



Central Arkansas Chapter *American Guild of Organists*

The *Clarion* March 2015

www.cacago.org

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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Robert Lindley

From the Dean

Hello all,

March—the beginning of spring—I think. My yard still has snow, and the driveway still has patches of ice. Warmer weather is promised, but at this point I will believe it when I see it! Still, there is the promise of spring in the daffodil shoots that are poking through the coat of snow. That said, it is snowing (again) as I write this.

Lent has begun, and plans for Easter music and festivities are underway in my church's planning groups, as they are likely to be in yours. As a church musician I always feel I am rushing the season—practicing the Easter alleluias while still observing the solemnity of Lent; working toward Pentecost while the Easter lilies are still blooming—you get the idea. All this is to say that it can be difficult for me to fully engage in one season while musically anticipating another. But this is part of the life of a church musician, and truly I wouldn't have it any other way.

I understand the February program with Ken and Lisa was superb; I am so sorry to have missed it. Many thanks to Dr. James Graham for sponsoring these fine musicians, and to Scott for hosting us.

This month our chapter will host Judith Hancock in recital at Christ Episcopal church on March 20. This program is underwritten by Caroline and Cliff Riggs

in celebration of Caroline's upcoming 80th birthday! Caroline, that's just not possible! I want to know where your Fountain of Youth is located! Seriously, thank you for this most generous gift. I am looking forward to hearing Dr. Hancock.

At the first meeting of this year I mentioned how much I have enjoyed attending AGO conventions, especially national conventions. This year is the year for regional conventions (held in odd-numbered years). Our regional convention will be hosted by the Fort Worth Chapter, Fort Worth, TX, June 28 – July 1, 2015. Registration details are on the AGO national website: www.agohq.org. Conventions are always a good time to recharge the batteries by attending workshops, hearing wonderful concerts, reconnecting with old friends and making new ones, and generally having a fine time. Please consider attending this regional convention (or the national in 2016, in Houston). I urge you to ask your church/school/synagogue/place of employment to pay for all or at least part of the expense. These trips are continuing education, and should be valued as such.

And make your dinner reservations for the March program!

Betty Cohen

Dean

Upcoming CACAGO Programs

Friday, March 20

Judith Hancock, organist
Christ Episcopal Church
Little Rock, Arkansas

Friday, April 24

**Twelfth Annual Recital
Celebrating the Life of
Robert Young Ellis
Graham Schultz, organist**
Cathedral of Saint Andrew
Little Rock, Arkansas

Friday, May 8

Adam Pajan, organist
Greene Chapel
Hendrix College
Conway, Arkansas

MARCH PROGRAM

Friday, March 20, 2015

In memoriam:

Dr. Gerre Hancock
(1934 – 2012)

Judith Hancock, *organist*

Punchbowl — 6:15 P.M.

Dinner & Meeting — 6:45 P.M.

Recital — 8:00 P.M.

Christ Episcopal Church
509 Scott St.
Little Rock, Arkansas

DINNER RESERVATIONS: The cost for dinner is \$15.00. For dinner reservations, contact Robert Lindley via e-mail (dinner@cacago.org), or phone (501) 519-7746, or complete the reservation form on the chapter website.

**Dinner reservations are due by
noon, Wednesday, March 18!**

Biography of Judith Hancock

Judith Hancock, Senior Lecturer in Organ and Sacred Music, was the Associate Organist of Saint Thomas Church Fifth Avenue in New York, where she assisted in training and conducting the Saint Thomas Choir. Formerly Organist and Director of Music at Saint James's Church Madison Avenue, New York, and the Church of Saint James the Less in Scarsdale, New York, she directed the music programs in both locations, introducing many new ideas, both musical and liturgical. She has also held positions of Organist and Choirmaster at the Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, Cincinnati, and at churches in Bronxville, New York, and in Durham, North Carolina.

A graduate of Syracuse University, Dr. Hancock studied organ with the legendary teacher Arthur Poister. From there she went on to Union Theological Seminary in New York City, where she earned the Sacred Music Master's degree, and from which she received the Unitas Distinguished Alumnus Award. Her organ studies in New York with Charlotte Garden and Jack Ossewaarde. She has more recently studied with David Craighead and David Higgs at the Eastman School of Music.

Dr. Hancock has played many recitals throughout the United States, including several appearances at conventions of The American Guild of Organists. When the Choir of St. Thomas Church performed at the AGO National Convention 1982, in Washington DC, and in New York City 1996, Ms. Hancock accompanied and performed solo organ works. At the Third International Congress of Organists 1977 in Philadelphia, Dr. Hancock directed the Saint Thomas Choir in concert, performing as organ soloist as well. At the Fourth International Congress 1987, in Cambridge, England, she played solo organ works during the Choir's performance at King's College Chapel. She also performed at King's Lynn and the Aldeburgh Festivals 1987, at Saint John's College, Cambridge, Westminster Abbey 1987 and 2009, and at Saint

Paul's Cathedral, 2003. Dr. Hancock has appeared with the Saint Thomas Choir on subsequent concert tours of Italy and Austria, performing at the Cathedrals of Venice, Trieste, Vienna, Salzburg, and Copenhagen. She performed on tour in Japan in 1988.

Dr. Hancock established an on-going series of solo organ recitals at St. Thomas Church, performing organ works of various composers. Recent series have included music for trumpet and organ, music for viola and organ, music for cello and organ, "Two Organists at One Keyboard" (performed with Gerre Hancock), "The Great German Tradition," emphasizing works of Bach, Mendelssohn, Hindemith and Reger, and "The Great French Tradition" featuring works of Tournemire, Vierne and Duruflé and Dupré. She has performed the works of Bach in retrospective, as well as the *Antiphons* of Dupré, Opus 59 of Reger, *Sunday Music* by Petr Eben, and the Duruflé transcriptions of improvisations by Tournemire.

Ms. Hancock has performed concert works of Bixi, Handel, Haydn, Mozart, Rheinberger, Piston, and Poulenc with orchestra. She has recorded on discs produced at Decca/Argo, and Koch International, Priority Records and Gothic Records.

In 2004, Judith Hancock was awarded the degree of Doctor of Sacred Music by St. Dunstan's College of Sacred Music, Providence, Rhode Island. Also in 2004, the Doctors Hancock were appointed to the faculty of The Sarah and Ernest Butler School of Music of The University of Texas at Austin, where until 2012 they built and oversaw a program of studies in and the practice of sacred music. While there Dr. Judith Hancock performed Faculty Recitals on the Bates Recital Hall organ, as well as annual holiday concerts in collaboration with other faculty.

Judith Hancock currently resides in New York City.

Treasurer's Report

INCOME		EXPENSES	
REVENUE		ADMINISTRATIVE	
Dues	\$4,526.00	Dues to National	\$3,047.00
Ad Sales	\$1,000.00	Catering/Reception	\$3,126.98
Meals	\$2,940.90	Marketing/Public Relations	\$0.00
Carry Over (FY14)	\$7,428.72	Remaining Expenses	\$1,855.45
Reception/Postage	\$12.00		\$8,029.43
	\$15,907.62		
SUPPORT		ARTISTIC	
Individuals	\$16,590.62	Artist Fees/Housing	\$12,801.27
Other (ACH)	\$445.00	Remaining Expenses (ACH)	\$460.00
Endowment	\$603.00	Tech/Production	\$75.00
	\$17,638.62		\$13,336.27
TOTAL INCOME	\$33,546.24	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$21,365.70
		BALANCE	\$12,180.54

St. Luke's Festival of the Senses
 Teresa Proctor, soprano
 Ryan Moony, viola
 Julie Cheek, piano

Tuesday, March 17, 2015 • 7:30 P.M.

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
 4106 John F. Kennedy Blvd.
 North Little Rock, Arkansas

The program includes the F minor Sonata of Brahms and art songs by Hahn, Strauss, and Saint-Saëns. Admission is free. Donations will be accepted for the restoration of the historic St. Joseph Center (formerly the St. Joseph Orphanage), a North Little Rock landmark.

Position Available

Gardner Memorial United Methodist Church North Little Rock, Arkansas

Position: Part-time Organist/Accompanist

Compensation: Negotiable and commensurate with qualifications

Job Description: Gardner Memorial United Methodist Church, North Little Rock, Arkansas is seeking a part-time Organist/Accompanist. Responsibilities include accompanying the congregation and choir in worship (including special worship services and choir programs), and the choir in rehearsals; to present a positive image of Gardner Memorial UMC to the worship community and the wider community. To request a more complete job description or to submit a resume with references, please contact:

Pastor Richard Mitchell
 Gardner Memorial United Methodist Church
 1723 Schaer Street
 North Little Rock, AR 72114
 Phone: (501) 374-9520
 E-mail: richard.mitchell@arumc.org
 Website: www.gardnermemorialumc.org

Piano Duet Recital

Sunday, March 29, 2015 • 3:00 P.M.

Unitarian Universalist Church
1818 Reservoir Rd.
Little Rock, Arkansas

Caroline Riggs and Laurie Smith Prud'homme will present a recital of piano duets by Pachelbel, Clementi, Schumann, Mozart and others.

SouthArk Choral Society presents Mozart's Requiem

Thursday, April 23, 2015 • 7:00 P.M.

First Presbyterian Church
300 E. Main St.
El Dorado, Arkansas

Directed by Victoria Harden
with organist Daniel Beckwith,
and soloists Susan Schafer Hayes, Deleen Davidson,
Shelton Harden, and Frank Blackman. Admission is free.

Arts Calendar

Tuesday, March 3 – 7:00 P.M.

ASO Chamber: Vadim Gluzman, violin
Clinton Presidential Center
Little Rock, AR

Tuesday, March 10 – 7:30 P.M.

Little Rock Wind Symphony
Second Presbyterian Church
Little Rock, AR

Thursday, March 12 – 7:00 P.M.

ASO I.N.C.: Night Serenades
St. James United Methodist Church
Little Rock, AR

Friday, March 13 – 7:00 P.M.

Arkansas Chamber Singers
Old State House
Little Rock, AR

Saturday, March 14 – 7:00 P.M.

Arkansas Chamber Singers
Old State House
Little Rock, AR

Saturday, March 14 – 7:30 P.M.

ASO Pops: Gershwin
Pulaski Academy Connor Performing Arts Center
Little Rock, AR

Sunday, March 15 – 3:00 P.M.

ASO Pops: Gershwin
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Arkansas Chamber Singers
Old State House
Little Rock, AR

Tuesday, March 17 – 7:30 P.M.

St. Luke's Festival of the Senses
St. Luke's Episcopal Church
North Little Rock, AR

Friday, March 20 – 8:00 P.M.

CACAGO: Judith Hancock, organist
Christ Episcopal Church
Little Rock, AR

Saturday, March 21 – 7:00 P.M.

Pine Bluff Symphony
Pine Bluff Convention Center
Pine Bluff, AR

Thursday, March 26 – 5:15 P.M.

Rockefeller Quartet
Capital Hotel
Little Rock, AR

Sunday, March 29 – 3:00 P.M.

Piano Duet Recital
Unitarian Universalist Church
Little Rock, AR