

CNCC NEWSLETTER

Oldest Chapter in the Carolinas

Chartered November 23, 1922

Central North Carolina Chapter

American Guild of Organists

Raleigh, North Carolina

January 2021

The Dean's Column

As we close out the year 2020 I know that we all are looking to the future to be brighter. Advent brought new hope for a better tomorrow and now we have Epiphany on the horizon. May the star shine brightly upon each of you as we enter a new and better phase of life. I've known so many in the past year who have not made it through the Covid-19 crisis but also many who continue to be diligent and look past each day that passes to a new and brighter future.

It has been a difficult year for me and I can't wait to see that brighter future appear on the horizon. I would like to say a special thank you to our board who have worked together through all of this and who stand ready for that brighter future as well! As we move forward there is much work and many exciting things on the horizon.

May peace and blessings be with you in 2021!

Mark Andersen
Dean, CNCCAGO



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IN THIS ISSUE

The Dean's Column.....	1
Chapter Communications.....	2
Cooper Miller Scholarship.....	3
Organ Recital.....	3
Organ in the Band Room.....	4
AGOYO Programs.....	6
Recitals at Duke.....	7
OrganFest 2020.....	7
Advertising Rates.....	8
Available Positions.....	9



Our chapter has two funds to which you may donate. One is the Cooper Miller Scholarship Fund and the other is the Chapter Operating Fund.



CHAPTER COMMUNICATIONS

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

You can also find us on Facebook, thanks to Lyn Francisco's administration:

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



ORGAN RECITAL



Mary Louise Baker was featured on the Emmanuel Episcopal Church Fisk organ for a special 35 minute performance in Southern Pines on December 18 as part of the church's Advent recital series.

Baker holds a Bachelor of Music in Organ/Piano from Salem College where she studied under Dr. Jack Mitchener (piano with Barbara Lister Sink). She graduated from Notre Dame with a Masters of Music in Organ where her study was with Craig Cramer. She has also studied at Calgary in Canada. She is the daughter of Chapter Treasurer, Lee Harris.

The video is available at <https://www.emmanuel-parish.org/resources/watch>
(but you will need to find the Dec. 18 installment in the series.)

COOPER-MILLER SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

It is time to recruit applicants for the 2021 Cooper-Miller Organ Scholarship. Due to COVID-19, auditions will be submitted by video. Deadline to apply is January 15, 2021, and deadline for video submission is February 15, 2021.

Scholarship Criteria:

Age range 13 - 18 (still in high school)

Intermediate keyboard skills

Desire to study/improve organ skills

Recommendation of teachers

Entrants do not have to be students of AGO members to audition

Also, please help publicize this valuable opportunity. Feel free to email all this information to colleagues or interested students. Chapter members should have received an email containing the above information as well as an electronic copy of the scholarship brochure. Feel free to contact Lorraine Magnuson if you would like hard copies of the brochure and/or the complete application packet. (raineymag@gmail.com)

Please contact anyone on the scholarship committee if you know of any promising, eligible young musicians. Thank you, from your Cooper-Miller Scholarship Committee:

LORRAINE MAGNUSON--CHAIR

MAKING A HOME FOR THE ORGAN IN THE BAND ROOM

There is such false information being spread in society that "young people" are not attracted to the organ. Hence, churches cannot find people who are willing to learn to play the organ, and organs are being carelessly tossed out.

I have taught band in Louisburg for 26 years. While at Louisburg High School for the majority of my career, I oversaw the installation of a 1967 Allen organ in the auditorium, and for many years we used this magnificent instrument for every assembly and school function. It was donated by First Baptist Church of Cary, NC. The auditorium was a perfect acoustic setting for this old analog instrument! I used it for community concerts as well as silent movies. I made sure to feature it along with the band classes on a "grand finale" to concerts by using local organists as guest artists.



When I retired from Louisburg High School in 2015, I joined the staff of the Crosscreek Charter School in Louisburg and began a new band program there. At that time, the school was in the planning stages of a new permanent facility to house the growing K-8 population, with the intention of expanding through the 12th grade in the future. I was given a great deal of input with regard to the design of the band room and the "multi-purpose" room and made plans to secure an organ for this school as I had done previously at Louisburg High School.

First Presbyterian Church of Stanley, NC (Gaston County) donated their 1985 Allen model 705 organ to our school, and as the school building was completed, I moved this organ to its new home. We are currently awaiting final installation of cabinets to conceal the speakers. When finished, this organ, complete with theater tremulants, will resonate magnificently in the performance room.

Additionally, I acquired a 1980 Allen MDC-31 theater organ and placed this instrument in the band room. In the era of COVID, school attendance is limited to a smaller capacity. By using the organ to fill out the band sound, the students have the benefit of full, resonant bass when tubas are not present. Further, as students perform individual lines of music, I can offer accompaniment. With the nice projection equipment in the band room--which is designed with the old-fashioned "tiered" seating, I have demonstrated silent movie accompaniment to the classes.

As students have been exposed to the organ, their interest in the instrument has grown. There are several students who have expressed a desire to create an "organ club" as an afterschool activity (once COVID leaves us...), for the purpose of learning about the organ.

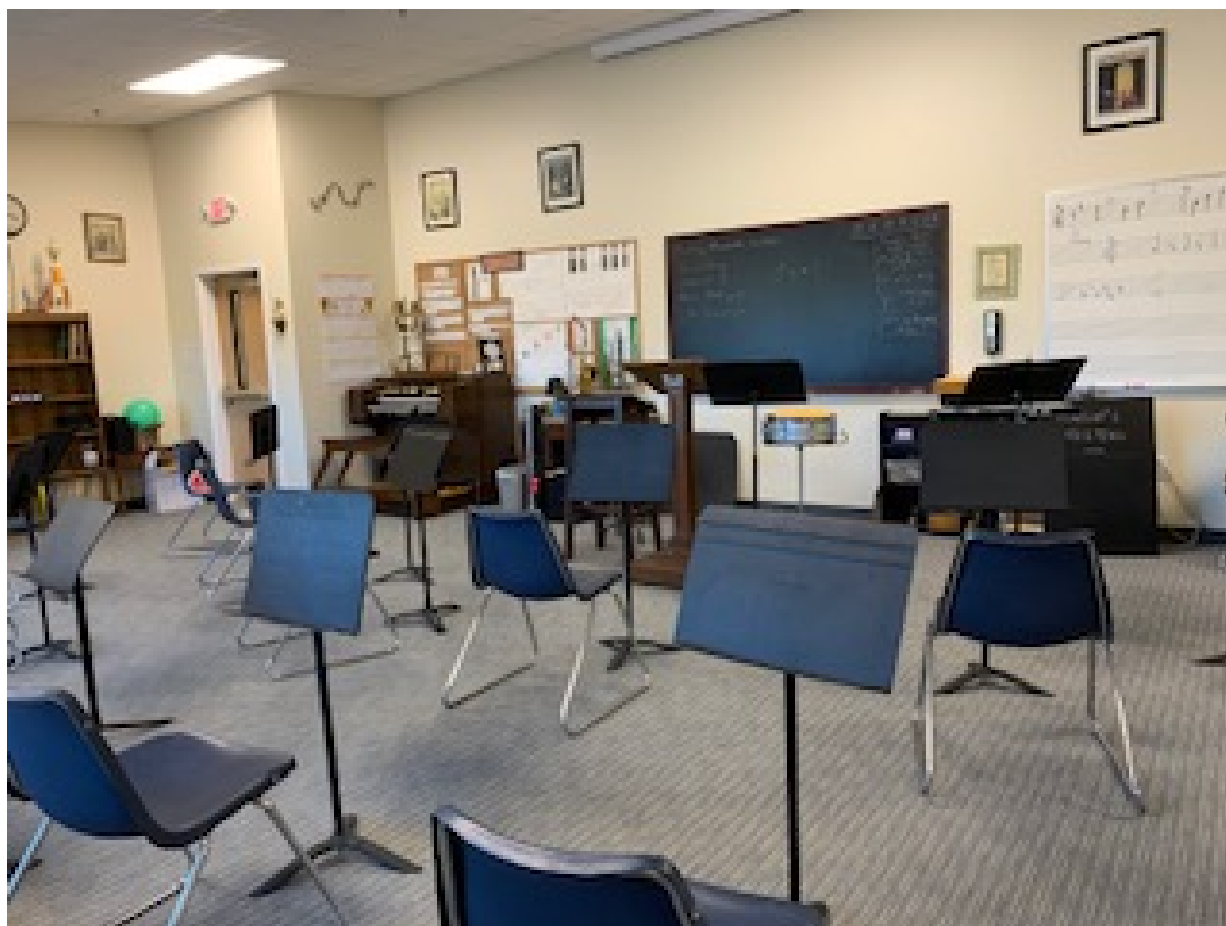
By being welcoming about the instrument and not using a snooty "hands-off!" approach, immediate interest in the organ has been generated. Showing that the organ is a versatile instrument capable of playing many, many styles of music (I get requests for "Star Wars" and "The Addams Family" more than any other) has shown to the students that the organ is a fun, approachable instrument. When I

think back over the years, I recall many esoteric, unapproachable organists who did little to encourage me as a young musician. Our churches are in an absolute crisis, and unless we present the organ in an appealing way, our numbers of organists will continue to decline.

Several students are even excited about getting their own small spinet organs for home. There are plenty available for free on Marketplace!

BRIAN MILLER

bdmiller1935@aol.com
Crosscreek Charter School/
Vance-Granville Community College/
Louisburg Baptist Church



Something for everyone!
AGOYO virtual program year 20-21

FRIDAYS AT NOON EST

videos will be premiered at:
<https://www.youtube.com/user/GuildofOrganists>

August 14- Organ crawl: West Point Chapel

September 11- Workshop:

Church musicians and technology

September 25- Panel: Organists of colors

October 9- Panel: The Global Organist

November 13- Organ crawl: Longwood Gardens

December 11- Organ factory tour: Austin Organ Co.

January 8- Webinar:

Young conductors/organists guide to church music

February 12- Organ crawl: Wanamaker

March 12- Panel:

Board positions in the guild/serving in leadership roles

April 9- Organ factory tour: Taylor & Boody

May 7, 14, 21, 28- Young organist recitals

Follow us on Facebook at:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/AGOYoungOrganists>

Follow us on Instagram at:
[ago_young_organists](https://www.instagram.com/ago_young_organists)

Email us at:
conveneragoyo@gmail.com

<https://www.agohq.org/ago-young-organists/>



VIRTUAL RECITALS AT DUKE CHAPEL



[ONLINE] DUKE ORGAN RECITAL--FREE

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21 AT 4:00 PM

Duke Chapel Organist Christopher Jacobson, FRCO, presents an online recital on the Chapel's Aeolian organ, featuring the music of Marcel Dupré and his contemporaries, in commemoration of the fiftieth anniversary of Dupré's death. Note: This live event is presented with enhanced health and safety precautions, in consultation with Duke's Occupational and Environmental Safety Office, enabling the musicians to safely perform. Camera angles may reduce or distort the appearance of distances between performers. Link available at a later date.

Notes from the Treasurer--**Advertising Rates 2021**

For those of you who would like to purchase an advertisement in our monthly newsletter, I am listing the price on four options that are offered. With these options is a discount of 20% for those advertising for three consecutive months, a discount which was approved by the Executive Board in October 2020.

Full page - \$75/month;

20% discount = \$60/month

Half page - \$37.50

20% discount = \$30/month

Quarter page - \$18.75/month

20% discount = \$15/month

Business card - \$15/month

20% discount = \$12/month

To secure an advertisement, please contact the chapter treasurer:

Lee Harris

pichpipe45@gmail.com

210 West Blvd.

Laurinburg, NC 28352

919-757-2469 cell



AVAILABLE POSITIONS

The American Guild of Organists (AGO) provides a professional opportunities service to its members by sharing information about Positions Available. This includes both permanent "open benches" and also one-time "substitute dates." The Guild cannot endorse or recommend any person for a job or substitute date. Membership in the AGO is open to all who pay dues, regardless of education, experience, ability and/or skills. The AGO Professional Relations Director passes along information, which may include salaries offered by institutions and specifics about jobs/dates, as information is received from an institution. AGO members are encouraged to negotiate salaries and explore options with each offered position. The Central North Carolina Chapter, AGO does not accept responsibility for the accuracy of material provided for these listings, nor does inclusion of information in the listings imply endorsement by the chapter.

It has come to the attention of the Professional Relations Director that we have churches that do not understand that resumes are for the purview of the appropriate search committee. If confidentiality is critical to you, please make it clear in your cover letter that this is a requirement for you, at least in the initial stages of inquiry and dialogue.

If you are seeking a supply organist, the fast-

est method is to contact the Professional Relations Director with all the pertinent information. When sent to all members by email, many requests are filled within one hour. This method has saved a lot of time otherwise spent in calling an ever-changing list of names. Contact information is listed below.

If you are aware that a church/synagogue position is becoming available, (i.e., you are making a change), please advise the Professional Relations Director as soon as possible for listing and distribution. Contact:

Elizabeth Goldstein-Epstein
3710 Exchange Glenwood Pl, Apt 401
Raleigh, NC 27612
(C) 941-928-0176
elizabethgoldstein@yahoo.com

The Professional Relations Director will neither recommend anyone for a position nor serve as an agent for any member. The Professional Relations Director is always available to members and to hiring institutions for the purpose of answering questions.