2020 Chapter Election Ballots will be mailed April 1

You may vote for nominated officers and two nominees for the Executive Board.

Thank you to this year’s nominating committee and those who agreed to run for chapter leadership.

Next Chapter Meeting:
Installation Service and Dinner
May, 2020
More details to follow.

"The mission of the American Guild of Organists is to foster a thriving community of musicians who share their knowledge and inspire passion for the organ."
Nancy Watson,
Charlotte Chapter Dean
E-mail: watsonndh@gmail.com
Tel: 704-618-2802

From the Dean’s Corner . . .

As I write this article to you, we are all quarantined. And by the time you read this, who knows what the circumstances will be. What we do know is that we all need to be prayerful for this world, for those who are ill, and for all of us as we limit our contact with people.

Meanwhile, as you are “cloistered”, be watching your mailbox for the ballot to vote for the AGO board for the 2020-2021 season. Your response is very important for our chapter! This year there are 2 positions open for the Executive Committee. All other officers are remaining on the board. Have I told you what a wonderful board we have? When something needs to be done, someone volunteers to do it. And it is always done very well. How lucky are we!!!

Included with your ballot will be a form for you to fill out and return with your ballot. It seems that new home addresses, changed email addresses, new phone numbers, etc. are not being reported to AGO. We would like to “start over” with your information to be sure we have a corrected directory for next season. Each month when the newsletter is sent out, our editor has returned emails, and with addresses that don’t reflect the person’s name, it’s quite difficult to discern who that person really is. And when letters are sent out, sometimes they come back with “address unknown”. Your giving your information will help fix that! We will use that information for the directory only—and it will not be made available to anyone else. Please also send changes to National Headquarters!

Stay tuned for updates for our chapter. Years ago it was decided that April (or the month that Easter falls in) programs were not feasible for our chapter, since we church musicians have Holy Week and Easter music to plan and implement. I therefore have no April programs to tell you about. You will get a separate notice about the May Dinner and Installation Service.

Stay well, everyone!

Nancy Watson
Take note: A POE!

**July 19-24, 2020, Pipe Organ Encounter**, a week-long summer camp hosted by the Piedmont Chapter of the AGO in Winston-Salem, NC, that provides a chance for young pianists and organists to explore and gain exposure to pipe organs and pipe organ repertoire. Ages 13-19. For more information, see [http://www.piedmontncago.org/poe.html](http://www.piedmontncago.org/poe.html).
Recapitulation: Experiencing our New Orgelkids Instrument

On March 9 the Charlotte AGO Chapter got its first glimpse of our new Orgelkids instrument. Thirteen members and one non-member met to assemble and play the instrument. Several members expressed interest in becoming a “Facilitator”—a member who is trained to accompany the instrument to schools, churches, events, and more as we share the instrument with the community around us.

The Orgelkids instrument was purchased as part of our legacy project. Of particular importance in our decision to acquire the instrument is the mission statement of Orgelkids: “Enticing the public to engage with the King of Instruments by empowering them to build a working pipe organ.” Children and adults can engage with the instrument as we learn together how the instrument works and as we play the instrument.

Between March and July the instrument was scheduled to visit three sets of youth and one of young adults. Unfortunately, our current “shelter-in-place” status has interfered with at least two of those visits. We plan to re-schedule any missed visits and we look forward to an increased interest in the organ and in our chapter as more people are exposed to the King of Instruments. Please contact any of the three Orgelkids committee members (Beth Harrison, Jane Cain, and Zach Bowyer) for more information or to schedule an Orgelkids event.
Summer Recital Series 2020
Sundays in June, July, & August
Visit www.charlottegaoo.org for More Information
Proposed AGO Programs 2020-2021

• Friday, September 25, 2020 at 6:00 pm
  Progressive Dinner
  Matthews Presbyterian, Sardis Presbyterian, Providence Baptist
  Recitalists: Tom Kiff, Jacob Temple, Beth Harrison

• Monday, October 19, 2020 at 7:30 pm
  “What your substitute needs to know!”
  South Mecklenburg Presbyterian Church
  If you often hire subs, you need to be at this program!

• Monday, November 16, 2020 at 7:30 pm
  “So you think Bach can dance?”
  Christ Lutheran Church Chapel
  Dr. Theodore Davis from the Baltimore area will present a program of Bach
  works and explain how they relate to French dance.

• December, 2020  NO PROGRAM  CHRISTMAS

• January, 2021
  Annual Epiphany Dinner
  Details forthcoming

• February, 2021
  Annual Peek Weekend
  Covenant Presbyterian Church
  Details forthcoming

• March 15, 2021 at 7:30 pm
  Organ and Astronomy
  Hickory Grove United Methodist Church
  Dr. Matthew Whitehouse will present an astronomy themed organ recital with an
  AV component. He is a member of the Columbia AGO and Observatory
  Manager for the South Carolina State museum in Columbia and has a DMA in
  organ.

• April, 2021  NO PROGRAM EASTER

• May 22, 2021 at 6:30 pm
  Installation of officers and chapter dinner
  Church of the Holy Comforter
Stigall Scholarship Auditions:  
June 6, 2020

The Charlotte Chapter of the American Guild of Organists is proud to offer Ann and Robert Stigall Scholarship (established in 2004), in honor of their many years of beautiful and inspiring music at Myers Park Presbyterian Church and in the Charlotte community.

The Stigall Scholarship is for students in (rising) grades 6-12. No organ experience is necessary, although a piano background is required.

The amount of the Scholarship will vary, depending on the number of winners. Once an award has been received, lessons may begin as of June 8, and no later than September 1. The award may be renewed for a second term at the teacher’s discretion. The first semester’s lessons must be completed by December 31; the second by May 31. The money will be paid directly to the teacher.

Winners will be encouraged to play on the Charlotte AGO Summer Series recital featuring young artists. The committee recommends a minimum of 5 hours of organ practice per week.

With this application, please include a Letter of Introduction from the student’s music teacher(s), with a brief history of the student’s musical background, and any other pertinent information.

At the interview, the candidate will play the following at either the piano or organ:
- 2 contrasting pieces (memory optional)
- major and minor scales (two octaves), chords, and arpeggios
- read a hymn at sight

The candidate will be asked the following questions:
- What has inspired you to learn to play the organ?
- Where will you practice?
- How will you get there?

Previous winners may reapply for the scholarship.

The teacher must be a member of the Charlotte Chapter AGO, and must live in Mecklenburg or an adjoining county. AGO membership shall be provided to each scholarship winner.

Auditions will be on June 6, 2020 at:
Myers Park Presbyterian Church
2501 Oxford Place, Charlotte NC 28207.


For more information, contact Michael Lehtinen at SPkMusicSchool@aol.com or 704-676-1002.

Application for the Robert and Ann Stigall Scholarship

Name: ____________________________
Address: __________________________
City/State/Zip: _____________________
Phone: ____________________________
Email: ____________________________
Grade in school: ________ Age: ______
School: ____________________________

Repertoire to be played at the interview:
1. ___________________________________
2. ___________________________________

Please e/mail this form to:

Michael Lehtinen
Southern Park Music School
4805 Park Rd, Ste 230
Charlotte, NC 28209
Member Recommendation:
Music for Holy Week and Easter

*Miserere mei Deus*
By John Wall Calcott

This selection hails from Calcott’s “First Collection of Catches, Glees, Canons, Etc.” that is currently housed in the British Library. A pupil of Haydn, John Wall Calcott was known throughout England in the early 19th Century as a composer of canons and other catchy melodies. *Miserere mei Deus* is a double mirror canon. It is sung *a cappella*, but its brevity makes it accessible for inexperienced choirs. The music is appropriate for Holy Week and especially for Good Friday. Available free on cpdl. Difficulty Level: Easy

*Alleluia! Christ is Risen*
By Bruce Neswick

As a setting of Psalm 118:14-16 and Psalm 150:3-6, this choral anthem is scored for organ, four-part choir, brass and timpani. It begins with a long crescendo of instruments to a festive “Alleluia” that appropriately celebrates Easter Sunday. A central 7/8 section portrays a buoyant dance feel in a wonderful swing rhythm. The piece is typical of Neswick’s gift for energy and harmonic ingenuity. Published by Paraclete Press. Costs: $3.60/copy
Difficulty Level: Medium/Difficult

*A Recreation of a Traditional Latin Mass at Saint-Sulpice Sunday of the Resurrection*
Performed by Daniel Roth, Eric Lebrun, Choeur Gregorien De Paris & Choeur D'oratorio De Paris

Improvisations by Daniel Roth on traditional chants for Easter Sunday alternate with performances of Vierne’s *Messe Solennelle*, Op. 16. The listener feels transported to the wonderful acoustics of Saint Sulpice and surrounded by the beautiful sound of the choir and the Cavaille-Coll organ. Highly Recommended.
Available on Amazon Music. Costs: $18.98 or $.99/track
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An A Cappella Christmas
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Our professional CD recording will be available.

Dan Locklair: Sing to the World
A Choral Cycle in Celebration of Music
May 3, 2020 — 7pm. Christ Episcopal Church, Charlotte
Don’t miss the World Premiere of this new commission!

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2019 Organ at Seven Oaks Presbyterian Church, Columbia, SC
Seaside United Methodist Church  
Sunset Beach, North Carolina

A beautiful beach and retirement area is the home of Seaside United Methodist Church. Replacing an Allen Organ from 1994, the new Rodgers 599 was installed in the fall of 2019. The organ search committee, headed by Kathy Parker, Director of Music and Organist, began their search for a new organ by visiting some Rodgers and Allen installations. The incomparable Rodgers Sound, features, and advanced technology won out over the competition. The decision was to purchase a new Rodgers Artist 599, with 16 channels of audio. The organs diverse specification thrilled the committee and is serving all of the worship needs of the congregation.

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www.stje.org

St. Peter’s Episcopal Church
115 W. Seventh Street
www.st-peters.org

The Episcopal Church of the Holy Comforter
2701 Park Road
www.holycomfortercharlotte.org

St. Martin’s Episcopal Church
1510 E. Seventh Street
www.stmartins-Charlotte.org
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Allen Organ Company has installed organs in many prestigious institutions. Now, including the Vatican on the top of this list is humbling.

I offer a huge "thank you" and congratulations to all involved in the many efforts and events over the years that led to this amazing story.

Sincerely,

Steven A. Markowitz, President
Allen Organ Company

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AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
CHARLOTTE CHAPTER
Dr. Elizabeth 'Beth' Harrison, Newsletter Editor
Submissions to: ElizabethAHarrison@icloud.com or elizabeth.harrison@pfeiffer.edu

Charlotte AGO Executive Board 2019-2020

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Nancy Watson, Chapter Dean
watsonndh@gmail.com

Kathy Alexander, Sub-Dean
kattails@windstream.net

Linda Liberty, Secretary
stphilipmusict@aol.com

Kevin Haney, Treasurer
Khaney01@gmail.com

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