

The Tracker

A publication of the
Knoxville Chapter of the American Guild of Organists



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.

A Musician's Prayer

by Rev. Dr. Thomas Troeger

Source of all that is good and true and beautiful,
to whom whales and birds and crickets sing,
keep constant in your musicians
the conviction that your Spirit works through them
to reach a vast and carried hosts of souls
who gather in church
for hope, assurance, grace, beauty,
for some sign of your care,
for solace from grief and loss,
for strength to stand for justice,
for a glimpse of wonder and mystery,
for response to a need so hidden that it is known to
you alone.

Assure your musicians that the rehearsals they lead,
the anthems they conduct,
the hymns they play,
the psalms they accompany,
the service music they offer,
the solos they sing,
the instrumental works they perform,
the programs they organize,
the words of encouragement they give
are again and again
the vessel of your Spirit
for healing the bruised, the lost, the broken
and for setting free the holy aspirations of the human
heart.

And since the souls that are saved
be the secret ministries of music
often find it too self-revealing,
too frightening,
to offer their thanks in person,
may their unarticulated gratitude
be gathered by the wind of your Spirit
and be borne to the hearts of your musicians
as a gift to renew their faith
so that they may continue to be instruments
of proclamation and pastoral care
as they lead your people
in singing your everlasting praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

May each of you know the "wind of the Spirit"
this Advent season. Peace!





Dean's Message

Dear Friends,

The season of giving is coming quickly upon us. Time to make our lists and check our budgets twice, not to mention the many services that many of us have to play between now and then! In the business of this holiday season, our December meeting on Monday December 2 will be simply a time to relax, socialize and wind down before the big rush. Please bring a bottle of wine or a dessert and join us!

As soon as Christmas is over, we will be right back into the swing of things. Our January meeting will introduce us to favorite Lenten and Easter anthems. Please start thinking of your favorite anthems to share so that we all

might be introduced to some new music.

On Saturday, Feb. 8, we will host a Student Organ Encounter (SOE) Day for piano or organ students ages 8 through 18 at First Presbyterian Church. Planning and preparation for this event are well underway. Flyers will be available at the December meeting for you to hang at your churches. Last year, we had many students from Joy of Music School who attended and loved SOE Day. We gave Joy of Music students a discounted rate. Please consider underwriting a student to attend this event. The cost would be only \$15 per student and it would be greatly appreciated. This is a wonderful way to give to a specific opportunity and provide an exciting introduction to the pipe organ to a child. Please contact me if you are interested in giving in this way or if you know of a youth that we should invite.

Happy Advent!

Edie

Important Date Change:

Saturday, February 8 will be our Student Organ Encounter Day at First Presbyterian Church. This event is open to young people ages 8 through 18. If you know a budding piano student who would be interested in an introduction to the organ, please let Edie Johnson know (ejohnson@churchstreetumc.org) and the student will receive an invitation and more information.



UT MUSIC BUILDING TOUR FOR AGO MEMBERS

A special tour UT's new Natalie Haslam Music Center has been arranged for Knoxville AGO members on Monday, December 16, at 4:00 pm. The tour will be hosted by John Brock and the Director of the UT School of Music, Dr. Jeff Pappas.

Haslam Music Center is located on the northeast corner of Volunteer Boulevard and Pat Head Summitt Street, on the site of the previous Music Building. Parking for the tour will be available in Staff Lot 23, immediately behind Haslam Music Center, at no charge. The tour, about an hour in length, will begin in the atrium at 4:00 and will include a demonstration of the refurbished Gabriel Kney studio organ and a performance on one of UT's new Steinway pianos by UT students.

If you have questions about this event, call or email John Brock: jbrock@utk.edu, or 865-382-7105.

Position Available

West End United Methodist Church, located in an urban setting in Nashville, Tennessee, is seeking a full time Minister of Music. Our church of more than 2200 members strongly supports a traditional music program that is nationally known for excellence. The music ministry, which provides music for the weekly liturgical services, includes adult choirs, handbell choirs, and children's choirs along with concerts accompanied by orchestra and a variety of other worship services. All applicants will be seriously considered as the committee wishes to find the best fit for the position. Willingness for a long-term commitment along with ten years of experience and a Master's degree are preferred. For more details or to apply, please go to www.westendumc.org/musicdirectorsearch. All applications must be received by January 31, 2014 with an employment start date of August 2014.



End of Year Giving

Are you looking at charitable contributions to help reduce your tax bill? The AGO Program Fund welcomes your donation. Many of our members already contribute and we are grateful for your support. We have an excellent slate of programs planned for the coming year and planning for 2014-2015 is already underway. If you are looking to make tax-deductible contributions before the end of the year, the AGO Program Fund could use your support! Thank you for your consideration. Giving is simple, you may give your contribution to a Board Member at a monthly meeting, or checks made out to Knoxville AGO Chapter may be mailed to:

Karl Jacob
Immaculate Conception Church
414 West Vine Avenue
Knoxville TN 37902

Young Organist Competition 2014

Sponsored by the
Greater Columbia AGO Chapter

Saturday, March 8, 2014
Columbia SC

Open to grades 8 - 12

First Prize \$ 1000

Second Prize \$ 500

Third Prize \$ 300

Hymn Playing Award \$ 250

For application, rules, and
contact information see

Young Organist Competition 2014 at

www.columbiaago.org



Third Annual High School Organ Festival & Competition - Winston-Salem, NC

With prizes guaranteed to be at least \$3500 and potentially over \$10,000, UNC School of the Arts, Salem College, and the Winston-Salem Chapter of the AGO are pleased to announce the Third Annual High School Organ Festival & Competition the weekend of January 24-26, 2014. The festival and competition is open to any High School Senior or younger. The competition will be held at First Baptist Church of Winston-Salem (First Baptist Church Grooms & Payne Organ), and the Festival portion will be held on the campuses of UNCSA (UNCSA Fisk, Op. 75) & Salem College (Salem College Flentrop Organ).

This year's competition application requires a CD submitted with letters of reference by **December 13, 2013**.

Included during the weekend in addition to the competition is a masterclass with world-renowned Injury-Preventive Keyboard Technique pedagogue, Barbara Lister-Sink; an introduction to Alexander Technique; and a masterclass and individual lessons with UNCSA & Salem College organ professor, Dr. Timothy Olsen, all of which are included in the application fee.

Eight finalists will be chosen from the application pool, and will be notified by **December 20, 2013**.

For more information and application form, please visit:
<http://www.timothyolsenorganist.com/OrganCompetition.html>

or contact

Professor Timothy Olsen: olsent@unca.edu



Karen Ladd

According to Albert Schweitzer, “There are two means of refuge from the miseries of life: music and cats.” While my life has not been filled with miseries, it certainly has been filled with both music and cats.

Growing up on a farm in Western Pennsylvania, we always had cats. Those cats, however, were not pampered pets – they were cats with jobs to do on the farm and were not allowed in the house. As soon as possible after moving away from home and getting my first apartment, I immediately adopted first one calico cat, and over the years a succession of special cats that either I adopted or they adopted me. Today there are four feline members of our household who consider me their servant.

While two of my older brothers learned to play band instruments in school, I was the only one interested in piano lessons. When I was seven years old, I started taking lessons from a local piano teacher and studied with her through high school. From my earliest days of piano lessons I knew I wanted to become a music teacher.

In addition to piano lessons, during high school I began organ lessons on a Hammond organ. Following high school, I went to Muskingum College (now Muskingum University) in New Concord, Ohio and it was there that I met my first pipe organ and fell in love with it. While piano was my primary instrument during the four years at Muskingum, I took organ lessons every semester. The highlight of those lessons was learning all the chorale preludes in the Orgelbuchlein during my senior year.

After receiving my B.M. degree from Muskingum I attended The Ohio State University and received the M.M. and eventually the Ph.D. in musicology with a minor in music theory. Having lived in Knoxville since 1980, I have been fortunate to use my music education to teach musicology and music theory at UT and also to serve as organist for many years at Sequoyah Hills Presbyterian Church.

My husband, Tom, and I have one son and daughter-in-law, and have very recently become grandparents for the first time. Tom and I are both looking forward to retiring from our respective jobs in the near future and spending time with our grandson, riding roller coasters, pursuing various hobbies and volunteer work.





Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 8

5:00 p.m. St. James Episcopal, Knoxville

5:30 p.m. Church of the Ascension, Knoxville

6:00 p.m., Farragut Presbyterian Church, Knoxville

Sunday, December 15

9:00 a.m., Faith Lutheran, Knoxville

5:00 p.m., St. Stephen's Episcopal, Oak Ridge

6:00 p.m., St. Andrew's Episcopal, Maryville

Tuesday, December 24

7:00 p.m., New Providence Presbyterian, Maryville

11:00 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, Knoxville

Sunday, December 29

10:30 a.m., St. Johns Cathedral, Knoxville

Monday, December 16, 2013 at 7:30 p.m., The Tennessee Chamber Chorus presents *A Ceremony of Carols*, Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church, Alcoa, TN. The concert will include music both grand and simple: Medieval and Renaissance carols, carol arrangements by renowned composer Alice Parker, a set of Scandinavian carols from Norway, Sweden, and Finland, and other beautiful choral works. Celebrating the 100th anniversary of Benjamin Britten's birth, the sopranos and altos of the Tennessee Chamber Chorus will perform his masterpiece for chorus and harp: *A Ceremony of Carols*. The Tennessee Chamber Chorus is an ensemble of professional singers dedicated to innovation and artistic excellence in choral music. Founded in 2012 under the artistic direction and leadership of Dr. Cameron F. LaBarr, the choir exists to artfully promote and perform choral music.



It is with great excitement that the Boston Chapter welcomes you to:

The 2014 National Convention

The four and a half day convention offers:

- Fifty concerts by thirty-seven performers, featuring internationally acclaimed musicians
- Boston's rich choral heritage, many new instruments, and our famous landmark organs
- Eight finely crafted worship services in a wide variety of styles, featuring music from Renaissance polyphony to Duke Ellington
- Ninety workshops and master classes on a vast array of topics
- Fifty-two scholarly research papers
- Fourteen commissioned works for every playing level
- Ten reading sessions of choral and organ music
- Over one hundred exhibits and exhibitors
- Two national competitions and opportunities to hear previous competition winners
- An opportunity to explore one of this nation's greatest cities

Headquartered in the heart of Boston's beautiful Back Bay, the Marriott Hotel at Copley Place is central to our many great churches and Symphony Hall. Boston's compact core allows for easy walking or use of our public transit system to events in Boston and Cambridge. Our teams of volunteers will easily guide you to find convention venues and to enjoy Boston's beautiful neighborhoods. On Friday we offer side trips to Methuen, Shanklin, and Wellesley for a limited number. Come to Boston to renew acquaintances and make new friends. Arrive early and enjoy a wealth of pre-convention activities.

Register early to assure the availability of your preferred choices. Early registration begins **October 1 and ends January 31, 2014.**

I invite you to explore our website at <http://www.agoboston2014.org> for details of this great convention.

Great City, Compelling Music,
Inspired Learning, Gracious Hospitality.
We welcome you!

2013/14 AGO Board Members

Edie Johnson, Dean ejohnson@churchstreetumc.org; 865.521.0277

Debbie Sousa, Sub-Dean; sousa@esknoxville.org

Karl Jacob, Registrar; karljake@aol.com

Karen Ladd, Secretary; kladd@utk.edu

Brian Daniel, Treasurer; badaniel@rosemortuary.com

Members-at-large: Joy Fournier, E.J. Choi and Fred Pogue

Need a Sub!! Here is a list of those available in our area.

John Brantley	brantleyjg@comcast.net	865-617-3174
John Brock	jbrock@utk.edu	865-577-7153
EJ Choi	ejpure@gmail.com	614-432-3841
Janet Cook	jcook306@comcast.net	865-685-0173 (Clinton/OR only)
Sherry Hendrix	sherryhendrix23@gmail.com	931-398-8219
Beverly Landguth	bevlandguth141@gmail.com	865-671-3797
Nancy Wells	nwells07@att.net	865-686-3355
Jenice Yoder	jyoder1@comcast.net	865-603-5528



Newsletter Deadline: December 27

Please add these dates to your calendar or cut it out for a lovely addition to your refrigerator!

Program Date	Dinner Reservation Deadline	Newsletter Deadline
Thursday September 12	September 9	
Monday October 7	October 3	September 21
Monday November 4	October 31	October 19
Monday December 2	November 27	November 16
Monday January 13	January 9	December 27
Monday February 10	February 6	January 24
Monday March 3	February 27	February 14
Monday April 7	April 3	March 21
Friday, May 9	May 5	April 25

******* Dinner Reservations *******

Please make your dinner reservations for

January 13, 2014
 Farragut Presbyterian Church
 Knoxville, TN

No later than
 Thursday, January 9

Cost \$12.00

By contacting
 Jim Garvey
 865-588-0589, extension 216
jgarvey@knoxvilleascension.org