

# CNCC NEWSLETTER

*Oldest Chapter in the Carolinas*

*Chartered November 23, 1922*

Central North Carolina Chapter

American Guild of Organists

Raleigh, North Carolina

September 2022

## **The Dean's Column**

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Dear Members and Friends,

As we begin our 2022-2023 season in the Central North Carolina Chapter, AGO, we are thrilled to be celebrating our 100th Anniversary as a chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

Your Board of Directors is hard at work planning a celebration year of events that will begin on Sunday, October 2nd at the Carolina Theater in Greensboro at 3PM. You will find a flyer in this newsletter with more details. I hope that I will be able to see many of you there at the multi-chapter event. It is to be a meet and greet style meeting. Bring something to play if you would like! Then later in November we are putting together a member recital featuring some of our young members.

More about that to come in our October newsletter.

Welcome to our 100th year!!!!

Best,  
Mark

MARK ANDERSEN

DEAN, CENTRAL NORTH CAROLINA CHAPTER  
AND STATE CONVENER FOR AGO



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The Chapter is very grateful for the contributions **Samuel Freedman, Kelly Hopkins, Mac Pannill and Barbara Wilson** have made to the Chapter Operating Fund as well as the contributions of **Lyn Fransisco, Tamara Lewis, Lorraine Magnuson and Barabara Wilson** to the Cooper Miller Scholarship Fund.



## CHAPTER COMMUNICATIONS

Newsletter published monthly by the Central North Carolina Chapter, American Guild of Organists. Submission Deadline: 24<sup>th</sup> 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/>

## A WEEK OF PEDALS AND PIPES — PIPE ORGAN ENCOUNTER+

Thanks to generous scholarships from our Central NC Chapter, Sally Mullis and I attended the Pipe Organ Encounter Plus (for Adults) August 14-19, 2022 in Richmond, VA which was sponsored by the Richmond Chapter.

Lest you think POE+ was a sort of “organ spa week”, I submit the following in the context of a six day event:

- 6 hours of private lessons
- 6 hours of practice time
- 10 churches visited
- 14 organs played and observed
- 22 faculty
- 14 participants
- 10+ pounds of new music and swag to bring home

We started each morning with a lecture/seminar at 7:45 am and we were on our individual organ benches practicing and having a 90 minute private lesson by 9:30 am.

After lunch we:

- 1) played digital organs in two residences
- 2) visited the Grooms and Payne organ builders  
(and two churches in rural Louisa, VA)
- 3) enjoyed an organ crawl in two downtown churches
- 4) heard presentations on quality music for manuals, practice tips, and how to get your music published

Evenings included two recitals, a masterclass, a presentation about how to run an organ committee, another organ crawl, Celtic Evensong and a chanted compline service.

In summing up my experience to friends and family, I simply said, “It was intense.”

One of my personal highlights was that I brought a favorite piece, an arrangement of the hymn “Sing Out” by Marty Haugen, to study with my instructor, the composer, Mary Beth Bennett. I had loved the composition for years, but had never mastered it. When it came time to propose it to her as my focus piece for the week, I was shocked to realize she had written it! (It is in the Augsburg Organ Series *Summer* collection.) What a delight to have her input (and what a responsibility to convey her intentions!) and what a nerve-wracking joy to share it with the other participants at the final recital.

A huge shout-out to the Richmond Chapter for their incredible organization, dedication, and a wealth of shared knowledge. Besides the new (to me) music and the practice tips I brought home, I also have new friends and colleagues, a new appreciation for the investment in instruments and church music that Richmond congregations have made, a new commitment to studying improvisation, and a renewed sense that we are part of the tapestry of faith that weaves through centuries, cultures, personal styles, and common challenges.

*TAMARA LEWIS*



*Composer Mary Beth Bennett  
and participant Tamara Lewis*

## A WEEK OF PEDALS AND PIPES--POE+ RICHMOND, VA (CONT.)



*Sally and others exploring the new portable organ at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart.*

The POE+ in Richmond brought together organists of a wide variety of experience levels and backgrounds, along with an excellent group of instructors. As a young organist having spent a year mostly away from the organ after two years of lessons in college, this was a great way to rekindle my desire to further study organ. One of the most valuable parts of the POE+ for me was learning about the technical aspects of the pipe organ not only through workshops and lessons, but also by visiting several organs built in different styles and literally looking inside them to see the mechanics in action. The week also featured workshops on composition and organ maintenance, and was enhanced by a couple of impressive recitals by local organists. Overall, this was a terrific opportunity to explore the wealth of excellent pipe organs to be found in churches across



*SALLY MULLIS*

Richmond while getting to know the very friendly and talented members of the Richmond AGO Chapter. I strongly recommend a visit to Richmond to any interested organist! I am deeply grateful to the Central NC AGO Chapter for offering the Cooper-Miller scholarship which made it possible for me to attend this event.

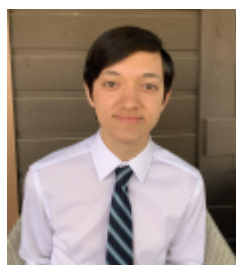
## A WEEK OF PEDALS AND PIPES--POE IN WINSTON SALEM, NC

SETH AUSTIN

Thank you for giving me a chance to participate in this year's POE. I enjoyed playing the many organs, especially the Fisk at the UNCSA. I really got the chance to hear and play many different types of organs I would have never been able to go to otherwise. It was also fun meeting and making friends with the other kids, and polishing my technique with my teacher there, Ms. Foster. The dorms there were very comfortable and nice, and the food was delicious. I also was able to meet many professional organists and learned about their careers. All in all, it was a big learning experience for me. Please let the guild know what a wonderful opportunity this was and how grateful I am for the chance to attend.



Brandon Peart



I really enjoyed getting to see new organs and hear performances on them. It was fun being able to learn improvisation. It was very interesting to be able to learn something and then notice it in an actual performance later that day. Being able to have individual time with a teacher everyday was also helpful because it helped point out how I could improve how I practice everyday. Overall, it was really fun and also a good learning experience.



## **ORGAN EXTRAVAGANZA!**

**Carolina Theatre**

**310 S Greene Street, Greensboro**

**Come see & hear the 3-manual Robert-Morton Organ  
in the Carolina Theatre in Greensboro,  
at the invitation of the Piedmont Chapter of the  
American Theatre Organ Society (ATOS).**

**All AGO chapters across North Carolina are invited  
for a meet & greet, featuring a brief demo of the organ,  
a short silent movie, accompanied by AGO Convener  
and House Organist, Mark Andersen,  
followed by an open console.**

**We hope you will join us for this FREE and fun outing.  
For additional information, call 910-739-5481.**

# EVENTS AT DUKE CHAPEL

## KEN COWN IN RECITAL



**SEPTEMBER 25TH AT 5:00 PM**

Ken Cowan will perform on Duke Chapel's Aeolian organ. Cowan, Professor of Organ at Rice University, is regarded as one of North America's premier concert organists, and a rigorous performing schedule takes him to major concert venues in Europe and Asia as well. His performances are praised for dazzling artistry, impeccable technique, and imaginative programming by audiences and critics alike.

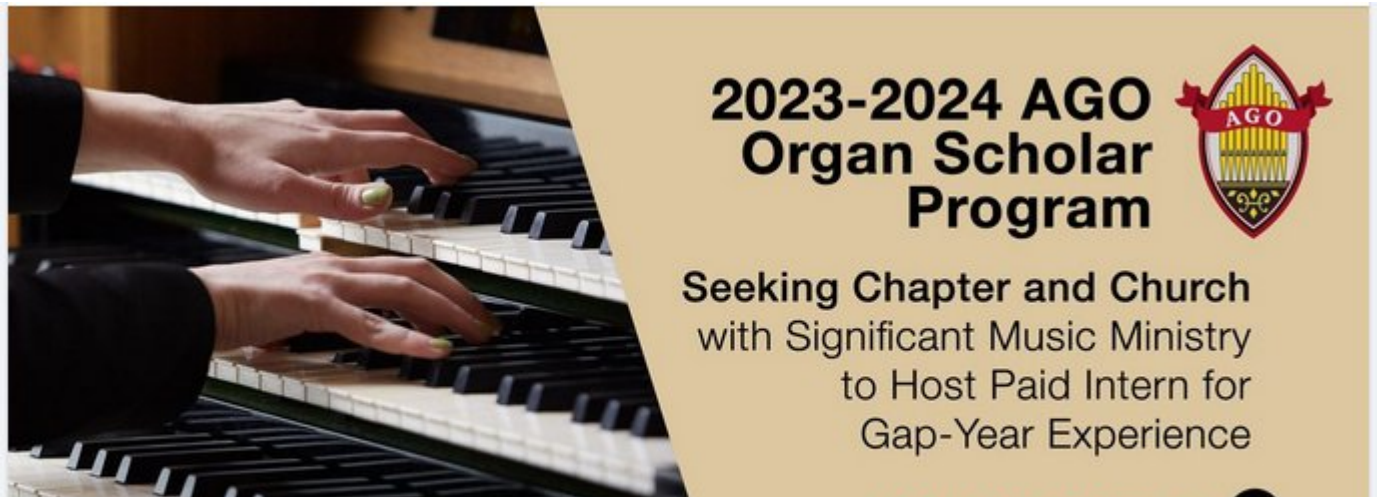
As one reviewer exclaimed (in "The Diapason"): "It is difficult to find enough adjectives to describe Ken Cowan's playing. He is simply one of the best anywhere." A beloved cornerstone of the Chapel Music calendar, the Organ Recital Series showcases internationally acclaimed organists performing enduring favorites, modern masterpieces, and original improvisations.

## **PIPESCREAMS**

**OCTOBER 28 AT 7:00 PM**

**UNIVERSITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
(150 EAST FRANKLIN STREET CHAPEL HILL)**

The Durham-Chapel Hill Chapter is sponsoring a light hearted (but fearsome) program of spooky organ music to delight all ages. Free admission



## Organ Scholar Program Hosting

The **AGO Organ Scholar Program** will offer a young person the opportunity to experience a one-year internship within a significant music ministry program somewhere in the United States. This gap year program will take place during the 2022–2023 and 2023–2024 program years (one recipient per year for a total of two recipients at two different locations).

The program model is designed to include combined investments from AGO National Headquarters, a local chapter, and a host church: \$10,000 each, for a total of \$30,000. In addition, the host church is expected to provide housing and healthcare for the organ scholar.

**The deadline to apply to host an organ scholar is September 30.**

To learn more, go to

<https://www.agohq.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/AGO-organ-scholar-program.pdf>

**The Organ Scholar Program** offers emerging organists the opportunity to experience an annual ten-month internship within a significant music ministry program in the United States. The first year of the training program coincides with the 2022–2023 academic year and is being hosted at Duke University Chapel. The program model is designed to include combined investments from AGO National Headquarters, a local AGO chapter, and a host church for a total of \$30,000. In addition, the host church provides housing and healthcare options for the organ scholar.

**The application period for 2023-2024 scholar will be November 1 – December 1, 2022.** For more information, contact to reach Jillian Gardner, Chair, Organ Scholar Program at [organscholar@agohq.org](mailto:organscholar@agohq.org).

As we approach our 100th Anniversary, we hope to engage more member attendance/participation either virtually or in-person. We invite and encourage your input on the following survey. Let us know other ideas, too! You can fill it out on paper or go to this link: <https://trailsong.org/cgi-bin/agosurvey>

*JOHN MASSENBURG*

**CNC AGO PROGRAMMING IDEAS** – Indicate 1st to 10th choice.

- [ ] Young people/Adult introduction to the Organ
- [ ] Virtual Interview with a national or international organist
- [ ] Online workshop; can include other chapters
- [ ] How to properly register your organ
- [ ] A virtual lessons & carols from various churches
- [ ] Virtual Organ Recital/Crawl
- [ ] Organ & Piano Music Sale/Exchange/Trade
- [ ] Workshop on Purchasing/Repairing an Organ for Church Leaders
- [ ] Hymn Festival - 100TH ANNIVERSARY
- [ ] CNC AGO Volunteers/Friends Organization
- [ ] Recital of our scholarship recipients
- [ ] Concert by an organist under concert management -100th Anniversary
- [ ] Commission an Organ Composition - 100th Anniversary
- [ ] Other(s) \_\_\_\_\_

## 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 fastest 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.