



# Central Arkansas Chapter *American Guild of Organists*

*The*  
*Clarion*  
October 2020

[www.cacago.org](http://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.

## 2020-2021 Officers

Beau Baldwin, *dean*

Vacant, *sub-dean*

Jess Anthony, *treasurer*

Jane Gamble, *secretary*

## Executive Committee

Bob Bidewell (2021)

Betty Cohen (2022)

Karen Horton (2023)

## Committee Chairs

### PROGRAM

Beau Baldwin

### EDITOR

Adam Savacool

### REPORTER

Betty Cohen

### PUBLICITY

Betty Cohen

## From the Dean

Greetings!

I hope everyone is doing well as we are entering the autumn season. We have been blessed with some gorgeous weather here in central Arkansas; I am personally enjoying the falling leaves and the wonderfully pleasant temperatures. Although this is a chaotic time, the weather has really lifted my spirits. 2020 has been a hard year, and I hope that everyone is staying safe. I apologize for not being in touch with the chapter sooner; figuring out how CACAGO will operate this year has presented some challenges, but we will have a good program year.

I want to thank Robert Lindley, outgoing CACAGO secretary, for organizing the mail-in election this past May. The election results are published in this newsletter. Wayne Simpson is unable to serve as sub-dean, and currently we have not filled that position. I hope to have more information about this later. Beginning in late August and continuing through September, I met with Board Members Karen Horton,

Bob Bidewell, Jane Gamble, and Jess Anthony via Zoom to discuss what will happen with CACAGO during the pandemic. The consensus is that we should not have in person AGO events for the rest of 2020. If the situation improves, we hope to have an in-person recital in the spring. More information will follow in the newsletters and on the CACAGO website. I want to thank Adam Savacool for his work with the newsletter and the website!

This fall, we plan to have two virtual events: a Zoom Happy Hour on October 29 and a virtual Members' Recital that will go live on November 20. Please see the newsletter for more details about these events and plan to join us!

My thoughts and prayers are with you during this difficult time in our nation. I look forward to being able to gather again in person soon.

Thank you, and God Bless!

Beau Baldwin

Dean

## OCTOBER MEETING

### **A Zoom Happy Hour**

Thursday, October 29, 7:00 p.m.

The event will be moderated by Beau Baldwin, Chapter Dean. Please come join us for an hour to say hello! The board will discuss the Chapter Events for the 2020-2021 season. If you have not used Zoom or participated in any online meetings or events and have questions about how it works, please contact Beau Baldwin, [music@csalr.org](mailto:music@csalr.org) or (479) 841-4466. We hope to see you at the end of October; grab your favorite beverage and join us!

## NOVEMBER MEETING

### **Virtual Members' Recital**

Friday, November 20, 7:30 p.m.

The event will be pre-recorded and will go live on YouTube and the CACAGO Facebook page on the above date. If you are interested in playing a piece or two for this recital, please contact Beau Baldwin. More information about the specifics of this event will be listed in the November newsletter.

# Richard Colburn Butler III

## (1937 – 2020)

CACAGO lost a wonderful member over the summer. We remember Richard fondly and wish him God's peace.

Richard Colburn Butler III died in Little Rock on June 4, 2020. He was born September 21, 1937, at Trinity Hospital, 20th and Main Streets in Little Rock, AR to Gertrude Marjorie Rimmel and Richard C. Butler. His grandparents were Edna Clok and R. Colburn Butler and Ellen Lucy (Nell) Cates and Augustus Caleb Rimmel.

Richard was educated in the Little Rock and Alexandria, VA, public schools and was graduated from Central High School in Little Rock. He received an AB in History from Washington & Lee University in Lexington, VA, in 1959 and a Bachelor of Laws (now a Juris Doctor) from the University of Arkansas School of Law in Fayetteville in 1962. He studied at the University of Missouri in Columbia, and was graduated with a trust diploma from the Southwestern Graduate School of Banking at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, TX.

He served six years in the 431st Civil Affairs Company of the U.S. Army Reserve, with six months of active duty at Fort Polk, LA. After he returned to Little Rock, Richard practiced general law at House Holmes & Jewell from 1963 to 1968. He then became a trust officer for Commercial National Bank of Little Rock, serving there for 13 years. Richard was a board member and eventually asked to take on professional management of CONTACT, a telephone ministry funded by several churches including First United Methodist Church of Little Rock that provided psychotherapeutic counseling by telephone. He was available almost 24/7 at the nonprofit until it closed in 1984.

His next employment journey was as a personal assistant to philanthropist Lucy Lockett Cabe and others. He worked with the late Mrs. Cabe for 18 years and loved being a part of her support for the visual and performing arts. When Mrs. Cabe moved to Dallas, TX, to be with her family during her last years, Richard moved to Washington, AR, where he had property and restored the Noel Owen Log House (1842), moved from Blue Bayou near Nashville. He kept dual residency in Washington and Little Rock until 2018.

A lifelong Wesleyan, Richard served his church, First United Methodist Church of Little Rock, on parish committees for Music, Worship, Ecumenical Affairs, and Mission & Outreach.

Always active in civic and community affairs, Richard was one of the incorporators and is a former board member of Big Brothers of Pulaski County (now Big Brothers/Big Sisters). Other boards on which he served include the Arkansas Chamber Singers, Arkansas Council of Churches and Synagogues (now Interfaith Alliance), Arkansas Genealogical Society, Arkansas Symphony Orchestra Society, Central Arkansas Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, Chamber Music Society of Little Rock, Community Concerts

Association, Gertrude Rimmel Butler Child Development Center, Little Rock Wind Symphony, Mainstream (a support group for disabled persons to live independently), Oakland-Fraternal Historic Cemetery Park, Pioneer Washington Restoration Foundation, Quapaw Quarter Association, Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas (now Preserve Arkansas), Scott Connections, UAMS Advisory Board for Psychiatric Research and UAMS Jones Eye Institute, He was a member of the Kiwanis Club of Little Rock, the Heritage Seekers Genealogy Club and the United Methodist Historical Association Museum. He enjoyed traveling, especially with the Arkansas Arts Center traveling seminars and inspecting Institute of Cultural Affairs human development projects in Germany, Egypt and India. Also, inspired by Mary Fletcher Worthen and Peg Newton Smith, he enjoyed being a tour guide at Mount Holly Cemetery.

Richard worked diligently in historic preservation to help people growing up in the 21st century to understand the charm of Little Rock's and Arkansas's past so that it would not be forgotten. He owned, restored or maintained historic houses in the 400 block of East 10th Street and the First Hotze House of Little Rock. He and Jeremy were restoring Palmer House in Monroe County when it suddenly was destroyed by fire in 2013. Richard received a 2019 National Historic Preservation Medal—one of 30 national medals awarded each year by the Historic Preservation Committee of the Daughters of the American Revolution—for his untiring efforts to preserve and support historic structures throughout the state. He was the recipient of the Jimmy Strawn Award for his work in historic preservation from the Quapaw Quarter Association.

He served on the Pulaski County Republican Committee, the 2nd Congressional District Republican Committee and the State Republican Committee. He was Pulaski County Election Commissioner from 1966-68 and 1984-86. Richard called himself "an Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, Dwight Eisenhower, George Bush Republican." He enjoyed attending seven Republican National Conventions as part of the Arkansas delegation.

Services will be planned for a later date. A private burial was held in Mount Holly Cemetery, officiated by Reverend David Freeman.

Memorial donations may be made to the Kiwanis Activities Fund for Camp Pfeifer, The Chapel Fund at Presbyterian Village, Little Rock, AR, The Gertrude Rimmel Butler Child Development Center of First United Methodist Church, Little Rock, AR; Butler Center for Arkansas Studies at the Central Arkansas Library System or Gertrude Rimmel Butler Fund for Neuro-ophthalmology at the Jones Eye Institute of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

## Minister of Music Presents Gift to Establish Black Composers Archive Fund for Organ Music

JAMES EARL MAASE, minister of music, arts and worship at Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church in Little Rock, Arkansas, recently presented a gift to University Libraries to establish a Black composers archive fund for organ music.

In presenting the gift, Maase said he believes music is an “incredible tool to permeate people’s hearts and minds in miraculous ways.”

“My first awareness of music was hearing the organ played at church,” he recalled. “As I learned about other instruments, singing, conducting and composing, I knew it was to be a lifelong love of mine.

“As we face another wave of injustice to people of color, I have wrestled with what I could do to reach out and maybe make a speck of change in the world,” he added. “One day it hit me that musicians can be educated in the vast amount of Black composers and arrangers and learn from their lives and stories. I want to create a fund, with the sole purpose of purchasing music (with a preference and priority to compositions for organ), so that students may experience this wealth of music.

“Another desire would be to identify and honor living Black composers, educators and performers with a piece of music that has been given in their honor to the library.”

As he considered the ways he could personally contribute toward addressing the nation’s state of racial injustice, Maase said it dawned on him that he could perhaps help most through his life’s work and passion: music.

Though Maase did not attend OU, he had heard positive things over the years about the university’s music and organ programs from students, colleagues and others, including his longtime friend and colleague Damin Spritzer, D.M.A.

“We are so honored and delighted that Mr. Maase chose OU for this gift, and chose to support our organ program,” said Spritzer, area chair and assistant professor of organ in OU’s Weitzenhoffer Family College of Fine Arts and artist-in-residence for St. Matthew’s Cathedral Arts in Dallas.

“Jim’s gift has enabled us to immediately purchase a significant number of organ music scores of Black composers, including living composers, for our students’ study and performance,” Spritzer said. “We have started a collective

studio document ‘wish-list’ where the students themselves can contribute to an ongoing list of music by Black composers that they would like to study and like to have available in our Fine Arts Library, so they are able to participate fully in this and help direct the acquisitions and increase the diversity of the music that we are able to access, study and perform.”

Maase earned his degree in music education from Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas, while working as a music associate for University Christian Church. After graduation, he was hired as a music associate for Highland Park United Methodist Church in Dallas. While there, he developed a large youth choir and handbell choir and a young adult chorale; he also was asked by the Choristers Guild to train as a youth choir clinician, a position that allowed him to conduct workshops in many different states.

In his next position as director of music at Centenary United Methodist Church in Lexington, Kentucky, he had the opportunity to oversee the building of a new complex and pipe organ.

In 1993, Maase was hired as music associate for Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church. During his almost 28-year career there, he has led numerous efforts, including overseeing the creation at the church of a community-based school of the arts (Adventures in the Arts), for which he serves as director. Under his direction, over the past five years the school has launched summer music and arts camps for exploratory experiences.

Friends of the arts and the university are welcome to contribute toward this worthy fund. For a tax-deductible contribution, please send a check made payable to the OU Foundation, PO Box 258856, Oklahoma City, OK 73125-8856. Please write James Earl Maase Black Composers Archive Fund (Fund #34020) on the memo line. You may also give online at <https://giving.oufoundation.org/OnlineGivingWeb/Giving/OnlineGiving/devmain>. Write James Earl Maase Black Composers Archive Fund (Fund #34020) in the comment section.

Questions? Contact Karen Renfroe, [krenfroe@ou.edu](mailto:krenfroe@ou.edu) for more information.

## Positions Available

### First Presbyterian Church Little Rock, Arkansas

**Position:** Organist

First Presbyterian Church in downtown Little Rock has a position for organist open beginning the end of October. We have a wonderful Nichols & Simpson pipe organ, built in 2004, with 3 manuals, 47 stops, and 61 ranks. This is a part-time position. Contact Bob Blair (501) 351-2059 (if no answer, please leave a message).

### Lakeside United Methodist Church Pine Bluff, Arkansas

**Position:** Organist and Music Director

Lakeside United Methodist Church in Pine Bluff is looking for a part-time Organist and Music Director. Please contact Pastor Judy Rudd, (870) 534-6241.

## Treasurer's Report

| INCOME              |                   | EXPENSES                   |                   |
|---------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>REVENUE</b>      |                   | <b>ADMINISTRATIVE</b>      |                   |
| Dues                | \$576.00          | Dues to National           |                   |
| Ad Sales            |                   | Catering/Reception         |                   |
| Meals               |                   | Marketing/Public Relations |                   |
| Carry Over (FY20)   | \$1,278.51        | Remaining Expenses         | \$436.61          |
| Other/Mail          |                   |                            | \$436.61          |
|                     | <u>\$1,854.51</u> |                            |                   |
| <b>SUPPORT</b>      |                   | <b>ARTISTIC</b>            |                   |
| Individuals         | \$725.00          | Artist Fees/Housing        |                   |
| Foundation Accounts |                   | Remaining Expenses (ACH)   | \$105.00          |
| Endowment           |                   | Tech/Production            |                   |
|                     | <u>\$725.00</u>   |                            | <u>\$105.00</u>   |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b> | <b>\$2,579.51</b> | <b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>      | <b>\$541.61</b>   |
|                     |                   | <b>BALANCE</b>             | <b>\$2,037.90</b> |