

THE BIRMINGHAM CHIFF

...off the old blockflute



Birmingham Chapter of The American Guild of Organists April 4, 2011



Jamie McLemore, Dean

April - 2011

Our March program at Southside Baptist was such a bittersweet time for so many of us. Three of Ted Tibbs' students, Sarah Heaslett, Charles Kennedy, and Michael Smith played an outstanding program on the Holtkamp Organ that Ted designed. I agree with what Charles states in his article in this newsletter; there were over 100 present for the program. It was a very meaningful night to all who attended.

Our next 2 months are quite busy with final preparations for our POE. Our May meeting, scheduled for Monday, May 9th at South Highland Presbyterian, will be a "working" meeting in preparations for the POE. We need as many hands as possible to get the binders that the students and faculty will use during the week. Most of the planning for this is in the final stages and registrations are still arriving. It does take a lot of work and planning to get this together. If you, your church, or anyone would like to provide a scholarship, please let me or any of our officers know ASAP.

All of us are in midst of learning or relearning music for Palm Sunday, Holy Week, and Easter. May all go well with in tune organs and choirs that know all the correct notes and when and where to be - and especially on time for all the extra services and rehearsals!! I will see you at St. Paul's on the 11th.

Jamie



Dear Members,

Our next chapter meeting will be Monday, April 11 at St. Paul's Cathedral, with the chapter dinner at 6:00, the business meeting at 6:30, and the program at 7:00. The program will be our annual student recital, and will also include the installation of officers. Any student who would like to perform, who has not already done so, should please contact me ASAP at kenedy@cathedraladvent.com. Detailed instructions for arranging practice time for those who will be playing have been sent to their teachers, as the schedule at St. Paul's is very busy this time of the year. All practice arrangements must be made with Steve Calvert, who can be reached at 821-2224.

Please send me your reservations for dinner by 12 noon on Thursday, April 7, and please note that, as with last month, this is one day earlier than the usual deadline (as requested by the caterer). The cost of the dinner will be \$10, and the menu will include lemon chicken, rice, green beans, salad and a dessert.

Recapping last month, we had a very memorable evening at Southside Baptist church on the 14th when we paid tribute to our recently-deceased, beloved chapter member H. Edward (“Ted”) Tibbs, with a recital presented by three of his former students. The program was exceptionally well attended, with probably over 100 people in attendance. Present were Margaret Tibbs Molina (Ted’s sister) and her husband Jean-Alex. Margaret and Jean were deeply touched by this special occasion. Special thanks go to Southside Baptist for hosting this event, to Sarah Heaslett for hosting and performing, and to Michael Smith for taking time during his spring break (from his duties at the Groton School in Massachusetts) to perform.

I am pleased to announce that Josh Bullock was awarded the Myrtle Jones Steele scholarship in our chapter scholarship competition on March 12, held at St. Luke’s Episcopal Church. Josh is a junior at Samford University, studying under James Dorroh.

I would like to draw your attention, finally, to our monthly chapter meeting for May 9, which will be held at South Highland Presbyterian Church, following the normal schedule (dinner at 6:00 and business meeting at 6:30). Please note that the installation of officers will occur at the May meeting, rather than the April meeting as originally planned. This will be a particularly important meeting, as there will be work session beginning at 7:00, following the business meeting, to help with a number of vital tasks pertaining to the upcoming Pipe Organ Encounter (POE). The POE committee has been working very hard to plan for what we expect to be an extraordinary week for the 30 teenage organ students who will be participating, but we need your help! With concern over the shortage of organists throughout the country and the comparatively small

number of organ students in our colleges and universities, these POEs being held across the country are most important in recruiting more young people to take an interest in organ study. We already see evidence that the POEs have made a difference, as a good number of young people have gone on to become organ majors after having participated in one or more POEs. Therefore, I really hope that lots of the chapter membership will turn out for the May meeting to help us do the many essential tasks to get various materials ready for the students. Let us do what we can to help make this a real success, and the best POE ever!

Charles M. Kennedy
Sub Dean

Monday, April 11, 2011
Student Recital
Dinner 6:00 p.m.
Business Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Program 7:00 p.m.
St. Paul's Cathedral

Monday, May 9, 2011
Installation of Officers
Work Session for Pipe Organ Encounters
Dinner 6:00 p.m.
Business Meeting 6:30 p.m.
Work Session 7:00 p.m.