



# The Clarion

The Newsletter of the Central Arkansas Chapter—AGO  
December 2006/January 2007

## Hixson Birthday Recital to feature Jonathan Biggers

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2006-2007**

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The annual Richard Hixson Birthday Recital will commence at 7:30 p.m. Friday, December 29, at First Presbyterian Church, 8th and Scott Streets, Little Rock.

Organist for the concert will be Jonathan Biggers. He has been cited as “one of the most outstanding concert organists in the U.S.,” and maintains an active career as both a professor of organ and a concert organist of the first magnitude. Currently Chair of the Department of Music and Edwin Link Professor of Organ (endowed chair) at

Binghamton University, he has performed concerts in both church and university settings throughout the U.S., Canada and Europe, and has been frequently featured on broadcasts by MPR, NPR, CBC, and Radio Suisse Romande.

Dr. Biggers studied with Russell Saunders (Eastman), Lionel Rogg (Conservatory of Music, Geneva: Fulbright study), J. Warren Hutton (University of Alabama), and Wallace Zimmerman (pre-college).

Two highly acclaimed CD’s (“Sleepers



Wake! A Reger Perspective” and “Bach on the Fritts!”) have been released by Calcante Recordings; future CDs will be issued by Loft Recordings.

There will be no dinner preceding the program, however, a festive reception will follow the concert.

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## Twelfth Night Progressive Party

Join us for a festive *Twelfth Night Progressive Party*, Friday, January 5, 2007, in the historic Quapaw Quarter of Little Rock! The evening will begin at 6:30 p.m. with a social time at the Hotze House, hosted by Richard Butler. The home is located at 1620

South Main Street. The party will progress to the home of David Scribner 1624 Louisiana Street, for a 7:30 p.m. dinner. Following the dinner the party will return to the Hotze House for dessert and fellowship.

Mr. Scribner suggests

parking along Louisiana Street. There is not much parking space on Main at the Hotze House. It is only one block between the two homes and easily navigated on foot.

Reservation information is found on Page 4 of *The Clarion*.

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## Greetings from the Dean

We have an exciting Christmas holiday season planned. And I mean that as the celebration of the 12 Days of Christmas -the "official" days from Christmas to Epiphany. I know that many of us are working hard to prepare and present their December Christmas cantatas, musical affairs, and so on, prior to the actual day of Christmas, December 25. Blessed are those many musicians who do not have to play the organ on that busy day!

Enjoy your Christmas "time off" by availing yourself to the programs planned as part of this time off. On Friday, December 29, we will be treated to a concert by Jonathan Biggers at First Presbyterian Church, downtown Little Rock. The concert is a generous gift from Dr. Richard Hixson to our community in celebration of his birthday. Do note that there is not a dinner

meeting that evening. A reception will follow the concert where you can meet the guest organist as well as wish one another well, and thank Dr. Hixson for his ongoing support of outstanding organ music in our region.

As a prelude to Epiphany, we will again celebrate Twelfth Night with a progressive dinner party on Friday, January 5th. Our hosts for the evening will be Richard Butler and David Scribner. No musical concert is presented, however this allows each of us to have congenial visiting with one another without the normal worries of an official meeting. Bring friends! Information for both events may be found elsewhere in this edition of *The Clarion*.

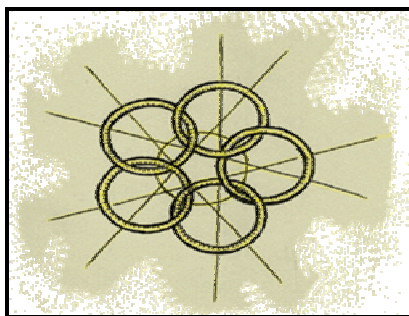
On the following page is an announcement of the upcoming Music Encounter for young musicians.

We encourage everyone to cull their respective churches and/or piano studios, music teachers, etc., to bring one or more students to this event in February. This has been specifically planned and programmed as a means to encourage young piano students (and other music makers that might consider keyboard instruction) to look at the pipe organ as another venue for music making. Ultimately we all need to make an effort to be certain that the pipelines are filled with people who value good church music.

If you have questions about this event, contact me either by phone or e-mail. We are indebted to Elizabeth Plowman and St. Michael's for making their church available for this endeavor.

Wishing each of you a joyous Christmas season - Phil Bordeleau

## Minutes from the November Meeting



The meeting was called to order. The cooks were shy about being thanked for the scrumptious dinner. Guests were introduced; the Secretary read the minutes of the October meeting; and the Treasurer gave the monthly report. Announcements of upcoming events were made. We then headed to the sanctuary to join a wonderful Messiah Sing-Along. Thanks to Bob Bidewell and Lakewood United Methodist Church for hosting us.

Submitted by Elizabeth Plowman

## Treasurer's Report - December 2006

Balance on hand as of November 20, 2006 - \$3791.23

Expenses - P.O. Box Rental - \$40.00

Balance on hand as of December 15, 2006 - \$3751.23

Respectfully submitted - Virginia Strohmeier-Miles, Treasurer



# *Musical Encounters for Young Pianists and Music Makers*

Saturday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007 10 – 11:30 A.M.

St. Michael's Episcopal Church  
12415 Cantrell Road. Little Rock

The Pipe Organ    The Harpsichord

Duets with both instruments and four hands at the organ

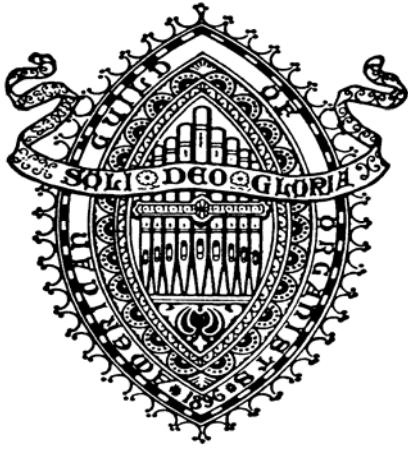
Hands on encounter ..... try your piano pieces on  
the Organ or Harpsichord!

Phil Bordeleau - Harpsichordist    André Duvall - Organist

The American Guild of Organists promotes the enjoyment and study of the pipe organ among music lovers everywhere. This event is free and open to all interested young music students. Parents and family members are encouraged to attend. For more information contact Phil Bordeleau, Dean of the Central Arkansas Chapter of the A.G.O. 501-374-2794.

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!**

CACAGO  
P.O. Box 2765  
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Return Service Requested.



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## Reservations for the Twelfth Night Party - Friday, January 5

Reservations may be made by calling Ann Johnston at (501) 661-1943  
(please leave your reservation with whoever answers or leave a message)

or by emailing: [don\\_annjohnston@sbcglobal.net](mailto:don_annjohnston@sbcglobal.net)

Reservations, \$10.00 each, must be made by noon, Wednesday, January 3.

