



# Central Arkansas Chapter *American Guild of Organists*

# The *Clarion* November 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 and enjoying the beautiful weather; the leaves in Central Arkansas are top notch! This has been a tough year, but I am thankful that we have had nice weather for most of it. I am also glad that the election has just ended; I hope that the nation can move forward in a positive way.

On Friday, November 20 at 7:30 p.m., we will host a virtual members' recital on our Facebook page. Thanks to everyone who is playing!

My thoughts and prayers are with all of you as we continue through this pandemic. We have also lost three individuals associated

with CACAGO this year. I hope that when we return to in person recitals, we can remember them with a special program. In last month's newsletter, I included the obituary for Richard Butler. Nichols & Simpson has lost two beloved employees this year: Bryan Gray and David Scribner. These three gentlemen contributed greatly to the musical and organ life of Central Arkansas, and they will be missed!

I hope you will watch the members' recital soon, and please stay in touch!

God Bless!

Beau Baldwin

## NOVEMBER PROGRAM

### **Virtual Members' Recital**

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

Please join us for a virtual members' recital on our Facebook page! Jane Gamble, Rosemarie Ochoa, Thomas Alexander, and Beau Baldwin will be performing works by David Hurd, Charles Stanford, D. Buxtehude and others! We hope you will watch!

## David C. Scribner (1947 – 2020)

David C. Scribner, passed away peacefully and in good care on April 16, 2020 after complications from surgery following a brief illness. David's life touched so many in the organ and church music world throughout his long life, particularly the American Institute of Organ Builders, the Organ Historical Society, and American Guild of Organists Chapters in Chicago, San Francisco, Pensacola, and Little Rock. He also belonged to the Atlantic City Convention Hall Organ Society, the Organ Media Foundation, and Pipe-chat.org, the latter being his creation. All these organizations he served in numerous ways, much of which involved his expert computer technical knowledge. Born September 21, 1947 in Chicago, Illinois, David received most of his organ instruction as a student of Dr. Arthur C. Becker and René Dosogne at DePaul University. At Saint Vincent de Paul Church, David became, first, Dr. Becker's assistant, then successor as organist. David's studies with Dr. Becker (himself a pupil of Widor, Gaston Dethier, and pianist Josef Lhevinne) no doubt influenced David's favorite organ music, notably the works of Widor. During his time in Chicago, David was a proud member of the Windy City Gay Men's Chorus. Life after Chicago took David to San Francisco, Pensacola, and finally Little Rock. David's most recent organist position was at Christ Episcopal Church, Little Rock, as a substitute. He also served as a Vestryman of that parish, where, once more, he contributed computer expertise to allow the church to spread its ministry through social media. Having previously worked for other organ firms, David spent the last twenty years as a valued member of the Nichols & Simpson Organbuilders family in Little Rock, a life further enriched by living in a beloved historic home. In addition to his passion for the pipe organ, David was a lifelong railroad enthusiast, greatly enjoying travel on Amtrak and anything else with any sort of connection to train tracks. In this vein, he supported numerous historical clubs and railway museums. Per his wishes, David's cremated remains were interred in the Close at Christ Church on May 1, as near to the organ there as possible, with a small but meaningful gathering of his closest friends. In a serendipitous moment, just before the committal service began, someone inside was playing the organ—and, as this finished, the tower bells began to ring. David would no doubt have approved. A memorial organ concert in his honor will be scheduled in the near future at Christ Church, Little Rock, where any memorial donations should also be directed in his name.

*-Timothy Bovard*

## Bryan Keith Gray (1948 – 2020)

On Saturday, October 24, 2020, my beloved brother, Bryan K. Gray, went to be with our parents and brother in God's heavenly home after a brief illness. He was 72 years of age. His life started at St. Patrick's Hospital in Lake Charles, LA. as the son of Jack H. & Anne S. Gray. His musical talent showed itself early. He started piano lessons before he was 10. He was accepted into The Governor's Program for Gifted Children early in its formation, later going back to teach. He was a proud member of the Lake Charles High School graduating class of 1966 where he was a member/band captain of the Wildcat band, All State Band, Key Club, French Club, Mu Alpha Theta and National Honor Society. McNeese State University was his next education opportunity. He was a member of the Pride of McNeese Marching Band and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity. During this time, Bryan was awarded the Rotary Foundation Undergraduate Fellowship to study in Strasbourg, France for a year. Upon his return he graduated from McNeese with two BA degrees – one in organ performance and the other in music theory and composition. While in France Bryan made the faith decision to convert to Roman Catholicism. After a few years he received the call to become a priest – so, again, it was off to school – this time Notre Dame Graduate School in New Orleans, LA. In 1979 he was ordained into the priesthood in the Baton Rouge diocese. A few years later he was chosen to study Canon Law at Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., then came back to Baton Rouge as a canon lawyer and judge. Due to health problems Bryan decided to leave the priesthood. He moved to Little Rock, AR to work for Nichols & Simpson, Inc. Organ builders where he remained 28 years until his death. He became a member of the Central Arkansas Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. Bryan was a very talented

musician who could ease your soul when he played the organ. Throughout his life he played the organ at various churches in Lake Charles – Christian Science Church, Immaculate Conception Church, McNeese State Univ. Catholic Student Center to name just a few. He served as organist for his home church, First Christian Church of Lake Charles under the direction of his Dad. We always joked that he was just covering all his bases with God playing for the many different denominations. Bryan was very much the introvert often referring to himself as the "Introvert From Hell" but with a wicked sense of humor – inherited from his Dad. He was extremely intelligent and played a mean game of Trivial Pursuit. He was compassionate and generous almost to a fault. Even in death he was an organ donor. After cremation, there will be a memorial service in Lake Charles in the near future. He is predeceased by his parents, paternal grandparents – Earl & Alta Gray; maternal grandparents – DD & Exa Snow; his younger brother – Stephen D. Gray; niece – Melissa L. Owen and many aunts and uncles and cousins. Those left behind to miss him are his sister – Patty G. Boyd (Mike) - Colbert, GA; sister-in-law – Lynn H. Gray - Lake Charles, LA; nieces – Sandra O. Manuel (Scott) and Kathryn B. Dendy (Dwayne) – Denham Springs, LA; Letitia L. Gray – Nebraska; Christine B. Brown – Palm Beach Gardens, FL; Carol W. Hulin (Bryan) – Lenoir City, TN; nephews – Robbie Gray – Nebraska; John M. Matthews (Theresa) – Greenville, SC and Matt Dishman – The Woodlands, TX. – numerous great and great-great nieces, and nephews; his best friend – David McNeal – Little Rock, AR and his fur babies Guthry and Bo Gray also of Little Rock, AR. Of course his survivors also include the LCHS class of 1966 – Go Wildcats! Bryan will be missed by many – but none greater than his little sister. I love you Bryan.

## 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>	\$2,579.51	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	\$541.61
		<b>BALANCE</b>	\$2,037.90