

## MARCH 2014

**VISITING SOME HISTORY: OPUS 904***E. M. Skinner's Final Masterpiece*

Monday, March 3, at 7 p.m.  
W. K. Kellogg Auditorium Battle Creek  
50 W Van Buren St 49017

**Important Note:** This event is **not open to the public**. It is limited to chapter members and spouses/partners.

We're going to get "up close and personal" with the large and magnificent E.M. Skinner organ at W. K. Kellogg Auditorium in Battle Creek. This organ was Mr. Skinner's last instrument for Æolian-Skinner, and it remains the final, unaltered sample of his most advanced ideas in tonal and mechanical design. At 4 manuals and 73 ranks of pipes, the organ speaks commandingly into the Art Deco auditorium. There are well-developed diapason choruses, handsome reeds, a powerful solo tuba, and a full quartet of solo strings plus the many softer sounds which Mr. Skinner had developed over his long career.

Organ technicians Jim Lauck and Trevor Dodd will be on hand to guide you through the organ. You will be able to explore the "innards" of this instrument and there will also be open-console time for you to experience playing it. If you do wish to explore the organ chambers, wear shoes fit for a bit of climbing, and avoid bulky sweaters which can get caught on delicate wiring. If you want to play the organ, please bring whatever scores you wish, and plan to limit yourself to 5 minutes or so, so that everyone can have a chance to play. If you just want to hear the organ, take a seat and enjoy the ride.

While a **private event**, we do plan to invite those who contributed to last summer's fund drive for the restoration of the combination action to join us. But please, **limit your attendance to yourself, and your spouse/partner**. The Battle Creek Public Schools has been most generous in granting us admission to the auditorium and the organ (and organ chambers) by very special non-public arrangement.

What an opportunity! Do plan on being present to celebrate one of the great instruments in our area, indeed in the country; one which our chapter and our recent convention has now helped to preserve!

**Travel and Parking Directions***And what auditorium entrance to use*

Directions are from the Kalamazoo area:

Take I-94 east to exit 98-B. Take this exit into town. At the foot of the freeway, count four lights: Hamblin, Michigan Avenue, State St, and finally Van Buren. Van Buren has a protected left turn light. Turn left on Van Buren. The auditorium will be a couple blocks down on your right. Go around behind the building and use the rear parking lot. Then use the rear loading dock entrance. Once inside, turn left down the corridor and then right through the first door (stage entrance). We will have a sign posted on that door.

**DEANLY PARAGRAPHS***Dr. Mark Wells*

Will this winter ever end??

I do not know about you, but the incessant, below-normal temperatures have been harder than usual for me to endure. Surely spring WILL get here soon.

I am looking forward to our March AGO program at Kellogg Auditorium. It promises to be of great interest to our chapter members, due to the historic nature of E. M. Skinner Opus 904. Those of you who have heard this amazing instrument know whereof I speak. Last summer, host Brooks Grantier gave a lecture on this instrument at our convention. You will not want to miss this.

Just a reminder that our chapter is accepting student applications/requests for funds from the Katy Loew Scholarship Fund on a continuing basis. However, in order to receive immediate consideration for funds, the applications need to be sent to the chapter dean by the first of the month in which there is a quarterly executive committee meeting. Usually these meetings are held in August, November, February, and May. Since our next meeting will be sometime in May, the next deadline for funds is May 1.

We worked together to experience a wonderful convention last summer. Let's not forget all we were able to accomplish, as we look to the future.

## FUTURE CHAPTER GATHERINGS

### *In April and May*

April 7 (Monday)

7 p.m. Panel with a Technician and Organists

*(The) Spring Has Sprung:*

*Instrument Maintenance in a Pinch*

Milwood United Methodist Kalamazoo

May 19 (Monday)

7 p.m. Bach Around the Block XXVII

*The OK Chorale: A program of chorale preludes*

Downtown Kalamazoo Churches

## FULL TIME POSITION POSTING

### *Church and School*

St. Philip Catholic Battle Creek is seeking a full-time musician to serve as both part-time Music Associate for St. Philip Church and part-time Director of Choral Activities at St. Philip High School. The choral program at the high school has been in abeyance for several years; this position should be seen as an opportunity to create a program from its inception. A practicing Christian faith tradition, as well as a strong knowledge of liturgy, chant, and Catholic music traditions is essential. The organ is E. M. Skinner's Opus 787. A full job description and details on the application process can be found online at [www.stphilipbc.org](http://www.stphilipbc.org) (go to Contact Us / Forms).

## ORGANizer CALENDAR

Please send entries to [cdayday@chartermi.net](mailto:cdayday@chartermi.net) as early as you wish. They will be entered in a master calendar and shared in each issue as space permits.

**Choral Evensong** on Sunday, March 2, at 5 p.m. in St Thomas Episcopal Battle Creek (16 E Van Buren St 49017). Sung by the St Thomas Choral Scholars. Free will offering.

**Thornapple Brass Quintet** on Sunday, March 9, at 3 p.m. in Richland Presbyterian (on the village square). The program is part of the church's Village Green Arts series. Post performance reception with refreshments. Free will offering.

**Grand Rapids Guitar Quartet** on Sunday, March 9, at 4 p.m. in First Congregational Battle Creek (145 Capital Ave NE 49017). The program will conclude the church's 2014 Sunday Afternoon Live series. Each of the quartet's members is an impressive award-winning musician on his own, and together, the ensemble is

show stopping. The program will include a variety of transcriptions of masterworks, Latin music, and original compositions. Free.

**Lenten Meditations with the Grand Rapids Choir of Men & Boys** and Andrew Nethsingha on Friday/Saturday, March 28/29, at 7 p.m. in the Cathedral of St Andrew Grand Rapids (301 Sheldon Blvd SE 49503). Free will offering.

**University Chorale Concert** on Sunday, April 6, at 3 p.m. in Milwood United Methodist Kalamazoo (3919 Portage St 49001). Under the direction of Dr. Kimberly Dunn Adams, Western Michigan University's premier choral ensemble will preview its spring concert tour program. Free will offering.

**Choral Evensong** on Sunday, April 6, at 5 p.m. in St Thomas Episcopal Battle Creek (16 E Van Buren St 49017). Sung by the St Thomas Schola Cantorum: Introit by John Blow, responses by Graham Keitch (world premiere), canticles from Short Service in a Neo-Tudor Style by Eoghan Desmond (American premiere). Free will offering.

**Sacred Music at the Cathedral** on Palm Sunday, April 13, at 5 p.m. in St Augustine Cathedral Kalamazoo (542 W Michigan Ave 49007). Program includes Bach's *Widerstehe doch der Sünde* and Pergolesi's *Stabat Mater* with strings and organ. Soloists will be soprano Corlyn Longer-Schreck, alto Sara Miller-Schulte, and counter-tenor Mark Wells. \$10 donation suggested.

**Grand Music** on Sunday, May 4, at 4 p.m. in First United Methodist Saint Joseph (2001 Niles Ave 49085). Part of the Twin Cities Organ Concert Series, the program will include 12 soloists, 18 instrumentalists, 2 organists and conductor Dr. Philip Peter. The cantata *Blessed are the Peacemakers* by Georgeann Weaver will be featured. \$10 suggested donation.

**Choral Evensong** on Sunday, May 4, at 5 p.m. in St Thomas Episcopal Battle Creek (16 E Van Buren St 49017). Sung by the St Thomas Choral Scholars. Free will offering.

**Kalamazoo Ringers Spring Concert** on Sunday, May 18, at 4 p.m. in Westwood Church of God Kalamazoo (711 Gorham Ln 49006). Free will offering.

**Violin and Piano Recital** on Sunday, May 18, at 4 p.m. in Central Reformed Grand Rapids (10 College Ave NE 49503). The Barker Series program features Jennifer Walvoord, violin, and Andrew Le, Piano. Free.

**Colin Knapp Organ Recital** on Sunday, May 18, at 5 p.m. in St Thomas Episcopal Battle Creek (16 E Van Buren St 49017). Free will offering.