



Central Arkansas Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

www.cacago.org

The Clarion

June 2012

Mission Statement

The purpose of the American Guild of Organists is to promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles, to encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music, and to provide a forum for mutual support, inspiration, education, and certification of Guild members.

2011-2012 Officers

Richard Hixson, *dean*
Wayne Simpson, *sub-dean*
Jess Anthony, *treasurer*
Mike Metzler, *secretary*

Executive Committee

Conner McMains
Adam Savacool
Bob Bidewell

Committees

Program

Wayne Simpson
Bill Fox

Membership

Bill Fox

Financial

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Clarion Editor

Adam Savacool

Professional Concerns

Lynn Payette

Historian and Reporter

Virginia Strohmeyer-Miles

Education

Ansley Fleming

Publicity

Betty Cohen

Telephone

Betty Anderson

Dinner Reservations

Craig Chotard

From the Dean

I wish to thank everyone that helped make the Craig Chotard “Celebration of Endurance”, or perhaps it’s “Parole with Pension”, a frolicking good time. I knew the evening was going to be special when not only Charlie Rigsby arrived from Fayetteville but Craig’s old school chums, the Magi from the East arrived with their camels and elephant to wish him well. I trust all blindness is healed and liver enzymes have returned to normal levels. It must have been the excitement or the presence of the Holy Ghost (à la St. Paul—Road to Emmaus) that caused the blindness, dizzy spells, etc. I don’t think anyone died. Great party anyway. The video of Bill Fox rendering “The Holy City” should be played at the national convention in Nashville. I have never been so moved by “Victory in Jesus” as I was when I heard it played by Jonathan Merritt with the bass and tenor lines in A flat and the alto and soprano lines in A major. Methought the Rapture was upon us. Well at least a rupture or two.

Many thanks to Joe Nichols for smoking the ribs and chicken. Wayne Simpson and Gini Freemyer for all the potato salad and slaw, and hors d’oeuvres. And to all of you who brought salads, veggies, and desserts. Everything seemed to work well. There was very little left unless someone carried it off in their pockets. And if they did, I am very grateful.

It seems that the program at St. Mark’s that Mr. Chotard crafted over the last 40 years will be in good hands as it has been announced that Mr. Tim Allen will attempt to fill his shoes commencing on the first of August. Just as Craig migrated from Trinity Cathedral to St. Mark’s, so is Mr. Allen. This, unfortunately, is still more fallout from the schism just a year ago at Trinity that sends her into ever more troubled waters. One could very appropriately sing the “Lamentations of Jeremiah” about Trinity as well as Jerusalem at this point. Her

children are cast out. Her musicians are gone. Her elderly are dying. She is but a memory of her past glory.

My great and happy news is that Gini Freemyer has agreed to be the Grand Duchess of Ad Sales and Fundraising for our chapter. Gini is always quite helpful arranging accommodations for our guests and somehow in keeping sub-dean Simpson away from the electro-convulsive therapy that I contend he so desperately needs.

I wish to thank our members who do consistently give at whatever level to make our chapter so successful. We have several folks that share the widow’s mite to fairly considerable amounts to make this endeavor a reality. Small gifts are probably harder to make for these members than the program size gifts from others. You are very much appreciated. I also truly appreciate all those who have sponsored programs. We could not have the schedule we have without you.

We also owe Nichols & Simpson, Inc. a huge Thank You. I don’t think people realize how much time and effort and money are spent from this concern to deal with artists and their agents. To get them to Little Rock, accommodations, churches, restaurants, etc. They, through their facilities and staff, absorb a monumental hit in resources. Other chapters do not have this kind of support. We at CACAGO are very fortunate. Nichols & Simpson are very generous. You might send them a card or a bottle of spirits. Hell, buy an organ!

If you attended the recital in Batesville last Spring, you know how exceptionally well Mr. Baskeyfield can play. Will be a great treat on June 8.

I think it appropriate to add Betty Cohen to one’s prayer list.

Time for the beach.

WRH

JUNE MEETING

Friday, June 8, 2012

The Ninth Annual Recital
Celebrating the Life of
Robert Young Ellis

David Baskeyfield, *organist*

Punchbowl — 6:15 P.M.

Dinner and Meeting — 6:45 P.M.

Program — 8:00 P.M.

First Presbyterian Church
800 Scott St.
Little Rock, Arkansas

The cost for dinner is \$10.00. For dinner reservations, contact Craig Chotard via e-mail (dinner@cacago.org) or phone (501) 225-4203. Craig is accepting reservations until noon on Wednesday, June 6. Your reservation will be confirmed via phone or e-mail. If you do not receive a confirmation, please contact Craig to assure your reservation has been received.



David Baskeyfield is the winner of the first prize and audience prize at the St. Albans International Organ Competition, 2011. Following success in a number earlier competitions (1st prize, audience prize, Miami International Organ Competition 2010; 1st prize, Mader Memorial Organ Competition, LA, 2010; 2nd prize, Dublin International Organ Competition 2011, 1st prize, Rodland 2011; and 1st prize and audience prize, AGO National Competition in Organ Improvisation 2011) he has launched a performing career encompassing both interpretation and improvisation.

Currently a doctoral student at the Eastman School of Music under David Higgs and William Porter, David read Law at Oxford as organ scholar at St. John's College, studying with John Wellingham and David Sanger. Between Oxford and Eastman he spent a year as organ scholar of Christ Church Cathedral and St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin. Some recent and upcoming recital engagements include Washington National Cathedral, National City Christian Church, St. Thomas' 5th Avenue, King's College, Cambridge, St. Albans Cathedral, St. Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh, Symphony Hall, Birmingham, St. Peter's Cathedral, Worms

(Germany), St. Bavo, Haarlem, Chartres Cathedral and St. Sulpice. A recording project with Priory is planned to take place this year, tentatively comprising lesser-known works of the French symphonic school, at the Cavallé-Coll organ of St. Étienne, Caen.

Aside from solo performance David is active as an accompanist, continuo player and occasional cocktail pianist. As an outgrowth of his interest in classical organ improvisation, he has taken to accompanying silent movies; recent engagements have featured *The Phantom of the Opera* (1925) and *Nosferatu* (1922). He also enjoys occasional access to the large Wurlitzer organ in the Auditorium Theatre in downtown Rochester, and has gone some way to legitimizing this private indulgence in being elected as a director on the Board of the Rochester Theatre Organ Society. He has been broadcast a number of times on American Public Media's *Pipedreams*, playing repertoire and improvisations.

He is enthusiastic about food, red wine, microbrews, and Malawi cichlids. He is represented in the USA by Phillip Truckenbrod Concert Artists.



Robert Young Ellis was Professor of Organ at Henderson State University in Arkadelphia for 35 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, at the University of North Texas and at the University of Michigan. 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 now serving throughout the country as church musicians, as university professors, and as principals and supporters for arts organizations.

June Recital Program
David Baskeyfield, *organist*

Prelude and Fugue in A minor, BWV 543	Johann Sebastian Bach (1685 – 1750)
Adagio and Allegro in F major, K. 594	Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756 – 1791)
A Suite of English Pieces	
A Fancy, from My Ladye Nevell's Booke	William Byrd (1540 – 1623)
Almain Mr. Johnson	Anonymous
Prelude in the Form of a Minuet	Charles Villiers Stanford (1852 – 1924)
Tuba Tune	Norman Cocker (1889 – 1953)
Rhapsody No. 3 in C# minor	Herbert Howells (1892 – 1983)
Prelude and Fugue in G minor	Marcel Dupré (1886 – 1971)

INTERMISSION

Fantasie und Fuge über den Choral <i>Ad nos, ad salutarem undam</i>	Franz Liszt (1811 – 1886)
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Dear CACAGO Members,

I would like to express my profound gratitude and appreciation to you for a fine party honoring my retirement. I am very thankful to have been a member of this chapter since 1965, and I hope to continue my affiliation in my retired status.

Sincerely,
Craig Chotard

Election of Officers

Our annual election of officers will take place Friday, June 8. This year's Nominating Committee, Betty Deislinger and Bob Bidewell, have provided the following slate of nominees:

Dean: Betty Cohen
Sub-Dean: Wayne Simpson
Secretary: Mike Metzler
Treasurer: Jess Anthony
Executive Committee: Carol Majors & Michael Monnikendam

Positions Available

Grace Presbyterian Church Little Rock, Arkansas

Grace Presbyterian Church, Little Rock, AR is seeking a Director of Music. Responsibilities include directing the adult choir, handbell choir, playing the piano and/or organ for all services (10:30 a.m. on Sundays, plus funerals/weddings), and coordinating all musical activity at the church. The position is available May 21, 2012. For more information, e-mail Conner McMains (maestrocpm@gmail.com).

First United Methodist Church Bryant, Arkansas

First United Methodist Church, Bryant, AR is seeking an Organist/Choir Director. Responsibilities include directing the adult choir, playing the organ for the 8:30 a.m. service on Sundays, and occasionally conducting the handbell choir. The position is available June 18, 2012. For more information, e-mail Conner McMains (maestrocpm@gmail.com).

First United Methodist Church Maumelle, Arkansas

First United Methodist Church, Maumelle, AR is seeking a part-time Organist. Responsibilities include playing the organ for the 11:00 a.m. service on Sundays. The organ is a Rodgers digital.

Salary: \$110 per Sunday

For more information, e-mail Rev. Luke Conway (luke@fumcmaumelle.org) or call him at (501) 851-2377.

Treasurer's Report

INCOME	EXPENSES
<p>REVENUE</p> <p>Dues \$4,937.00</p> <p>Ad Sales \$1,840.00</p> <p>Meals \$2,735.00</p> <p>Carry Over (FY11) \$4,980.00</p> <p>Reception Fund \$70.00</p> <p style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">\$14,562.00</p> <p>SUPPORT</p> <p>Individuals \$17,202.00</p> <p>Corporate/Church \$2,635.00</p> <p>Endowment \$360.00</p> <p style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">\$20,197.00</p> <p>TOTAL INCOME \$34,759.00</p>	<p>ADMINISTRATIVE</p> <p>Dues to National \$1,850.00</p> <p>Catering \$4,319.00</p> <p>Marketing/Public Relations \$309.00</p> <p>Remaining Expenses \$608.00</p> <p style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">\$7,086.00</p> <p>ARTISTIC</p> <p>Artist Fees/Housing \$18,490.00</p> <p>Remaining Expenses \$630.00</p> <p>Tech/Production \$500.00</p> <p style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">\$19,620.00</p> <p>TOTAL EXPENSES \$26,706.00</p> <p>BALANCE \$8,053.00</p>

Note from Bill Fox, Membership Chairman

You are encouraged to renew your membership before we take our summer break. Your current membership expires 6/30/12. 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. Please renew now. Make your check to CACAGO for \$92.00 and give it to Jess at the April, May, or June meeting.

A 2012–2013 membership form is included with this newsletter.

Thanks,
Bill