

Knoxville, Tennessee

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May 2013

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.



"For Everyone Born: Hymns of Creation, Justice, and Joy"

A Hymn Festival
designed and led by
Nathan Proctor and David Sims

Monday, May 6
7:00 p.m.

Tellico Village Community Church
130 Chota Center Loudon, TN
Host: Dr. John Orr

(No Dinner; a reception will follow)





Dean's Message

The skies were bright, Our hearts were light, In the merry, merry month of May, so goes a little ditty by Stephen Foster, most church musicians can identify with this phrase as May is upon us. With the demands of Holy Week and Easter in the past and the approaching end of the choir's season, May brings a sense of "I've made it through another year! Where am I going this summer?!"

This being the final newsletter until September, I would like to say that I have truly enjoyed serving as your Dean this past year. When I agreed to serving on the board I knew I had lots to learn but I had great folks around to help me through. I would like to thank all the current board members and committee chairpersons: Edie Johnson, Karen Ladd, Peter VanEenam, Sandi Henry, Ann Burns, Cynthia Moses, Denny Mullins, Joy Fornier, Fred Pogue, Jim Garvey, Nancy Hardin, Tami Newsom, Jimmy Hawkins, Allison Ensor, Andrew

Morehead, Tim & Charlotte Bounds, Carolyn Moser AND you all the members of Knoxville Chapter of the AGO.

Now for this month's "meet a chapter member", Fred Pogue...

Fred began playing organ in church while he was in high school, when the church organist married and relocated. The instrument was a small Hammond with only one octave of pedals. He had no formal organ study until 2004 when he began to study with Brenda Goslee at Roane State Community College, Oak Ridge campus.

Fred's academic background was in Spanish and Speech and Theatre at UT, Knoxville. He taught Spanish and Theatre Arts at Roane County High School for 32 years before retiring in 2007. His favorite theatrical productions there were "A Midsummer Night's Dream," and the musical, "Anything Goes." He enjoyed conducting student travel to Mexico, Spain, Portugal and Morocco.

After serving as pianist at Southwest Baptist Church in Kingston, Fred was organist at First Christian Church (Disciples) in Rockwood for 20 years, and is currently organist at Community Church at Tellico Village. He earned the AGO Service Playing Certificate in 2011 and participated in the POE Plus in Nashville in 2005 and in Winchester, Virginia in 2010.

I hope to see many of you at Tellico Village Community Church (Fred's church) for the May program. A short installation service for our newly elected officers for the 2013/2014 program year will begin the night.

Karl

Join us Monday, May 6 "For Everyone Born: Hymns of Creation, Justice, and Joy"

A Hymn Festival designed and led by Nathan Proctor and David Sims



Nathan Proctor grew up in Iowa but now lives in North Carolina, so he can handle everything from ten-foot snow drifts to cheese grits. He holds degrees in church music and organ performance from St. Olaf College and Indiana University, having studied with John Ferguson and Larry Smith. He has served congregations in Minnesota, California, and North Carolina, and is currently Associate Director of Music at White Memorial Presbyterian in Raleigh, NC where he helps lead three worship services each Sunday at the organ, and directs choirs of children, youth, and adults. This summer he will be in residence at Montreat Conference Center for two weeks to lead music for the Montreat Youth Conference. He enjoys trips for mission work, for fun, and for coffee.



David Sims grew up in Champaign, IL, but soon headed north to attend St. Olaf College in Northfield, MN, where he earned a B.M. in Church Music/Organ with Catherine Rodland and John Ferguson. While at St. Olaf he toured nationally and internationally with the St. Olaf Choir and held several leadership positions with the group. He wound up a Hoosier by earning a M.M. in Organ Performance from Indiana University in 2008, studying with Dr. Larry Smith. David serves as Director of Music at North Christian Church, Columbus. In his spare 40 hours a week he also works for Goulding & Wood Pipe Organ Builders, where he helps wire, voice, tune, and maintain all of the organs they build and service.

American Guild of Organists

December 4, 2013, will mark the 50th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*. Addressing the essential role of sacred music in the liturgy, the Council made a point of noting that "the pipe organ is to be held in high esteem in the Latin Church, for it is the traditional musical instrument, the sound of which can add a wonderful splendor to the Church's ceremonies and powerfully lifts up people's minds to God and higher things" (*Sacrosanctum Concilium*, 120)

Wind instruments go way back in human history. The Old Testament calls Jubal, son of Lamech, *the ancestor of all who play the lyre and the pipe* (Genesis 421), and musical instruments played a part in Israelite Temple worship. Organ music gradually made its way into Christian worship in the medieval Latin West, eventually becoming the Church's principal musical instrument, facilitating and adding splendor to the Church's prayer both as an accompaniment for choral and congregational singing and as a solo instrument. Prior to the 20th-century liturgical reforms in the Catholic Church, the organ was the subject of liturgical legislation, which highlighted the organ's festive character by reducing its use on penitential days (e.g., in Lent) and at Masses for the Dead.

The Catholic Church prescribes that an organ to be used in church should be appropriately blessed. Before the blessing, the priest explains the meaning of the rite in these words: "The purpose of music in the liturgy is above all to give glory to God and to lead us to holiness. Thus the music of the organ wonderfully expresses the new song that Scripture tells us to sing to the Lord." The priest then blesses the organ, praying: "We your people, joyously gathered in this church, wish to join our voices to the universal hymn of praise. So that our song may rise more worthily to your majesty, we preset this organ for your blessing: grant that is music may lead us to express our prayer and praise in melodies that are pleasing to you."

Rev. Ronald A. Franco, CSP
Knoxville Chapter Chaplain
Pastor, Immaculate Conception Catholic Church, Knoxville TN

A 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.

AGO REGISTRATION

Dear AGO Members and Friends,

We are trying something new this year, an earlier membership renewal deadline. This will enable us to get all membership information and dues to the National Headquarters in a timely manner and ensure that subscriptions to *The American Organist* always arrive on time. Please note that the renewal deadline is **May 31, 2013**. Send in your dues before you head off on your summer vacation!

Planning for next year is already well under way. Please mark your calendars for the first event of the 2013-2014 program year, a concert by renowned artist Isabelle Demers, **Thursday, September 12, 7:30 p.m. at Church Street United Methodist Church**. Other programs to anticipate are Dorothy Reiss's presentation, *Performing in the Golden Years: Just Survive or Really Thrive*, a choral concert under the direction of Gene Peterson, a newly commissioned work and program by Daniel Gawthrop, our annual Member and Student recitals, and more!

In order to support our many excellent programs, we ask for your additional contribution to the AGO's program fund. We greatly appreciate all of our generous benefactors. The AGO Board uses your money wisely and is working with local churches and organizations to create partnerships that allow us to feature wonderful artists and programs, while making our money go farther. Your contribution to this fund makes a huge difference. In addition, we continue to offer the Brock Organ Education Fund. The BOEF awards a high school and college scholarship annually to a worthy student of a KAGO member.

Thank you for sending in your membership renewal. We appreciate your consideration of a donation to support our programs and scholarship fund.

Happy Easter!

Eddie Johnson
Incoming Dean

The Registration form can be found on our website at <http://www.knoxago.org>.

Congratulations to our newly elected officers for 2013-2014

Eddie Johnson, Dean
Deborah Sousa, Sub-Dean
Karen Ladd, Secretary
Brian Daniel, Treasurer
Karl Jacob, Registrar
James Baysinger and Dwight Stooksbury, auditors
Eunjin Choi, Member-at-Large (2016)

EVENTS

Tuesday, May 7, 7 p.m., Walters State Encore Chorale presents Missa brevis Sancti Joannis de Deo 'Little Organ Mass' by Franz Joseph Haydn (with strings and organ). First Presbyterian Church, 600 W. Main St., Morristown, TN. Logan Haggard, director; Deborah Sanders, accompanist.

Friday, May 10, 8:00 p.m. Bálint Karosi, organ. Westminster Presbyterian Church, 6500 Northshore Drive Knoxville, TN. Described as "ferociously talented" by WGBH Classical New England and praised as "a most impressive musical interpreter" by Christoph Wolff, Boston based Hungarian composer and organist Bálint Karosi continues his quest for new avenues of meaningful musical expression through his work in composition, interpretation and improvisation. He has appeared as a soloist at venues such as the Gewandhaus in Leipzig, the Béla Bartók National concert Hall in Budapest, the Rudolforium in Prague, the Liszt Academy in Budapest, the Victoria Hall in Geneva and the Essen Philharmonic Hall. He has been featured at major music festivals including the 2013 Baldwin Wallace Bach Festival, the 2010 International Bach Festival in Leipzig, the 2009 Boston Early Music Festival, the 2001 Magadino Organ Festival in Switzerland and he has performed in historic venues such as the Thomaskirche in Leipzig, the Marienkirche in Lübeck and the Dom in Freiberg, Germany.

Monday, May 13, 12:05 p.m., St. John's Cathedral, Knoxville. Noonday Vocal Recital by soprano Catherine Greer, accompanied by pianist Carolyn Moser.

Monday, May 20, 12:05 p.m.. St. John's Cathedral, Knoxville. Noonday Piano Recital by pianist Emi Kagawa, assisted by trombonist Sam Chen.

BOEF Scholarship Winners for 2013–2014

As announced at our student recital on April 8, the winners of the Brock Organ Education Fund scholarships for the academic year 2013–2014 are J. French Brantley (college scholarship), who is a freshman at UT and studies with John Brock, and Carolyn Craig (high school scholarship), a junior at West High School, also a student of John Brock.

Before entering UT, J. Brantley studied organ with Joan McGinnis and was the assistant accompanist for (and a member of) the Bearden High School Chorus. He is a substitute organist at several churches in the Knoxville area, including his home church, Middlebrook Pike United Methodist Church. At UT he is pursuing a degree in sacred music, with an emphasis in organ.

Carolyn Craig has studied organ with John Brock for two years and has a background of nine years of piano study, with Fay Adams and David Brunell. In March she was the winner in the Knoxville Chapter Competition of the Quimby Regional Competition for Young Organists and will represent our chapter at the regional competition at the AGO convention in Columbia this summer. Carolyn hopes to be a church musician, both as an organist and choirmaster. Our congratulations to both J. and Carolyn!

Knoxville AGO Scholarship Selection Committee, 2013
Sandra Emond, Wanda Parks, and Carolyn Moser (chair)

