

Dear colleague,

School has begun again and I look forward to our meeting together as an active chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Your Board has been hard at work with a number of changes and working out a schedule for our events for this new year. Here's what we have planned:

- Monday, Sep 12 –7 p.m. Installation of officers; Improvisation workshop; St. John's Episcopal, Melbourne, with dessert to follow.
- Friday, Oct 28 – Potluck dinner; Master Class with James Kealey, Advent Lutheran
- Saturday, Nov. TBA, Pedals, Pipes, and Pizza; Rockledge Presbyterian and St. Mark's Cocoa.
- Monday, Dec. 12, Potluck Holiday Party at the Davidsons
- Monday, Jan. 16 – Organ Crawl to Vero Beach and Ft. Pierce; no-host lunch at a restaurant.
- Sunday, Feb 5 – Members Recital at Ascension Lutheran, Indian Harbor Beach.
- Monday, Mar 13 – Potluck dinner; workshop on working with instruments led by Betty Jo Couch, Eastminster Presbyterian.
- April – No meeting. Easter is April 9
- Monday, May 8 – Potluck dinner; Choral reading session, election of officers, St. David's Episcopal, Cocoa Beach
- Sunday, June TBA – Potluck dinner, location TBA.

I hope you will make plans to join us for all of these events. More information will be forthcoming as the dates approach.

A word about the Improvisation Workshop: I have presented this workshop to a number of Guild chapters. I'll demonstrate two very simple techniques that will get you started improvising even if you've never done it before or give you two more ways to expand your "bag of tricks" if you're an old hand at improvising. One of the techniques was taught to me by Philippe LeFebvre, organist at Notre Dame in Paris. It'll also be an opportunity for you to see and play the instrument at Saint John's which has been recently renovated with a new console and a great deal of internal work. The pipes and chests are over 100 years old and it's a stunning example of what can be done with old instruments.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Jerry Davidson