta was only slightly bruised, but John was taken to Forbes Regional Hospital in Monroeville where he stayed for two nights. When he returned, he was found to have a hematoma and was admitted immediately for surgery. He was there for two and a half weeks, returning home on August 19 under Hospice care. Wilberta and John's daughter Sabra, a retired RN who lives in San Francisco, is staying with them for a month to help care for him. He has had some serious cognitive effects, but is slowly making progress. Wilberta asks you to please pray for them both as they go through this time together.*

Once upon a time there were two brothers, **Paul and Robert Manz**, whose grandfathers were immigrants from Germany to the United States many years ago. Being German they both loved music. Paul, (b.1919, d. 2009) became a famous organist in Minnesota, Chicago, and around the world, and organ teacher, and composer, known

and revered by church organists today. More than anything else, he loved to conduct hymn festivals for people to enjoy singing.

**Robert** was our piano tuner when we lived in Cleveland, OH. He was a pleasant sort of man in his own way, but obviously a typical German type of father, if my stereo-typical bias had any validity.

When he entered our living room, he was greeted by our three year old, Louise. Being the youngest of our five, she was still at home because there was no pre-school for her. He greeted her with, "Have you been a bad girl today? I think your father needs to spank you!" Louise was confused. I was not amused.

No doubt he was a good technician. Sometime later he told me about his youngest son, also named Robert. Father Robert had plans for his son - he was to become a concert pianist and should practice hours daily to prepare for his assigned role.

Then he told me that one day his son, a teenager, ran away from home, and Father Robert didn't hear from him for years. He couldn't imagine whatever had happened to him. Years later Father Robert's telephone rang. It was Mona, Son Robert's wife, who said it was about time for the two to reconcile.

She told him that in the intervening years, young Robert started a chain of hamburger shops (in Cleveland, 1938) and made a fortune. He had changed his name from Manz to Manners, the originator of Manners' Big Boy franchise (1954) known all over Ohio and beyond. This pre-dated McDonald's enterprise which started in 1940.

Young Robert never became a concert pianist, but he ended up making more money than he ever would have made as a musician. It just goes to show that a "Prussian" type father, a domineering, controlling person who insists on instilling his own dream into the next generation isn't the best way to raise a son.

The fairy god-mother, Mona, being a sensitive and sensible spouse, encouraged the younger Robert's ambitions to be his own motivation. Furthermore, she insisted upon putting an end to this painful separation between Father and Son. They did reconcile, and lived happily ever after

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## EVENTS

If your events are being moved online, please contact us with the relevant information AND A LINK (or where a link will be posted). In person events are subject to change, based on ongoing circumstances. Please contact the point person or website for relevant information.

## POSITIONS



# SUBSTITUTES

It is the policy of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Guild of Organists that only current members in good standing may list their names on the Substitutes List. Employers may contact organists directly or ask the coordinator for assistance. The AGO assumes no responsibility for the musicianship, reliability, or conduct of substitute organists, and background checks are the responsibility of the employer. Persons listed as available substitutes may be required by employers to present clearances; e.g. Child Abuse History Clearance; Pennsylvania State Police Criminal Record Checks for Employment; and/or Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Fingerprinting.

Services: W-Weddings, F-Funerals, E-Evenings, S-Saturdays, L-Liturgical Only, N-Non-Liturgical

## Substitute Organists Available for Sunday Mornings

BOHONOK, OREST	412.886.3291	WFES
ANDERSON, GERALD	412.251.6718	WFELNS
BROWN, JUDITH	240.522.5070	WFES
CAFARO, ROSS	412.885.1625	WFES
EARNEST, Dr. WAYNE N.	724.206.8854	WFESLN
JANKO, RAY	724.325.7449	WFES
JUSTHAM, MARY ANN	724.335.7792	WFES
HILL, THOMAS	512.421.1484	WFES
JESTER, BILL	412.304.7010	ES
KRANTZ, DOUGLAS	724.554.3314	WFS
LA RUE, ELIZABETH SPC	412.999.4812	WFESLN
LINDSEY, III, C. DENNIS	918.409.6467	WFES
MASTERS, SARA	412.266.5821	WFES
MISLIN, DAVID W.	617.223.1270	WFES
PARK, HAEHYUN	734.657.0869	WFESLN
ROLLET, TONY	412.726.8569	ES
RUBRIGHT, SANDY S.	724.994.8872	WFE
SKROUPA, DANE	724.265.4840	FLN
STIPCAK, VALERIE	724.388.1038	WFES
SZEREMANY, RICHARD, AAGO	412.327.6254	WFES

## Substitute Organists NOT Available for Sunday Mornings

AIKINS, CANDICE	724.568.2640	WF
BRUHN, LYNN	724.733.8111	WFE
COCHRAN, NICOLE	724.799.1373	WFES
DANIELS, J.R.	412.389.6658	WF
HAMMER, MICHAEL	217.766.4230	WFES
HENRI, LAURA	412.418.7392	WFESL
KARDOS, MICHELLE	724.757.0972	WFESLN
KETTERING, REGINA	412.477.5547	WFES
MCGRATH, ROSE	937.719.2391	WF
MILLER, JANE	412.526.6618	WF
PINKERTON, RICHARD	412.561.2015	WFE
RASLEY, DON	724.487.7303(D) 724.283.4829(E)	WFES
REILAND, MICHAEL	412.882.5521	WFE
RIZZO, ELMIRA, CAGO	724.612.2029	WFES
SCHALL, STEPHEN	412.215.2971	WFE
SPENCER, GEORGE	412.731.3324	WFE
STROBEL, JOYCE MOON	412.366.0074	WFES
TYILLIAN, JON	724.456.5135	WFES
WALLACE, JUSTIN	412.531.0525	WFES

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116 Highland Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

PLEASE notify the registrar of changes in contact information.  
IF YOU NEED TO PAY YOUR DUES---PLEASE DON'T DELAY! Contact [WWW.AGOHQ.ORG](http://WWW.AGOHQ.ORG)