



Central Arkansas Chapter *American Guild of Organists*

The
Clarion
February 2013

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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From the Dean

Hello friends,

Apologies, first, to Adam and to all of you for forgetting to write a Dean's letter for the last newsletter. The fact that I needed to write a letter completely slipped my mind—something about all the birthdays I've had, I think . . . forgetting is something I do more of lately.

Many, many thanks to the hosts of our last two CACAGO programs. St. Mark's Episcopal Church in January and First Presbyterian in November. Both were superb programs; anyone who missed either or both of those recitals missed a real treat.

In two weeks we will be treated to Bradley Hunter Welch playing at Pulaski

Heights United Methodist Church. Make your plans to join your colleagues for an evening of fellowship and inspiring music.

And on to other matters—I realized at the last worship planning committee (at FUMC Conway) a couple of weeks ago that Lent is *almost* here. My to-do for this week and next is to outline my musical plans for Lent. Anyone out there have Lent and Easter already done? If so, I don't want to know about it!

My wish for you is to have a spiritually enriching Lenten season—oh, and to see you on Feb. 15!

Betty Cohen
Dean

Upcoming CACAGO Programs

Friday, February 15

Bradley Hunter Welch, organ
Pulaski Heights UMC
4823 Woodlawn
Little Rock, Arkansas

Friday, March 15

Thomas Murray, organ
First Presbyterian Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

Friday, April 26

**Tenth Annual Recital
Celebrating the Life of
Robert Young Ellis**
Daryl Robinson, organ
Cathedral of St. Andrew
617 S. Louisiana St.
Little Rock, Arkansas

Friday, May 24

**A Benefit Concert for the
Pediatric Injury Prevention Center
Arkansas Children's Hospital**
Scott Dettra, organ
Christ Episcopal Church
509 Scott St.
Little Rock, Arkansas

FEBRUARY MEETING

Friday, February 15, 2013

Bradley Hunter Welch, *organ*

Punchbowl — 6:15 P.M.

Dinner and Meeting — 6:45 P.M.

Program — 8:00 P.M.

Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church
4823 Woodlawn
Little Rock, Arkansas

*Following the recital, there will be
a reception at the home of Wayne Simpson
1315 Center Street
Little Rock, Arkansas*

The cost for dinner is \$10.00. For dinner reservations, contact Fred Graham via e-mail (dinner@cacago.org) or phone (501) 663-8632. Fred is accepting reservations until noon on Wednesday, February 13. Your reservation will be confirmed via phone or e-mail. If you do not receive a confirmation, please contact Fred to assure your reservation has been received.

Biography of Bradley Hunter Welch

Hailed as “a world-class virtuoso” and “an expert at defining darks, lights, shadows and colors,” Bradley Hunter Welch is increasingly in demand as a recitalist, concerto soloist, and collaborative artist. A native of Knoxville, TN, Bradley holds the Doctor of Musical Arts, Master of Musical Arts, Master of Music degrees, and the Artist Diploma from Yale University where he studied with Thomas Murray and Martin Jean. He also holds the Bachelor of Music degree magna cum laude from Baylor University where he studied with Joyce Jones. Dr. Welch has also continued his study of organ and piano technique with Sheila Paige.

Dr. Welch is the 2003 First Place winner of the Dallas International Organ Competition and was also awarded the Audience Prize for the second time, having previously won it in 2000. In 2005, he was a featured artist at three regional conventions of The American Guild of Organists, and he made his European debut in France performing in the Chartres Festival. He has appeared as soloist with the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra, the Fort Worth

Symphony Orchestra, and the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. With the DSO, he gave the world premier of Stephen Paulus’ Grand Concerto for Organ and Orchestra, the piece written for Bradley as the winner of the Dallas International Organ Competition. Additionally, he has taught at Southern Methodist University and Baylor University. He is Director of Music & Arts/Organist at Highland Park United Methodist Church in Dallas, TX. In addition to these duties, he performs approximately 20 concerts annually under the exclusive artistic management of Phillip Truckenbrod Concert Artists, Hartford, CT.

His premiere recording is the first solo organ recording of the Cliburn Organ at Broadway Baptist Church, and his recording on the magnificent Fisk organ at the Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas is currently in production. Bradley is married to Kara Kirkendoll Welch, a flutist in the Dallas Symphony Orchestra and Adjunct Assistant Professor of Flute at Southern Methodist University. They have a son—Ethan Hunter Welch.

CACAGO Remembers Past Dean Elizabeth Stodola

Elizabeth Abeler Stodola, 90, of Little Rock, Arkansas died Sunday, December 9th, 2012 after a long illness. She was born August 30th, 1922 to George and Margaret Abeler, in St. Paul, Minnesota. Betty was a lifelong music educator and church musician. She graduated from the University of Minnesota and continued with graduate studies in New York at the Manhattanville College of the Sacred Heart. She also received a Masters Degree of Music Education from the University of Iowa. One of her life’s devotions was the making of music.

Betty spent 25 years teaching vocal music in the Iowa public schools and at LaSalle High School in Cedar Rapids, the town where she raised her two sons, Mark and Robert, currently of Little Rock. Her choir performances and Madrigal Dinners were yearly highlights. She returned to St. Paul, Minnesota in 1971 as Music Director/Organist at St. Leo the Great Catholic Church. She was Music Director at the St. Paul Seminary for five years instructing music liturgy and directing a choir of seminarians. The pipe organ was her special love. She was Dean of the St. Paul-Minneapolis Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. She also held that position at the Cedar Rapids-Iowa City Chapter; the Blackhawk (Quad Cities, Iowa) Chapter; and the Central Arkansas Chapter. In 1982, Betty returned to Iowa as a music teacher and organist until her retirement from teaching in 1987.

In 1988, Betty moved to Little Rock to be near her sons. During her life in the South, she was Organist/Choir Director at Lakewood United Methodist Church,

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral and St. Michael’s Episcopal Church. Though well past common retirement age, Betty was active with many musical groups, with the Arkansas Bach Chorus and other musical ensembles, and was happiest rehearsing musicians and readying musical performances. She was an active member of the Little Rock musical community and taught piano to countless numbers of students throughout her career. She was also involved with the Organ Historical Society and brought their national convention to Little Rock. She was instrumental in obtaining and restoring an historic organ for St. Michael’s Church.

Betty was a good friend to us. We deeply honor her and remember her for her intelligence, innate kindness, generosity, and fineness of spirit. She has been an inspiration to us all as a singularly strong-hearted woman who made her mark in this world no matter what the circumstances.

Survivors include two sons, Mark (Jo Ellen) and Robert (Zabelle), both of Little Rock; three grandchildren, Allison Stodola Wilson (Craig), Robert and John Mark Stodola; and one brother, James Abeler (Sandy), of Anoka, Minnesota.

A funeral Mass was held at St. Andrew’s Cathedral, Little Rock, on Friday, December 14, 2012. Following the service a reception with the family was held in the McDonald Hall Parish Center.

A memorial fund dedicated to the Central Arkansas Chapter of the American Guild of Organists has been established in her memory.

Treasurer's Report

INCOME		EXPENSES	
REVENUE		ADMINISTRATIVE	
Dues	\$3,129.00	Dues to National	\$1,613.00
Ad Sales	\$1,695.00	Catering	\$2,586.88
Meals	\$1,550.00	Marketing/Public Relations	\$543.97
Carry Over (FY12)	\$6,242.87	Remaining Expenses	\$334.36
Reception Fund	\$8.00		\$5,078.21
	<u>\$12,624.87</u>		
SUPPORT		ARTISTIC	
Individuals	\$5,490.00	Artist Fees/Housing	\$6,253.80
Corporate/Church	\$0.00	Remaining Expenses	\$0.00
Endowment/Stodola	\$2,650.00	Tech/Production	\$500.00
	<u>\$8,140.00</u>		<u>\$6,753.80</u>
TOTAL INCOME	\$20,764.87	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$11,832.01
		BALANCE	\$8,932.86

St. Paul Concert Series presents
Basso Voce
 Tuba/Euphonium Quartet

Sunday, February 10, 3:00 p.m.
 St. Paul United Methodist Church
 2223 Durwood Road, Little Rock

The program is free and open to all. Donations are accepted to help promote the concert series and support the music ministry of St. Paul United Methodist Church. For more information contact the church office at (501) 666-9429.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church presents

Trio Arkansas
 Geoff Robson, violin
 David Gerstein, cello
 Louis Menendez, piano

Sunday, March 10, 7:00 p.m.
 St. Luke's Episcopal Church
 4106 JFK Blvd., North Little Rock

Admission is free, no reservation required. A reception will follow the concert. This program is supported by the Arkansas Arts Council, an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Arts Calendar

Tuesday, February 5 – 7:00 p.m.

Arkansas Symphony Orchestra: Chamber Music
Clinton Presidential Center
Little Rock, Arkansas

Saturday, February 9 – 8:00 p.m.

Arkansas Symphony Orchestra: Pops
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, Arkansas

Sunday, February 10 – 3:00 p.m.

Arkansas Symphony Orchestra: Pops
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, Arkansas

Sunday, February 10 – 3:00 p.m.

Basso Voce
St. Paul United Methodist Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

Thursday, February 14 – 7:30 p.m.

Chamber Music Society of Little Rock
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

Friday, February 15 – 8:00 p.m. [CACAGO]

Bradley Hunter Welch, organ
Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

Thursday, February 21 – 7:30 p.m.

Little Rock Wind Symphony
Second Presbyterian Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

Saturday, February 23 – 8:00 p.m.

Arkansas Symphony Orchestra: Masterworks
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, Arkansas

Sunday, February 24 – 3:00 p.m.

Arkansas Symphony Orchestra: Masterworks
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, Arkansas

Tuesday, February 26 – 7:00 p.m.

Arkansas Symphony Orchestra: Chamber Music
Clinton Presidential Center
Little Rock, Arkansas

Friday, March 1 – 7:30 p.m.

Arkansas Chamber Singers
St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

Friday, March 8 – 12:15 p.m.

Lenten Recital: Bob Bidewell, organ
St. Paul United Methodist Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

Sunday, March 10 – 7:00 p.m.

Trio Arkansas
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
North Little Rock, Arkansas

Thursday, March 14 – 7:00 p.m.

Arkansas Symphony I.N.C. Series
Christ Episcopal Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

Friday, March 15 – 12:15 p.m.

Lenten Recital: Jason Pennington, organ
St. Paul United Methodist Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

Friday, March 15 – 8:00 p.m. [CACAGO]

Thomas Murray, organ
First Presbyterian Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

Saturday, March 16 – 8:00 p.m.

Arkansas Symphony Orchestra: Pops
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, Arkansas

Sunday, March 17 – 3:00 p.m.

Arkansas Symphony Orchestra: Pops
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, Arkansas

Position Available

First Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Conway, Arkansas

First Christian Church of Conway, Arkansas seeks a part-time interim organist or pianist beginning February 3rd through Easter 2013. One traditional service at 10:45, communion observed weekly. Occasional special services (Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday). Organ is a 2-manual Rodgers. Compensation is \$70 per week. For more information, contact Jo Lynn Robinson, (501) 514-5172.