

Pipe & Pedal

Monthly newsletter of the Baltimore Chapter, American Guild of Organists
JUNE 2009

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PIPE & PEDAL

Deadline:

1st of each month

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Bruce Eicher, director

410-561-9948

BruceEicher@verizon.net

For forms and further
information, see

www.BaltimoreAGO.org

From the Dean. . .

May proved to be an active month for our chapter. On May 15 we administered three Colleague exams (CAGO) at Old St. Paul's Church. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Sub Dean **Daniel Fortune** and Old St. Paul's for their willingness to host and record the exams. The Colleague exam is recorded live on the specified day and then sent to National where the recordings are distributed throughout the country for grading. Please contact me if you are interested in more certification information. For example, the next Colleague exam will be administered in November 2009. We already have two applicants. It's not too late to add your name to the list.

On May 17, the chapter hosted its final program of the season, a recital of Baltimore Chapter members at Towson United Methodist Church. I am sorry to say that my own travel schedule prevented me from attending. However, I have heard a number of wonderful comments about the program. I would like to thank the three performers: **Adam Koch**, **Randy Mullin**, and **SongYi Park** for their great performances and their willingness to play. Also, I wish to thank Kathie Metz and Towson United Methodist Church for their hospitality and willingness to host the event.

As you no doubt have noticed, there was a postal delay in your reception of the 2009-2030 dues renewal form and ballot. We are extending the deadlines as much as possible, but as new board members take place on July 1, we do request your quick action in this election. Too, please keep in mind the deadline for 2009-2010 renewal!

I wish everyone a relaxing summer.

Paul J. Carroll, Dean

IMPORTANT DEADLINES

June 15, 2009

Membership renewal and Dues payment in order to be listed in the new yearbook.

August 1, 2009

Deadline for a combine July/August summer issue

[No special issue in July]

Deadline extended but please return your election ballot promptly!

The Roving Reporter

with Debby Woods, interviewer

The “Pipe and Pedal” is starting a new series to help our membership become more aware of the musicians who participate in the Baltimore chapter of the AGO. Who are we, exactly, and what is it that makes us so devoted to the art of making music on the “king of instruments.” The Roving Reporter begins this series with an interview of Nelson Streett, Director of Music for the past six years at Church of the Immaculate Conception in Towson, MD.

RR-“When and where did the playing of the organ capture your interest?”

NS-I grew up in Towson, MD where my family attended Ascension Lutheran Church on York Rd. It was there that I participated in choir programs and enjoyed the organ playing of music director R. Warren Glock. I took lessons from Warren as well as Ascension organist Ruthanne Haekfa. I really enjoyed “getting my hands into” something that had so many moveable parts. The mechanics of the instrument was a source of fascination for me. I’ve always enjoyed tinkering with clocks, old phonographs, and musical instruments! I’m a fan of the collection of Durwood Center—a friend of the AGO who is also a Smithsonian curator of musical machines. I’m very fond of theatre organs and their amazing ability to work wonders as they rise from the pit. While I attended local colleges and worked during the day (Sheppard Pratt-food services), I continued to study the organ in the evening. I served as assistant organist at Immaculate before assuming duties as Director in 2003. In this position, I assume responsibility for six masses a weekend as well as six Cantors and choir.

RR-“Many of us in Music Ministry have to conduct choirs from the organ console. How do you handle playing and directing at the same time?”

NS-As a choral conductor, you always need to “think on your feet.” I have several paid singers in my choir at Immaculate, and they can handle just about anything that I “throw at them.” I mostly use gestures from my head or my hands—whatever I can free up.” But, mostly, the choir is used to watching my eyes and facial expressions—and nodding my head.

RR-“Describe some of your favorite duties at your current church.”

NS-I most enjoy planning worship with the Associate priest who is in charge of liturgies at Immaculate. The process of picking and planning music is extremely creative, and I derive great joy from seeing an Easter Vigil or a Holy Thursday service come to life with all its necessary emotion and pageantry.

RR-“What are some of the least favorite duties at your current church?”

NS- The choir library. There is nothing more frustrating than to have a choir member give me a piece of Advent music at the end of April and ask, “Are we through with this piece, yet?”

RR-“How does membership in the AGO enhance your performance of duties at Immaculate?”

NS-I most enjoy the practical aspects of some of our workshops. For example, after this spring’s workshop on “Free at Last”—websites where organ and choral literature can be downloaded for free—I went home and explored several websites and found some great anthems. I remember one of them-- Gounod’s “Ave Verum”-- was very well received on Holy Thursday. I’m also pleased that the AGO is trying to find new ways to attract students to our profession.

RR- “What are some of the activities you pursue outside of the music profession?”

NS-I am employed full-time at Presbyterian Home of Maryland as their Food Service Manager. I work there, in general, from 7pm to 3pm and then head over to Immaculate for planning and practice. I enjoy antiquing on the side and staying current with political issues. (RR-with Nelson’s work schedule, I’m surprised he has time for anything outside of work!)

RR-“What advice would you give to someone who is considering a career as organist?”

NS-Study lots of human psychology in college to help you deal with the wide range personalities in church and music field. Also, get lots of practice in anger management techniques as well as conflict management strategies. Mostly, however, you just need to learn to “roll with the punches.”

Noteworthy

SUNDAY, JUNE 14

Mendelssohn's Elijah
Choir and friends and chamber orchestra
St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church
3711 Edmondson Ave.
7:30 pm

SUNDAY, JUNE 21

Eric Plutz in recital
Church of Resurrection
Burtonsville, MD
www.resurrectionadw.org/concert
6:00 pm

FRIDAY, JUNE 26

Oakland Girls Choir on tour
"Voices of Women" by women composers
Central Presbyterian Church
7308 York Road
7:30 pm

SUNDAY, JUNE 28

Organ Recital - David Huggins
First English Lutheran Church
Charles & 39th Streets
2:00 pm

In Memoriam

The Baltimore Chapter AGO extends its
deepest sympathy to member

Donald Fries

whose father, Donald S. Fries, died
on May 15.

Services and burial took place in
Connellsville, PA

We hold Donald and his Family in our thoughts
and prayers.

Atlantic City Organ Tours

The Atlantic City Convention Hall Organ Society, in association with Boardwalk Hall, is offering conducted tours of the VII/449 Midmer-Losh and 4/55 Kimball pipe organs in Boardwalk Hall, Atlantic City.

Upcoming dates include June 16, July 7, July 21, August 4, and August 18.

Reservations may be made by email to: acchostour@gmail.com. More information is available at www.acchos.org (Click: Organ Tour).

Not too late to renew membership, pay dues

If you have misplaced your membership renewal form, you can download another from our chapter website: www.BaltimoreAGO.org

If you know a potential members, tell them to look at our website for information as well.

To be sure that your name and contact information are included in our next yearbook, please submit your renewal promptly.

- Be sure to sign the ethics statement
- Be sure to correct any information that has changed since the last yearbook
- Include cell phone numbers if you would like to be contacted that way
- Include your email address

Realizing that the space allotted is cramped, you can put additional information on the reverse side of the form.



Enjoy a
**Summer
Break!**

SUBSTITUTE ORGANISTS

Listing is for a period of one year and is free to AGO members, \$40 fee (non-refundable) to non-members. It is the responsibility of the individual to renew the listing at the yearly registration. Contact Placement Director Bruce Eicher, 410-561-9948. **Publication of the names is a convenience to users and does not imply endorsement of individuals by the Baltimore Chapter AGO.**

(The names listed are available for any service as Organist/Director for all denominations any day unless indicated otherwise.)

Clinton Adams	(410) 663-0161	Unavailable Sunday AM
Patricia Amato	(410) 391-8750	e-mail: pmcamato@comcast.net
Douglas Barclay	(410) 225-3360	Weddings and Funerals. e-mail: dblyco21@hotmail.com
David P. Beatty	(215) 518-1025	
Paul Binko	(410) 561-9928	e-mail: PaulBinko@comcast.net
Naomi Binko	(410) 337-0304	
Janet Bowen	(410) 252-5454	
Nelda Clelland	(410) 744-0809	neldaclelland@mac.com
Ted Davis	(410) 859-3236	Unavailable Sunday AM
Jeffrey Ehmsen	(443) 756-0413	
Theodore Feldmann	(410) 467-0443	No Sat eve or Sun AM. Cantor/Organist Mail4MrTed@aol.com
Larry Ford	(410) 529-1892	lafldt@comcast.net
Richard Foss	(410) 823-8708	
Dan Gleckler	(410) 243-5313	e-mail: adg2726stpaul@msn.com
Warren Glock	(410) 661-1004	Unavailable Sunday AM
Aaron Goen	(760) 703-5619	e-mail: aaron@osp1692.org Unavailable Sunday AM (In June, available weekends and evenings.)
Stephen Heaver, Jr.	(410) 235-6144	Unavailable Sundays from Sept.-May
John Holland	(410) 323-3322	Funerals, weddings, weekday services.
John Igoe	(410) 869-8590	e-mail: jmidad@verizon.net
Jonel Jones	(410) 889-8688	
Diane Kline	(410) 337-4948	Unavailable Sunday AM
Melody Knight	(410) 790-6308	Org/Dir and Vocal soloist. Unavailable Sunday AM
Len Langrick	(443) 257-3300	Unavailable Sunday AM, RC Masses, weddings, funerals e-mail: llangrick@towsonpres.org e-mail: lauderdales2@verizon.net
Jack Lauderdale	(410) 531-2670	Unavailable Mondays and evenings.. e-mail: vollund.leysing@gmail.com
Vollund Leysing	(410) 905-8626	
Vernene Rodgers Lenz	(410) 833-4427	
Ruth Loyer	(717) 424-6739	Also plays Viola.
Diane Luchese	(410) 435-3424	Weekends only
Kathryn Master	(410) 340-2212	(Also plays flute) e-mail: kmastermusic@aol.com
Louise Null	(410) 484-2825	
Renata O'Reilly	(410) 300-2710	Unavailable Sunday AM
Daniel Bennett Page	(301) 946-0919	Weekends and evenings. cell: 301-821-7230, Cantor/organ/choral e-mail: DanielBennettPage@hotmail.com e-mail: mepschell@hotmail.com
Michele Prokopchak	(301) 989-2238	(Flute, voice, Cantor, organ) not available Sunday AM
Lori Ramser	(410) 922-2290	e-mail: staccato@comcast.net e-mail: bbrowe4450@verizon.net
Bryan Rowe	410) 744-5260	Unavailable weekdays e-mail: 3weisman@comcast.net
Susan Weisman	(410) 830-1791	
Michele Prokopchak	(301) 989-2238	Available weekends only
George Sack	(410) 821-0244	
Eleanor Timberlake	(410) 730-3222	
Heather Traxler	(443) 929-0057	Pianist. Service playing, teaching. htraxler@hotmail.com
Brenda Weiser	(301) 865-6113	e-mail: brenda.weiser@comcast.net

Please visit the National Headquarters Website for the 2008 Salary Guide showing a fee schedule for Worship Services, Weddings and Funerals. Go to: <http://www.agohq.org/profession/indexsalary.html>

PLACEMENT SERVICE – June 2009

BRUCE EICHER

202 Cinder Road, Timonium, MD 21093

410-561-9948 **E-mail:** BruceEicher@verizon.net

Please note deadline for combined July/August summer issue: August 1, 2009

There is a non-refundable fee of \$15 for all church listings.

ST. MARY'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, 1441 E. Mayberry Road, Westminster, MD 21158. 373-member congregation seeking an Organist for one weekly service and one weekly rehearsal. Approximately 15 hours per week. 1944, 9-rank Möller Pipe Organ. Four weeks paid vacation. Salary: \$7500 negotiable. Some benefits.

Contact: Lisa Chilcoat, 410-346-7977. **E-mail:** Office@StMarysUCC.org. (Mar.09)

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 7859 Rick Neck Road, Pasadena, MD 21222. 150-member congregation seeking an Organist/Director for one weekly service and one weekly rehearsal. Approximately ten hours per week. 3-manual Rogers organ and Kurzweil keyboard. Salary: 13,500-\$17,000. Benefits: Four weeks paid vacation, Continuing Education, Music allowance.

Contact: The Rev. Shawn Hill, 410-255-1070.

Send resume to: secretarystandrewspasadena@verizon.net (Jun.09)

AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

Baltimore Chapter

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