



Central Arkansas Chapter *American Guild of Organists*

The
Clarion
May 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
Bill Fox

MEMBERSHIP

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FINANCIAL

Larry & Molly Kircher

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Adam Savacool

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,

Wow, what an inspiring program we had this past Friday! Thomas Gaynor plays very, very well to be so young. Hey, he plays very, very well to be any age, but he is obviously a talent to watch. Thanks to those who made possible this very special tribute to Robert Ellis. Thank you, also, to Alan Pieroni and his helpers at the Cathedral of St. Andrew for hosting us for dinner. A special “thank you” to Scott Seidenschwarz for providing the reception afterward.

Our May program will be on Friday, May 9 at Christ Episcopal Church. The time between these two concerts is short, and as Betty Anderson pointed out, you need to go ahead and make your reservations for dinner. Her committee is simply not going to have time to function as it normally does. Come on—you can do it! Just call or e-mail Robert Lindley and don't wait for a reminder!

Probably by the time you get this the deadline will have passed, but I must remind

you anyway—if you are a full voting member of AGO, please vote in the elections. Deadline is April 30, either for online voting or to have your ballot postmarked. For the first time in a very long time (maybe ever) we have a candidate for president from our region. I'm not telling you how to vote, you understand—just pointing out the possibilities.

Since the year is winding down, I simply want to say “thank you” to everyone in our chapter that has made this year possible. Many have given financially, and many have given time, energy, and effort. A special shout-out is due to Wayne Simpson for his hours of working putting together the programs we all enjoy. Thank you, Wayne!

I hope to see all of you on May 9 at the final recital for this season.

Betty Cohen, Dean

2013-2014 Season Finale

Friday, May 9

Monica Czausz, organist

Christ Episcopal Church

509 Scott St.

Little Rock, Arkansas

MAY PROGRAM

Friday, May 9, 2014

Monica Czausz, *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: 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, May 7. 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
Secretary: Mike Metzler
Treasurer: Jess Anthony

Executive Committee (2017)
Bill Fox
Barbara Lusk

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

Biography of Monica Czausz

AWARD WINNING young organist Monica Czausz received first prizes in the 2013 William C. Hall Organ Competition (San Antonio, Texas), the 2013 National L. Cameron Johnson Competition (Storrs, Connecticut), and the 2011 National Oklahoma City University Competition. She is presently pursuing her Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance at The Shepherd School of Music of Rice University and recently completed her sophomore year, studying with Ken Cowan. She is recipient of the George K. Evans Organ Scholarship and the Erwin and Emily Heinen Prize in Music, two endowed awards for outstanding achievement. Monica is additionally Organ Scholar at Christ Church (Episcopal) Cathedral in Houston, Texas, where she assists Robert Simpson, Canon for Music, and Bruce Power, Cathedral Organist, with the highly-acclaimed Treble and Cathedral Choirs.

Monica's musical accomplishments have already led to concert performances on renowned instruments, including the world's largest pipe organ, the Wanamaker organ at Macy's in Center City, Philadelphia, and the largest mechanical action organ in a concert hall, the Dobson Op. 76 at the Kimmel Center in Philadelphia. Additional travels with the Christ Church Cathedral Choir featured her performing on the organs at York Minster Cathedral and St. Paul's Cathedral, London, England.

Prior to her studies at Rice, she studied intensely with Alan Morrison of The Curtis Institute

and Peter Conte, Grand Court Organist of the Wanamaker in Center City, Philadelphia for two consecutive summers in 2011 and 2012, while attending the Kimmel Center Summer Organ Academy. She has also worked extensively with Nathan Laube, Assistant Professor of Organ at The Eastman School of Music. Her initial studies were with Peter Beardsley, retired Director of Music at Christ Church (Episcopal) Cathedral, Springfield, Massachusetts and subsequently with John Rose, Organist and Professor at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut. During her High School years, Monica was Organist and Choir Director at St. Paul's (Episcopal) Church in Holyoke, Mass. where beginning at age 16, she ran an enthusiastic music program. She graduated as valedictorian of her class of approximately 300 at Chicopee Public High School while maintaining active roles in the National Honor Society, Academic Quiz Team, and PeaceJam. Monica's performances have been broadcast on the "Wanamaker Organ Hour" on WRTI Philadelphia Classical Radio as well as on 91.7 Houston Classical FM and KTRU Rice Radio.

During the Summer of 2014, Monica will travel to Germany for six weeks of study with Stefan Engels, renowned Professor of Organ at the Hochschule fur Musik und Theater "Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy" in Leipzig.

Sacred Music Summer Workshop **Foundations for the Church's Song**

A Workshop for Clergy, Musicians and Lay Persons

Friday & Saturday, June 6 & 7, 2014

Reverend Dr. Charles S. Brown, former Professor of Organ and Harpsichord at UNT and 2014 Paul Lindsley Thomas Lecturer, will begin the weekend Friday evening with a collaborative "mining" of the larger context(s) of worship, answering the questions: What are we doing? Why are we doing it? For whom, by whom, is it being done? Saturday's plenary session, entitled "Three Ritual Climbers: Musician, Actor, Storyteller," will look at the narrative, theatrical, and musical faces of worship. Then, Rev. Dr. Brown will consider how the organist

Presented by

Church Music Institute

Christ United Methodist Church

3101 Coit Road
Plano, Texas 75075

invites the worshiper into a transforming experience in a third session, "The Organist as Lead Dancer." Rev. Dr. Brown is joined by Dr. Don Horisberger, Associate Conductor of the Chicago Symphony Chorus and Organist/Choirmaster at Church of the Holy Spirit in Lake Forest, Illinois.

For more information, or to register, visit:
www.churchmusicinstitute.org

A world in search of beauty

by Woodrow Bynum | Director of Music
The Cathedral of All Saints, Albany, New York

ON A BITTERLY COLD Thursday in the first week of Lent, a large 18-wheeler pulled up in front of the Cathedral. Among its freight was a set of seated choral risers that had made their winter sojourn from a factory in Minnesota to their new home at the Cathedral. The risers, a gift from Roger & Sherley Hannay, are a Godsend for the music department (and the Dean) who have, at various times, made the trek in a rented U-Haul to Proctor's Theatre in Schenectady to transport risers we have borrowed for each of our orchestral concerts, lo these many years. Having our own set on site is too wonderful for words, and the Cathedral, the Choir, and the Friends of the Choir are most grateful to the Hannays for their enormous generosity.

Robert Dicks, our ever-faithful Lloyd Cast Organ Fellow; Stuart Phelps, our devoted sexton and I were the un-loading crew. I learned that day that a "tailgate delivery" means that your freight is delivered only as far as the tailgate of a truck...you must take it the rest of the way. Seated choral risers are neither compact nor lightweight. The driver cheered us on though, making little or no comment about the two musicians struggling to lift these enormous containers. Once everything was inside, the driver momentarily quit his truck and walked inside the building so that I could sign off on the delivery. Almost without meaning to, he lifted his eyes and caught sight of the East window and the glory that is the Cathedral Nave, and he was awestruck. "What a church!" He had lived in the Capital District all his life and had never entered those doors. "They don't build them like this anymore." Rob and I heartily agreed. He went on his way, and we began assembling the storage cart for the risers (another class not offered in music school!).

Thanks be to God for those workers who built the Cathedral All Saints, and for Robert Gibson who designed the glorious edifice. They have created a thing of beauty for the ages. The building, much the same as it was when Bishop Doane was walking its ambulatories, connects us to those Cathedralites who long ago worshipped within its walls. When I enter our choir room, I am immediately connected to my musical forebears, Mark Dwyer, Lloyd Cast, J. William Jones, and J. Albert Jeffrey to name a few, the countless singers who have graced our choir

over the years. It connects us not only to our past, but also to our present. I often imagine the place after all of us who are reading this have gone on to our great rewards. How encouraging that so much is now being undertaken to ensure the future of the building. In just the last year, we have seen the repointing of stonework above our two side chapels, the renovation (nearly complete) of St. Alban's Chapel, and, just this winter, the resurfacing of the interior of St. John's chapel. Most important of all, an endowment has been established for continued maintenance of the building, ensuring that work like this will continue at a steady pace for years to come. Now when I think of future Cathedralites, I know we are leaving to them a cathedral in better shape than we found it. God has blessed us mightily, and we do well to return a portion of our blessings as caretakers of His temple.

I must admit to a certain amount of jealousy for the artisans who create tower (one hopes) and temple with their skills, and, as a result, have a lasting testament to their work. Musicians (excepting those who compose, and I don't consider myself among their company), create ephemeral beauty. Even the best recordings of music sung in our Cathedral pale in comparison to the experience of hearing it live. Our choir spends precious after-school (or after-work) hours readying themselves to sing over 600 years' worth of repertoire, and the moment the last note sounds, it's gone. The only testament to their work: a heart transported, if only for a moment, from earthly concerns. Choral music in a liturgical context is not meant to entertain, but to transcend. It has at its core a homiletic role, taking words and painting them onto a musical canvas. It does for the ears what a stained-glass window does for the eyes. Hearing the choir sing a *Te Deum* and gazing at the East window are not dissimilar experiences. The window, thanks to the efforts of the Cathedral's *Adventures in Faith* campaign of the previous decade, will be there to instruct us for years to come. The music must be reconstructed each week. Both, a labor of love, and both meant to bring us closer to God, worshipping the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

Submitted by Bill Shepherd
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Piano & Organ Lessons

Betty Deislinger is now accepting students for lessons in piano and organ. Please contact her for more details:

Betty Deislinger
P.O. Box 3024
Little Rock, AR 72203-3024
Email: deislinger@att.net
(501) 412-3822 (Cell)
(501) 372-1023 (C)

Organ Recital Cristiano Rizzotto, *organist*

Friday, May 16, 2014 • 12:30 P.M.
Third Baptist Church
St. Louis, MO

for more information, visit:
www.cristianorizzotto.com

Mother's Day Concert Cathedral Choir & Chamber Orchestra

Featuring works by Vivaldi,
McDowall, Schubert, and more.

Sunday, May 11, 2014 • 11:30 A.M.
Cathedral of St. Andrew
Little Rock, Arkansas

Arts Calendar

Tuesday, April 29 – 8:00 P.M.

UALR: Carmina Burana
Maumelle High School Auditorium
Maumelle, AR

Wednesday, April 30 – 8:00 P.M.

UALR: Carmina Burana
Maumelle High School Auditorium
Maumelle, AR

Saturday, May 3 – 8:00 P.M.

ASO Pops: Music of James Taylor
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, AR

Sunday, May 4 – 3:00 P.M.

ASO Pops: Music of James Taylor
Robinson Center Music Hall
Little Rock, AR

Sunday, May 4 – 3:30 P.M.

Piano Recital: Andre Duvall, pianist
First United Methodist Church
Arkadelphia, AR

Sunday, May 11 – 11:30 A.M.

Mother's Day Concert
Cathedral of Saint Andrew the Apostle
Little Rock, AR

Thursday, May 15 – 7:00 P.M.

ASO I.N.C.: Mozart by Candlelight
Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
Little Rock, AR

Sunday, June 1 – 3:00 P.M.

Little Rock Wind Symphony
St. Paul United Methodist Church
Little Rock, AR

Saturday, June 7 – 7:00 P.M.

Little Rock Wind Symphony
MacArthur Park
Little Rock, AR

Treasurer's Report

INCOME	EXPENSES
<p>REVENUE</p> <p>Dues \$4,545.00</p> <p>Ad Sales \$280.00</p> <p>Meals \$2,177.00</p> <p>Carry Over (FY13) \$8,809.51</p> <p>Reception/Postage \$12.00</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> <p style="text-align: right;">\$15,823.51</p> <p>SUPPORT</p> <p>Individuals \$10,944.12</p> <p>Corporate/Church \$0.00</p> <p>Endowment \$300.00</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> <p style="text-align: right;">\$11,244.12</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> <p>TOTAL INCOME \$27,067.63</p>	<p>ADMINISTRATIVE</p> <p>Dues to National \$2,622.00</p> <p>Catering/Reception \$2,177.94</p> <p>Marketing/Public Relations \$104.99</p> <p>Remaining Expenses \$1,183.72</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> <p style="text-align: right;">\$6,088.65</p> <p>ARTISTIC</p> <p>Artist Fees/Housing \$14,392.28</p> <p>Remaining Expenses \$1,929.02</p> <p>Tech/Production \$0.00</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> <p style="text-align: right;">\$16,321.30</p> <hr style="width: 20%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> <p>TOTAL EXPENSES \$22,409.95</p> <p>BALANCE \$4,657.68</p>

Note from Bill Fox, Membership Chairman

You are encouraged to renew your membership before we take our summer break. Your current membership expires 6/30/14. It is easy to forget during the summer and it will be a real help for the financial health of this organization. It is difficult to line up Fall programs with no money in the bank.

A 2014–2015 membership form is included with this newsletter.

Thanks,
Bill

Positions Available

First United Methodist Church

Bryant, Arkansas

Position: Part-time Organist

Compensation: Negotiable and commensurate with qualifications

Job Description: First United Methodist Church in Bryant, Arkansas seeks a part-time Organist to assist with the traditional music ministry. Primary responsibilities include (1) Sunday morning worship at 8:30 a.m. and (2) occasionally accompanying the Chancel Choir, which would require attending some Wednesday evening rehearsals at 7:30 p.m. Vacation is included. Our organ is an Allen digital computer organ (3 manual and AGO specs). Please send resume electronically to:

Shaun R. Popp, Ph.D.
Director of Traditional Music
(502) 931-0682
E-mail: popps@hsu.edu

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Hot Springs, Arkansas

Position: Part-time Organist/Choir Director

Compensation: \$21,000 – \$25,750

Job Description: Westminster Presbyterian Church in Hot Springs, Arkansas, seeks a part-time Organist/Choir Director to lead the music program. Primary responsibilities include (1) the Sunday morning worship at 10:00 am and other church-calendar related services and (2) leading the Adult Chancel Choir rehearsal on Wednesday night. Vacation is included. Ours is a two-manual pipe organ (full pedal board). Please send resume to:

Larry Stanley
203 Quail Creek Road
Hot Springs, AR 71901
(501) 623-7582
E-mail: lstanley6@cablelynx.com

Grand Avenue United Methodist Church

Hot Springs, Arkansas

Position: Part-time Accompanist

Compensation: Negotiable and commensurate with qualifications

Job Description: Grand Avenue UMC, Hot Springs is seeking a Part Time Accompanist: Pianist (Organ Skills are a Plus). 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 Grand Avenue 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 George E. Rook
Grand Avenue United Methodist Church
841 Quapaw
Hot Springs, AR 71901
Phone: 501-623-5626
E-mail: gaumcpastor@sbcglobal.net