



Central Arkansas Chapter
American Guild of Organists

The
Clarion
March 2014

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.

2013-2014 Officers

Betty Cohen, *dean*
Wayne Simpson, *sub-dean*
Jess Anthony, *treasurer*
Mike Metzler, *secretary*

Executive Committee

Bob Bidewell
Carol Majors
Jonathan Merritt

Committees

PROGRAM
Wayne Simpson
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PROFESSIONAL CONCERNS

Lynn Payette

REPORTER

Bob Bidewell

EDUCATION

Bob Bidewell

PUBLICITY

Betty Cohen

TELEPHONE

Betty Anderson

DINNER RESERVATIONS

Robert Lindley

From the Dean

Hello All,

I am writing this from the comfortable mess of my “office,” which is really just a guest bedroom with a corner desk for my computer. However, what makes it “my office” is the music which surrounds me. Specifically, I refer to the stacks and stacks of organ music awaiting my perusal. Yes, this is where I plan for upcoming Sundays and angst (a lot!) over making the best choices to enhance my congregation’s worship experience. All this is to say that with Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent in less than two weeks, the mess with which I surround myself is even more of a mess. It is a great pleasure to plan service music, particularly for the seasons of Advent and Lent, but it is also an awesome responsibility.

And that leads me into a comment about what we, as church musicians do—our

responsibility to our congregations and to our God. The beginning of Lent is an appropriate time to review these obligations and to renew our commitment to our profession. I urge you to use the season of Lent as an opportunity to do both as we prepare for the upcoming joyous Eastertide.

Our March program is scheduled for Friday, March 7, 8:00 P.M. at First Presbyterian Church in Little Rock. This will be our annual benefit for the Pediatric Injury Prevention Center at Arkansas Children’s Hospital with Alan Morrison as the guest artist. Scott will have his usual delicious meal for us before the concert. Please make your reservations now for this not-to-be-missed concert.

Betty Cohen, Dean

Upcoming CACAGO Programs

Friday, March 7

**A Benefit Concert for the
Pediatric Injury Prevention Center
Arkansas Children’s Hospital**
Alan Morrison, organist
First Presbyterian Church
800 Scott St.
Little Rock, Arkansas

Friday, April 25

**Eleventh Annual Recital
Celebrating the Life of
Robert Young Ellis**
Thomas Gaynor, organist
Cathedral of St. Andrew
617 S. Louisiana St.
Little Rock, Arkansas

Friday, May 9

Monica Czausz, organist
Christ Episcopal Church
509 Scott St.
Little Rock, Arkansas

CORRECTIONS: The date for the April program was previously, incorrectly announced as April 4. The correct date for the April program is **April 25**. The location for the May program was previously, incorrectly announced as St. Andrew’s Cathedral. The correct location for the May program is **Christ Episcopal Church**.

Thanks!

Your drunken, pill-addled Editor

MARCH PROGRAM

Friday, March 7, 2014

A Recital Benefiting the Injury Prevention Center Arkansas Children's Hospital

Alan Morrison, *organist*

Punchbowl — 6:15 P.M.

Dinner & Meeting — 6:45 P.M.

Recital — 8:00 P.M.

First Presbyterian Church

800 Scott St.

Little Rock, Arkansas

DINNER: The cost for dinner is \$15.00. For dinner reservations, contact Robert Lindley via e-mail (dinner@cacago.org) or phone (501) 217-6735. Robert is accepting reservations until noon on Wednesday, March 5. Your reservation will be confirmed via phone or e-mail. If you do not receive a confirmation, please contact Robert to assure your reservation has been received.

Nominating Committee Report

Bob Bidewell, *Chairman*

Dean: Betty Cohen	
Sub-Dean: Wayne Simpson	Executive Committee (2017)
Secretary: Mike Metzler	Bill Fox
Treasurer: Jess Anthony	

Additional nominations (provided the nominee consents to his/her nomination) may be made by petitions signed by at least five Voting Members of the Chapter in good standing and submitted to the Secretary prior to April 1.

The election of officers will take place at the May meeting.

Biography of Alan Morrison

Alan Morrison is recognized as one of America's premier concert organists. His concert appearances in the most prestigious organ venues in North America emphasize his achievements as a performer and the respect Mr. Morrison has gained in the concert organ world: Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts' Alice Tully Hall (NYC), Verizon Hall at the Kimmel Center (Philadelphia), Benaroya Hall (Seattle), The Meyerson Symphony Center (Dallas), Spivey Hall (Morrow, GA); Jacoby Hall (Jacksonville, FL), Overture Center (Madison, WI); Jack Singer Concert Hall (Calgary), Merrill Auditorium (Portland, ME), The National Cathedral (Washington, DC) The Crystal Cathedral (Orange Grove, CA), Grace Cathedral (San Francisco), First Congregational Church (Los Angeles), Spreckels Organ Pavilion (San Diego), St. Patrick's Cathedral (NYC), Ocean Grove Auditorium (Ocean Grove, NJ), The Cleveland Museum of Art (Cleveland, OH), Glazunov Hall (St. Petersburg, Russia); St. Albans Cathedral (UK); the Wanamaker Organ at Macy's Department Store (Philadelphia) and numerous others. His performance during the inaugural festival of the Dobson organ in Verizon Hall drew laudatory reviews from numerous national publications. He is a regular performer at The Kimmel Center where he also serves as an artistic adviser. He is a founding member (pianist) of The Orlando Chamber Soloists, who were awarded a 2011 Chamber Music America Award. This past season (2013), Alan represented the USA as the only American judge and recitalist for the 27th St. Alban's International Organ Festival and Competition which marked their 50th Anniversary. He also made his Russian debut at the invitation of St. Petersburg Conservatory and the US Consulate. This coming season features four dedicatory recitals, two concerto appearances (Paulus and Jongen), choral collaborations, a premier of a new work by Kyle Smith, and numerous solo recitals.

In addition to extensive solo and orchestral performances throughout the United States including Alaska, Mr. Morrison has also performed in Canada, Europe, and South America in International Festivals. He has the distinct honor of having been chosen by his peers to perform for four national conventions of the American Guild of Organists (Atlanta '92, New York City '96, Philadelphia '02, Chicago '06) along with several regional conventions, and has won top prizes in numerous competitions, among them the Silver Medal at the Calgary International Organ Festival and First Prize in both the Clarence Mader (CA) and Arthur Poister (NY) National Organ Competitions. He has appeared in concert with The United States Army Chorus and numerous Philadelphia ensembles including The Philadelphia Singers, Mendelssohn Club, Singing City and Choral Arts Society. He regularly conducts numerous AGO sponsored master classes throughout the USA as well as in Canada.

As a recording artist, Mr. Morrison has recorded ten critically acclaimed CDs for Gothic Records, ACA Digital

Recording, Halyx and DTR. These and other concert performances are regularly featured on MPR's Pipedreams, Performance Today and on radio stations throughout many countries. On television he has been featured on two episodes of Mister Rogers' Neighborhood and on Georgia Public Television in a performance of the Shostakovich Piano Concerto No. 1. In May 2003, he was selected to appear along with Itzhak Perlman and Yo-Yo Ma for the Fred Rogers Memorial Service, which was telecast live from Pittsburgh's Heinz Hall. A champion of twentieth- and twenty-first-century American composers, Mr. Morrison has premiered important new works by William Bolcom, Dan Locklair, Eric Sessler, Brent Weaver, Emily Maxson Porter, Jon Spong, Mary Beth Bennett and Luis Prado, as well as the American premier of Dances for Organ and Orchestra by British composer Bob Chilcott. His most recent recording is of a new organ concerto by Eric Sessler with The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia in Verizon Hall (Fred J. Cooper Memorial Organ), conducted by Mischa Santora, along with other solo organ works for the ACA Digital Label.

As a pianist he has performed recitals with renowned mezzo-soprano Rinat Shaham under the auspices of the Marilyn Horne Foundation, and in a Gala performance at Alice Tully Hall. Mr. Morrison has performed two Mozart concertos (*Double Piano Concerto* with his mother Jeannine Morrison, and the *Triple Piano Concerto* with his mother and father Don Morrison) with members of The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra in Spivey Hall. More recently he was heard as soloist with The Dekalb Symphony performing Gershwin's *Concerto in F* and Rachmaninoff's *Rhapsody on a Theme by Paganini*. He has performed the Beethoven *Choral Fantasy* with the Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia (Jeffrey Brillhart conducting), as well as the Florida premier of David Gillingham's *Concerto for Piano and Percussion Orchestra*. He has also performed on several occasions with acclaimed cellist Andres Diaz (a former Naumburg winner), including a recital at Spivey Hall and a featured performance at the Brevard Music Festival performing sonatas by Debussy, Martinu, Lutoslawski and Rachmaninoff.

Alan Morrison is Head of the Organ Departments at both the world-renowned conservatory The Curtis Institute of Music (Philadelphia), where he holds the Haas Charitable Trust Chair in Organ Studies at Curtis, and Westminster Choir College of Rider University, where he is Associate Professor of Organ. He is also College Organist at Ursinus College in Collegeville, Pennsylvania. He is a graduate of The Curtis Institute of Music and The Juilliard School of Music, receiving degrees in both organ and piano accompanying/chamber music. His teachers include John Weaver, Cherry Rhodes, Sarah Martin (organ), Robert Harvey, Vladimir Sokoloff and Susan Starr (piano).

Positions Available

First Presbyterian Church Texarkana, Arkansas

Position: Part-time Director of Music/Organist
Compensation: \$18,345 – \$27,485

Job Description: First Presbyterian Church of Texarkana, Arkansas has a job opening for a part-time Director of Music/Organist. We anticipate a candidate with at least a Bachelor of Arts in Organ Performance or equivalent, and with 3 to 5 years of experience. Primary responsibilities are for Sunday morning Worship and rehearsal of the Adult Chancel Choir. Secondary responsibilities, either direct or supervisory, are for the Adult Handbell Choir and potential Children & Youth music. Deadline for submission of applications is 3/1/2014. Position to be filled by 4/30/2014. Contact person is:

Linda Cogbill
(870) 772-0795
lcogbill@cableone.net

Park Hill Presbyterian Church North Little Rock, Arkansas

Position: Part-time Organist/Musician and Choir Director

Job Description: Park Hill Presbyterian in North Little Rock seeks a part-time organist/musician and choir director to lead their music program. Sunday worship at 11:00 a.m. and a weekly choir rehearsal plus encouraging children's and youth participation. Skills in organ, piano and keyboard; experience directing a church choir. Appreciation and enthusiasm for both classic and contemporary music a necessity. Ours is an Allen digital computer organ, MDS-85, 110 rank equivalent. Vacation/continuing education included. Please send resumes and salary requirements to:

3520 JFK Boulevard
North Little Rock, AR 72116
Fax: (501) 753-0325
E-mail: ggarlington3@hotmail.com

St. Margaret's Episcopal Church Little Rock, Arkansas

Position: Part-time Organist/Director of Music
Compensation: \$15,000 – \$31,000 depending on number of hours, experience and qualifications

Job Description: St. Margaret's Episcopal Church in Little Rock, Arkansas seeks a part-time Director of Music and Organist. The position requires approximately 20 hours per week, but depending on the skill sets and interests of potential candidates, we would consider splitting the position for two persons who may serve separately as Organist and Choir Director. The position will start in June 2014. More information available at the church's website. To apply, send cover letter and resume to:

Rev. Mary Vano, rector
mvano@stmargaretschurch.org

Thank You!

To all who responded to the yearbook directory e-mails. The response rate was 87% and resulted in 24 corrections or additions to the yearbook directory.

Pipes and Brass

Kyle Blackburn, *euphonium*
Barbara Lusk, *organ*

Featuring classics, spirituals,
hymn tunes, jazz, and much more

Sunday, March 2, 2014 • 4:00 P.M.
Lakewood United Methodist Church
North Little Rock, Arkansas

St. Thomas Choir of Men & Boys *Evensong*

Wednesday, March 26, 2014 • 7:00 P.M.
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Fayetteville, Arkansas

Dublin Guitar Quartet

Sunday, March 30, 2014 • 3:30 P.M.
Christ Episcopal Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

An Evening of Schubert *by the Arkansas Symphony Friends*

Kiril Laskarov, *violin*
Kate Weeks, *viola*
Brett Andrews, *cello*
Barron Weir, *bass*
Tatiana Roitman, *piano*

Featuring the Fantasy in C Major, D.934
Trout Quintet, D.667

Sunday, March 30, 2014 • 7:00 P.M.
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
North Little Rock, Arkansas

Arts Calendar

Thursday, February 27 – 7:30 p.m.

Little Rock Wind Symphony
Second Presbyterian Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

Saturday, March 1 – 8:00 p.m.

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

Sunday, March 2 – 3:00 p.m.

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

Sunday, March 2 – 4:00 p.m.

Pipes & Brass
Lakewood United Methodist Church
North Little Rock, Arkansas

Tuesday, March 4 – 7:00 p.m.

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

Saturday, March 8 – 8:00 p.m.

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

Sunday, March 9 – 3:00 p.m.

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

Friday, March 14 – 7:30 p.m.

Arkansas Chamber Singers
St. James United Methodist Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

Sunday, March 16 – 4:00 p.m.

Pine Bluff Symphony
Pine Bluff Convention Center
Pine Bluff, Arkansas

Wednesday, March 26 – 7:00 p.m.

Men and Boys Choir from St. Thomas NYC
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Fayetteville, Arkansas

Sunday, March 30 – 3:30 p.m.

Dublin Guitar Quartet
Christ Episcopal Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

Sunday, March 30 – 7:00 p.m.

An Evening of Schubert
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
North Little Rock, Arkansas

Saturday, April 12 – 8:00 p.m.

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

Sunday, April 13 – 3:00 p.m.

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

Tuesday, April 22 – 7:00 p.m.

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

Thursday, April 24 – 7:30 p.m.

LR Chamber Music Society
Clinton Presidential Center
Little Rock, Arkansas

Thursday, April 24 – 7:30 p.m.

Little Rock Wind Symphony
Second Presbyterian Church
Little Rock, Arkansas