



Central Arkansas Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

*The
Clarion*
September 2010

www.cacago.org

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.

2010-2011 Officers

Richard Hixson, dean
Wayne Simpson, sub-dean
Jess Anthony, treasurer
Betty Anderson, secretary

Executive Committee

Jo Lee Fleming
Conner McMains
Adam Savacool

Committees

Program

Wayne Simpson
Bill Fox

Membership

Bill Fox

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Betty Deislinger

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Jess Anthony

Publicity

Betty Cohen

Telephone

Virginia Strohmeyer-Miles

Dinner Reservations

Marian Berry

From our Dean

We are off and running for an amazing season of performances here in Central Arkansas. Many thanks to all who participated in the installation meeting at St. Paul United Methodist Church. Bob Bidwell was a very gracious host. Dinner was prepared and served by the resident bell choir.

Following the business meeting, a Service of Compline was led by the Compline Choir of Christ Episcopal Church conducted by Steve Bullock. The installation of officers was conducted by Craig Chotard of St. Mark's Episcopal Church. Instrumentalists were Bob Bidwell of St. Paul United Methodist Church and John Churchwell of First United Methodist Church.

The officers installed were:

Dean: Richard Hixson
Sub-Dean: Wayne Simpson
Secretary: Betty Anderson
Treasurer: Jess Anthony
Board Member: Adam Savacool

Board members Jo Fleming and Conner McMains were not in attendance.

Yearbook Ads

The deadline for placing ads in the yearbook has been extended until October 8. Please consider buying an ad for your church, your business, or your organization. Or, you can purchase an individual "member greeting." This money helps us in our programming for the year.

For those that did not see the notice, long time member Bill Shepherd, who moved to Chicago a few years ago, died this past summer. Remember him in your prayers.

Mark you calendars now to attend the program on Friday, Oct 8. Jonathan Ryan is sure to play a thrilling program. A winner of many awards and prizes, he will either inspire you to become a better organist or push you into early retirement. Either way it will be an unforgettable evening. Please invite your choristers and music enthusiasts to attend. A full house inspires artists as a full arena will athletes. There just might be a young person in attendance whose imagination takes flight and whose life is changed. If one were never exposed to the herpes virus one would never get chicken pox or shingles! Think about it.

Don't forget Marilyn Keiser in November.

WRH

OCTOBER MEETING

Friday, October 8, 2010

Jonathan Ryan, *Organist*

Punchbowl — 6:15

Dinner — 6:45

Program — 8:00

First Presbyterian Church

[800 Scott Street](#)

Little Rock, Arkansas

For dinner reservations, contact Marian Berry via email (dinner@cacago.org) or phone (501-663-1693). Marian is accepting reservations until noon on Wednesday, October 6. Your reservation will be confirmed via phone or email. If you do not receive a confirmation, please contact Marian to assure your reservation has been received.

Biography of Jonathan Ryan

Jonathan Ryan is winner of the First Prize in the 2009 Jordan II International Organ Competition. Founded in 2001, the American-based Jordan International Competition is one of the premier organ competitions of the world and offers the most substantial First Prize award of any organ competition. At the 2009 Jordan Competition, Jonathan was additionally awarded the LeTourneau Prize, given for the best performance of a newly commissioned work for organ and percussion ensemble. Prior to his Jordan Competition prizes, Jonathan received First Prize in numerous other major national organ competitions, including the 2006 Arthur Poister National Organ Competition, the 2006 John Rodland Scholarship Competition, the 2004 Albert Schweitzer National Organ Competition (Young Professional Division), and the 2003 Augustana Arts-Reuter National Organ Competition. Additionally, he received the Audience Prize in the 2004 Miami International Organ Competition, an award given to the favorite performer of the audience's choice.

A native of Charlotte, NC, Jonathan first started playing the organ at age eight. He studied organ primarily with André Lash before entering the studio of Joyce Jones at Baylor University. He then went on to complete a Bachelor of Music degree with academic honors from the Cleveland Institute of Music where he studied organ and church music with Todd Wilson. During Jonathan's undergraduate studies in Cleveland, he was awarded the Henry Fusner Prize for outstanding achievement in the Cleveland Institute of Music's organ department, and also served as Mr. Wilson's Student Intern in Music at Cleveland's Church of the Covenant. As a student of David Higgs, he received a Master of Music degree from the Eastman School of Music. Additionally, he holds the Fellow certificate from the American Guild of Organists, the Guild's highest ranking professional certification, as well as the Choirmaster certificate for which he received the 2006 Choirmaster Prize for the highest national Choirmaster certificate exam score that year.

As a recitalist, Jonathan has concertized throughout the United States and

France with a repertoire spanning the 16th to the 21st centuries. His solo organ recitals have taken him to many important venues including the Cathédrale St-André in Bordeaux, France, the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington DC, the Cathedral of Christ the Light in Oakland, CA, and Fourth Presbyterian Church in Chicago, IL. He has additionally been featured as a solo recitalist at the 2010 Organ Historical Society National Convention in Pittsburgh, PA, as well as the summer Colloquium Conferences of the Church Music Association of America for the past three years. Upcoming solo performance engagements include recitals at Church of the Epiphany in Miami, FL, the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in Charleston, SC, recitals sponsored by chapters of the American Guild of Organists in Kansas City, MO and Little Rock, AR, as well as Jonathan's New York City debut in February at Manhattan's Church of the Holy Family.

A dedicated church musician and conductor, from 2006 to 2010, Jonathan maintained a demanding schedule within the extensive music program at St. John Cantius Church in Chicago, IL. At St. John Cantius, his duties included serving as principal organist for Sunday and Feast Day liturgies, sharing in the accompanying of the parish's six choirs, including the two all-professional ensembles, conducting the Gregorian chant choirs at three weekly High Masses, and musical oversight of the parish's ten sung Masses each week. Additionally, Jonathan directed the musical formation of the Canons Regular of St. John Cantius centering on Gregorian chant. An advocate of new music, he has performed the premiere of numerous liturgical and solo works, which annually included a newly written Choral Mass at St. John Cantius Church by the church's own resident composers. Prior to St. John Cantius, Jonathan served as Director of Music and Choirmaster at St. Anne Church in Rochester, NY where he was also Artistic Director of the *Music at St. Anne* concert series, as well as University Organist at the University of Rochester.

Treasurer's Report

INCOME		EXPENSES	
REVENUE		ADMINISTRATIVE	
Dues	\$ 3,471.00	Dues to National	\$ 1,735.00
Ad Sales	\$ 670.00	Catering	\$ 260.00
Meals	\$ 340.00		\$ 1,995.00
Carry Over (FY09)	\$ 9,085.00		
	<u>\$ 13,566.00</u>	ARTISTIC	
		Artist Fees/Housing	\$ 225.00
SUPPORT			<u>\$ 225.00</u>
Individuals	\$ 897.00	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 2,220.00
Endowment	\$ 300.00		
	<u>\$ 1,197.00</u>	SURPLUS	\$ 12,543.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 14,763.00		
In-Kind Contributions	\$ 1,500.00		

Membership

As you probably know, AGO memberships lapse on June 30th of each year. David Scribner sent out personalized renewal forms in May (either by email or US Mail). If you have not renewed this year, it is important to send your form and dues to Jess Anthony as soon as possible to ensure that your name appears in the yearbook. If you need a new renewal form, please email David Scribner (webmaster@cacago.org) or call him at 501-661-0330.

Also, consider asking your parishioners or choir members to join our chapter as friends. Their support could help fund our programs for the upcoming year.

November Program

On Friday, November 19, our meeting will be at Christ Church followed by a recital by Dr. Marilyn Keiser, the Chancellor's Professor of Music Emeritus at Jacobs School of Music, Indiana University, Bloomington.

This program will also be our Fourth Annual Benefit for the ACH Pediatric Injury Prevention Program. For the past four years, Dr. James Graham has co-sponsored this event along with our chapter. Dr. Graham is Professor of Pediatrics at UAMS, and Chief of Emergency Medicine at ACH.

Please invite everyone you know to attend this benefit recital.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, September 26, 5:00 P.M.

Evensong – Feast of St. Michael and all Angels

Parish Choir of [St. Mark's Episcopal Church](#)

Little Rock, Arkansas

R. Craig Chotard, Organist-Choirmaster

A reception in the parish hall will follow the service.

Sunday, October 24, 3:00 P.M.

Little Rock Wind Symphony Fall Concert

Dr. Karen Fannin, Director

Steven Becraft, *guest clarinet soloist*

Second Presbyterian Church

Little Rock, Arkansas

Music by J.P. Sousa, Malcolm Arnold, Shelly Hanson,
and Alberto Ginastera

For more information, visit:

www.littlerockwindsymphony.org

Tuesday, November 2, 7:00 P.M.

Arkansas Premiere of Bob Chilcott's Requiem

Holy Souls Parish Choir

Fred Graham, Director

[Our Lady of the Holy Souls Catholic Church](#)

Little Rock, Arkansas

*The Parish Choir will be joined by members of the
Etesian Winds, Mary Ann Robinson, soprano,
Matt Newman, tenor, and Adam Savacool, organist.*

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

CACAGO Events

October 8

Jonathan Ryan, Organist

First Presbyterian Church

Little Rock, Arkansas

November 19

Fourth Annual Benefit for ACH
Pediatric Injury Prevention Program

Marilyn Keiser, Organist

Christ Episcopal Church

Little Rock, Arkansas

December, 17, 7:00 P.M.

CACAGO Christmas Party

Home of Bob Bidewell

