The Central Arkansas Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

"A Special Series"

THE CLARION

April 2009



Nathan Laube is a rising star among young classical musicians. A native of Chicago, Nathan began his music studies at age five. At age 15, he was accepted as a full scholarship student at the renowned Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia. At age 20, he is currently a fifth year student at The Curtis Institute, where he studies with Alan Morrison (organ) and Susan Starr (piano).

In addition to his studies at The Curtis Institute, which upholds its weekly requirement of performing a new piece from memory, Nathan also maintains a rigorous performance schedule. Upcoming and recent performances include some of the most formidable venues in the United States: Girard College Chapel (Philadelphia, PA), in the closing event of the 2007 National Convention of the American Institute of Organ Builder; Jacoby Symphony Hall (Jacksonville, FL); Spivey Hall (Marrow, Georgia), a performance that was subsequently broadcast on Minnesota Public Radio's *Pipedreams*; The Spreckels Organ in Balboa Park (San Diego, California); and will be a featured performer at the 2009 National Convention of the Organ Historical Society (Cleveland, OH). In Kimmel Center's Verizon Hall (Philadelphia, PA), Nathan has appeared as a solo recitalist, organ soloist for the 2008 "Sing-Along Messiah," and has performed in the Philadelphia Symphony Orchestra under Maestros Charles Dutoit and Christoph Eschenbach. With the Philadelphia Orchestra, he traveled several times to the revered Carnegie Hall (NYC, NY), most notably to perform Mahler's monumental Symphony No. 8.

Although Nathan's vast repertoire spans the works of pre-Baroque to living composers, he has become known for his colorful and virtuoso transcriptions of orchestral works by Bach, Mahler, Rossini, and Strauss. As an Assistant Organist to Peter Richard Conte at the Wanamaker Grand Court Organ – the world's largest and ultimate 'transcription organ' – Nathan performed regularly on their daily recital schedule. In 2005, he appeared on WRTI Radio's broadcast of "The Wanamaker Organ Hour," for which he played many of his original transcriptions, and is scheduled to appear again in 2009.

Nathan's other interests include medieval and modern architecture, gardening, international travel, exotic cuisine and cooking, as well as sketching and drawing. For more information, please visit Nathan's website: www.nathanlaube.com.

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CACAGO SLATE OF OFFICER NOMINEES for 09/10

<u>Dean</u>

1. Phil Bordeleau

2. Dr. Richard W. Hixson

Sub Dean

1. Wayne Simpson

2. Virginia Strohmeyer-Miles

<u>Secretary</u>

1. Betty Anderson

2. Adam Savacool

<u>Treasurer</u>

1. Betty Deislinger

Members at large

1. Betty Cohen

2. Nathan Beethe





Friday, April 17th, 2009

The Sixth Annual Recital Celebration The Life of Robert Ellis

Presented By:

The Central Arkansas Chapter of the American Guild of Organists Hosted by

First Presbyterian Church
Corner of 8th and Scott St., Little Rock, AR

Dinner reservations may be placed with Marian Berry via-email Dinner@cacago.org or phoned in to 501-663-1693. Marian is accepting reservations until noon, Wednesday, April. 15th. You should receive a confirmation of your reservations via email or phone. If you do not get confirmation, please call Marian to ensure your reservation has been placed. We are anticipating a wonderful night of music making and fellowship.

Catering by Scott Seidenschwarz

Punchbowl: 6:00 PM Dinner: 6:30 PM Recital: 8:00 PM

(A side note, if you have standing reservations it would be help to confirm you are on the list!)

For more information contact Phil Bordeleau 501-374-2794

Sunday, April 19th, 2009

The Second of two Recitals Celebrating The Life of Robert Ellis

Nathan Laube performing

Presented By:

The Central Arkansas Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

First United Methodist Church, Arkadelphia

Ninth and Caddo St. Arkadelphia, AR

Recital: 4:00 PM

For more information contact Dr. Kay McAfee 870-246-897



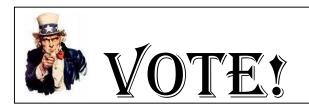


Officer Elections Are Next Month!!

Talk to the candidates and educate yourselves...

Who will best serve our needs to grow...

The decisions we make affect us all...



Next Month: May 15th at 8pm

Dr. Laura Ellis in recital





1000 N Mississippi St, Little Rock, AR 72207 For more Information Contact Craig Chotard (501) 225-4203



About the Series:

This recital is the Sixth in a series of annual events celebrating the life of Robert Young Ellis, who was Professor of Organ at Henderson State University in Arkadelphia, for thirty-five years from 1952 to 1987. It is hoped that this series will inspire musicians young and old, as Ellis, through his teaching and playing, influenced innumerable students and colleagues who remember him as a musician of genius and as one who brought both wit and sophistication to the lesson and to the classroom. Mr. Ellis, a native of Fort Worth, Texas, was trained at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia (where he was a student of Alexander McCurdy), at the University of North Texas (where he studied with Helen Hewitt), and at the University of Michigan (where his teacher was Robert Noehren). He was guest artist for numerous conventions of the American Guild of Organists and for dedications of many new pipe organ installations throughout the United States. Mr. Ellis was a visiting lecturer at Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Princeton, New Jersey. In Arkansas, he served as organist for the First United Methodist Church of Hot Springs and the First United Methodist Church of Arkadelphia. At Henderson, he coached four Fulbright Scholars and winners of regional and national competitions. He was a man of warm presence and kindness to all who knew him. Numbered among those whom he influenced are professionals that now serve throughout the country as church musicians, university professors, organbuilders, as principals and supporters for fine arts organizations.



Robert Young Ellis April 5, 1929 - April 5, 2003

MISCELLANEOUS PIPING



From Our Dean:

At the time of this writing, our focus is all about Palm or (Passion) Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday for those who observe, and Easter. Thinking beyond is a bit of a stretch what with so much music to be practiced, presented and heard. Yet, it is the culmination of many weeks of thinking, preparing, looking ahead to a renewed season of the liturgical year. For those who work in a church environment or an academic environment, less affected by the church calendar, but more affected by seasonal happenings, we still feel the rising pulse of longer days, warmer temps and the excitement of new possibilities.

As we live in and look ahead to another season, the programming of our next season's offerings depends upon each of us to think about how we might support our concert offerings. First, individual personal donations of any amount have helped sustain our guild over the years. Secondly, those who placed ads in the yearbook or who procured them; we ask that you begin NOW to consider having these ads placed again. Thirdly, for those who might be interested in partial or complete underwriting of a program, please speak with our officials about doing so. As always we accept any amounts possible.

Our annual election of officers will soon be underway. Please take a moment to look over the slate of officers. These individuals have all graciously consented to serve the guild should our members so choose to elect them. Our organization depends upon the voluntary time and financial contributions of our folks to make the music happen.

Now speaking of music, Nathan Laube will make a return to Little Rock and Arkadelphia, thanks to the Robert Ellis Trust. Those who heard the young Nathan Laube ast year were treated to a wonderful offering of energy, technique and musicianship of the highest order. Bring your friends or young music lovers to this program! How inspiring to see a younger person with this much enthusiasm for our art.

See you all very soon.

Phil Bordeleau; Dean CACAGO

Members need to think about renewing their membership. Be ahead of the curve and renew for next year.

First United Methodist Church of Little Rock seeks a part-time (approx. 15 hours per week) organist & accompanist. Duties include Wednesday-night rehearsals, 8:30 & 11:00 worship services on Sunday mornings, special services & rehearsals. Resumes may be submitted to Jon C. Peterson, Director of Music Ministries at jpeterson@fumclr.org or by mail: 723 Center Street; Little Rock, AR 72201. For more information e-mail or call 501.372.2256. Review of applications is ongoing until filled

Recordings of our programs are still available for purchase, such as our Young and Rising Stars, or our Organ and Orchestra Extravaganza. To purchase a recording please contact webmaster@cacago.org.



The Cathedral School Announces New Advanced Choral Program

LITTLE ROCK – The sounds of heavenly voices will soon be filling the courtyards and classrooms at The Cathedral School on Spring Street. The school has announced a new Choir School program to begin in September 2009.

"The Choristers will receive advanced musical and vocal training as part of every school day," explained Trinity Cathedral's Organist and Choirmaster, Timothy Allen. "The program represents a major opportunity for those children in the city who show some early musical promise as well as providing parents with a chance to discover latent talent."

Choir schools are an important part of musical life in Allen's native Great Britain. "They provide boy and girl choristers for the fantastic choral tradition that exists in British Cathedrals and provide a wonderful opportunity for young children to be involved in professional standard music-making," he said as he outlined=20The Cathedral School's plan to offer a high-quality singing program to the children of Little Rock and the surrounding areas.

Choristers will be pupils at The Cathedral School and will study the full academic curriculum for which the School already has an outstanding reputation. Each day they will meet for rehearsal under Allen's instruction. Choristers also will be encouraged to undertake some instrumental study with a teacher from the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra. Allen did not rule out offering places at the school to gifted instrumentalists who would also be able to develop their skills during the school day. "An instrumental program is something we are actively considering for those children who show early promise as pianists, violinists, and the like".

Allen will serve as the director of the new Choral program. Born in St Albans, England, he was an Organ Scholar at Cambridge University where he obtained his Masters degree in Music. As well as being an outstanding organist, he is an experienced choir trainer of boys and girls and spent 16 years in English and Irish Cathedrals recruiting, training and performing daily with choristers. He was appointed to Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in November 2006 and is married to soprano Christine Westhoff.

The Cathedral School will announce the first of a series of auditions in the next few weeks. "We are keen to see and hear anyone who is interested in being part of something musically new and exciting," said Allen who explained that the auditions would be very gentle and friendly and that he would be looking more for potential ability than current talent. Allen also added that some scholarship funding may be available for suitable candidates.

Several studies show how much study of the Arts, particularly Music, can affect overall academic performance including the enhancement of reading, mathematical and social skills.

For more information, please contact Timothy Allen at 501-372-0294 or by e-mail at tallen@arkansas.anglican.org

MINUTES OF CACAGO MEETING, FRIDAY, March 20, 2009 TRINITY EPISCOPAL CHURCH, LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

Wayne Simpson, SUB- DEAN Timothy Allen, HOST

The meeting opened with Tim Allen requesting help moving the organ console back after the recital. Sub-Dean Wayne Simpson asked for guests to be introduced, there were several.

Sylvia and Ann and crew were called out and properly thanked for the delicious meal.

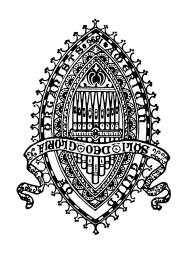
It was mentioned that Carol Majors, Bill Fox, and Wayne Simpson were interviewed for an article that came out in the monthly magazine, *South East Arkansas Life*, featuring Mary Diden. For those who don't know Mary, she is a long time CACAGO member, and a piano/ organ teacher. She taught Carol Majors, and was also one of Robert Young Ellis' first organ students. The events for the month of April was discussed and the meeting was adjourned to here Robert Delcamp in recital on the organ at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral.

Submitted Respectfully,

Betty Anderson, Chapter Secretary

POSISTION STILL OPEN FOR CHURCH ORGANIST IN HOT SPRINGS:

First Presbyterian Church, Hot Springs, AR, is seeking applications for church organist. The position requires Sunday service, choir accompaniment and choir practice on Sunday mornings and Tuesday evenings. There will be some weddings, funerals and special services with extra pay. 48 weeks per year. The church has a wonderful "Nichols and Simpson" pipe organ, which has 41 Stops over 51 ranks, on a three manual console. The organist will have an outstanding choir director to work with. Please send personal vitae to the Church to firstpreshs213@sbcglobal.net in care of the personnel committee or via mail to: First Presbyterian Church, 213 Whittington, Hot Springs, AR 71901.



The Central Arkansas Chapter of the American Guild of Organists P.O. Box 2765 Little Rock, AR 72203-2765

CLARION APRIL 2009

April 2009

17th- First of two concerts for the 6th Annual Organ Recital series celebrating the life of Robert Ellis. The first recital will be at First Presbyterian in Little Rock.

Nathan Laube from The Curtis Institute will be performing.

19th- Second of two concerts for the 6th Annual Organ Recital series celebrating the life of Robert Ellis.

The second recital will feature Nathan Laube at FUMC Arkadelphia at 4:00 p.m.

May 2009

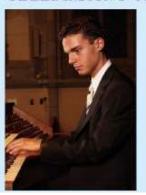
15th- Laura Ellis at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Little Rock

Next year's programming is determined by giving now, make a pledge to help in some way to make next year's programming better for our public outreach in Central Arkansas.



Sixth Annual Organ Concert

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF ROBERT ELLIS



8:00 pm Friday April 17, 2009

First Presbyterian Church
Eighth and Scott Streets
Little Rock, Arkansas
For more information, contact Phil Bordeleau 501 374 2794

4:00 pm Sunday April 19, 2009

First United Methodist Church Ninth and Caddo Streets

Arkadelphia, Arkansas For more information, contact Dr. Kay McAfee 870 246 8970

> These concerts are made possible by the Robert Ellis Estate



A special thanks to Tim Allen and Trinity Cathedral for their hospitality last month! Thank You from The CACAGO!