

Pipe & Pedal

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

OFFICERS

Dean

Theodore Davis

Sub Dean

Michael Britt

Secretary

Kitty Allen

Treasurer

Elise Hoermann

Registrar

David C. Dasch

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Class of 2010

Joy Bauer

SongYi Park

Tandy Edward Dix

Class of 2011

Adam Koch

Mary Hamlin-Spencer

Nelson Streett

Class of 2012

Janet Bowen

Kathie Metz

Katherine Scott

PIPE & PEDAL

Deadline:

1st of each month

Kitty Allen, editor

410-494-8589

kitty.allen@verizon.net

Placement:

Bruce Eicher, director

410-561-9948

BruceEicher@verizon.net

For forms and further

information, see

www.BaltimoreAGO.org

From Paul Carroll. . .

It hardly seems possible that more than a year has passed since I became Dean of our Baltimore Chapter. I have had a wonderful time serving in this capacity and I look forward to future opportunities that present themselves within our chapter. As you read here last month, I have started doctoral studies in Sacred Music at the Catholic University of America. The program at school along side my church position will work together to keep me rather busy. It is with these things in mind that I ask for your support and understanding as I pass on the role of Dean.

At this same time, our Sub Dean, **Daniel Fortune**, begins a new position as Organist and Choirmaster at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Akron, Ohio. There is an incredible amount of behind-the-scenes work involved in the Sub Dean position. We will be experiencing the results of Dan's work throughout the 2009-2010 program season. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dan for everything he has done for our chapter – for his thoroughness and effectiveness couples with a seemingly endless supply of good ideas and support.

On August 17, the Executive Board met to discuss the future leadership of the chapter. In cases such as this, it is the job of the Executive Board to appoint a new Dean and Sub Dean for the remainder of the term. In our case, this means roughly ten months until we hold our regularly scheduled elections in Spring 2010. I am pleased to announce that **Ted Davis** has been appointed Dean and **Michael Britt** has been appointed Sub Dean. Both Ted and Michael bring a great deal of knowledge and experience with them. They have both served in numerous AGO leadership roles in the past, a fact that will help to keep continuity within the Baltimore Chapter leadership at this time of transition.

Again, I thank you for the opportunities of the past year and I will look forward to seeing everyone at a future chapter event.

ED NOTE: to fill the open board positions created by the above appointments, **SongYi Park** has accepted a one-year term completion for the class of 2010 and **Adam Koch** will complete the term in the class of 2011.

“Meet and Greet” with Bishop Eugene Taylor Sutton

Tuesday, September 22 - 6:00 p.m. – Episcopal Church of the Redeemer

Dinner Reservation Form

I plan to attend the catered dinner on Tuesday, September 22 and enclose \$25 per person (your AGO membership is partially subsidizing the cost of the dinner.

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

HOW MANY? _____

Mail to Kitty Allen, 307-B Charles Street Ave., Towson, MD 21204

Deadline: September 18

Roving ReporterD. S. Woods

The Roving Reporter interviewed Theodore “Ted” Davis who is Organist/Choirmaster at St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church in the Ten Hills section of West Baltimore. The Roving Reporter was surprised to learn that Mr. Davis will be assuming the role of Dean of the Baltimore Chapter AGO, replacing the exiting Paul Carroll. The time spent with Ted Davis was a fascinating insight into the life of a talented musician and artist who not only performs frequently on organ and harpsichord, but also conducts his choir in a jam-packed concert series at St. Bart’s. If you are not sufficiently impressed yet – check out the series of compositions for keyboard and choir which our new Dean has composed and listed on his website!

RR: When and where did the playing of the organ capture your interest?

TD: I grew up in Atlanta, where my father was a United Methodist minister. At age 7, we moved to a Birmingham suburb to a very large church – Vestavia Hills UMC – which housed a large Austin organ. I found the big sound to be really exciting! At age 13, one particular event stands out in my mind. Our youth choir traveled to a neighboring parish to sing in a wedding, and for the postlude of that service, I heard the famous Widor “Tocatta” for the first time. I was blown away! This is what I want to do!

RR: Did you study piano first?

TD: Yes. My older brother Ben studied first, and there was always lots of good music to be heard as I grew up. I took lessons from a lady in the neighborhood – Mrs. Thomas. At one point I remember not wanting to practice, and I would conveniently “get lost” when it was time to travel to my piano lessons. After two weeks of these clever “no-shows,” my father confronted me: “Do you want to quit?” – “Yes” – “Then YOU must tell Mrs. Thomas of your decision.” Well, I did not have the backbone for that conversation, and at the next piano lesson, I meekly promised Mrs. Thomas that would practice 20 minutes a day! I wonder what might have happened had my father not intervened so wisely!

RR: Who were the mentors/teachers who guided you in your studies?

TD: My first organ teacher was Merlin Johnson, the Music Director at Vestavia Hills, and I credit him with demonstrating a high degree of competence in his position at the church. I admired his dynamic energy in front of the choir, but I was a little intimidated by his artistic temperament. At times, he could really “go off!”

I attended Birmingham Southern College (a Methodist school which both my parents attended) after I heard their Concert Choir. I had never heard anything like that sound before! At the college, I sang with their director, Hugh Thomas, who had a highly esteemed reputation for choral excellence and a charismatic “larger-than-life” personality, and you worked hard for him because he was inspiring and you did not want to disappoint him. My organ teachers were James Dorroh and James Cook. My fellow organ students and I could be quite the “cut-ups” then, and I remember several pranks at department Christmas parties (blowing on organ pipes à la handbell style). It was a good way to ease the tension of school. After graduation, I headed to Northwestern University in Chicago to study Choral Conducting.

RR: Your roots are in the Methodist tradition, but you are serving an Anglican parish. When did the switch occur?

TD: The chaplain at Birmingham Southern conducted the worship services with a heightened sense of movement from Word to music. I sense that it was a form of liturgical renewal, and, for me, it was a natural switch to gravitate to a church setting where there was more musical activity and movement in worship. In Chicago, I played at a Lutheran church and learned the LBW settings I and II, as well as their psalmody. Although I continued to serve in Methodist churches for many years (Church Street Methodist in Selma and Reveille UMC in Richmond), I did finally make the switch to a liturgical tradition when I moved to Boston for more schooling. [When RR asked Mr. Davis how he came to our fair city from Boston, he sheepishly replied that he got the degree, but his wife got the job in the Baltimore County School system.]

RR: How did you become interested in the harpsichord?

TD: I attended a harpsichord concert in Charleston on an “off-afternoon” during the Spoleto Music Festival. It was incredible! The instrument had a much larger range of expression than I had imagined! I fell in love with the Early Music repertoire and I traveled to Cambridge, MA to study harpsichord with Peter Sykes at the Longy School of Music.

RR: Your Casavant organ at St. Bartholomew’s has an interesting history. Can you tell me about it?

TD: Definitely! When I came to St. Bartholomew’s in April 2005, the congregation was ready to replace its dilapidated 1931 Möller. Major credit needs to go to fellow AGO member Mary Hamlin-Spencer, one of my

predecessors at St. Bart's, who pushed for an "organ and acoustical task farce." The church was approached by Baltimore organ builder David Storey who knew of an instrument for sale in Victoriaville, Quebec – a Casavant. The Canadian organ was purchased and trucked to David's warehouse in Hampden for refurbishing. The Möller was dismantled in 2006 and the refurbished pipes, as well as ranks of the new Casavant pipes were added. The organ was dedicated in 2007 and was featured prominently in the Star-Spangled Baltimore AGO convention with Eric Plutz at the console. Also, the following fall, Peter Sykes, Marvin Mills, and I played dedication recitals.

RR: What advice would you give to a student interested in following a career path in church music/organ?

TD: Do as many of the following as one can: find a good teacher, look for opportunities to hear other organists (concerts as well as services), sing in a good choir, and (of course!) Join the AGO and attend chapter meetings and conventions – it's never too early and the networking that can take place there is invaluable.

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
David P. Beatty	(215) 518-1025	
Paul Binko	(410) 561-9928	e-mail: PaulBinko@comcast.net
Naomi Binko	(410) 337-0304	
Nelda Clelland	(410) 744-0809	neldaclelland@mac.com
Judith Daffer	(410) 381-2014	e-mail: Juude@aol.com
Ted Davis	(410) 859-3236	Unavailable Sunday AM
Theodore Feldmann	(410) 467-0443	No Sat eve or Sun AM. Cantor/Organist Mail4MrTed@aol.com
Larry Ford	(410) 529-1892	lafld@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
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
Diane Kline	(410) 337-4948	Unavailable Sunday AM
Melody Knight	(410) 790-6308	Org/Dir and Vocal soloist. Unavailable Sunday AM
Jack Lauderdale	(410) 531-2670	e-mail: lauderdale2@verizon.net
Vernene Rodgers Lenz	(410) 833-4427	
Diane Luchese	(410) 435-3424	Weekends only
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
Michele Prokopchak	(301) 989-2238	e-mail: mepschell@hotmail.com
Lori Ramser	(410) 922-2290	(Flute, voice, Cantor, organ) not available Sunday AM e-mail: staccato@comcast.net
Frank Ritterman	(410) 404-0040	Evenings and weekends. e-mail: fxr9@comcast.net
Bryan Rowe	410) 744-5260	e-mail: bbrowe4450@verizon.net
George Sack	(410) 821-0244	Available weekends only
Eleanor Timberlake	(410) 730-3222	
Susan Weisman	(410) 830-1791	Weddings& Funerals e-mail: 3weisman@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>

Names of those who have not renewed their membership in the Baltimore Chapter AGO have been removed from the Substitute List on both the website and the *Pipe & Pedal*

PLACEMENT SERVICE – September, 2009

BRUCE EICHER

202 Cinder Road, Timonium, MD 21093

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

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

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)

FALLSTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 600 Fallston Road (PO Box 54) Fallston, MD 21047. 85-family congregation seeking an Organist/Director for one weekly service and one weekly rehearsal. Approximately 17 hours per week. 1985 Allen Digital Organ. Salary: \$15,000. Two weeks paid vacation. Benefits include Continuing Education, Music Allowance and Study Leave. **Contact:** Susan Fiala, 410-893-0536. (Aug.09)

MT. CARMEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 2533 Mt. Carmel Road, Parkton, MD 21120. 75-member congregation seeking an Organist (half-time) for one weekly liturgy and one weekly rehearsal. Approximately 8 hours per week. 8-rank, 2-manual Daffer Pipe Organ. Starting Salary: \$100 per week. **Contact:** Shirley Griest, 410-374-1072. (Sept. 09)

THE NEW WAVE SINGERS OF BALTIMORE, INC., Maryland's only auditioned GLBTS community chorus, is searching for an Artistic Director for the 2009-2010 season. The chorus rehearses on Tuesdays at 7:00 - 9:30 PM from September to June. This is a 12-month, part-time, contractor position that requires approximately 30 hours per month. Annual compensation is \$7,200.00. For a full description of the position please visit the organization's website at: www.newwavesingers.org Please **e-mail** resume, cover letter and references to directorsearch@newwavesingers.org (Aug. 09)

DICKEY MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 5116 Wetheredsville Road, Baltimore, MD 21207. 115-member church seeking Organist and Director for one weekly service and brief rehearsal on Sunday morning. Approximately 11-12 hours per week. Rodgers 1982 two-manual organ. Salary: \$10,000-\$12,000 per year with six weeks of paid vacation. **Contact:** Phillip Branner, 410-486-4665. **E-mail:** philbranner@comcast.net (Aug.09)

MEMORIAL EPISCOPAL CHURCH, 1407 Bolton Street, Baltimore, MD 21217. 400-member congregation seeking an Organist/Director combined and a Pianist for a Contemporary Service (not a requirement but a possibility for position of Organist/Director.) One traditional (and possibly one Contemporary) service per week with one weekly rehearsal. Approximately 16 hours per week. 1923 3-manual Casavant Freres Pipe Organ. Salary: \$15,000-\$17,000 per year. **Contact:** Rev. Martha Macgill, 410-669-0220. (Sept. 09)



Help the Baltimore Chapter go GREEN!
Choose to receive your *Pipe & Pedal* electronically

Having your *Pipe & Pedal* delivered to your e-mail address will:

- give you a more timely delivery
 - save some trees
 - save your postal carrier's back a bit
 - save the chapter a lot of money and hassle with printing, folding, postage, hauling bulk mailing, etc.!
- Contact Kitty Allen, kitty.allen@verizon.net or 410-494-8589 to say "Yes, I'll go green!"**

Noteworthy

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13

Russian Duo (domra and bayan)
Community Concerts at Second
4200 St. Paul Street
3:30 p.m.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20

“Stringfest” Concert
Music for string orchestra
Jennifer Herrera, concertmaster
Theo. S (Ted) Davis, conductor
St. Bartholomew’s Episcopal Church
4711 Edmondson Ave.
www.stbartolomew.ang-md.org
6:30 p.m.

Chamber Music by Candlelight
Musicians from the BSO
Community Concerts at Second
4200 St. Paul Street
7:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

Asteria - Early Music duo
Community Concerts at Second
4200 St. Paul Street
3:30 p.m.

Lyra, the Voice of Russia
Concert Russian choral music
Central Presbyterian Church
7308 York Road
3:00 p.m.

Our Sympathy

The sincere sympathy of the Baltimore Chapter AGO is extended to the family and friends of **Anna Margareta Gregory**, long time member of this chapter, who died on August 12.

Among our youngest –

Tyler Canonico, 17 attends Oberlin Summer Organ Academy

Chapter member Tyler Canonico was admitted by audition to the 2009 Summer Organ Academy at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music. There he participated in masterclasses and private lessons with organ professors Dr. James David Christie and Dr. Jack Mitchner. At the conclusion of the week, each student presented solo pieces as part of a group recital on the school’s Fisk organ.

Tyler has been an organ student of Dr. Jason Kissel for the past three years, and has recently accepted the position of Organist and Assistant Choir Director at Hope Presbyterian Church in Arbutus, MD. Tyler is entering his senior year at Patapsco High School where he is heavenly involved in the school’s distinguished arts program
Congratulations, Tyler!

Those interested in learning more about Michael Britt’s recent trip to Paris and recital at Notre Dame might wish to visit this website:
http://www.stmargaret.org/Britt_ParisTripLtr.htm
Lots of good photos and you don’t need a passport!

SPECIAL DEADLINE ANNOUNCEMENT

Because of pending travel plans for the editor, would everyone submitting information for the October issue of the *Pipe & Pedal* please have all material in by September 28th.

Many thanks! Kitty Allen --
kitty.allen@verizon.net

AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS
Baltimore Chapter
307-B Charles Street Avenue
Towson, Maryland 21204

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Baltimore, MD
Permit No. 6847

We hope to see all of you at our opening program!

**MAKE
YOUR
RESERVATIONS
NOW!!**

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____
No. of Reservations _____

**“Meet and Greet” with
Bishop Eugene Taylor Sutton, speaker
Tuesday, September 22**

The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer
5603 N. Charles Street, Baltimore
(Henry Lowe, host)

6:00 p.m. - Wine and Hors d’oeuvres

6:30 p.m. - Dinner, with the Right Reverend Eugene Taylor
Sutton, Bishop of Maryland

Cost: \$25 per person (your AGO membership is partially
subsidizing the cost of the meal)

Tenzo Artisan Caterers

Reservation deadline: Friday, September 18
see reservation form on first page of this issue