

September 2008

The Richmond STOPLIST

The Official Newsletter of the Richmond, Virginia Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

international
year of the
organ
2008-2009



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE ORGAN

OPENING EVENT FOR THE
2008-2009 SEASON

ORGAN PLUS INSTRUMENTS

Tuesday, September 9, 2008

Our season begins with a program featuring the Organ Plus Harp, Flute and Piano and the Installation of Officers. Judy Fiske, Marianne Crean, and friends, will perform. Scores will be available for perusal. Join us for a fun-filled evening!

LOCATION: River Road Presbyterian Church, 8960 River Road, Richmond, VA 23229
(directions available at www.rrpcusa.org)

SCHEDULE: 6:00 PM Social Hour ~ 6:30 PM Dinner ~ 7:00 PM Chapter Meeting ~ 7:30 PM Program

DINNER DETAILS: Cost of Dinner: \$10.00 per person. For Reservations, call the Guild Phone Number (804-228-6243) by **Friday, September 4**. Dinner is open to anyone!

MENU: Salad, Marinated Pork Roast, Cheese Grits, String Beans, Bran Muffins and Apple Cobbler

GREETINGS FROM THE DEAN

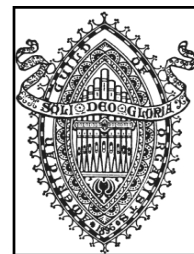
Greetings, chapter members and friends. Here we are once again at the beginning of another exciting year as members of the Richmond Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. This year will be especially wonderful as we celebrate with other AGO members all over the world The International Year of the Organ. In October we will hold our official chapter observance of the IYO but I encourage each of you to make plans for special events throughout the coming season, whether large or small, in your settings. Perhaps you will make arrangements for a large program or simply designate your service music one week with a note of explanation in the bulletin. Along with our IYO observances we also have many fine monthly programs and recitals planned and I hope you will all take advantage of these offerings as often you can. Your Executive Committee is working hard to make our chapter the best it can be and I hope you will contact any of us with concerns and suggestions.

In the meantime, best wishes for a wonderful 2008-2009 season.



Sincerely,

Elvin Nicely, Dean



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE ORGAN

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International Year of the Organ Organ Repertoire Recital Series 2008-2009 Season



JOHN MORABITO



Assistant Organist, Lutheran Church of the Incarnate Word in Rochester, New York
Sunday, September 28, 2008, 5 PM
River Road Church-Baptist, 8000 River Road, Richmond

PROGRAM

Praeludium in d (Georg Böhm)
Trio in F (Johann Ludwig Krebs)
Praeludium et Fuga in C minor, BWV 546 (Johann Sebastian Bach)
Threnody (world premiere) (Scott Perkins)
Alba (Marie-Bernadette Dufourcet-Hakim)
Symphonie No.1, Op. 36 (Rachel Laurin)
I. Prelude, II. Scherzo, III. Aria, IV. Toccata

FUTURE CONCERTS:

Craig Cramer: November 10, 2008 (Monday), 7:30 PM

Professor of Organ, University of Notre Dame in Notre Dame, Indiana
University of Richmond Chapel

Carla Edwards: March 6, 2009 (Friday), 7:30 PM

Professor of Music and University Organist, DePauw University in Greencastle, Indiana
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 6000 Grove Avenue, Richmond

Dong-ill Shin: May 1, 2009 (Friday), 7:30 PM

Grand Prix d'Interprétation Winner, Chartres Competition 2006
Organist and Music Associate, First United Methodist Church in Hurst, Texas
Grace and Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 8 North Laurel Street, Richmond

Thanks to all who have contributed to the Organ Repertoire Recital Series 2008-09 season. Your generous donations make it possible for our chapter to invite national and international concert organists to the Richmond area. It's never too late to contribute to the recital series; however, if you would like your name to appear on the patrons list, then we need to have your donation at least ten days before each concert. A copy of the recital series flyer is available on the Richmond AGO website. For more information please contact Chris Martin (804-359-2463 or martin@grace-covenant.org), chairman of the recital series.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE ORGAN

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2008-2009 Programs Richmond Chapter AGO International Year of the Organ



SEPTEMBER 9: ORGAN PLUS INSTRUMENTS

River Road Presbyterian Church

*Presented by chapter musicians and guest instrumentalists,
with Installation of Officers*

OCTOBER 11: POJ WORSHIP CONFERENCE

Salisbury Presbyterian Church

Richmond Chapter AGO is a co-sponsor of this annual Presbytery of the James Worship Conference with guest speaker John Bell of Wild Goose Resources and the Iona Community. Brochures and Registration available online at www.presbyteryofthejames.org

OCTOBER 19: IYO SPECTACULAR REGIONAL RECITALS

Highlighting the IYO will be an "ORGAN SPECTACULAR," a daylong celebration scheduled for October 19, 2008. On that day, more than 250 concerts will be held around the world to showcase the organ, its colorful history and its ability to enchant young and old alike. Plan on "feasting" that afternoon and attending two concerts! Invite your adult and youth choirs, friends and church members!

RICHMOND EVENTS: Each performed twice, at 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

NORTH ~ Doug Brown @ Ginter Park Presbyterian Church

SOUTH ~ Mark Koontz, Jeff Price, Ardyth Lohuis, and Bob Murray @ Salisbury Presbyterian Church

WEST ~ Dan Moriarty and Michael Simpson @ St. Stephens Episcopal Church

WILLIAMSBURG EVENTS: For tickets, contact Rebecca Davy at bdavy@brutonparish.org or 757-229-2891.

PROGRESSIVE DINNER and RECITALS: The College of William & Mary, Wren Chapel (Wine and Cheese); Williamsburg Baptist Church (Salad); Williamsburg Presbyterian Church (Main Course); Bruton Parish Church (Dessert).

NOVEMBER 17: COMPOSERS ANNIVERSARY PROGRAM

Seventh Street Christian Church

JANUARY 10: JANUARY JUMPSTART

First Presbyterian Church

Repertoire classes, Easy organ, Easy Choral, AGO Exam Preparation, Orff Class

FEBRUARY 23 : MESSIAEN LECTURE/RECITAL

Location to be announced.

Guest Presenter: Charles Tompkins

MARCH 21: TO BE ANNOUNCED

MAY 12: LITURGICAL DANCE & SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Bon Air Baptist Church

Bon Air Baptist Dance Troupe and scholarship recipients

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE ORGAN: SEPTEMBER COLUMN

A MODEST PROPOSAL - Beyond Statistical Insignificance Or...How to Benefit Organ Music (and Ourselves) Easily, and at Little Expense....

by Michael Barone, host of Pipedreams

What do we do to reinforce a public awareness of the pipe organ? Not a lot, it seems. We lock the console and keep untrained curiosity-seekers at bay. We'd never spend the time to invite school music classes (or even Sunday School classes) in for an introductory demonstration. Then, when we schedule a recital, we're late with our press releases, we don't establish relationships with local newspaper arts editors or writers, we don't coordinate our activities with other presenters (to avoid unnecessary simultaneities). Is it a wonder that our audiences are small?

Our challenges may be distilled into two points:

--**Connect** with audiences who WANT to listen but don't know the programs are there (or who cannot hear the programs because of non-carriage)

--**Use** audience/market information to mold a broadcast-industry-positive profile of the organ-music listener. An action plan is essential, and must begin immediately. Even with the best efforts, it will take nearly a year of involvement before any change will register. But don't hold back just because the payoff isn't instantaneous.

First, let's **energize the core...**and that means you! More than 20,000 individuals are members of 352 local chapters of the American Guild of Organists, with representation in most of the major and minor cities of the nation. Though we are not the most manageable lot, as A.G.O. members we do offer a potential mechanism for efficient and economical outreach.

For the sake of this discussion, we will grant that all 20,000 A.G.O. members are church organists, and that as such each plays, on average, to "communities" (parishes, congregations) of 500 souls each week. Obviously, some play for huge congregations numbering in the thousands, others play for a hearty handful, but I think this nationwide '500-per-organist' average is realistic.

Now, what IF we A.G.O. members were to involve ourselves in a bit of consistent self-promotion? How about putting the following regularly recurring listing (or something similar) into our church bulletins and/or church newsletters (perhaps alternating from one to the other each month, or more often....), or at the bottom of every organ recital program presented or sponsored by a guild member:

"If you've enjoyed the organ music today, you might also enjoy listening to PIPEDREAMS, a weekly 90-minute broadcast which features a broad cross-section of repertoire for the King of Instruments. Tune to WCLV-95.5FM Sundays beginning at 10PM. For more information, call 216-464-0900."

Think of the consequences of such a promotion, which happens at little or no cost. If done even only once, it reaches 10,000,000 (that's ten million!) people...a significant number insofar as it represents more than half the total cumulative audience for all Public Radio listening.

We've got to get up and out there, folks. Remember the billions that commercial enterprises spend to reinforce their messages? We don't have the billions, but we do have ourselves and some accessible and cost-efficient means of communicating with each other and with our communities of influence. All it takes is a bit of resolve, consistency, and follow-through.

And also from the A.G.O. Chapter end, we should encourage station management to foster and maintain these relationships, which can only help the overall Public Radio cause.

Yes, this is a challenging environment, for church music, for organ music, for Public Radio. But there are real opportunities here. It's up to us to use them. You are only powerless if you refuse to use the powers in your possession. Don't expect someone else to do it. Good luck!

The full article can be viewed at www.organfocus.com/features/essays/modest_proposal.php3

PIPEDREAMS can be heard in on Sunday nights at 9 PM on 88.9 WCVE.

A link to a YouTube greeting by Michael Barone can be found at www.agohq.org/events/index.html

CHAPTER VACANCIES

WE HAVE TWO VACANCIES IN OUR LEADERSHIP ROSTER FOR THE 2008-2009 SEASON.

Our most recent Chaplain, Stephen Price-Gibson has left Forest Hill Presbyterian and moved west. Our Chaplain typically provides words of wisdom and encouragement by writing short articles for our monthly newsletters. The Chaplain also is available to talk with members who are in need of confidential counseling or advice.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

We need someone to take over the work that David McCormick has been doing in the area of Educational Concerns and AGO Exams. This person oversees the process for anyone in our chapter who wants to pursue an exam. David will provide the necessary guidance and additional information is available through the national AGO office in New York.

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If you can help with filling any of these positions, please contact Elvin Nicely at 804-512-2617.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS!

Welcome to the new Organist Scholarship Winner, KEITH MURPHY. Keith is a senior at Steward School. He will be studying with Ardyth Lohuis and will be performing for the chapter on May 12, 2009.

Keith Murphy

2984 Dragana Drive
Richmond, VA 23233
keith2009@cavtel.net

John G. DeMayo

John and Mary DeMayo
6001 Statute Street, Chesterfield, VA 23832
804-425-9586 (H); jdemajo@demajo.net
Elected ATOS National Board Member as of July 2008 (3-year term), Theatre Organ Recitalist

COMMITTEES

RichChap Executive Committee 2008-2009

Dean	Elvin Nicely
Sub-Dean	Larry Heath
Secretary	Pamela McClain
Treasurer	Cathy Grant
Auditors	Donald Traser 2007-2009 Ardyth Lohuis 2008-2010
Members-at-Large	Chris Martin 2006-2009 Nancy Reed 2006-2009 Bill Brown 2007-2010 Cheryl Van Ornam 2007-2010 Judy Fiske 2008-2011 Neil Kraft 2008-2011

Other RichChap Committees 2008-2009

**denotes chair of multi-member committee*

Chaplain	TBD
Chapter Programs	Larry Heath*
Communications	Betty Girardeau
Educational Concerns/ AGO Exams	TBD
Handbell Choir Festival 2009	Ruth Lewandowski*
Historian	Donald Traser
Meet the Pipe Organ Initiative	Judy Fiske
Membership	LaVern Moffat
New Organist Development/ Scholarships	Mary Ellen Balarzs, Larry Robinson
Newsletter Editor	Cheryl Van Ornam
Nominations 2009	Steve Henley*
Organ Consultation	Grant Hellmers (804) 355-5236
Professional Concerns/Referrals	Betty Girardeau
Publicity	Neil Kraft
Recital Series 2008-2009	Chris Martin*
Registrar	Cathy Grant
Webmaster	Anne Porosoff
Yearbook Team	Bruce Stevens, Larry Heath

CHAPTER NEWS

POSITION AVAILABLE

COLONIAL BEACH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

P.O. Box 189, Colonial Beach, Virginia 22443

Seeking full-time organist/pianist for one Sunday Service and one choir rehearsal each week. Other occasional services could be necessary. Proficient keyboard experience is essential and previous church experience would be valuable. Salary: \$5720 per year. Instruments are Yamaha piano and two-manual electronic Hammond organ. Send resume to Rev. Beth Marie Helmbrecht, P.O. Box 189 Colonial Beach, Virginia 22443.

FALL 2008 SUBSTITUTE LIST

This is a list of persons who have indicated a desire to be called for substituting at church services. No specific qualifications are implied by their inclusion on this list. The employer is responsible for determining that a substitute will adequately meet the needs of the church. Questions should be addressed to Betty Girardeau by e-mail at bettyg@redfamiliar.com or by phone at 804-647-0825.

Gillespie, Joan	804-270-3569 (H)
Heath, Margie	804-730-2196
Kazik, Kelly	540-785-3649
(Fredericksburg area)	
Johnson, Betty Lou	804-323-3970
Stephens, Dennis	804-529-9999
Kerschbaumer, Evelyn	804-744-3147
Salmeri, Connie	804-320-4310
McClain, Pamela	804-346-9024
Neff, Joan L.	804-855-1398
(June-August 2008)	
Suerken, Ernest A.	804-272-5545
Gullicksen, Rita	804-272-0505
(weddings, funerals and special events)	
Nowowieski, Adella	804-288-0917
(Sat./Sun. p.m. services; funerals and weddings)	
Sachs, David	804-222-2494
(weddings, memorial and funeral services and Shabbat services - Temple)	
Schrock, Patricia	804-254-2744
(weddings, funerals and non-Sunday events)	
Worsham, Marsha Ann	804-883-6035
Schutt, Ed	804-564-4887
(weddings, funerals, concerts, special programs/ services)	
Smithdeal, Cynthia	804-739-3948
Turner, Joanne	804-282-3589
Branch, Ada Andrews	804-862-4480 (H)
Candler-White, Laura	804-360-5754
Flynn, Tom	804-608-8842
Davis, Debbie	804-921-8234
Creager, Alice, AAGO	804-935-8735
Freude, Sharon	804-353-4683
Frolund, Bodil	804-330-7689
Van Ornam, Cheryl	804-814-6677
(weddings, funerals, accompanying)	

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

09/07	Cathy V. Armistead
09/08	Marjie Button
09/14	Judy M. Fiske
09/14	DeLorman Bartel
09/14	John H. Hart
09/15	Suzanne K. Bunting
09/16	Rosa W. Hudson
09/17	Evelyn J. Kerschbaumer
09/17	Adella J. Nowowieski
09/18	Patricia Schrock
09/23	James W. Kosnik
09/24	Frances R. Pitchford
09/24	Anita B. Williams
09/29	Larry Robinson

CHURCH CORNER



Worship and Music Education Opportunity in Virginia

Make the commitment now to keeping worship in your congregation dynamic and invigorating as we worship the Risen Christ. The Leadership Program for Musicians can help.

The Leadership Program for Musicians (LPM) is a combined program of The Episcopal Church USA, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, The Presbyterian Association of Musicians and The United Church of Christ Musicians Association. It is designed to provide fundamental learning and skills in church music to church musicians, worship leaders, clergy, church leaders and any member of a congregation. Students are encouraged to engage in the entire course of study; however, students may take a single class if desired.

Classes provided in this two-year curriculum include Philosophy of Church Music, Leadership of Congregational Song, Hymnody of the Christian Church, Liturgy and Music: Foundations for Christian Worship, Principles of Choral Leadership, Resources for an Effective Music Ministry, and Teaching New Music to the Congregation.

There is a new session of LPM accepting reservations now. Classes will be held in the Richmond area beginning in September 2008. The classes encompass a combined Friday evening and Saturday over five weekends throughout the year. For more information, visit our website at <http://www.lpm-va.org>. You may also contact our LPM Coordinator, Isabelle LeSane at 804-447-1589 or is-sie_t@comcast.net or other members of the LPM Board - Allen Bean, Steve Henley, Linda Keener or Sharon Freude.



Farewell

A final word from your now former chaplain to the Richmond Chapter of the AGO.

At the end of July I moved with my wife Caroline to Grand Island, Nebraska, where she has accepted a call to become the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Grand Island. Selling our home in Richmond, and settling into a new home in Grand Island, leaving a city and Commonwealth we both love and learning to know and love a new community has dominated the last three months of our lives. It has demanded more flexibility and energy than we thought we needed-or had. But basically, all is well.

One fly in the prairie ointment--there is no local AGO chapter. But Caroline's church has a fine Moeller and a very capable organist from nearby Hastings College, which has an excellent music program. I will deeply miss the opportunities to hear the many magnificent instruments around Richmond.

Even more, I will miss the opportunity to associate with some of the finest people and exemplary servants of the church who played the organ in Richmond. No matter how many things change, the basic human needs remain the same--Ruskin identified them as food, shelter, raiment and music. For many people in today's congregations, the organist more consistently implements Jesus' command to Peter to "feed my sheep" than any other worship leader.

Thank you for allowing me to share in your fellowship and enthusiasm for the instruments, performance, and above all the devotion that bring so much profound beauty to our ears and into our hearts. The Richmond AGO will continue to be in my thoughts and prayers, and I hope that, occasionally, I may be in yours.

Grace and peace,
Stephen Price-Gibson
spricegibson@hotmail.com

SUMMER FARE

American Guild of Organists, National Convention

The 49th National Convention of the American Guild of Organists was held in Minneapolis from June 22-26. Over 1,700 individuals registered for this year's convention which included numerous organ recitals, worship services, workshops, and choral concerts. The convention showcased a wide range of pipe organs, from a 1928 E. M. Skinner at the Cathedral of St. Paul to the 2007 Casavant at Nativity of Our Lord Catholic Church in St. Paul.

Several concerts featured the music of Dietrich Buxtehude (commemorating 300 years since the composer's death), Olivier Messiaen (100 years since his birth year), and Stephen Paulus (Minneapolis resident and AGO Distinguished Composer Award 2007-2008).

The following are just a few highlights of the convention. The opening celebration at Central Lutheran Church included combined choirs from the area accompanied by skilled organists from both near and far. Attendees had the chance to sing hymns and other service music at an inspirational service of psalms led by The Singers-Minnesota Choral Artists at Plymouth Congregational Church. The Saint Paul's Cathedral Choir (London) sang an ambitious program of music by Byrd, Gibbons, Paulus, and Britten at St. Paul's Cathedral (Minnesota). Fred Swann, the former president of the AGO, gave his farewell remarks at the annual meeting. Eileen Guenther was installed as the Guild's new president.

Full of his usual wit and personality, Michael Barone hosted a performance of Pipedreams Live! at the Woodale Church in Eden Prairie. The convention Pipedreams Live! concert will broadcast on public radio sometime this October. The convention's Finale Concert at St. Paul's Cathedral included a combined ensemble of The Minnesota Boys Choir, Magnum Chorum, The National Lutheran Choir, and the VocalEssence Ensemble Singers and Chorus. The second-half of the concert featured Siegfried Matthus's *Te Deum* (2005), a tour de force masterwork for six solo voices, mixed chorus, organ, and orchestra—composed for the re-consecration of the Frauenkirche in Dresden.

Notable solo organ recitals throughout the convention included performances by Elke Voelker, Carla Edwards (performing in Richmond for the Organ Repertoire Recital Series in 2009), John Weaver, Cameron Carpenter, Peter Sykes, and Rachel Laurin.

The mission of the AGO 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. The national convention this year lived up to these lofty goals while providing a week of renewal and refreshment for those in attendance.

~ Chris Martin ~

American Theatre Organ Society

I attended the ATOS National convention in Indianapolis. It was my first convention as a national director of the organization. I am pleased with the new direction the organization is taking with regard to cooperation efforts with AGO and OHS. The ATOS has taken an official stance that we must work together with the other organ related organizations if the instrument is going to survive. We also now recognize electronic organ substitutes as "legitimate" in the absence of a pipe organ, and organists who wish to compete in our scholarship, grant and concert programs may do so through the use of electronic instruments for auditions.

~ John DeMajo ~

John is a new member and is relocating to Richmond, VA. The following press release includes more about his work. For further information, please contact: jdemajo@demajo.net

HISTORIC CALIFORNIA MOVIE PALACE ORGAN RELOCATES TO RICHMOND, VIRGINIA AREA

Another venerable "Mighty Wurlitzer" pipe organ, from America's great pre-depression era of silent pictures and gilded movie palaces, has joined two similar instruments as permanent fixtures in the Richmond, Virginia area. But unlike the organs at Richmond's Byrd and Mosque Theatres, which are installed in public venues, this instrument is located in a private residence in Chesterfield County just outside of the city.

Originally built in 1926 by the Rudolph Wurlitzer Company of North Tonawanda, NY, for the sole purpose of accompanying silent films at Fresno California's State Theatre, the mammoth organ contains hundreds of metal and wooden pipes, along with actual band instruments and specialty sound effects that are played by the organist from a central console. Featured in this one-person orchestra are bells, xylophones, a complete rhythm and drum section, trumpets, clarinets, string instruments and a set of pipes that imitates the sound of a full choir.

After being removed from the historic State Theatre at a time when talking pictures had rendered theatre organs obsolete, the instrument found its way to a California radio station where it served to produce theme music and accompaniment for several nationally broadcast radio programs of the 1930's.

The present owners, John and Mary DeMajo, who recently relocated from Louisiana to the Richmond area, have completely restored the organ and plan to care for it in the years to come. They plan to make it available for small groups including mini-concerts, student recitals, and occasional visiting organists from the various organ related organizations in the area. John, who is a retired engineer, presently serves as a national director of the American Theatre Organ Society, a group of several thousand members worldwide, whose mission is to preserve the theatre organ, and its unique style of music, as a recognized American art form. For more information on Theatre Organs, please visit www.atos.org.

SUMMER FARE

American Choral Directors Association, VA Chapter

Dear AGO members,

As president of the Virginia Chapter of the American Choral Directors Association, it was wonderful to see so many church musicians at our 10th annual ACDA VOICES UNITED conference at GMU in Fairfax this August. We realize that John Rutter was a draw, and he was indeed, a veritable treasure trunk for all of us. Every year we have a select Children's Honor Choir and adult Festival Choir, which are directed by our headliners. This year we featured Rutter's Mass of the Children for our culminating concert. The work called for both our Children's and Festival choirs, and required an orchestra. The performance in the beautiful, welcoming Vienna Presbyterian Church was sublime. The angelic pure voices of the Children's Choir floated down from the side balcony while the mixed choir filled the sanctuary with rich tones that matched the professional orchestra. Maestro Rutter knew what he wanted and the performers rose to his demands.

As you can see, I have started with the finale, for it was truly memorable to all who experienced it. Equally engaging, our conference consisted of 2½ days of sessions for directors, while the choirs were practicing with their various directors in preparation for Saturday's concert. Mary Goetze presented her vastly experienced view of world music and effective use of various vocal techniques appropriate for the ever-expanding repertoire now available to us. John Rutter's personal accounts of his rich British composer lineage, starting with the original recording of Britten's War Requiem, were both insightful and entertaining. Judith Nicosia gave tips on working with the middle school voices & age group. We had a lovely concert by the Columbia Collegiate Chorale with string orchestra directed by Dr. James Bingham. Thursday afternoon we had an SATB reading session by Karen Kennedy followed by the training of men's choirs by Krystal Rickart, and women's choirs by Michael Ehrlich which each gave helpful repertoire suggestions and hints for working with the opposite gender. Paul Head, and Jeff Benson worked on conducting and rehearsal techniques, Mary Ann Casey presented an excellent variety of new music for Middle School singers, and David Schwoebel gave a wonderful reading session of sacred music. Nearly 70 pieces of music were handed out in total from the various sessions. There certainly was never a dull moment.

Our sponsor and music provider, The Musical Source, had literally hundreds of choral scores and additional bins of organ music, texts, and, of course, Rutter books, music and CD's, all available for sale.

One of the unique aspects of this conference is the intimacy we retain by our moderate size. We have 15-minute breaks, some longer, and long lunch breaks so that everyone has time to visit, peruse music, or reflect on the previous session. Clinicians take the time to personally answer questions after each session. It is quite rejuvenating to sit and sing, be coached, preached to, inspired and stretched by leaders in our field. This was recently sent to a member of the planning committee.

"Speaking of conferences. I am SO glad that I attended. I cannot tell you how I have been going on and on about the offerings, clinicians, banquet, concert (which I had to miss because of having to sing that afternoon), etc. The more I reflect on last weekend, the more I add to my pro list...What I really liked is that it was so intimate. I could just talk to John Rutter at the banquet as if it were a school dinner. Loved that. The humanistic and low ego part of music is so refreshing."

We are excited about our 2009 VOICES UNITED lineup. Headliners will be Joe Miller from Westminster Choir College, David Bruner from University of Central Florida, and Lynne Gackle from the University of South Florida. Our Festival Choir will perform a masterwork under David Bruner's baton and Lynne Gackle will direct the Children's Honor Choir. As always, we will offer a diverse set of sessions and learning opportunities for the directors. I do hope you will put this on your calendar and join us next August 6-8 at George Mason University. Please visit our VA ACDA website (www.vaacda.org) for details and other choral news in VA.

I wish you each a wonderful Fall of music making!

~ Rebecca Tyree ~

Rebecca Tyree
Virginia President, American Choral Directors Association
Assistant Professor of Choral Music Education
Virginia Commonwealth University
Department of Music
922 Park Avenue, P.O. Box 842004
Richmond, VA 23284-2004
rtyree2@vcu.edu (804)828-1360

SUMMER FARE

2008 Sacred Music Conference – Virginia Wesleyan College

On July 29 and 30, I had the privilege of attending sessions of the 2008 Sacred Music Conference at the Center for Sacred Music on the campus of Virginia Wesleyan College in Norfolk, VA [July 28-August 2]. The conference features a choral music reading session each morning from 9:15-9:45 am, then four class sessions for each track, running from 9:30-4:00 pm with a little over an hour for lunch.

Tuesday's presenters were Don Besig & Nancy Price (church choral literature), Annabelle Joseph (Dalcroze/Eurhythmics) and Craig Wansink (visuals in worship). I attend all four sessions in church choral literature. Don Price & Nancy Besig have been writing music for school and church since 1980, totaling over 400 compositions. Although I have never been a huge fan of their music, finding it a little too bubble gum pop-style for my taste, I thoroughly enjoyed their insights, suggestions, and vocal development ideas that they shared throughout the day. We received a large packet of choral music at each of the four sessions. The best of the best was *A Kyrie for Our Time* – a hauntingly beautiful anthem in E minor with a timely text by Price [Shawnee A7785].

Wednesday's presenters were Daniel Benedict (How Liturgy Shapes Us), Lee Jordan-Anders (Piano Pedagogy), Sam Dorsey (Guitar) and Dr. Rollo Dilworth (Musical Diversity: Spirituals and Gospel Music). I attended all four sessions with Dr. Dilworth – one of the finest clinicians I have ever had the privilege to hear. A friendly, approachable man, Rollo Dilworth shared fascinating stories and performance ideas for spirituals, gospel music, and like genres. His knowledge of how/why the music was crafted brought so much life and passion to the music. My favorite? *Lay Your Healing Hands Upon Me* [Hal Leonard 08711371].

Thursday sessions included Christopher Pardini (organ), Deborah Carr (Ideas for all Occasions), Don Krudop (Conducting), and Michael Jothan (Children's Choirs). Friday's sessions featured Don McCullough (Choral Artistry), Cynthia Dobrinski (Handbells), and Jean Theil (Organ pedagogy). Young's Music of Pennsylvania was the resident music store, featuring an amazing array of music for sale, especially organ music and bulk copies of the anthem featured at the workshop.

This conference is an annual event at Virginia Wesleyan College and is well-worth your time and money to attend. Contact Sandra Billy at sbilly@vwc.edu to be placed on the mailing list for the 2009 conference.

~ Sherrie Lizarraga ~

Association of Lutheran Church Musicians

The Association of Lutheran Church Musicians held their Region 2 Conference July 13-16 at the Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Ascension in historic downtown Savannah, Georgia. Dr. Robert D. Hawkins, Professor of Worship and Dean of Christ Chapel at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary gave the opening and closing Plenary lectures. Reading sessions were conducted by Mark Schweizer of St. James Music Press highlighting some of their publications, and David Rhyne, accompanied by our own Richmond member Kevin Barger, presented a reading session on new music for the lectionary from a variety of publishers. David listed and read through pieces appropriate for all the Sundays of the coming church year, so participants could potentially have planned their entire upcoming program year in that one reading session. Kevin Barger then led a workshop on organ repertoire for the lectionary to handle all our preludes and postludes for the coming program year. Jan-Piet Knijff, Organist-in-Residence and professor of organ and chamber music at Queen's College in New York City offered a workshop on the new resources in the recently published Lutheran hymnals and new organ music from European composers. Don Armitage, Region 2 president presented two sessions on the history of the use of Psalmody and some past and current resources to vary Psalm singing in our worshiping communities. Bruce Neswick, Organist and Choirmaster at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City, presented a recital at the Independent Presbyterian Church, as well as a workshop on improvisation, and a Plenary lecture and workshop on working with children's choirs. Bill Greene offered a workshop on composing for church musicians. Augsburg Fortress Publishers was there with a display of music and also presented a workshop on their SundaysandSeasons.com resources. Association National President, Kate Adelman held a question and answer session. There were numerous inspiring worship services during the conference, a wonderful dinner cruise down the lovely Savannah River on a riverboat, a time of fellowship at a wine and cheese party, and many opportunities to tour the historic area of Savannah and sample some of her marvelous restaurants. We learned much, networked with our fellow musicians, and had a great experience in Savannah!

~ Sue Gamber ~

SUMMER FARE

Organ Historical Society

The 2008 OHS National Convention was centered on the Seattle-Tacoma-Olympia area from July 14 through 18. The convention this year was sold out for the first time ever. The Pacific Northwest has a relatively young organ history dating from the second half of the 19th century, though there are a number of 19th century organs which later found homes in this region. There is currently a thriving organ building industry here with shops including those of Paul Fritts, Martin Pasi (Washington state), Richard Bond, and Renée Marceau (Oregon). David Dahl, Convention Chairman, presented a history with slides on "Tracker Organ Building in the Pacific Northwest" as one of two lecture programs for the week. The other was a presentation with slides on the organ building work of John Brombaugh (now retired) who had relocated his shop from Ohio to Eugene, Oregon many years ago. This program was presented by his brother Mark.

The week began with a recital on the Fisk organ in Benroya Hall, home of the Seattle Symphony Orchestra, played by organ curator Carole Terry. Her varied program showed off some of the wide range of repertoire and registrations possible on this organ. (Due to considerable airline delays I did not arrive in time for the pre-convention recital and the famed Compline service at St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral.) Recitals throughout the week - four or five each day - demonstrated organs ranging from the oldest, an 1871 Hook & Hastings at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in Auburn (played by Carole Foster), to a small 2003 Fritts in the chapel at St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, Seattle. We also heard the 1924/1995 Wurlitzer at the Washington Center for the Performing Arts in Olympia on which Andy Crow played a delightful selection of "golden oldies", then accompanied a silent Laurel and Hardy film; the landmark 1965 Flentrop organ at St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral in Seattle - one of the largest new tracker organs in North America at that time - played by resident organist J. Melvin Butler; electric action organs by Casavant (1929), Reuter (1925), Aeolian-Skinner (1953), and the large 1907 Hutchings-Votey organ at St. James Roman Catholic Cathedral in Seattle, played by resident organist Joseph Adam who also played the 2000 Rosales located at the opposite end of this visually and acoustically splendid building; a 1917 one-manual and pedal tracker Hinners, played elegantly by Gregory Crowe, showing that a fine quality small instrument such as this can play a wide variety of repertoire well; the outstanding Brombaugh (1979) organ at Christ Church, Tacoma played superbly by Rodney Gehrke - this "Germanic" organ even speaks French well, as he demonstrated in a set of pieces by Lebègue; a fine 1995 organ by Seattle area organ builder Martin Pasi; several organs by Tacoma-based organ builder Paul Fritts, including the 1985 Fritts-Richards at St. Alphonsus, Seattle played in a first-rate recital by Dana Robinson, the 2003 Fritts chapel organ at St. Mark's Cathedral, and his landmark 1998 concert hall organ at Pacific Lutheran University played with great flair by university organ professor Paul Tegels. Richmond AGO Chapter member Bruce Stevens gave a fine recital-demonstration of the 1971 organ by Swiss builder Metzler, one of only two organs in the U.S. by this builder. Every recital program was well designed and performed, showing a wide range of colors in appropriately selected repertoire.

Other events included a visit to Paul Fritts's organ shop - unfortunately too late to see the large new organ currently being installed in

SUMMER FARE

Organ Historical Society, cont.

the Roman Catholic Cathedral in Rochester, NY - an optional afternoon visit to the Space Needle and the Frank Gehry designed Music Experience Museum, and a dinner cruise on the Puget Sound. The weather was perfect, with 70-75° daytime highs - a relief from Richmond summer weather. Clear days except for the last one afforded us spectacular views of Mt. Rainier. Those of us who had accommodations on the right side of the hotel could enjoy having a room with a view of this enormous mountain. Most of the year the mountain is obscured by clouds. All lunches and dinners were included in the registration fee, the dinner cruise being an optional extra. The next OHS National Convention will be in Cleveland, July 5-10, 2009. It promises to be an outstanding week of very fine organs played by very fine organists.

~ Grant Hellmers ~

EVENTS

St Paul's Church, Bristol Parish: FRI, Sept. 12, 6:30 PM

110 North Union Street, Petersburg

Concert by Candlelight. Stephanie Tucker Little, singer/songwriter.

Parking: Church lot/On street

Information: 804-733-3415, ext. 2 (Susan Wells); 804-370-7374 (Charles Lindsey, Jr.)

St Paul's Church, Bristol Parish: SUN, Sept. 28, 4 PM

110 North Union Street, Petersburg

Evensong. Celebrating the feast of St. Michael and All Angels. St. Paul's Choir; Sarah Motley, Soprano; Charles Lindsey, Jr., Organist/Choirmaster. Featuring Handel's "With the Bright Seraphim," and other festival music." Wine and cheese reception following.

Parking: Church lot/On street

Information: 804-733-3415, ext. 2 (Susan Wells); 804-370-7374 (Charles Lindsey, Jr.)

Seventh Street Christian Church: SAT, Oct. 4, 10 AM-5 PM

Corner of Malvern and Grove Avenue, Richmond

Art and Music Festival. Musical performances and art work on exhibit both indoors and outdoors. Art show coordinated by Sara Richards, music schedule coordinated by Mary Beth Bennett.

Information: Bille Wills (804-272-3516)

EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 2008 CANDLELIGHT CONCERT ORGAN SERIES

Bruton Parish Church

The College of William and Mary

Contact: bdavy@brutonparish.org or 757-229-2891

(All concerts are held at the Church unless otherwise noted.)

Tuesday, September 2 @ 8:00 pm

Harpichord Recital. James S. Darling, Harpsichordist

Thursday, September 4 @ 8:00 pm

Organ Recital. Dr. JanEl B. Will, Organist

Saturday, September 6 @ 10:00 am

Historical Organ Recital. James S. Darling, Organist

The College of William & Mary, Wren Chapel

Saturday, September 6 @ 8:00 pm

Trumpet & Organ Recital. Wendy Wilkinson, Trumpeter & Rebecca Davy, Organist

Tuesday, September 9 @ 8:00 pm

Harpichord Recital. James S. Darling, Harpsichordist

Thursday, September 11 @ 8:00 pm

Organ Recital. In memoriam. Rebecca E. Davy, Organist

Saturday, September 13 @ 10:00 am

Historical Organ Recital. James S. Darling, Organist

The College of William & Mary, Wren Chapel

Saturday, September 13 @ 8:00 pm

Violin & Organ Recital. Susan F. Via, Violinist, & Dr. JanEl B. Will, Organist

Tuesday, September 16 @ 8:00 pm

Organ Recital. Dr. JanEl B. Will, Organist

Thursday, September 18 @ 8:00 pm

Organ & Harpsichord Recital. In honor of Constitution Week
Rebecca E. Davy, Organist & Harpsichordist

Saturday, September 20 @ 10:00 am

Historical Organ Recital. James S. Darling, Organist

The College of William & Mary, Wren Chapel

Saturday, September 20 @ 8:00 pm

Organ & Harpsichord Recital. In honor of Constitution Week
Rebecca E. Davy, Organist & Harpsichordist

Tuesday, September 23 @ 8:00 pm

Vocal Recital. Lisa Morledge, Soprano &

Dr. JanEl B. Will, Organist & Harpsichordist

Thursday, September 25 @ 8:00 pm

French Horn & Trombone Recital. Marlene Ford, French Horn;
Robert Ford, Trombone; Rebecca Davy, Organ & Harpsichord

Saturday, September 27 @ 10:00 am

Historical Organ Recital. James S. Darling, Organist

The College of William & Mary, Wren Chapel

Saturday, September 27 @ 8:00 pm

Peter Pelham Concert Series

Music for the Kings of France, performed on period instruments
Ruth van Baak Griffioen, Recorder, Herbert Watson, Baroque
Flute, Sarah Gentry Glosson, Cello, & Rebecca E. Davy,
Harpsichord

Tuesday, September 30 @ 8:00 pm

Organ Recital. Dr. JanEl B. Will, Organist

Handbell Festival 2009

The Handbell Festival Committee has been hard at work planning the 2009 Festival. It will be held May 1-2 at Mt. Pisgah United Methodist Church in Midlothian. The later date was selected to not be in conflict with Easter and some other handbell festivals and clinics scheduled for the Richmond area in the spring. It was also thought that this might give the directors a focus for their groups post Easter. The Festival clinician will be Tim Waugh.

Known nationally and internationally to performers of many mediums including choral, handbells, theatre and church, *Tim Waugh* has established himself as a tireless champion for performing arts of all types. Well known to members of the community of the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers, Tim is a popular conductor, composer and clinician for many conferences and festivals for ringers and directors. He is well known for his work in musicality and rhythmic acuity incorporating techniques from Dalcroze and Orff in his series of workshops RHYTHMS TO RINGING. He has also served many Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish congregations as Pastoral Musician, providing direction for choral, handbell and children's music and recently retired from active church music ministry after 32 years of service. In the AGEHR organization, he is a past Education Coordinator for Area V, and past West Virginia State Chair. He continues to be active in the organization in his area and across the country. He has taught in all areas of the National Guild and the Ontario Guild, as well as at various local handbell festivals, AGEHR national ringers and directors conferences, and the 1996 International Handbell Symposium in New Mexico. He was named as a Master Teacher with a concentration in Rhythmic Education by the AGEHR and conducted the first Distinctly Bronze style Youth Event at the 2001 Palm Springs Spectacular.

The Richmond Chapter of the American Guild of Organists
Presents

HANDBELL FESTIVAL 2009

Tim Waugh, Clinician

Festival Co-Chairs:
Ruth Lewandowski
Jennifer Ripley

May 1-2, 2009
Mt. Pisgah United Methodist Church
1100 Mt. Pisgah Drive
Midlothian, VA 23113

Friday Rehearsal
7 to 9 pm
Saturday
8:45 am to 5:pm

Title	Arranger/Composer	Publisher	Publisher's #	Level
<i>Battle Hymn of the Republic</i>	Kevin McChesney	Fred Brock Music Company	FBBG982	3
<i>Fantasy on Kingsfold</i>	Dean Wagner	Hope Publishing	Agape2134	2+
<i>Now the Green Blade Riseth</i>	Kevin McChesney	Hope Publishing	Agape 1892	3
<i>Come Worship the King</i>	Hart Morris	Red River Music	HBOO15	3
<i>Shades of Forest Green</i>	Tim Waugh	Ring Out! Press	920202115	3
<i>Repeat the Sounding Joy</i>	Sandra Eithun	Alfred Publishing	MAP 27056	2

REPERTOIRE
FESTIVAL REGISTRATION FORM
Deadline: April 1, 2009

Fee: \$100 per choir, \$60 for 5 or few ringers, \$20 for single registrant. Make Check or Money Order payable to Richmond Chapter AGO. Refunds will be given up to April 15th, minus a \$20 service charge. No refunds after April 15th.

Organization _____ Phone _____

E-Mail Address _____ AGO Member? Yes No

Mailing Address _____

of Ringers (include ringing director) _____ Friday Rehearsal? Yes No

Number of Octaves: _____ Total Table Footage Needed _____ Bringing Own Tables? Yes No

No registrations accepted without form and check

Send Registration Forms and Fees to:

Betty Girardeau, Registrar

245 Goldcrest Drive

Vonore, TN, 37885

Questions? E-mail bettyg@redfamiliar.com or call 804-647-0825



American Guild of Organists, Richmond Chapter
Cheryl Van Ornam, Editor
2906 McManaway Drive
Midlothian, VA 23112

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<http://www.richmondago.org>

**CHAPTER PHONE
804-228-6243**

SAVE THE DATE!

Reveille United Methodist Church: Adult Choir Festival (FRI and SAT, October 10 & 11, 2008)

4200 Cary Street Road, Richmond

Please save the dates!! Dr. Jerry Ulrich, Professor of Choral Activities at Georgia Tech, will be the Guest Clinician for Reveille's Adult Choir Festival on Friday & Saturday, October 10 & 11, 2008!! Directors, come to the Director's Workshop on Friday night from 7 – 9 PM, and bring your choirs on Saturday, with rehearsals beginning at 9:00 AM. There will be a short break in the morning and lunch on your own @ Noon. We will reconvene @ 1:30 p.m. w/the Festival Concert beginning @ 4:00 p.m. The workshop will take place in Reveille's fellowship hall; the rehearsals and concert in the sanctuary. The cost for this event is \$80 for a choir of 5 or more people, or \$25 per person for Saturday's events. The Director's Seminar on Friday is free if you are a Saturday participant; if not, Director's Seminar is \$25. You may make checks payable to: Reveille UMC, and send them to the church – 4200 Cary St Rd, Richmond, VA 23221. Registration Deadline is Monday, September 15, 2008. The repertoire list follows. (The **pieces from Jerry will be sent to you upon receiving your registration.) Contact Information: Cathy Armistead, 359-6041 x123 or www.reveilleumc.org

Reveille Adult Choir Festival Repertoire List:

Saul, Egil Hovland – Walton Music/08500232; Remember Me, Barbara Boertj; **When In Our Music God Is Glorified, F. P. Green/
Jerry Ulrich Manuscript; Sigalagala, S. A. Otieno – earthsongs S-63; **Wade in the Water, arr. Day/transcribed by Jerry Ulrich;
**Over My Head, arranged by Jerry Ulrich for Reveille Adult Choir Festival

River Road Church, Baptist: YOUTH CHOIR JAM 2008 (FRI and SAT, November 21 & 22, 2008)

Corner of River and Ridge Roads, Richmond

Guest director: Mark Miller. More details to follow in the October newsletter. If you have any questions, please contact Ruth Lewandowski, festival chair at 804-784-6748 or singandring@verizon.net

Charlottesville AGO Chapter Event (TUES, March 17, 2009, 7:30 PM)

Lois Fyfe Music will bring a large selection of choral music, music for handbells, solos, organ+, and books. This will be a great way to meet other organists in the area and give us a chance to look at and purchase new music! If you are interested in attending, please contact James Sivley (jesivley@embarqmail.com) so Lois Fyfe will know how much music to bring.