



# THE BIRMINGHAM CHIFF ...off the old blockflute

## The Birmingham Chapter of the American Guild of Organists

May 2016

### A Word from the Dean

Hello Friends,

I hope you are doing well and looking forward to some rest during the summer. Many of us had fun playing the newly refurbished Austin Organ at Vestavia Hills United Methodist Church Monday, April 11<sup>th</sup>. We want to thank **Karen Krekelberg** for hosting and for the wonderful meal prepared by VHUMC's kitchen staff. We also want to thank **Stephen Schaeffer, Natalie Tally and Rachel Julian** for sharing music they enjoy playing. Yours truly also shared, but it seems odd to thank myself. Thanks to those of you who braved the elements to attend. We missed those of you who could not be there.

Our next and final meeting for the year will be a student recital at Episcopal Church of the Ascension in Vestavia Hills. We look forward to hearing the students play. Anyone who would like is invited to meet at Newk's in Vestavia Hills at 5:30 p.m. (Dutch treat). The meeting will also be your last chance to vote for officers and Executive Committee members. Voting online is very easy if you prefer.

Your Executive Committee is hard at work preparing an interesting program calendar for the 2016-17 year. We plan to unveil this at the May meeting. Please reserve this meeting date, as it is important to support your AGO chapter as we work to further the support of the organ and church music in general.

I hope to see some of you at the National AGO Convention in Houston, TX at the end of June. It should be a great convention.

Have a wonderful summer,  
Dan

### MAY CHAPTER EVENT

Please make plans to attend the May 9th chapter meeting at Episcopal Church of the Ascension in Vestavia Hills. We'll begin with a Dutch treat dinner (no reservation needed) at the nearby Newk's restaurant at 5:30 PM then move to the church for a business meeting at 6:30 PM. Our student members will present this year's recital at 7:00 PM.

Newk's is located at 612 Montgomery Hwy, Suite 110 in Vestavia Hills, AL 35216. The church is a block behind it at 1912 Canyon Road, 35216.

This will be the last opportunity until September to purchase the music donated by Linda Gill's family, Leslie Teardo, and Debby Holmes. These generous donations were made to raise funds for chapter activities. Come see if there's something you'd like to add to your music library.

Look forward to seeing you!

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### We're Hosting a POEA in 2017!!!

**Congratulations to Faythe Freese for her efforts in securing a Pipe Organ Encounter Advanced for June 25-30, 2017.** This will be held on the University of Alabama campus. We hosted Pipe Organ Encounters in 2011 and 2013. The POEA is different in that it is designed for students in grades 9 -12 who've already achieved a high level of success in organ study. The POEA provides a higher level of pipe organ instruction and intense course study. Contact Faythe as soon as possible if you're interested in serving on the Steering Committee or assisting in other ways.

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## A Neat Idea!!

**Bruce Ludwick shared this link to Orgelkids**, an educational program originating in the Netherlands designed to teach youngsters about the pipe organ: <http://www.orgelkidsusa.org/>.

Through this program young children are able to quickly construct from a kit a working two-rank, two-octave pipe organ. Click on the link to see a short video in which the organ kit is assembled and to find out about Orgelkids in the US and how it can be used with existing AGO educational opportunities.

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## Item of Note

**National Convention in Houston, June 19 – 23, 2016**  
Online registration is available at the convention website <http://agohouston2016.com/>. For those unable to attend in person, several of the recitals will be streamed live online. Rates increase again May 15 and any available hotel rooms in the AGO block are opened to the public as well, so make your reservation as soon as you can if you're interested.

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## 2016 ELECTION NEARS COMPLETION

The election of 2016-18 officers and the 2016-19 Class of the Executive Committee will conclude this month. The nominees are Dean: Dan Lawhon; Sub-Dean: Leslie Teardo; Secretary: Sherelyn Breland; Treasurer: Mike Burt; Executive Committee Class (three positions): Tyler Canonico, James Garner, Thomas Graves, Mark Hayes, Jeff McLelland, Nathan Smock, and John Wilson. Here are highlights of the final stages:

*Sat., May 7* Absentee ballots due; online voting ends

*Mon., May 9* (Chapter meeting)  
In-person voting is held at the business meeting. The results of all votes cast are announced at the meeting and publication is made to the chapter.

*July 1* New term begins for full Executive Committee.

*Sept chapter meeting* (tentative) Installation service.

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## SCHEDULED CHAPTER EVENTS 2016

### May

#### Student Recital

Monday, May 9, 2016

The Episcopal Church of the Ascension in Vestavia

**Dinner at 5:30 PM at Newk's**; Business meeting and program following dinner

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## MAY - JUNE OPPORTUNITIES

*See Online Calendar of Events for Complete Listing*

### May 5, 2016: 6:00 PM

*Choral Eucharist for Ascension Day* – Cathedral Church of the Advent

The Cathedral Choir; Frederick Teardo, Director of Music and Organist

Info: <http://www.adventbirmingham.org/kennedy@cathedraladvent.com>

### May 20, 2016: 12:30 PM

*Mid-Day Music Series: Christopher Henley, Organ* – Cathedral Church of the Advent

Info: <http://www.adventbirmingham.org/kennedy@cathedraladvent.com>

### May 22, 2016: 3:00 PM

*Choral Evensong and Recital* – Independent Presbyterian Church

IPC Camerata and organist Sarah Heaslett  
Service for Trinity Sunday

Info: <http://www.ipc-usa.org/jmclelland@ipc-usa.org>

### May 22, 2016: 3:00 PM

*Choral Evensong* – Cathedral Church of the Advent  
The Cathedral Choir; Frederick Teardo, Director of Music and Organist

Info: <http://www.adventbirmingham.org/kennedy@cathedraladvent.com>

### June 12, 2016: 3:00 PM

*Cathedral Choir in Concert* – Cathedral Church of the Advent

The Cathedral Choir; Frederick Teardo, Director of Music and Organist

Info: <http://www.adventbirmingham.org/kennedy@cathedraladvent.com>