

THE BIRMINGHAM CHIFF ...off the old blockflute

The Birmingham Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

May 2015

A Word from the Dean

Dear Friends,

Well, we survived another Lenten/Easter season and are hopefully looking forward to time to relax this summer before it all starts again. I hope that part of your summer plans is attending the Southeast Region AGO Convention in Charlotte, NC. It looks to be a wonderful event. Congratulations to Christopher Henley for making it to the finals of RCYO. He will be competing at the convention in Charlotte. We wish him the best.

We had a wonderful student recital at First United Methodist for our April meeting. All of the students played extremely well, with a good representation from the University of Alabama and Samford University. We also got to see the newly refurbished sanctuary at FUMC, part of which K. C. Hayes painted. K. C. also catered a wonderful meal in the church's dining hall. Thank you to Jim Cook and Mark Hayes for making their church available and being great hosts. Also, thanks to Christopher Henley for putting the student recital together and to Sherelyn Breland for printing the program. It was good to see Jim Cook out and about. Unfortunately, the bad weather discouraged Pat Fitzsimmons from venturing out, but we are delighted to hear that she is back to playing and teaching.

Our May meeting will be your last chance to vote for folks to fill the vacancy on the Executive Committee. We will also have organ music donated by Linda Gill's family and Stephen Schaeffer available for you to purchase at very reasonable prices. Proceeds will go to the Birmingham AGO. We hope to see you there.

Sincerely,
Dan Lawhon

A Word from the Secretary

Greetings!

As you're aware, it is time for our chapter to elect the next class of the Executive Committee. Those nominated are Sam Burke, Debby Holmes, Bill Richardson, David Robertson, and Natalie Tally. Three members will be elected from this group.

You may vote in one of three ways: (1) by online ballot on the chapter website, (2) by absentee ballot, or (3) in person at the May 11 chapter meeting.

We hope that you will take advantage of the online ballot, casting your vote by May 8. To do this, log onto the *Just for Members* section of the website. You'll find the "2015 Executive Committee Election: Online Ballot" option at the bottom of the menu. If you've forgotten your password to log in, we'll be happy to provide it to you. Just contact me or Sherelyn Breland [brel513@bellsouth.net or (205) 664-1373] for assistance. If you prefer an absentee ballot, please request one by emailing or calling me using the contact info below. Absentee ballots are due by May 8, so make your request as soon as possible to allow time for the mailing process.

The election concludes with in-person voting at the May 11 chapter meeting. Results will be announced that night and published on the chapter website, in the chapter newsletter, and in a chapter-wide email.

Please contact me at secretary@birminghamago.org, (205) 769-0113, or (205) 223-3293 for assistance.

Thanks in advance for your participation!

Karen Krekelberg

April Chapter Event Annual Student Recital



Tyler Canonico, Adam Cobb, Catherine Heeman, Matthew Edwards, Katie Loudermilk, Isaac Johnson, Christopher Henley

On Monday, April 13th, Jim Cook and Mark Hayes hosted the chapter at Birmingham's First United Methodist Church for the annual student recital. This year's performers are organ performance majors at the University of Alabama except for Adam Cobb, who is pursuing at BM in Composition at Samford, and Isaac Johnson, who is minoring in music at Samford.

The program was *Introduction and Passacaglia in d* (Reger) played by Adam Cobb, *Rhumba* (Elmore) played by Katie Loudermilk, and *Praeludium et Fuga in C, BWV547* (Bach) played by Christopher Henley. Catherine Heemann selected Brahms' *Herzlich tut mich verlangen, Op. 122 No. 9*, Matthew Edwards chose Wagner's *Trionfo della vita 'Phantasiestück,' Op. 76*, and Isaac Johnson played Gigout's *Toccata in b*. Tyler Canonico closed out the evening with four selections from Hampton's *Five Dances for Organ*.

Warren Hutton POE Scholarship

Our chapter voted at the April meeting to award our POE scholarship to a young organist attending the July 13-17 POE in Columbus, GA. Mike Burt will send our check to Dr. Joseph Golden, the POE Director, who will select a worthy candidate. The idea of allowing the POE Director to find a recipient for us was suggested by our AGO National Headquarters. Dr. Jeff McLelland, a member of our Scholarship committee, will be an instructor at this event. Jeff will be able to evaluate how well this works and give us important feedback.

Natalie Tally, Chairman
Competition and Scholarship Awards Committee

May Chapter Meeting

Please join us at 6:00 PM on Monday, May 11, when Josh Coble will be our host at Mountain Brook Baptist Church. Two events of particular interest will occur that night: the sale of a large amount of music and the conclusion of this year's election.

The family of long-time chapter member Linda Gill, who passed away in September, has donated her music to be sold as a fund raiser for the chapter. Stephen Schaeffer is also donating music and books of interest to be included in this sale. These items, which will be sold at face value, will be available for you to browse and purchase that night. With such a large amount of music available, there is sure to be something for everyone. So check your music library and bring a shopping list of items to purchase. We are most grateful to Linda's family and to Stephen for their generosity in making these donations.

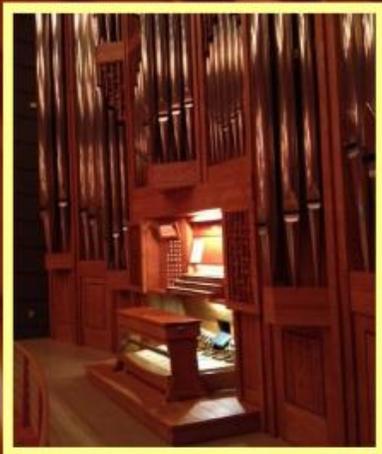
We will also be concluding the election of the next Executive Committee class. Those members who have not voted online or by absentee ballot will be able to cast their ballot in person. Election results will be announced that night.

This will be our final chapter gathering until September. Hope you'll be able to attend!

2015 Pipe Organ Encounter...

Columbus, Georgia Chapter of the
American Guild of Organists
and the
Columbus State University
Schwob School of Music

Pipe Organ Encounter



July 12-17, 2015
Sunday-Friday



As you can see, this POE will be in the Southeast Region in nearby Columbus, GA. It opens with a welcome dinner on Sunday at the home of an AGO chapter member which features a LeTourneau residence pipe organ and ends on Friday with the student recital in the Rivercenter's Legacy Hall on the LeTourneau Jordan Concert Organ. In addition to their music studies, students will take field trips to the Columbus Museum, Coca-Cola Space Science Center Theater, and Callaway Gardens. They'll even

...with Wonderful Resources

The Organs

Legacy Hall, RiverCenter
for the Performing Arts
63 rank Letourneau
mechanical action



First Presbyterian Church
65 rank Aeolian/Skinner/Williams



Trinity Episcopal Church
65 rank Letourneau



First Baptist Church
54 rank Moeller



St. Luke United
Methodist Church
44 rank Moeller



Specifications for these organs are available
on our web site agocolumbusga.org

The Faculty

Joby Bell, Appalachian University
Stefan Engels, Southern Methodist University
Joseph Golden, Schwob School of Music
Boyd Jones, Stetson University
Nicole Marane, Peachtree Road UMC, Atlanta, Ga
Jeff McLelland, Independent Presbyterian Church, B'ham
Jack Mitchener, Mercer University
Charles Tompkins, Furman University

Housing

Housing is provided in Columbus State University Student Housing at the RiverPark Campus. Distance from housing to all 5 downtown pipe organ locations is five regular city blocks or less. The University Food Service is next door to Student Housing and University Medical Facilities located in Student Housing.

travel to the Whitewater Express and Zip Line before or after the POE. Registration closes May 1, but sometimes openings are available. Director Joseph Golden may be reached at (706) 649-7246 or golden_joseph@columbusstate.edu. Scroll down to the Columbus POE link for a full POE brochure here: <https://www.agohq.org/education/poe/poe/>.

Calendar of Events 2015

For complete details on these items, see the Online Calendar on the chapter website www.birminghamago.org

May 3, 2015 2:30 PM

Organ Recital – Dan Lawhon. Music of Dubois, DeGrigny, Langlais, Widor. Baptist Church of the Covenant

May 14, 2015 6:00 PM

Choral Eucharist for Ascension Day. The Cathedral Choir, Frederick T. Teardo, Charles M. Kennedy. Cathedral Church of the Advent

May 17, 2015 3:00 PM

Cathedral Concert Series – Music of K. Lee Scott. The Cathedral Choir, Frederick T. Teardo, Charles M. Kennedy. Cathedral Church of the Advent

May 17, 2015 3:00 PM

Choral Evensong – Service of Commissioning for IPC Choir Tour to Spain IPC Choir, Jeff McLelland. Independent Presbyterian Church

May 31, 2015 4:00 PM

Choral Concert and Sung Vespers for Trinity Sunday. The Cathedral Choir; Colin Alexander, baritone; Bruce Ludwick, Jr., conductor/organ; Tyler Canonico, organ/conductor. Works by Duruflé, Rheinberger, Vaughan Williams. Concert at 4:00 PM, Vespers at 5:00 PM. The Cathedral of St. Paul

June 13, 2015 3:00 PM

Organ Concert – Michael Waters, Calvin Branning, Christopher Henley. Combination of classical organ music and hymns. Concert will benefit “Reaching Out International,” a United Way agency. Tickets \$5 at the door. First United Methodist Church, Roanoke