

The Tracker

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



KNOXVILLE CHAPTER OF THE AGO PRESENTS A MEMBER'S RECITAL

**MONDAY, MAY 7, 2018
CHURCH OF THE ASCENSION
KNOXVILLE, TN**

**DINNER 6:30 PM
PROGRAM 7:30 PM**

**WORKS INCLUDE: CRAIG PHILLIPS *FESTIVAL
PIECE*; HORATIO PARKER *SONATA IN E FLAT
(TWO MOVEMENTS)*; OLIVIER MESSIAEN *JOIE ET
CLARET DES CORPS*; AND MAURICE DURUFLE
VENI CREATOR, OPUS 4.**

Dinner will be a Taco Bar by Salsarita's Fresh Cantina.

Grilled chicken and beef, Mexican rice and black beans, chips and salsa, all the fixings, beverages, and dessert.

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 word from the Dean...

It is hard to believe that our final program of the season is fast approaching. I always enjoy this time of year, having just heard our students play on our April program, and the upcoming members recital. It's such a delight to hear the talents within our chapter. Special thanks this month to our students who gave an enjoyable program at First Baptist Church. We are especially grateful to our teachers.

Our upcoming members recital will be held at Church of the Ascension on Monday March 8, at the usual times of 630 p.m. dinner, and 730 p.m. program. This is a change of venue from previously set and thus a change of date.

Our May meeting is especially important as our chapter begins plans for our next season. Please take time to meet those that have been nominated for election to our board. We will be installing these officers to their various positions. There is still much to be done as we close out this year. We also recently awarded the BOEF scholarships to two students, Nicholas Stigall and David Stultz. Membership renewal is upon us, as is the planning of 2018-19 programs. We continue to operate with a conservative but stable budget after a period of heavy expenditure. The Brock Organ Education Fund continues to provide award through a mixture of interest gains and donations, but is not yet sustainable enough to provide awards entirely from interest alone.

As you begin to renew your memberships this upcoming year, I would encourage you to make a donation to the BOEF fund. If you have any difficulty with membership, please contact Karl Jacob (Registrar) or Andrew Morehead (Membership Coordinator) and we can work on your membership or provide paper membership copies to send to the National Headquarters. Now is also a great time to encourage friends, family, co-workers and fellow musicians to consider joining our chapter. There is plenty of time to bring a friend to our May program dinner. Please turn in those reservations to Karl Jacob.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our May meeting.

Simon



Our election of the following board members took place at the April meeting. The Installation will take place at our May business meeting at Church of the Ascension.

Our nominees are:

Dean: Terrye Danner
 Sub Dean: Rob Lynch
 Secretary: Mary Phillips
 Treasurer: John Brock
 Registrar: Karl Jacob
 Membership Coordinator: Andrew Morehead
 Member at Large: Seth O'Kegley
 Auditors: Deborah Sanders and Cynthia Moses

Nominating Committee:

Jim Garvey
 Simon Hogg
 Edie Johnson
 Rob Lynch
 Deborah Sousa

Knoxville AGO Chapter Treasurer's Report April 30, 2018

Balance in checking 2/7/2018	\$8,899.01
Money In, 2/7/2018 thru 4/30/2018	\$ 785.00
Chapter donations	10.00
Dues income	115.00
Dinner income	660.00
Money Out, 2/7/2018 thru 4/30/2018	-\$ 2,067.13
Programming	- 799.13
Catering	- 768.00
BOEF Scholarships	- 500.00
Balance in checking 4/30/2018	\$ 7,616.88
<hr/>	
Balance in BOEF account 4/30/2018	\$ 33,407.81

BOEF Scholarship Program

The Knoxville Chapter of the AGO established the Brock Organ Education Fund (BOEF) in honor of our colleague John Brock, long-time member and professor of organ at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. We award two scholarships each academic year to students in the Knoxville area, one to a high school student and one to an undergraduate in an area college that offers organ instruction. Scholarship awards are determined on the basis of the student's stated goals for studying organ, his or her GPA, and recommendations submitted by the student's current or former teachers. This year's winners are David Stultz and Nicholas Stigall.

David Stultz is a 19-year-old freshman at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville and he graduated



from Baylor School in Chattanooga TN. He has studied piano with Dr. Sigrid Luther for the past fourteen years. For three years, David studied organ with Jason DuRoy, organist at Signal Mountain Presbyterian Church. In piano, David has received superior ratings and scholarships from the Chattanooga Music Teachers Association. In 2015, he won first prize and the hymn-playing award in the Young Organist Competition sponsored by the Greater Columbia AGO Chapter. He has performed with the Jericho Brass and twice with the Chattanooga Youth Symphony Orchestra; one performance included the Saint-Saëns "Organ Symphony." He enjoyed playing every Monday for Baylor School Chapels, local weddings, and memorial services along with subbing for organists at various churches in the area. David was the official organ substitute for Judy Glass at First Presbyterian Church of Chattanooga, and he served as organist for two years at Lookout Mountain Presbyterian Church. As a winner of the 2015

organ competition, David returned to Columbia to perform a full-length concert at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral. In January, he placed 2nd in the Winston-Salem School of the Arts National High School Organ Competition. He also studied organ with Dr. Sarah Harr who is the organist at First Lutheran Church of Chattanooga. David is currently majoring in organ performance and studying under Dr. Edie Johnson. He is the organist at Second Presbyterian Church of Knoxville.

Nicholas Stigall, is a 17-year-old rising senior in Berean Christian High School's Independent Study



Program. Nicholas has taken piano lessons since the age of three and organ since the age of fifteen and currently studies with Dr. David Brunell and Dr. Edie Johnson respectively. At the Knoxville AGO, he was awarded a scholarship through the Brock Organ Education Fund in April 2017 and April 2018. During the summer of 2017, Nicholas participated in the American Guild of Organists Pipe Organ Encounter – Advanced at The University of Alabama. He also participated in the Summer Organ Academy at Indiana University. In January 2018, Nicholas was the second-place winner at the High School Organ Festival and Competition at The University of North Carolina School of the Arts. In March 2018, Nicholas won first prize, as well as the Bach prize and the Hymn prize at the Greater Columbia, SC American Guild of Organists Organ Performance Competition. During the summer of 2016, he attended the Tennessee Governor's School of the Arts for piano at Middle Tennessee State University. In June 2017, Nicholas was the first-place winner in solo piano at the Tennessee Music Teachers Association Music

Competition. Nicholas has performed at the annual Youth Aliyah Benefit Concert the past three years in both piano and organ. Nicholas sings in the Youth Choir at Church Street UMC, where he also accompanies the children's choirs and assists with organ playing in church services. He also accompanies the children's choirs at Concord UMC, his home church, and plays in the handbell choir. Nicholas hopes to pursue a musical career in sacred church music and organ performance and is looking at various music schools. He feels very blessed to have such wonderful and mentoring musical instructors.

An article taken from the University of Tennessee Daily Beacon by Emily Lewellyn



Jeremy Anantharaj is a senior in computer science engineering, with not just a hobby, but also a minor in piano.

Born in Vancouver, British Columbia, Anantharaj holds dual citizenship in Canada and the United States. His parents lived and married in India, moving to Canada while his father waited to receive entry into the U.S.

Anantharaj has been playing piano for about 14 years, beginning at the age of seven due to his parents encouraging music as an extracurricular activity. He has always enjoyed classical music, having grown up listening to his parents play. He began learning pipe organ his sophomore year of high school. Anantharaj appreciated the versatility of the organ and involvement in its music, particularly how it is played: both hands on the keys and feet on the pedals. “I love both the piano and the organ. If you asked me which one I prefer, I wouldn’t be able to tell you,” Anantharaj said. Anantharaj usually gets raised eyebrows when he tells people he plays the organ. While it is a lesser-learned instrument, with only around three

students taking organ lessons at UT, Anantharaj has no intentions of becoming a professional organist — it’s about enjoying himself.

Upon coming to UT, Anantharaj considered continuing taking lessons since music has always been a hobby for him. After beginning engineering, he wondered if he would ever play the piano again. He found that becoming music minor would add only a few hours to his coursework each semester and would allow him to begin learning new pieces while focusing on computer science as his career. Anantharaj started off in electrical engineering. However, after taking a few computer science courses, he changed his concentration to something more personally fulfilling and enjoyable. “I think if you took piano lessons, organ lessons, any instrument like violin, trumpet in high school — even if you want to do something else with your career — I’d highly recommend still taking lessons at UT,” Anantharaj said. “I’ve gotten the chance to meet people outside of engineering ... It was often really helpful in relieving stress. If I was having a tough week, it was nice to come and play through some pieces. “Spending time in the music and engineering departments allowed him to meet students from his areas of study, forming new bonds and gaining experiences.

Contrary to presuppositions, Anantharaj’s major and minor are not wholly at odds. “It’s completely different in some ways, but in others very similar,” Anantharaj said. “Music is structurally based off the laws of physics. In many of my (engineering) classes, I would often have examples of the frequencies between different musical notes. So, in a way, it’s structured, but at the same time, it gives you a lot of creativity when you can’t always do that in your engineering classes.” Anantharaj has also done research on how keys and octaves resonate with each other and on the structures that go into jazz music.

Anantharaj prepared and performed a senior recital at the Church Street United Methodist Church with the help of his piano professors, David Brunell, Chih-Long Hu and Zachary Hughes, and his organ professor, Edie Johnson. While recitals are not required, Anantharaj loves the practical application and wanted to exhibit what he had learned during his four years at UT. In his performances, Anantharaj strove to maintain a balance in the compositions, appealing to wide range of individuals’ backgrounds in the audience. “A lot of people — I think — are scared away by classical music,” Anantharaj said. “They see it and say ‘Oh, that’s not something very interesting, you have to think about it and understand it and be in the mood.’ We wanted a program that would be enjoyable for anyone that wants to show up.” Most of the piano pieces were ones he had worked on during his four years at UT, with his last piece was from the last academic year. He played piano works by Schubert, Beethoven and Debussy in addition to organ pieces by Buxtehude, Bach and Vierne, arranged by Manz and Widor.

After graduation, Anantharaj will be working as a software engineer in Seattle, Washington for Amazon, where he interned last summer. His overall takeaway from his UT experience was that one should pursue hobbies different from what they plan to study. “I think everyone should try and pursue a hobby which may be outside of their field of work,” Anantharaj said. “It helps you get a broader, well-rounded experience. Being able to make the most out of the opportunities you have is what I think is important. When I start working, I’ll be able to go to concerts, but it’s going to be different than where you’re exposed to faculty members and people who are willing to help you grow and understand these areas which are completely outside your field.”

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, May 6, 6:00 p.m. A Service of Choral Evensong, Church Street United Methodist Church, 900 Henley Street, Knoxville, TN. Features the Parish Youth Choir, Tim Ward, director; Edie Johnson, organ.



Organist and master improviser Pamela Ruiten-Feenstra will be heard at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 6500 Northshore Drive in Knoxville, on **Friday evening, May 11, at 8:00**, as part of this season's *Musica Organi* recital series. She will lead an imaginative program of her design entitled *Gratitude: Psalms, Hymns, and Improvisations*, involving the audience as congregation. It is a holistic and spiritual festival of hymn singing, liturgy, and prayer. Dr. Ruiten-Feenstra is frequently heard at regional and national conventions of the American Guild of Organists and is rapidly gaining recognition as a hymn festival designer and leader, an international concert and liturgical artist, composer, conductor, teacher, and author. Her newest hymn texts and compositions focus on social justice for marginalized populations. Westminster Church and *Musica Organi* are most privileged to again host her. Please join us for a truly extraordinary musical and spiritual experience! A nursery will be provided.

Position Available

Organist Needed: Holy Family Catholic Church of Seymour TN is in need of an organist for the 5:30pm Saturday evening Mass and the Sunday morning 8:00am and 10:30am Masses. Good Knowledgeable sense of the Liturgy is a must. Please call the office (865) 573-1203 for further information or send your resume to secretary@holyfamilyseymour.org or Holy Family Catholic Church, 307 Black Oak Ridge Road, Seymour, TN 37865.



I was so surprised and humbled with the wonderful gifts from AGO at the April meeting. The roses are absolutely beautiful! What a sweet message on the card. AND the precious angel joins my choir of angels, each a gift from special people. They usually grace my kitchen garden window--you know the one above the sink where we spend so much time. Yes, I will smile at her each day and will feel thankful that our paths have crossed in such a beautiful way.

Nancy Maland

AGO PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTERS PROVIDE YOUTH AND ADULTS WITH OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTENSIVE STUDY OF THE KING OF INSTRUMENTS
Six Summer Programs for Teenagers and Adults celebrate the 13th Anniversary of the POE Program Supported by Organ Builders and the National Endowment for the Arts.

The American Guild of Organists (AGO) is proud to announce five PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTERS (POEs) for students aged 13–18, and one POE+ for adults in 2018. Complete contact information for each weeklong Pipe Organ Encounter can be found in The American Organist Magazine and online at www.agohq.org/education/poe. The summer schedule follows:

POE (for ages 13–18)

June 17–22 Phoenix, Ariz.

June 24–29 Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minn.

July 8–13 Philadelphia, Penn.

July 16–21 Los Angeles, Calif.

July 22–27 Deland, Fla.

POE+ (for adults)

June 17–22 Rockford, Ill.

The PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTER (POE) is an introduction to the pipe organ through instruction in organ playing, repertoire, history, design, and construction. These regional summer music camps for teenage students provide private and group instruction in service playing and solo repertoire, opportunities to learn about the musical heritage of various religious denominations, and a chance for young musicians to meet others with similar interests. Piano or organ proficiency ranging from intermediate to advanced is required. Scholarship assistance is available. The POE+ is a summer program filled with practical information and instruction for adult keyboard musicians interested in improving their service-playing skills. Participants will be introduced to basic organ skills through private instruction and classes. The weeklong experience will lead to greater confidence and competence at the organ.

Generous funding from the Associated Pipe Organ Builders of America (APOBA), the American Institute of Organbuilders (AIO), the Jordan Organ Endowment, and the National Endowment for the Arts will support these summer educational programs from coast to coast. “The AGO and APOBA have enjoyed a mutually beneficial relationship since 1975,” declared AGO Executive Director James Thomashower. “Likewise, the AIO has been active in supporting the Guild’s educational programs, beginning with their partnership in Pulling Out All the Stops, a video produced jointly in 1996 by the AGO, AIO, APOBA, the Organ Historical Society, and the American Theater Organ Society and aired on PBS. In addition, we are delighted to have received support from the Jordan Organ Endowment at Columbus State University for our POE program, as well as a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts supporting our educational activities this year.” In addition to the POE and POE+ programs, but not offered in 2018, is a POE (Advanced) that provides intermediate to advanced classes in areas such as organ literature, history, pipe organ construction and design, music theory, improvisation, conducting, and service playing for students who have achieved a high level of success in organ study. Also, there is a POE (Technical) designed for students who are interested in learning the art and craft of organ building. The event is hosted in the workshop of an organ builder working in cooperation with a local AGO chapter.

POE site locations are selected by the AGO Committee on Pipe Organ Encounters and approved by the AGO National Council. Applications for 2019 are available from AGO National Headquarters and online at www.agohq.org.

Knoxville Chapter of The American Guild of Organists 2016-2017 Programs

Tuesday, September 19, 2017

Todd Wilson in concert

Episcopal Church of the
Ascension

Monday, October 2, 2017

*Sacred Choral Literature
for the Church Year*

Church Street UMC

Parish Adult Choir

First UMC Oak Ridge

Tuesday, November 7, 2017

Dongho Lee in concert

Church Street UMC

Monday, December 4

*Holden Evening Service and
Madrigal program*

St. John's Lutheran

Monday, January 8, 2018

A Wurlitzer Evening

Tennessee Theatre

Monday, February 5, 2018

*Lecture Recital on Liturgical Music
and Liturgical Reform*

Sarah Harr

Church Street UMC

Monday, March 19, 2018

*The Music of Bach for
Organ and Harpsichord*

John Brock

Westminster Presbyterian

Monday, April 9, 2018

AGO Student Recital

First Baptist Church

Monday, May 7, 2018

AGO Member Recital

Church of the Ascension



Find us on:
facebook

@ KNOXVILLE AGO

2017/2018 AGO Board Members

Simon Hogg, Dean; shogg86@me.com
 Terrye Danner, Sub-Dean; tadanner@charter.net
 Rob Lynch, Secretary; pianorob88@hotmail.com
 John Brock, Treasurer; jbrock@utk.edu
 Jim Mason, Registrar; masonjd@icx.net
 Andrew Morehead, Membership Coordinator; bamorehead@gmail.com
 Freddie Brabson, Member-at-Large 2018; freddiebrabson@gmail.com
 Gail Hafner, Member-at-Large 2019; gailandart@charter.net
 Karl Jacob, Member-at-Large 2020; karljake@aol.com
 Deborah Sanders, Auditor; sbsdeb@musfiber.com
 Cynthia Moses, Auditor; cynthia@c21mmr.com

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

Nicholas Andrews	nicholastrentandrews@gmail.com	252-213-5848
John Brock	jbrock@utk.edu	865-577-7153
Brenda Goslee	bgoslee@juno.com	865-776-4494
Karen Ladd	kladd@utk.edu	865-690-9488
Beverly Landguth	bevlandguth141@gmail.com	865-671-3797
Mary Phillips	phillips.mary95@yahoo.com	615-414-0526

ARE YOU AVAILABLE TO SUB?

EMAIL tnewsom3@utk.edu TO BE ADDED TO THIS LIST

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

Please make your dinner reservations for
 Monday, May 7, 2018
 Church of the Ascension, Knoxville, TN
 no later than **Thursday, May 3**. The cost is \$12.00
 Contact: Karl Jacob at 865-335-1174 or karljake@aol.com