



Charlotte Chapter

THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS



FEBRUARY 2008
Celebrating Our 60 year Anniversary
1947-2007

Jane's Jottings...

In the first few days of January, I had conversations with 10 or 12 of our chapter members about a variety of business or social things. As these conversations were taking place, I realized with some surprise that almost every one ended with a sharing of how exhausting Christmas services and related work seemed to be this year, how difficult it seemed to be to rest and recover, and how hard it was to envision getting back into the weekly routine now that the holidays were concluded. No one identified a single cause for the fatigue, and all were pleased with the results of their efforts in their congregations. But all of us were just plain tired!



Jane Arant, Dean

For musicians, Christmas plans must be mostly completed by mid- to late October in order for choirs to prepare the music and for special events to be publicized and otherwise put into place in the life of the congregation. The six weeks that follow require careful staying of the course, with no prediction of when choir members will suddenly have multiple absences, or funerals or other unexpected necessities (including colds and flu!) will hijack our schedules. Anticipation is high among audiences and congregations, and for most of us there is genuine enjoyment in the experience of giving joy and inspiration to others in this wonderful season. But the need for that last minute boost of energy to carry off the actual performances comes at a time when our internal resources are already depleted by the demands of preparation.

If you are reading this with the expectation that the coming lines will give useful tips on how NOT to let next year's Advent/Christmas season leave you feeling so tired, I am afraid I have nothing to suggest short of seeking alternative employment. But I do want to share with you what I believe is a significant lesson from my own experience: I came to realize that each conversation I had with a colleague left me feeling less alone in my fatigue – and a little more buoyed and confident and optimistic despite being so tired. The lesson for me is not to search for ways to expend less energy on the seasonal demands of my work, but to learn to turn for support more routinely to the only other people in the whole world who truly understand what that fatigue feels like – my colleagues in church music!

I have long been aware of the tendency many of us have to look with some unrealistic combination of envy, pity, suspicion, or superiority at our colleagues. It is as if we find our own security in separating ourselves from them rather than acquainting ourselves with them, encouraging them in their work and allowing them to support us in ours. And so, in this year of 2008, I salute each of you as a friend and valued colleague.

Continued on page 3

In this issue...

- ◆ [Election information and nominees](#)
- ◆ [2008 30th Annual Summer Recital Series information](#)
- ◆ [Charlotte Chapter 60th anniversary year programs](#)
 - ◆ [Concert calendar](#)
 - ◆ [Employment Opportunities](#)

The 2008 Summer Recital Series

Organ Students Needed to Participate!

Tired of the cold weather? Ready for some summer fun? This year there are 14 exciting Sunday programs to look forward to in our 2008 Summer Series. The organists will be Michael Lehtinen, Stephen and Susan Talley, Matthew Noonan, Christopher Brayne, Ken and Sharon De Boer, Darwin Shaver, Justin Smith, Henry Lebedinsky, Timothy Belflowers, Leon Couch, and Larry Stratemeyer. The June 15 program will feature the student winners of the Robert and Ann Stigall Scholarship and other organ students in the area.

If you have an organ student who would like to perform on the student recital, please contact Justin Smith, the student recital coordinator, *immediately* at smitcj4@wfu.edu.

Gay Pappin, Summer Series coordinator

Be sure to watch the chapter newsletter and the web site for more details!



Plaza Presbyterian Church

February Chapter Meeting

Singing the Psalms

Monday, February 11, 2008

Dinner: 6:00PM Program 7:00PM

Don Armitage, Clinician

Dinner: \$13.00 per person

Please RSVP by February 4 to Charles Austin

c.austin.jr@att.net or 704.829.5658

Menu

Chicken Florentine with Sauce
Rice with Fresh Vegetables
Rolls
Tossed Salad with Dressing
Pecan Pie
Coffee and Iced Tea



M. P. Möller/John Dower organ

Charlotte AGO Programs for 2007 - 2008

60th Anniversary Year Programming



For questions, please contact Stephen Talley at:
stephen.talley@covenantpresby.org or 704-333-9071

**Monday, February 11, 2008, 6:00PM (Dinner); 7:00PM (Program), Singing the Psalms
Don Armitage, clinician**

****Plaza Presbyterian Church, 2304 The Plaza, Charlotte, NC 28205 ***(Please note new location)***

**Saturday, March 8, 2008, 10:00AM – 12:00PM, Tour of the Cornel Zimmer Organ Builders
factory with lunch at a nearby restaurant.**

Cornel Zimmer Organ Builders, 731 Crosspoint Drive, Denver, NC 28037

**Saturday, April 5, 2008, 10:00AM – 12:00PM (Masterclass) and
Sunday April 6, 2008, 3:00 PM Recital**

Annual Richard and Betty Peek Weekend – Janette Fishell, Clinician

Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1000 E. Morehead Street, Charlotte, NC 28204

**Tuesday, May 13, 2008, 6:30PM (Dinner) – 7:30PM (Program), AGO Installation Service
Jane Arant and the Trinity Presbyterian Church Choir**

Trinity Presbyterian Church, 3115 Providence Road, Charlotte, NC 28211

See you at these exciting events!!!

Jane's Jottings, continued from page 1.

Know that someone else knows your kind of joy and confidence, frustration and insecurity, in whatever combination you experience them on any given day, because of having in some way experienced all those same feelings. We may approach our work from different points of view, and hold different values regarding the details of an otherwise common experience. But we all know - as no one else knows – how it feels to be a church musician, any day of the year.

I hope you will offer your support to your fellows, and I hope you will gratefully receive their support of you. And while I fully expect to be both emotionally and physically drained following Christmas 2008, I will know that each of you will know just how I am feeling when it happens. But, wait! We don't need to wait for a year to test this mutual support opportunity. In case you haven't yet checked the calendar, as you are reading this in late January, in just two short months Easter will be already be past! I suggest you get out your AGO directory and telephone a colleague...

Jane Arant, dean

Sympathy is extended to former Charlotte Chapter AGO member, Andrew Hayler and his family, in the unexpected death of his 15 year old daughter in December. Andrew was an active Charlotte Chapter member for many years while he was a student of Dr. David Lowry at Winthrop University.

Employment Opportunities

Employment listings may also be found on the AGO national website at <http://www.agohq.org/profession/indexjobs.html> or on our chapter website at <http://charlotteago.org/Employment.htm>

ORGANIST Sisters of Mercy Cardinal Gibbons Memorial Chapel-Sacred Heart Convent, 100 Mercy Drive, Belmont, NC 28012-4805. Phone 704-829-5260. Fax 704-829-5267. Contact Person is Sr. Mary Angela Perez. Position begins as soon as possible. Membership of Church 60-75. There is no choir. There is a weekly Sunday Mass and occasional Holy Days and Funerals. 5-10 hours a week. \$11,000-\$15,000 Salary. No Written contract. No yearly evaluation. No fee for funerals.

ORGANIST/DIRECTOR St. Luke United Methodist Church, 128 Providence Road, Lancaster, SC 29720. Phone 803-286-8652. Fax 803-286--8658. Contact Person is Kyle Randle. Position to begin immediately. Membership of Church 600. Sunday AM service at 10:30. One adult choir, one children/youth choir, one handbell choir. 11-20 hours per week. The salary range offered is according to the experience and education of the candidate. Salary \$11,000-\$15,000. Additional fee for weddings, not funerals. A written contract is provided and there is a yearly evaluation.

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES Providence United Methodist Church in Charlotte, NC is re-opening the search for a Director of Music Ministries. We are focusing the search in our region, and ask interested individuals to send (confidential) resumes to Bob Worley, Search Co-Chair, Providence United Methodist Church, 2810 Providence Road, Charlotte, NC 28211. This is a full-time position with a competitive salary and benefit package. Phone 704-366-2823. The position begins in 2008. The Co-Chairs of the Committee are Kenneth Harris and Bob Worley. Membership of the Church is placed at 2300 adults and 500 children and Youth. There are two adult choirs, five children/youth choirs and three handbell choirs. 40 hours and up a week. Over \$50,000 yearly salary. There is a written contract.

ORGANIST St. Michaels Anglican Church, 2211 Margaret Wallace Road, Matthews, NC 28105. Phone 704-537-7777. Fax 704-537-9957. Contact Person is Fr. Richard Bakley. Position begins immediately. There are two services but organist plays for only one. There is one adult choir. 5-10 hours a week but extra at Major Holidays. The salary is negotiable. There are additional fees for weddings and also for funerals. A written contract will be available if needed. There is a semi-annual evaluation and then a yearly evaluation after that.

WDAV "Exploring Eastern Germany" Tour

The deadline for signing up to a tour of "Bach country" in Eastern Germany has been extended to February 29. Running from June 6 through 17, 2008, the tour will be led by *Viva Voce* host Luther and Charlotte AGO member Marylyn Wade. A portion of the fee will benefit WDAV. For more information, contact the Wades at lwade@carolina.rr.com, log on to www.WDAV.org or call the Wades at 704-567-1004.

Concert Calendar

Upcoming organ programs at Converse College, Spartanburg, SC

Peter DeWitt, Twichell Auditorium, Converse College, Spartanburg, SC

February 17, 2008 4:00 PM This free concert is sponsored by the Petrie School of Music at Converse College.

Dr. DeWitt is Organist and Professor of Music at Shorter College, Rome, GA.

For further information: 864-596-9021 www.converse.edu

Attention all piano students! Have you ever been curious about the organ, also known as the “King of Instruments”? Have you ever wondered what it was like to play a giant “machine” with your hands and feet? If so, come to *Pipes, Pedals and Pizza* Saturday, April 19, 2008 9:00 AM– 12:00 PM Twichell Auditorium, Converse College, Spartanburg, SC Workshop registration \$30.00

Dr. Lee Couch, Professor of Organ at Converse College and Dr. Brennan Szafron, Director of Music of Episcopal Church of the Advent, Spartanburg, SC, and others will be instructors. Included in the day are organ lessons, group discussions about how the organ works, and a pizza lunch at the end of the day.

Students 8-18 are encouraged to attend.

To register or for more information: Dr. Lee Couch profcouch14@bellsouth.net or Dr. Brennan Szafron bszafron@churchofadvent.org

From the Executive Board...

The following slate of officers for the coming year has been presented to the Executive Board by the Nominating Committee:

The operating procedures of the national organization of AGO require that our chapter members have a period of 30 days to submit names of write-in candidates to the chapter secretary. This must be done in writing (not by electronic mail), accompanied by the signatures of 5 chapter members in good standing. **Write-in nominations should be sent to Darwin Shaver, 6841 Hillswick Drive, Charlotte NC 28215, and must be postmarked by February 25, 2008 in order to be added to the ballot.**

After that, ballots will be sent by first class mail (USPS) to all voting members of the chapter.

<u>DEAN:</u>	Gay Pappin
<u>SUB DEAN:</u>	Patrick Pope
<u>SECRETARY:</u>	Darwin Shaver
<u>TREASURER/REGISTRAR:</u>	Lance Burnette
<u>2 BOARD MEMBERS:</u>	Travis Alexander
2010-2011	Mark Frye
Vote for 2	Florence Jowers
	Matthew Manwarren
	Alan Reed

Maestro Robert L. Kennedy

Conductor Clinician

Choral Handbells Harp Orchestral

Email: rkmaestro@aol.com Phone: 704.996.6203

What is said about Maestro Kennedy by his colleagues:

"I believe he could get music out of a stump" - DD

"I never knew what real Music Ministry was until I worked with him" - JJ

"He is a true Master Musician" - RB

"He can help you produce music you never thought was possible" - DB

The Charlotte Chapter, AGO wishes to thank the Choir of Peace Moravian Church for its generous donation to the Stigall Scholarship Fund in honor of Sue Dorsett, Interim Music Director.



American Guild of Organists National Convention June 22 – 26, 2008 Minneapolis – St. Paul



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.