

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.



Josiah Armes, a native of Lancaster, Pennsylvania and Lakeland, Florida, has shown an interest in classical music from an early age. He was first introduced to the pipe organ by the late Marie Johnson, and in 2001 began private study of the instrument with Dr. Boyd Jones, professor of organ at Stetson University. In August of 2003, he enrolled full-time at Stetson, graduating with a degree in organ performance in May of 2007.

Mr. Armes subsequently completed his master's degree at Yale University in May of 2009 under the tutelage of Thomas Murray, and has also completed a year of postgraduate studies at the Eastman School of Music, where he studied with David Higgs and William Porter.

Josiah has continued to distinguish himself musically and academically, most notably winning first prize at the 2009 Regional Competition for Young Organists (Region IV). As a result of this, he took part in the Rising Stars Recitals at the 2010 AGO National Convention in Washington, D.C. He has also been active as a recitalist, giving performances in over half a dozen states. It is with great excitement that Josiah returns to Florida to begin his duties as Organist/Assistant Director of Music at the First Presbyterian Church, Orlando.

Rising Star Recital

Josiah Armes, Organist

Monday, September 10

First United Methodist
Church

1350 Oak Ridge Turnpike
Oak Ridge, TN 37830

Sandi Henry, Host

Dinner 6:30

Program 7:30





Dean's Message

Finally, I think we can say good-bye to the 100-degree weather! I hope that each of you were able to enjoy some time off, despite the oppressive temperatures over the past few months, perhaps even escape to a cooler climate. It seems as though only a short time ago we gathered at Westminster Presbyterian to hear Peter Sykes and what a wonderful evening that was.

I would like to take the time to thank the out going officers for the 2011-2012 year – Dean: Charles Parham, Sub-dean: Karl Jacob, Secretary: Deborah Sousa, Treasurer: Peter VanEenam, Registrar: Sandi Henry, Auditors: Nancy Hardin and Angela Konopasek, Member at Large: Hal Schmidt. And a big welcome to the newly installed officers for 2012-2013 year – Dean: Karl Jacob, Sub-dean: Edie Johnson, Secretary: Karen Ladd, continuing as Treasurer: Peter VanEenam,

continuing as Registrar: Sandi Henry, Auditors: Ann Burns and Cynthia Moses and Members at Large: Denny Mullins (2012-2013), Joy Fournier (2013-2014), Fred Pogue (2014-2015).

It recently occurred to me that the majority of our chapter members have been members for many years, decades even, but there are a number of newer members that not everyone may be acquainted with. So I thought each month we might highlight one or more of these newer members, and starting this month with myself.

I grew up in a small town in Hawkins County Tennessee about 90 miles northeast of Knoxville. I started piano lessons in 4th grade that I really enjoyed and I actually practiced. By the time I reached high school I had become a bit bored with piano and my interest turned to singing. I continued with piano lessons but added voice lessons. Not sure what I wanted to do when I “grow-up,” I decided to try music as a major when I went off to college. Being a quite shy person all my life going off to college was, looking back, a very traumatic experience and I was only less than an hour away at Carson-Newman. After a rough year at Carson-Newman and unsure of being a music major, I made the decision to move back home and attend Walter State Community College in Morristown. While at Walter State I came out of my shell a bit and was involved in a show produced by the theatre department. During the run of the show one of the music professors saw me singing and dancing. The professor was Tom Stapleton, an organist. Tom knew I had a piano background and he thought with my dancing skills I might be coordinated enough to play the organ. And as they say the rest is history. I had found the love of organ playing. After two years at Walter State, I transferred to UT to study with John Brock, and I joined the Knoxville chapter AGO, which is when most of you probably remember me in the late 1980’s, probably 1987 to 1989. Still feeling unsure about being music major, I decided to continue private lessons with John, but follow another dream (that might be more profitable). I started beauty school and became a licensed cosmetologist. By 1988-1989 a close friend of mine was finishing his Masters in Organ Performance with John. Together we decided we needed a new adventure. We moved north and finally settled in Connecticut. I found a great part-time job in a catholic church and during the week I worked as a hairstylist. During my 14 years in Connecticut I studied organ with Stephen Hamilton who was then at a church in NYC. By 2002, I found myself in a place in life that I finally wanted to finish my degree, so the next year I moved back to TN and with many college credits from years earlier I re-entered UT and in December of 2007 I received my Bachelor’s degree in Sacred Music/Organ.

continued on next page

So, if you have been at AGO meetings the past several years wondering where do I know that guy from, chances are you might remember me with brown hair from the late 1980's. That is my story in a nutshell, tune in next month to learn about someone else you may not know about.

For the past few months, our Sub-dean, Edie Johnson and her committee (which I was a part of) have been hard at work lining up what looks to be a great program year. The first meeting/program will take place Monday, September 10 at First United Methodist, Oak Ridge, after our usual dinner we will hear Josiah Armes. Josiah just began his duties as Organist/Assistant Director of Music at the First Presbyterian Church, Orlando, Florida. Josiah won first prize at the 2009 Region Competition for Young Organist (Region IV) and at the 2010 National AGO Convention in Washington, D.C. he took part in the Rising Stars Recitals. I hope many of you can come out to hear this talented young man.

See you in September...(isn't that a song?)

Karl



Dinner Reminder

We want to take this opportunity to remind our members of the chapter dinner policy.

Each month there is a deadline to email or call our Hospitality Chair Jim Garvey to make your dinner reservation for the next meeting. If the meeting is a regular Monday night then the deadline will be the Thursday before at noon. A listing of each months meeting

dates and the deadlines are provided for you in this newsletter.

A good way to ensure you do not forget to make your reservation is to sign up for a Permanent reservation. If for some reason you cannot attend a particular month simply message Jim before the deadline time. However, if you do NOT cancel OR you make a reservation and do not attend you will still be obligated to pay the dinner fee. Our caterers are given a firm number of attendees to prepare for and we are required to pay for the number of reservations. You must have a reservation in order to attend dinner. The cost of the dinner will be listed at the end of the newsletter.

We strive to keep costs and, subsequently dues, to a minimum. It is our intention that the caterer fee is an even wash with the payment for dinner by our members. This ensures that our funds are used for programs and other needs of the chapter. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible

This past summer, the AGO Program Planning Committee worked diligently to plan creative, interesting and educational programs for the coming year. We hope that there will be something for everyone in these offerings and that the venues and presenters will prove inspiring. The Planning Committee is comprised of Karl Jacobs, James Hawkins, Eunjin Choi, Andrew Morehead, Jason Overall and Edie Johnson.

During the coming year, you will have the opportunity to hear some fine recitals on diverse instruments. A rising star in the organ world, Josiah Armes, will kick off our season in a concert at First UMC Oak Ridge. Josiah, a winner of the AGO Regional Young Artists' Competition, has just recently moved to a position in Orlando, FL. He has distinguished himself as a both an excellent performer and improviser.

The Members' Recital will feature the Chorale Preludes of Johannes Brahms, staples of the organ repertoire. Andrew Morehead will educate us about these pieces and the life of Brahms in a brief lecture. In February, James Hawkins will perform Dupré's Op. 18 as a cantor presents the chants in alternatim. Music for organ and trumpet will be featured at Church Street UMC in March where Edward Bach the newly appointed trumpet professor at Brandon University in Manitoba, Canada will join Edie Johnson.

December will bring the chance to attend two of three offered workshops. Master Alexander Technique Teacher Lilly Sutton will talk about ease in movement for daily life and grace in aging. John Brock will discuss the keyboard works of Georg Böhm, while Jim Garvey and Edie Johnson will present the benefits of RSCM for all ages and denominations. An opportunity for young aspiring organists will take place on Saturday Feb. 2 in our Student Organ



Encounter Day at Second Presbyterian Church and Tennessee Valley Unitarian Universalist Church. This is a time to introduce the organ to area piano students and young organists. If you teach and know of an organ or piano student between the ages of 8 and 18, we hope that you will encourage them to attend.

A highlight of this year will be An Evening with Craig Phillips on January 14. Dr. Phillips was the 2012 AGO Composer of the year. His prolific output of organ and choral works are performed around the nation. He will be presenting some of his pieces and talking about his compositional process.

The year will conclude with a Hymn Festival at the Community Church at Tellico Village led by young artists Nathan Proctor and David Sims. These two young musicians are graduates of St. Olaf College and the Jacobs School of Music at Indiana University. Their vibrant personalities and creative energy breathe new life into hymnody and worship.

Work is already underway to plan programs for 2013-2014. Please let me know if you have any ideas or programs you would like to experience. We hope to see you all of this year's exciting events.

Edie Johnson, sub-dean

Member's News

Lois J. Wessell, 74, of Russellville died Sunday evening May 20, 2012, at Morristown-Hamblen Healthcare System. She was an organist and played at various churches in the Lakeway Area. She was a member of Noe's Chapel United Methodist Church. Lois is preceded in death by her husband James W. Wessell. She is survived by one brother, Keith Appell of Ames, N.Y. and special friend Marci Garner of Russellville. A graveside service will be held Tuesday, May 22, 2012 at 1 p.m. at Bethesda Cemetery with the Rev. Dennis H. Loy officiating.

Some of you will remember **Steve Clark**, who was a UT organ student in the early 1970s and then served for several years as Organist-Choirmaster at Church of the Ascension. Steve was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in April of this year, and he died on Saturday, July 14, at his home in Nashville.

Organ Historical Society

Did you know that Knoxville's Second Presbyterian had a George Ryder organ in the 1890's, got an Austin in the 1920's and a Schantz in 1967? Did you know that a certain Knoxville church ordered an E.M. Skinner organ in 1927 but finances got tight and they couldn't pay for the organ when it was finished? The organ sat in the Skinner factory until 1941 when it was sold to a synagogue in Selma Alabama, where it still stands by the way. In the meantime, the Knoxville church got a 2nd hand Wurlitzer theatre organ which they used until 1960.

These are just little bits of history assembled from scraps of information gathered here and there.

For many years now, The Organ Historical Society has had an ongoing project to research the pipe

organs all around the country. From the smallest to the largest, noble and ignoble, in churches, temples, theatres, schools, residences, funeral homes, wherever pipes and keyboards meet, the record is being assembled of these – sometimes inspiring – sometimes-infuriating – always fascinating - musical instruments. So far, almost 50,000 instruments have been identified.

What about you and your instrument? Have you ever looked at the on-line Organ Historical Society database to see if your organ is listed? If it's not there, could you jot down who built your organ and when? Maybe write down your stop list? Could you take some digital pictures and send them to the Organ Historical Society?

If you're even just *barely* computer literate, you'll find it very easy to do. The website is here:

<http://database.organsociety.org>

Don't feel limited to the organ you play now. Where did you study? What were the instruments you knew as a youngster?

The times they are a-changing. The stories of our musical instruments ought to be preserved somewhere. The OHS database is a good place for that. And if you don't do it, who will?

If you need some help, feel free to contact me. I'd be glad assist. You can reach me here:

Will Dunklin
wdunklin@gmail.com
(865) 525-6322

The AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS (AGO) has been hard at work this summer. Here are a couple of items that have garnered attention:

AGO announces a newly adopted mission statement, which was approved by the AGO National Council at its July 2012 meeting in Nashville. The new mission statement begins with a succinct, memorable statement that focuses on how the AGO makes a difference in the world. It is followed by a list of goals that help define how the mission will be accomplished. The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to enrich lives through organ and choral music. To achieve this, we:

- Encourage excellence in the performance of organ and choral music;
- Inspire, educate, and offer certification for organists and choral conductors;
- Provide networking, fellowship, and mutual support;
- Nurture future generations of organists;
- Promote the organ in its historic and evolving roles; and
- Engage wider audiences with organ and choral music.

“The new mission focuses on more than just serving the needs of dues-paying members,” declared AGO Executive Director James Thomashower. “This is a mission that gives the work of the Guild meaning in the context of our society.” The Guild’s prior mission statement was developed early in 1998. Over the last three years, the AGO National Council and various task forces have reviewed AGO members’ responses to a long-range planning questionnaire to determine what is most important to members and consider afresh what the Guild should plan to achieve organizationally. In 2011, a task force was formed to develop a new mission statement. Members of the task force were AGO Councillor for Region IX Leslie Wolf Robb, Director; AGO Treasurer Calvert Johnson; AGO Councillor for Region VI Jan Kraybill; and AGO President Eileen Guenther (ex officio). The task force drafted three mission statement options and asked AGO members to complete an online survey in April 2012. Based upon the responses of Guild members, the AGO National Council endorsed the new mission statement to challenge, energize, and equip AGO members to continue and expand the work of the Guild both now and in the years to come. “The Strategic Planning Workbook for Nonprofit Organizations defines a mission statement as ‘What you intend to accomplish, your organization’s overall goal, the reason you exist’,” stated AGO President Eileen Guenther. “Other books on leadership define it as what an organization can do uniquely—better than any other organization. Not-for-profit organizations must revisit their mission statements periodically to be sure they reflect current environmental realities as well as the organization’s current needs and objectives.”

The American Guild of Organists (AGO) bestowed its two highest awards of national distinction in conjunction with the 51st biennial AGO National Convention in Nashville, Tenn. The **AGO President’s Award** was presented to Martha Rivers Ingram of Nashville. The prestigious award, created in 1988, is presented biennially to recognize outstanding contributions to the art of the organ in the United States. The 2012 President’s Award recognized Ms. Ingram “in gratitude for her generous patronage of the King of Instruments, vision for the Nashville Symphony and the Schermerhorn Symphony Center, and commitment to expanding the musical horizons of the Nashville community.” The **AGO Edward A. Hansen Leadership Award** was presented to Peter and Lois Fyfe, also of Nashville. Created by the AGO National Council in 1999 to honor the memory of the Guild’s distinguished past president, Edward A. Hansen, AAGO, the prestigious award is presented biennially to recognize individuals who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in the AGO. The 2012 Edward A. Hansen Leadership Award was given to the Fyfes “in recognition of their commitment to excellence in music; unparalleled knowledge of sacred music; their roles as teachers and mentors; and their leadership, devoted service, and extraordinary generosity to the AGO.”

Congratulations to the Award Winners who just happen to reside in the State of Tennessee!!



Music for Two Sopranos with Organ and Flute
Organist Brenda Goslee with sopranos Brenda Luggie and Amanda Peavyhouse and flutist Anna Thomas will present the opening recital of the St. John's Cathedral Concert Series at noon on Monday, September 17. Lunch is available in the Great Hall at 12:30 following the recital. St. John's Cathedral is located on the corner of Cumberland and Walnut Avenues. Parking behind the cathedral is free if you have your ticket stamped at the recital. The varied



First Baptist Bearden presents **Samuel Metzger** in concert on Sunday, September 16 at 6 pm. Mr. Metzger's early studies were at Northern Arizona State University in Flagstaff, where he was a student of Dr. Marilyn Brandon. In high school he studied with Dr. Royce Johnson at the University of Arizona, Tucson. Mr. Metzger studied at Arizona State University where he was a student of Robert Clark. In 1995 he was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship and began studies with Jon Laukvik at the Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst in Stuttgart, Germany. While in Germany he was organist at the Lutherkirche in Stuttgart-Feuerbach as well as accompanist for the Ludwigsburg Cathedral choir. He was awarded a second Fulbright Scholarship and in 1997 graduated with a degree of Künstlerisches Aufbaustudium (KA). Mr. Metzger then went on to study with Marie-Claire Alain in St. Germain-en-Laye, France. Mr. Metzger has been Senior Organist at Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church, Fort Lauderdale, FL and is currently Senior Organist at The New Presbyterian Church, Pompano Beach, FL.

Choral Evensong

Church Street United Methodist Church

Knoxville, TN

Sunday, September 30, 6:00pm

Works by: David Hurd, Robert Lehman, Carlyle Sharpe, Henry Smart



WE WANT TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR EVENT!!!!

If you know of an event that would be of interest to our membership please send me a notice at tnewsom3@utk.edu. A concert? A Recital? Maybe you have a weekly service filled with beautiful music? Nothing is too big or too small.



Jelani Eddington Organ Concert

Tennessee Theatre

Sunday November 25, 2012

3:00 PM

During the years that Jelani Eddington has given concerts, he has easily established himself as one of the most prominent and sought-after artists on the concert circuit. Jelani has performed in most of the major concert venues throughout the United States, has toured extensively abroad, and has received numerous awards and recognitions, including his selection as the *2001 Theatre Organist Of The Year*.

Jelani Eddington was born in Muncie, Indiana to Louise Eddington and the late Robert Eddington and grew up in a very musical family. Between the interests of his mother, a professional music teacher of many years, and those of his grandmother, Florence Arnold, a well-respected piano instructor, it was no surprise when Jelani demonstrated an inclination toward music at a very early age.

Shortly after beginning piano instruction at the age of four, Jelani began studying classical piano under the direction of his grandmother. At the age of eight, a trip to hear the 4-manual 42-rank Wurlitzer theatre pipe organ installed in the Indianapolis, Indiana restaurant, the Paramount Music Palace, introduced Jelani to the sounds of the theatre pipe organ. Soon thereafter, he began to pursue classical organ lessons and ultimately began studying theatre organ under the direction of John Ferguson, whose skills as a theatre organ instructor have been highly acclaimed internationally.

At the age of 13, Jelani won the American Theatre Organ Society's *Young Theatre Organist Competition*, prevailing over competitors ages 13-21 from the United States, England, Australia, and New Zealand. Jelani remains the youngest competitor ever to win this title. Jelani went on to graduate *Magna Cum Laude* from Indiana University in 1996, and later received a *Juris Doctor* degree from the Yale Law School in 1999, after which time he was admitted to practice law in New York and later in Wisconsin.

During the course of his concert career, Jelani has been featured at numerous national and regional conventions of the American Theatre Organ Society, and has toured extensively throughout the world, including numerous concert appearances in the United States, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and Europe. In August 2001, the American Theatre Organ Society honored Jelani's extensive career as a concert and recording organist by naming him the *2001 Theatre Organist Of The Year*.

Jelani has also produced and marketed over 30 theatre organ albums on some of the best-known and most dynamic instruments in the country. He has recorded on the Tennessee Theatre Mighty Wurlitzer organ, and this recording along with his other recordings will be available after his concert at the Tennessee Theatre on November 25, 2012

AGO members can get tickets at the student/seniors price of \$6.00. Tell the person in the ticket office you are an AGO member. Tickets will go on sale September 23, 2012.

JOB OPENINGS

Central Baptist, Bearden (cbcbearden.org) is seeking to fill the full time position of **Organist/Music Associate**. The qualified individual will accompany all services, accompany ensembles and soloists, assist with leadership within the music and worship ministry, and partner with the Senior Pastor and Worship Pastor with worship planning and leadership. Resumes and inquiries may be emailed to: Dr. Paul Magyar, at pmagyar@cbcbearden.org. 865.588.0586.

Director of Music

First United Methodist Church (Morristown, Tennessee)

Requirements: The incumbent must be a person who professes a personal faith in Jesus Christ, exhibits genuine Christ-like character and commitment, and lives a Christian lifestyle.

Reports to: Senior Minister

Main Position Responsibilities:

- Lead music in our traditional worship services including special services
- Lead Revelation Youth Choir
- Lead Handbell Choirs and Children's Choirs
- Provide music for funerals when requested
- Supervise organist
- Supervise use and maintenance of all musical instruments

Detailed job description available upon request.

Education: Bachelor's degree in Music or Music Education

Experience: Significant experience in church music field preferred but not required

Salary commensurate with education and experience. This is a full-time position.

Send resume and Letter of Introduction to:

First United Methodist Church

Attention: Staff Parish

101 E. 1st North St.

Morristown, TN 37814

Phone: 423-581-2180

Email: dbrewster@lcs.net



Newsletter Deadline: September 21

Program Date	Dinner Reservation Deadline	Newsletter Deadline
Saturday, October 6	No Dinner	September 21
Monday, November 5	November 1	October 19
Monday, December 3	November 29	November 16
Monday, January 14	January 10	December 21
Monday, February 4	January 31	January 18
Monday, March 4	February 28	February 15
Monday, April 8:	April 4	March 22
Monday, May 6	No Dinner	April 24