

Oldest Chapter in the Carolinas

—
Chartered November 23, 1922

Central North Carolina Chapter American Guild of Organists Raleigh, North Carolina January 2018

The Dean's Column

Greetings!

Here's wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas!

And

An Even Happier New Year 2018!!

See you all on January 20th at Smorgansbord!!

DR. WILLIAM J. WEISSER, DEAN

HISTORY CORNER

On occasion, the chapter sent minutes of meetings, recitals, and other news worthy events to The Diapason for publication. Here's an excerpt from the January 1, 1937 issue.

"The North Carolina Chapter met at Elon College on the afternoon of Nov. 21 [1936] at 4 o'clock for the first business session of the year, Dean Leslie P. Spelman of Meredith College presiding. The call for old business brought the report that James Pfohl, head of music at Davidson College, had made a survey of the organists of the state in regard to their pro rata salary in the church budgets. He was compelled to report that not one pastor or church treasurer had answered his questionnaire."

Noël Hamm

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Contributions

Please note that our chapter has two funds to which you a may donate: a chapter operat-



ing fund and a scholarship fund. Any contributions beyond dues are encouraged and are tax-deductible.

The following members recently made donations to our funds:

Tamara Lewis - Chapter Fund Ruth Hoffman - Cooper Miller Scholarship Fund



CHAPTER COMMUNICATIONS

Newsletter published monthly by the Central North Carolina Chapter, American Guild of Organists. Submission Deadline: $24^{\rm th}$ of preceding month. Submit items by email (preferred), phone, or mail to the Newsletter Editor.

Chapter Website: http://cnccago.org/ Contact webmaster Andy Liepens (av8npa@gmail.com) for the members-only section password.

https://www.facebook.com/cnccago/



Central North Carolina American Guild of Organists

SMORGANSBORD

January 20th, 2018

9 AM - 5 PM

HAYES BARTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2209 Fairview Rd. | Raleigh, North Carolina (sessions will be held in the Chapel)

Featured Clinicians:

Dr. Carol Williams
Dr. John Walker
Dr. Matthew Russell
Dr. Mark Andersen
Monty Bennett
Al Murrell
Steve McBride

Cost: \$ 30.00

To Register:

mail your check and lunch selection to: Lee Harris, 210 West Boulevard, Laurinburg, NC 28352

Choice of Lunch:

Turkey & Havarti Cheese Sandwich Lemon Ginger Chicken Salad Sandwich Roasted Veggie and Hummus Wrap Gluten Free option available, please indicate

RSVP by January 15, 2018
Call Al Murrell , 443-812-5999, for
more information

Workshops for the Day

8:45 AM - Welcome and Gathering in the Chapel

9 AM - In Search of the Lost Chord: Creative and Effective Hymn and Service Playing with John Walker. Focus on basic techniques of hymn leadership at the organ to encourage strong congregational participation. Ways to communicate the meaning and spirit of the text will join creative ideas for musical enhancement of hymn accompaniments.

10 AM - Adapting Piano Music to the Organ with Carol Williams. The following topics will be discussed: Adapting piano scores for the organ. Adapting popular music often requested at weddings. Where to find this music. Suggested registrations.

11 AM - New Music You MUST Know About with Matthew Russell. This session will present you with new compositions and arrangements that are accessible and lovely. These will be "must have" selections in your music library.

Noon - Lunch (Boxed Lunch and drinks provided)

- 1 PM Conducting from the Console with Matthew Russell. Discover the most practical ways to lead your choir from the console, or piano. Easy techniques and methods will be shared to aid all who fill both roles as accompanist and conductor.
- **2 PM Console Management** with Monty Bennett. This workshop will explore how the organ's computers can help you enhance your musicianship. We will explore setting pistons and registration options, as well as piston sequencers, crescendo pedals, midi controls, and how to use them in an artistic way.
- **3 PM Using the iPad As Your Music Folder** with Steve McBride. This workshop will teach you everything you need to know to utilize your iPad as an easy and functional resource for your music library. We will cover the basics of using the iPad, how to scan music, copyright issues, and using the iPad in your playing.
- 4 PM You May Not Want To Talk About It with Al Murrell, Mark Andersen, and Steve McBride. This Discussion Panel will address the decline of the use of the organ in worship services. How can you encourage and justify the increase of the organ in church?





A hearty welcome to new members Kerry Johnston of First United Methodist Church, Cary, and to Jeffrey Spotts.

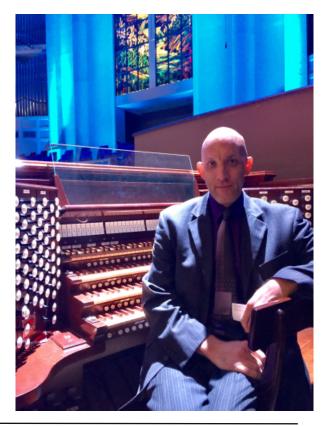
Jeffrey Spotts began as organist at his home church in Shamokin, PA when he was 16 years old, and served in that role for twenty years. He also served as the church's choir director for the last ten of those twenty years. He graduated from Messiah College (Mechanicsburg, PA) with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and a minor in Music, and from Millersville University of Pennsylvania with a Certificate in Secondary Education. His full-time work was in biomedical research labs, first at Penn State University's medical school in Hershey and later at Geisinger Health Systems' Weis Center for Research in Danville, PA, then as a middle school and high school science teacher, and later as an on-site I.T. computer support technician.

Jeff moved to Fort Lauderdale, FL in 2004 to work for Broward Health as a Clinical Systems Trainer, teaching the hospital's electronic health record system to its physicians, nurses, and other allied health staff. On Sundays he sang in the choir at Dr. D. James Kennedy's Coral Ridge Presbyterian Church, until accepting an offer to be organist at First Baptist Church of Fort Lauderdale, a 10,000-member congrega-

tion, where he played for Sunday services on their 110-rank Schantz organ for over twelve years and performed in the Fort Lauderdale Christmas Pageant, a very popular Christmas show produced by FBC members for over 30 years.

Jeff moved to Raleigh in late August and learned a new term from some of the local residents: "Halfback". Rather than a position on a football team, this refers

to someone who moved from the northeast to the warmer weather of the American sub-tropic, and subsequently moves back north, but only moves half way back!! Jeff is very grateful for the referrals he's received from the Central NC Chapter of the AGO, to serve as substitute organist at several area churches over the past several months and is looking forward to eventually finding a church in which to settle-in.



Graphic source: http://clipart-work.net/single/1918252.html

STEPHEN HAMILTON RECITAL AND WORKSHOP

These are photos from the recent Stephen Hamilton recital at Edenton Street United Methodist Church and repertoire workshop at Highland United Methodist Church.



Lee Harris and Stephen Hamilton



Dean Bill Weisser with Stephen hamilton at the console at Edenton Street UMC





Photographs by Lee Harris

One Size does Not Fit All

















R. A. Daffer Church Organs, Inc. is celebrating our 40th anniversary of serving the church community. Through the years, it has been our goal to provide the very highest level of quality and professionalism in the sale, installation and service of church organs. Through our representation of Rodgers, Johannus, and Makin digital organs and Fratelli Ruffatti pipe organs, we offer a wide range of pricing and customization that can includes distinctively American, European and English tonal schemes.



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January 3-5: National Conference for Sacred Music presents its Church Music Conference in Charlotte titled "Leading the Church in Song". See flier on page 13.

Friday, January 5th 8:00 pm: Messiah Sing-In (rescheduled) at Edenton Street United Methodist Church (228 West Edenton Street, Raleigh). The annual performance, now in its thirty-ninth year, has enjoyed a full house for decades. With an orchestra and soloists on stage, the audience is the chorus for this joyful community event. Whether you sing along or just come to listen, this festive occasion will bring you holiday cheer. Bring your own score or borrow one of the church's. Cost: free; please bring a bag of non-perishable food items to share with the Food Bank of NC through the Urban Ministry Center.

Saturday, January 13 from 9:00 am-3:00 pm: January Jubilee with David Cherwein sponsored by the Nashville Chapter of the AGO at St. George's Episcopal Church, (4715 Harding Rd., Nashville, TN) See flier page 9.

Saturday, January 13 from 10:00—noon: Fayetteville Chapter presents a Practical Organ Repertoire Sharing event. Location TBD. Contact Marcia Heirmann for details: marcia@firstprez.com

Monday, January 15 at 7:30 pm: Organ at Davidson features Charlotte native Chase Loomer, a senior at the Eastman School of Music and student of David Higgs performing at Davidson College Presbyterian Church (100 North Main Street, Davidson). Loomer was awarded first prize in the 2015 AGO/Quimby Southeast Regional Competition for Young Organists and has been a prizewinner at several other competitions throughout the southeast. Free will donations accepted. Artist meet and greet after the perfomance.

Saturday, January 20, at 8:45 am: SMORGANS-BORD at Hayes Barton, UMC. Registration is due January 15. Cost is \$30. Bring friends and colleagues. **See flier page 3.**

Sunday, January 28 at 7:00 pm: Dedication Concert by Mony Bennett on the new Rodgers Four Manual Organ at Topsail Presbyterian Church (16249 Hwy 17, Hampstead). Reception to follow. See flier page 8.

Sunday, February 11 at 5:00 pm: Organ Recital Series, Dongho Lee & Andrew Pester. Duke Chapel, Durham.

Friday, February 23, at 7:30 pm: Duo Organ Recital by John Cummins and Michael Messina at St. Paul's Episcopal Church (401 East Fourth Street, Greenville). Free. **See page 10.**

Check out our <u>facebook page</u> (search for "Central North Carolina Chapter of the American Guild of Organists") for up to the minute announcements, reviews, and information to share. To post on the page, contact Lyn Francisco or Andy Liepens.

Calendar events and details are also available at our web page: http://cnccago.org/



R. Monty Bennett began musical studies at an early age in his native California. A graduate of the University of California, Santa Barbara, he was a student of Dr. James Welch, with whom he studied organ, carillon and harpsichord. Early keyboard studies were under the tutelage of William Bagileo, Herbert Nanney of Stanford University, and Dr. Roger Nyquist, of Santa Clara University.

Monty has performed around the world as an organist, accompanist and conductor. In 2005, he made his European debut playing a recital for the 22nd International Festival of Organists in Turin, Italy, where he played the European première of a collection of African-American spirituals by Calvin Taylor. He has played for numerous chapters of the American Guild of Organists, as well as performing at major churches and universities across the county. He also performs on the carillon and played his first European carillon recital on the 70 bell instrument in installed at the Chapel of the Dukes of Savoy, Chambéry, France.

As the Associate Minister of Music/Organist at Calvary Church, Charlotte, NC, he presided at

the Calvary Grand Moller Pipe Organ, one of the largest musical instruments in the world. For 10 years, he served as the Principal Organist at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church, Charlotte, NC, a musically diverse, historically African-American congregation, where he designed and dedicated the five manual, 168 stop, Fratelli Ruffatti pipe organ. Monty is the Membership/Outreach Director and Music Director at Temple Israel and the Music Director/Organist at Park Road Baptist Church, both in Charlotte, NC. In light of his musical accomplishments, he is listed in Who's Who in America and has been featured on the renowned Public Radio International's broadcast *Pipedreams*.

An active member of The American Guild of Organists from the age of 13, Monty holds the Colleague certification of the AGO and has served on the Executive Committee of the Charlotte Chapter, where he coordinated the chapter's nationally acclaimed Summer Recital Series.

JANUARY 13, 2018 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 8:15

\$15 — Includes registration, lunch, snack, class materials, etc.
Free 6-month AGO membership offered to all first-time members

Guests may register by e-mail: info@nashvilleago.org. Nashville members use the monthly reservation system.

Reservations due January 10, 2018.

JANUARY JUBILEE PERSONALITIES

DAVID CHERWIEN Organ, compositions, inspiration

JUSTIN BOWEN Shape-note singing tradition

DAVID BONE Using traditional elements to create vibrant worship services

ANGELA TIPPS Choral reading session

ALLISON BOCCIA-WILLIAMS Energizing worship with global music/drumming

FAIN SPRAY Voice Care for Your Choir

MUSIC DISPLAY by Lois Fyfe Music

FELLOWSHIP WITH OTHER MUSICIANS

Sponsored by the NASHVILLE CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS

Hosted by ST. GEORGE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 4715 Harding Road Nashville, TN 37205

Questions? E-mail: info@nashvilleago.org.

Two Organs - Two Organists!

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2018, 7:30 PM

Organists John Cummins and Michael Messina present a program of duos and duets for two organists and two organs. The centerpiece of the program is the Alex-

ander Variations" by Calvin Hampton. This 30-minute work was commissioned for the organs at Grace Cathedral in San Francisco and was discovered among pieces Hampton was working on just prior to his death in 1984. A "portative" organ will join the Perkins & Wells Memorial Organ on stage for this program.



Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to announce East Carolina University's 12th Annual Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance, to be held in Greenville, North Carolina March 17, 2018 with recordings for the first round accepted until February 15. I would be grateful if you would share this announcement with students and teachers, as well as consider including in your newsletters. An electronic version is available at: http://www.ecu.edu/cs-cfac/music/organsacredmusic/youngartistscompetition.cfm

Please feel welcome to address any questions directly to me at the contact information below! Thank you and very best wishes to all!

Sincerely,



Andrew Scanlon, MM, FAGO
Teaching Assistant Professor
Sacred Music & Organ Performance
East Carolina University School of Music
Greenville, NC 27858
252-328-1261
SCANLONA@ECU.EDU

ORGAN SCHOLAR OPPORTUNITY

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, a parish in the Diocese of East Carolina, closely affiliated with East Carolina University's School of Music, invites application for the position of Organ Scholar. This position provides a hands-on opportunity for the candidate to learn and apply their skills in service playing, in the context of a music program firmly rooted in the Anglican choral tradition. The organ is an outstanding 3-man, 58 stop Fisk organ from 2005, residing in the church's 6-second acoustic. Duties include sharing in the weekly playing of hymns, service music and voluntaries, accompanying the choirs for psalms and anthems, and deputizing for the organist-choirmaster. The position will be tailored to meet the needs of both the music program and the organ scholar. This position could be occupied by a graduate or undergraduate student as a supplement to study in sacred music at East Carolina University. This position will be available summer/fall 2018.

Contact Andrew Scanlon, organist-choirmaster SCANLONA@ECU.EDU music@stpaulsepiscopal.com

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE 2018 AGO NATIONAL CONVENTION

JULY 2-6, 2018 KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

agokc2018.com



Approximately 40 minutes west of Kansas City, the town of Lawrence, Kansas, will be the site of two events during the 2018 AGO National Convention. The Youth Committee for the convention has been hard at work planning these events which are particularly aimed at young organists, although anyone may attend. Attendees of the Lawrence trip will be treated to magnificent events by two people who have dedicated a great portion of their lives teaching young organists.

Dr. James Higdon, Professor of Organ and Director of the Division of Organ and Church Music at the University of Kansas and renowned expert on the music of Jehan Alain will host a recital at Bales Organ Recital Hall. The Bales organ, built by Helmuth Wolff in 1996, is one of the jewels of the Midwest. Built in a combination of French classic and French romantic styles, the organ offers a vast array of possibilities for literature in one of the finest acoustics anywhere in the United States.

Attendees will also be treated with a visit to the St. Lawrence Catholic Student Center with its 1987 Andover organ (featured in the December TAO convention ad) to participate in a master class taught by Edoardo Bellotti Professor of Organ, Harpsichord, and Improvisation at the Eastman School of Music. This masterclass will feature young organists from the local area, particularly students from surrounding universities.

Both Dr. Higdon and Professor Bellotti have magnificent teaching resumes, impeccable performing credentials, and vast experience with young organists; these events promise to be very enlightening. Due to the size of the venues, participation in the trip to Lawrence is limited to 500 people, so take advantage of our great rates through December 31st and secure your spot at what will be two of the finest programs of this convention.

Early Registration rates available January 1-- March 31, 2018

AGO Regular Member - \$435 AGO Senior 65+ - \$395 Spouse/partner - \$350 Young Organist under 30 - \$250

LEADING THE CHURCH'S SONG

January 3-5, 2018 in Charlotte, NC

Featured Clinicians: Isabelle Demers, Zebulon M. Highben, Heather Potter, André Thomas, and Ed Tompkins.

Worship Leaders: David Bone and Rev. Dr. Jacqueline Thompson

Sponsored by Augsburg Fortress, MorningStar Music, and Hinshaw Music, with additional support from ALCM, PAM, and FUMMWA.

National Conference for Sacred Music is a unique conference designed to provide the practicing church musician with fresh new ideas to help create a vital, growing music ministry. The emphasis of this conference is to provide a wide variety of new approaches to revitalize and reinvigorate the church's passion for music in worship. Sessions will include the following:

- New worship planning ideas for your congregation and choirs
- Choral technique classes with an emphasis on deepening the spiritual experience for the choir member
- Reading sessions featuring new publications from Augsburg Fortress, Hinshaw, and MorningStar Music
- Sponsorship by three different denominational groups: the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians, the Presbyterian Association of Musicians, and the Fellowship of United Methodists in Music and Worship Arts
- Workshops for working with children
- Handbells
- Morning worship

Registration Fee: \$150.00 and Meal Plan (Wed dinner and Thu/Fri lunch): \$45.00

Hotel Information for NCSM:

There are many hotels in the area, but we have reserved a block of rooms at The Dunhill Hotel; 237 N. Tryon St; Charlotte NC 28202 From the The Dunhill, you can easily walk 2 blocks to First Presbyterian Church at 200 West Trade St. Charlotte, NC 28202. Please call the hotel directly to reserve your room at 704-332-4141. Mention National Conference for Sacred Music to receive the conference rate of \$149.00. (Vintage Queen) or \$179.00 (Deluxe Queen). The conference rate is good Tuesday through Friday.

(You must have reserved by Monday, December 12, 2017, in order to receive the conference rate.)